

Chapter 701 Her Relationship With Lucian

“I think I have Dr. Jarvis’ contact too. If you can’t do it, I can,” Hector said faintly. Jack looked utterly helpless when he heard those words because he knew Hector was threatening him. Rather than letting Roxanne and Jessica meet each other without my presence, I might as well just be there to keep Jessica in check.

In the end, Jack agreed to it. “All right. I’ll try to contact Ms. Jarvis. But I can’t promise she’ll agree to it.” With a wide smile on his face, Stephen said, “Thank you. Let me know when she gets back to you.”

Jack nodded indifferently in response. Stephen chatted with Hector for a little while and asked about the Damaris family’s recent situation before standing up to excuse himself.

The moment Stephen left the Demaris residence, a dejected look replaced the smile on his face. That night, Jessica was hammered when a few men brought her home. Stephen was in utter shock when he saw that and thought his daughter had been taken advantage of.

To his surprise, those men told him they were the Farwell family’s men and that Lucian had ordered them to send her back. Right away, Stephen knew his daughter had crossed someone she couldn’t afford to mess with.

Sure enough, the Hightower family’s business partners called to cancel their contracts the next few days. They also couldn’t find people to work with for their latest projects.

Seeing that the company was facing financial difficulties, Stephen had no choice but to contact Lucian. He apologized to Lucian, but he was told that there was someone else he had to apologize to.

Puzzled, Stephen went home and interrogated Jessica. That was when he found out about the person he owed an apology.

Yet, he couldn’t just look for the person right away, so he thought about asking Jack to act as the middleman.

He deliberately mentioned his dead father to sell Hector a sad story so that he could gain Hector’s support.

In the end, it worked, and he managed to set a meeting with Roxanne.

What’s her relationship with Lucian? Why is Lucian willing to do so much for her?

Meanwhile, upon finishing his work, Lucian thought about the three children at Roxanne’s house. She has to go home to make lunch for the kids, right?

At that thought, Lucian drove to Roxanne’s house.

In the mansion, the children had just finished a whole bucket of fried chicken.

Upon hearing the doorbell, the children thought Roxanne had returned, so they opened the door without checking the intercom.

When they saw the person standing before them, they were taken aback.

“Daddy!” Estella was the first to react. She ran toward Lucian and was about to reach out to hug his leg when he noticed how oily her hands were. Upon taking a closer look, he realized she was wearing a pair of disposable gloves that was covered in grease.

She instinctively grabbed her wrists and moved away from her.

That was the first time Estella had gotten rejected by Lucian. She widened her eyes in confusion.

Lucian furrowed his brows and sized up the children. The corners of their lips are oily. What did they eat?

Chapter 702 Refrain From Eating That

“Hello, Mr. Farwell,” Archie and Benny greeted when they came to their senses. Lucian nodded slightly. “Is your mommy not back yet?”

The kids nodded obediently and glanced at each other guiltily. They had thought that it was Roxanne who had returned and almost screamed when they opened the door.

Fortunately, Estella had greeted Lucian first, saving them from embarrassing themselves. Lucian’s frown deepened when he saw their reactions. “What did you guys have for lunch, then?”

As he asked, he scanned the house and saw the bucket of fried chicken on the dining table.

“We had drumsticks!” Estella was still reveling in the excitement of eating fast food for the first time and did not realize the look on Lucian’s face. “It was delicious!”

Lucian’s eyes darkened when he heard his daughter’s answer. He then lowered his head and looked at the three children. Not only were their faces covered in grease, but they were also all smiling in satisfaction.

Evidently, they were extremely happy with what they had for lunch. Lucian suppressed his anger and asked in a deep voice, “Who sent them?”

Estella turned toward Archie and Benny. Although she knew Madilyn, she didn’t know how to introduce her to Lucian. Seeing that Estella was keeping mum, Lucian thought the children had ordered takeout on their own.

Right then, Benny piped up, “It was our godmother! Mommy told her to send us food.”

Lucian knitted his brows and gave it some thought. I think I know who their godmother is. Disdain flashed across Lucian’s eyes when he recalled the previous time he met Madilyn. That woman doesn’t look reliable.

