

## After Divorce 851

### Chapter 851 My Stomach Is Hurting

Jack didn't mind. Instead, he flashed a meaningful grin. "Don't thank me first. I'm giving you these presents because I have a favor to ask."

Hearing that, the kids immediately put up their guard.

Roxanne was similarly baffled. This is only his second time meeting the children. What favor does he have to ask from them?

Just as she was wondering, she noticed Jack looking at her, causing her to be startled.

The next second, he looked at the kids again and said, "I need to borrow your mommy for a while. Is that all right?"

The kids exchanged glances, having already expected that to happen. We knew it. He's here to take Mommy away again. If Daddy knows about this, I wonder how long Mommy and Daddy's next fight will last before they reconcile.

that thought, the kids shook their heads without hesitation and uttered matter-of-factly, "Mommy promised to bring us out to have

Jack shot

instantly caught in a

of work-related matters. The only thing she didn't know was the severity of

Lacroix. Herbscape Group will be sealed for investigation at ten o'clock in the morning. Before that happens, we can still enter the premises to bring out whatever material we need to facilitate and ease our subsequent research. This is also why I

up after listening to his elaboration. I didn't notice anything unusual about his behavior or ask him any questions about his arrival. Since we're so short on time, why did he waste so much

persuaded her children, "Darlings, I must leave now. You two stay at home obediently and wait for me to come home.

Still, because it was a work-related problem, they couldn't come up with an excuse to

her kids, Roxanne

anxious as they could tell Roxanne was

hinting at the latter to think of

were equally smart, Archie was better at keeping his

### Chapter 852 Exposed

Roxanne knitted her brows and stared at Benny confusedly for some time. He was fine just now. Why is his stomach hurting all of a sudden? He seems to be in a lot of pain.

Archie, standing aside, sensed his mother's doubt. His eyes gleamed, and he hurriedly frowned as well. "Perhaps we caught a cold when sleeping last night. My stomach is a little upset too."

Roxanne was finally convinced after hearing that. She turned to look at Jack apologetically and said, "I'm sorry, Mr. Damaris. The kids are not feeling well. I need to check on them."

Jack sized up Archie and Benny before grinning considerably. "Their health is important. I don't mind waiting a little longer. You can summon me any time if you need assistance."

Jack was almost as skilled as Roxanne in medical practice. Not only that, but he also had a few years of experience in providing medical consultations to children. He was very knowledgeable in diagnosing children's conditions.

Archie and Benny exchanged a panicky look when they heard Jack's offer to help.

nearly forgot that he was also

examine them, and they reckoned Roxanne wouldn't be pleased to find

on the way to reject Jack's kind gesture, Roxanne said, "It's fine. I'm more familiar with the condition of their bodies anyway. Please

and reoccupied the seat on the

after Roxanne turned down the offer in their stead. Then, they

face as

Jack had volunteered to help. Naturally, she could guess that Archie and

kids

stomach is hurting?" She stood

any pain. However, since there was no turning back, he could only brace himself and

his mother piteously, "Mommy, am I very

Benny, Roxanne felt utterly helpless. If these places were really hurting, he would've been beyond treatment a long time ago. Still, if I expose him now, he probably won't learn the lesson and will resort to tricking me with this method again in the

Chapter 853 Sore Spot

"Mommy..." Benny's voice trembled slightly as he attempted to conceal his fear. "Do I have to go for the surgery?"

Roxanne nodded fervently. "Your acute appendicitis will only worsen if you don't, and you'll be in even more pain. I'm worried about you."

Benny hesitated for several seconds and gradually removed his hand from his stomach. "Mommy, I'm feeling much better. I'm perfectly fine now. Let's not go for the surgery, please?"

Roxanne shook her head at once.

Archie and Benny eyed one another. Their eyes were full of fear and regret.

Archie tugged at the hem of Roxanne's shirt gingerly and said obediently, "Mommy, we're both sorry for lying to you just now. I was the one who asked Benny to pretend to be sick. Please don't bring him for surgery."

Benny got down from the bed and stood before Roxanne guiltily as well.

Roxanne looked down at Archie and Benny and sighed internally before ruffling their hair. "Have you learned from your mistake?"

They hurriedly nodded.

both of you tell me why you felt the need to

and

waited silently and didn't

Damaris," Benny admitted apprehensively, then carefully

surprise flashed across

her from leaving. Little

time she'd heard Benny

Aubree, as they'd witnessed her and Frieda causing trouble for

always been kind to both her

why they'd

you don't like Mr. Damaris?"

Archie pursed their lips and did not give a reason. "No

looked at them earnestly. "You can't say that. No matter what the reason is, you have to give me one.

frowned in reluctance and lowered his head

Chapter 854 Feign Ignorance

Roxanne caressed Benny's and Archie's heads. "I'm sorry, but I have important work that requires immediate attention. Both of you have heard that the company is going to be seized shortly. I have to take a trip there no matter what."

The two children stared at the ground in sullen silence.

They knew how important work meant to her.

However, they still detested the fact that she would be spending time with Jack in the process.

Roxanne felt apologetic yet confused as she took in the children's reluctant looks.