Having learned that it wasn't Roxanne's idea to feed the children fast food, Lucian said in a gentler tone, "Don't eat too much of this in the future." The children weren't pleased when they heard those words. Estella tilted her head in confusion and asked, "But why? It's really, really yummy." She looked at Lucian aggrievedly. "Unlike me, Archie and Benny had it before. Why didn't you ever let me try it, Daddy?" Feeling a headache coming, Lucian pinched the space between his brows and replied, "It's unhealthy." Besides, with their social status, they never needed to go out and buy food as such. In fact, Estella had fried chicken before. It was just a healthier version prepared by their in-house chef. Estella wasn't satisfied with that answer. She blinked and wanted to tug at Lucian's shirt sleeve to question further, but Lucian pushed her back the moment she approached him. Estella felt even more aggrieved when he did that. "Take off your gloves. They're dirty," Lucian said. Only then did Estella realize what was going on. She slowly took off her pair of gloves, then returned to stand before Lucian once again after Archie and Benny brought her away to wash her hands. This time, Lucian didn't stop her from approaching him. Estella tugged at Lucian's shirt sleeve and uttered in a piping voice, "Why is it that Archie and Benny are allowed to—" Hearing that she was asking about the fried chicken again, Lucian interrupted expressionlessly, "They'll have to refrain from eating that from now on." Archie's and Benny's faces fell. Daddy is good in any way, but he abandoned us in the past, and now, he's even stopping us from eating fried chicken...

Chapter 703 On A Date

Just as the children were about to bargain their way out, they heard someone's footsteps coming from the entrance. They held their tongues and turned toward the door, only to see Roxanne holding a bouquet of flowers in her hands, looking puzzled. "Mommy!" Archie and Benny dashed toward her in excitement, seeing that she had returned. Roxanne, however, was looking at the man in her living room with a frown on her face. Lucian? What is he doing here? She glanced at the flowers in her hands and felt somewhat guilty. Lucian had noticed the flowers as well, and a wave of annoyance washed over him once more. She's rejected all my flowers before this. But now, she's holding a bouquet someone has gifted her. It's most probably from either Larry or Jack.

What does she take me for?

“Mommy?” Getting no response from Roxanne, Benny tugged at the corner of Roxanne’s shirt. I need Mommy to convince Daddy to let us eat fried chicken in the future!

Only then did Roxanne regain her senses and glance at Benny. He looks anxious.

Roxanne suppressed the strange feeling in her heart and reached out to ruffle Benny’s hair. “What is it?”

“We had fried chicken for lunch,” Benny said in a piping voice.

Roxanne was slightly baffled when she heard that. Why is he telling me that? When we were abroad, I would always make lunch for them. But whenever I was busy, I would have no choice but to order takeouts for them. Those takeouts were mostly fast foods. They should be used to it by now.

Benny noticed her confusion, so he added, “Mr. Farwell said the food isn’t healthy, and we shouldn’t eat too much of it.”

Hearing that, Roxanne could roughly guess what was on his mind.

Just as she was about to console Benny, she remembered the fact that Estella was with the boys during lunch. Although Archie and Benny are used to it, Essie may not be. Lucian probably said that to Essie.

Roxanne caressed Benny’s head before raising her own to look in Lucian’s direction.

Lucian was still standing in the same place, while Estella was standing right beside him, looking aggrieved. At that moment, he was gripping her little hand.

When Estella met Roxanne’s gaze, she greeted softly, “Ms. Jarvis...”

She had wanted to dash toward Roxanne along with Archie and Benny.

However, Lucian had held onto her hand before she could do so, and she had no idea why.

Roxanne smiled at Estella before looking up to meet Lucian’s gaze. “Mr. Farwell.”

Lucian was exasperated when he looked at the flowers in her hands. Coldly, he said, “You’re an interesting woman, Ms. Jarvis. How could you go on a date when your children were here having fast food for lunch?”

Feeling guilty, Roxanne said, “I’m sorry. I forgot Roxanne was here, and I forgot to remind my friend about it. Archie and Benny are used to eating these when we were abroad. My friend might have—”

Before she could finish her sentence, Lucian interrupted, “Ms. Jarvis, you were busy dating. How could you have remembered anything?”

Chapter 704 Lilies

Roxanne’s expression froze when she heard Lucian mentioning her going on a

date again. "You should've told me if you were busy, Ms. Jarvis. I would've come to bring Essie home," Lucian added.

Hearing his tone, Estella knew he was pissed. "Daddy!" she said anxiously. Lucian's eyes darkened. He looked down at Estella, and only then did he realize how cold he had sounded. I got angry when I saw those flowers. But Roxanne may not think I have the right to be angry.

"I'm sorry I couldn't come back earlier to accompany you, Essie." Roxanne ignored Lucian and cast Estella an apologetic look.

Estella quickly shook her head when she heard Roxanne apologizing to her. "It's all right, Ms. Jarvis. You're back now. Besides, those fried chickens were delicious! I love them!"