The children didn't mind when she was up to her neck with work overseas.

They didn't even utter a word of complaint when she was occupied with finding a medicinal herbs company for the research institute when she was back in the country.

is it this

let Mr. Damaris

we were overseas." She locked her eyes on both Benny and Archie intensely. "Both of you need not worry. I'll ask

had finally been lifted as they inclined their heads

relief now that Benny and Archie

and patted Benny's and Archie's heads affectionately. "I'd better get going, or it'd affect my work. Both of you, wait

once more. "We're sorry for scaring you just now,

mistakes. Don't hesitate to tell me anything next time and don't pretend to be

to that. Then Roxanne turned

feet at the sight of her and asked, "How are

the children's words. "They might have gotten a cold last night. I gave them some medicine and told them to get

head slightly. "If that's the case, you need not

all right. We'll just come back

Chapter 855 He Did Not Want To Lie

Estella's mood turned sullen when Catalina didn't respond.

A few minutes later, Catalina gave in and explained, "Mr. Farewell is very busy these days. He ordered me to make sure that you stay at home obediently. If you want to go anywhere, you'll have to ask him when he's back."

The thought of her father had Estella turn her head to the side in frustration.

Catalina let out a sigh and called Lucian.

Lucian was having a meeting at the office when his phone vibrated. Seeing Catalina's name flashing across the screen, he hesitated briefly before leaving the room to take the call. "What is it?"

Catalina shot a glance at the still-upset Estella before speaking into the phone. "Ms. Estella has been sulking since morning, Mr. Farwell, and she didn't even touch her breakfast."

When Estella heard Catalina talking to her father on the phone, she slowly turned around and stared at the phone.

She wanted to talk to her father too.

Catalina passed her

about to ask for the reason when he heard his

to play with Archie

voice reflected

anxious and sad expression before he left for work that morning, his

lately, so be

Estella harrumphed.

rubbed his temples, feeling the throbbing in his head. "Be good. I'll bring you to

want to

conference room and coaxed, "I still have some work to do. We'll

did she defy him, she even moved

said you were going to make Ms. Jarvis my mommy. Why are you not letting me

had raised that morning. Lucian didn't reply

found out about it,

want

#### Chapter 856 Can You Forgive Me

When Lucian returned to the Farwell residence, Estella was no longer in the living room, and Catalina was nowhere to be found.

"Mr. Farwell." He reached for his phone, about to call Catalina when she came down the stairs with a grim expression. His eyebrows drew together as he asked, "Where's Essie?"

Catalina pointed at Estella's room on the second floor and said, "Ms. Estella has locked herself in her room again. I don't know how to get her out."

Estella had been crying non-stop since the call ended. No matter how much Catalina consoled her, she refused to calm down. After bawling for a while, Estella abruptly picked herself up and dashed to her room upstairs.

Catalina's reaction was merely slower by a split second. By the time she reached the second floor, Estella had already locked herself in her room. No matter what Catalina said, Estella would not open her door.

At first, Cataline could still hear Estella's muffled sobs. But the muffled crying died down after a while, leaving only silence.

Catalina panicked and called Lucian, but Lucian didn't pick up any of her calls. She wanted to get the keys to Estella's room but had no idea where Lucian kept them.

Just as she was losing hope, she heard movement at the front door. Catalina rushed down the stairs, hoping it was Lucian at the front door, and relief flooded her at the sight of him.

after hearing about Estella's behavior. He marched

trailed after him, and they stood at the door to

his chest and knocked on the door. "Open up, Essie.

was no movement

glanced at Catalina with a

now. I think you should get the key for the door,

heard Catalina's suggestion as something hit

Estella didn't want

for Estella. "Ms. Estella, please calm down and

sounded at the

tantrum and silently left to

cracked the door open, a doll

the doll fly over his shoulder and out

doll on the floor,

Chapter 857 Give Her A Call

Lucian felt helpless upon seeing how unperturbed Estella was by what he said. Ever since the little girl got close to Roxanne, she had been practicing double standards and treating her better than him.

What Roxanne did last night was too much, but Essie still decided to forgive her. Yet, Essie is mad at me for not paying attention to all the good things she said about that woman. She isn't even listening to me anymore.

Had Lucian not learned that Roxanne was Estella's biological mother, he might have had difficulty accepting the double standards.

After a short while, Lucian suppressed his grievance and comforted the little girl, "Didn't you say you have something to tell me? I'm all ears now."

Estella lifted her head and glanced at him. Lucian's eyes darkened, and his heart sank when he saw the expression on her face. He thought she did not give him any response because she was upset.

However, when she lifted her head, he realized her cheeks were stained with tears. "Bad Daddy..." Estella said in between sobs, feeling utterly aggrieved.

by her reaction. Instead of upsetting the little girl further, he nodded and tried pacifying  
wanted to go near Estella to wipe off her tears, but she took a few  
hand was left hanging mid-air. Her reaction now instantly reminded him again of the time when she  
with people, but at that moment, she was acting like how she did  
Daddy!” The little girl burst  
Lucian’s eyes darkened.

Catalina immediately looked at Lucian and suggested, “Mr.

it might be helpful for Estella to listen to

Catalina addressed Roxanne, but he knew he had to

seconds, Lucian took out his phone and

at the

had informed Dean they were coming. By the time they arrived, Dean was already waiting for them in  
the

Chapter 858 That Is Not What I Meant

A corner of Jack’s lips quirked up. The one billion and two hundred million I forked out last night do  
make a big difference. He was not surprised by Dean’s humble behavior that day.

Oblivious to what had happened between the two men last night, Roxanne kept mum and stood behind  
Jack. The moment they stepped into Herbscape Group, Roxanne’s phone rang.

The two men stopped walking and turned around to look at her. Roxanne responded with an apologetic  
smile before fishing out her phone from her pocket. Her expression stiffened when she saw the caller’s  
name on the screen.

“What’s wrong? Are the kids not feeling well?” Jack expressed his concern.

Roxanne froze for a bit upon hearing that. After regaining her composure, she hung up the phone and  
smiled. “It’s not an urgent matter. Let’s sign the papers first, shall we?”

Jack and Dean did not think much. They turned around and continued walking. However, Roxanne’s  
phone rang again after she took a few steps.

heart sank when she saw the name on the screen. This time, she apologized to Jack and Dean. “I’m  
sorry. I have to take

the entrance, and answered the call. Before she could speak, she heard Estella wailing from the other  
end of the

Essie?” Roxanne was worried about

displeasure and answered in a deep voice, “She wants to see you. If you’re available, please do

over how quickly Roxanne had ended the first call he made. I don't know possibility, Lucian could not help but smirk. She was at fault, yet she had the audacity pause, Roxanne responded hesitantly, "But I'm a little busy right effect in less than thirty minutes. They had to work fast because any delay would cause all the items in Herbscape Group expression turned grim immediately. He did his facial expression, the whole morning." Lucian was on the she realized Roxanne was reluctant

#### Chapter 859 Would She Feel Guilty

While Roxanne was in two minds over whether or not to hurry to the Farwell residence, Jack strode out with a document in his hand and called out, "Ms. Jarvis."

She had no choice but to suppress the worry in her heart and quickly walked toward him. "What's this?" "You didn't come in after some time, so I thought I'd bring out the document you needed to go through. You can take a look and sign it if there are no issues."

Hearing that, she murmured her assent and checked the document carefully. A moment later, she looked up at Jack and nodded. "Everything looks fine."

"Excellent," he said with a smile. "You look a little upset. Did something happen?"

Recalling the sound of Estella's cries, Roxanne fell into a slight daze.

Jack was puzzled when he saw that she did not respond after a long time. "Ms. Jarvis?"

the medicinal herbs we need. Is there anything else you

Jack shook his head.

have to trouble you to take care of the rest, then. I have to attend to some urgent business, so I'll

agreed in a non-committal way, "Since it's something

at him gratefully before turning and hurrying

her leave with a deeply perplexed

for years, they're most likely faking it. I couldn't be bothered to figure out the reason for it, but from the crossed his mind,

can't believe there'd come a time when I'd make an error

asked as he walked out of the building a moment later. Puzzled to see Jack all alone, he inquired,

snapped out of his thoughts and glanced at Dean expressionlessly. He handed the list he was holding to the latter and said, "Prepare

daring to probe further, Dean immediately acceded. Then, he went back into the building with the list to instruct the staff to complete

father hang up the phone, her

gaze, a pang shot through his heart, and he felt

Chapter 860 Estella Was Unwell

Roxanne left Herbscape Group and drove straight to the Farwell residence. Less than twenty minutes later, her Mercedes-Benz slowly rolled to a stop in front of the manor entrance.

She rang the doorbell frantically, and it was not long before Catalina answered the intercom. "Mrs.—" Catalina began without thinking when she saw the person on the screen. However, she quickly caught herself and changed what she was saying. "Ms. Jarvis."

Too worried about Estella crying, Roxanne had no time to pay attention to the little details. "Hurry up and let me in, Catalina. How's Essie?"

Catalina sighed inwardly when she saw how anxious Roxanne looked. "You're too late. Mr. Lucian has taken Ms. Estella out." Roxanne's expression froze when she heard that reply.

I thought Lucian only said that in a fit of anger. I can't believe he'd actually be so cruel. Since Essie hasn't seen me, she must still be bawling her eyes out.

brought Roxanne to her senses, and she asked in a low voice, "Do you know where he

a split second. However, the recollection of Lucian's parting instruction made her shake her head. The light in Roxanne's eyes went out, and a

Catalina could not stop herself from suggesting. Although she felt bad for Estella when Roxanne

so. Thanks to Catalina's reminder, she suddenly

away!" With that, she fished out her phone from her bag, pulled up Lucian's

a female computer-generated voice rang out. She tried calling again immediately, but the same thing happened several

now. As the realization dawned on her, guilt welled within her. All I can do is try

pierced the air whenever the phone rang as they made their way to

to decline the calls as soon as his phone rang. Despite hearing Estella's sobs, he denied that the calls were from Roxanne in a chilly tone, "No,