With that, Estella shot her father a discontented look. Forget that he forbade me from eating delicious food. Now, he even got angry at Ms. Jarvis! I'm not happy with that!

Lucian merely frowned and kept mum. He was afraid that he would lose his temper if he were to talk again.

Roxanne knew Estella didn't want her to put too much blame on herself. She smiled appreciatively and said, "I'll make you something yummy tonight, okay?" Ms. Jarvis is making me dinner! Estella's eyes lit up, and she nodded excitedly. "Okay!"

After that, Roxanne walked into the living room.

Only when she walked past Archie and Benny did they notice the bouquet in her hands. They instinctively turned toward Lucian.

As they expected, Lucian's expression was as black as thunder.

Although they weren't pleased when Lucian told them to stop eating fried chicken, they chose to side with him because his effort to pursue Roxanne could be jeopardized.

"Mommy!" Archie cautiously tugged at the hem of Roxanne's clothes.

Roxanne looked down at him in confusion.

Archie glanced at Lucian before pulling Roxanne into the kitchen. He whispered next to her ear, "Did Mr. Damaris give you those flowers?"

Roxanne was stunned for a few seconds because she didn't expect Archie to ask about the flowers. Is he asking this because he thinks I'm going to let Jack become their father?

Holding that thought, Roxanne smiled and explained, "It is from Mr. Damaris, but it's not what you think it is. I did him a favor, so he gave me these flowers to express his gratitude."

Archie and Benny weren't convinced. Who gives others flowers to express their gratitude?

Noticing the puzzlement on their faces, Roxanne said patiently, "These are lilies.

Go on and find out what these flowers symbolize, all right? If you guys want to thank someone in the future, you can give them lilies.”

Archie and Benny shared a look and nodded dubiously.

“All right, I’m gonna go tidy things up in the living room. You guys keep Essie company.” Roxanne smiled and ruffled the boys’ hair.

Archie and Benny nodded obediently.

They went out of the kitchen and brought Estella to the room, and the first thing they did was find out what the flowers symbolized.

When they found out that lilies were given to express gratitude, they heaved a sigh of relief.

Chapter 705 Cannot Make Decisions On Her Behalf

After cleaning up the coffee table, Roxanne got up to go and throw away some trash when she found Lucian standing in the doorway, blocking her path. “Could you please let me through, Mr. Farwell?”

Lucian frowned when he heard her voice and turned sideways to let her pass.

He watched her walk away and could not stop his gaze from flicking toward the flowers she had temporarily left on the couch. His eyes flashed with anger.

After returning from throwing the trash, she heard him ask in a low voice, “Didn’t you say you were going to treat me the same as the others?”

Roxanne halted her footsteps at those words and raised her gaze to meet his with a quizzical expression. Furrowing his brows, Lucian asked, “Why did you send back all the flowers I sent you previously, yet bring home the flowers other people give you?”

Before Roxanne could respond, she heard him press further. “So who are the flowers from? Larry? Or is it Jack?”

“They’re...” She started to answer his question without even thinking about it.

The next moment, however, she noticed his awful attitude and stopped herself abruptly.

Lucian thought she was about to respond, but to his surprise, she fell silent after beginning her sentence.

After waiting for a while and still not getting an answer from her, Lucian looked even more displeased.

All Roxanne wanted was to ignore the man in front of her. She continued walking further into the house, but he grabbed her wrist.

“Why aren’t you answering?” Lucian gazed at her darkly, his suspicions about her relationship with Larry and Jack deepening.

Roxanne stopped walking and glanced back at him. She was also feeling frustrated and furious, and her gaze was cold.

“I’ve explained to you my relationship with them many a time. If you insist on

misunderstanding the matter, there's nothing I can do about that. Also, what you said earlier was something you came up with yourself. I never agreed to it."

Lucian's gaze grew even more sullen after he heard her reply. After a while, his lips curled with sarcasm as he remarked, "Indeed, I've deluded myself."

Then he let go of her wrist.

Surprise flashed across Roxanne's eyes.

It's the first time he has let me off so easily...

For a moment, the atmosphere between the pair was thick with tension.

"If there's nothing else, I'll be going to prepare dinner." Not wanting to linger around any longer, she withdrew her gaze first and headed toward the kitchen.

This time, Lucian did not stop her.

Roxanne was at the kitchen doorway when his voice rang out again. "There's no need to prepare dinner for Essie. I'll be taking her home when she comes downstairs."

His gaze was so dark that it was utterly frightening.

The way I see it, Roxanne's acceptance of flowers from another man is equivalent to her accepting that man's pursuit of her. Naturally, I shouldn't hang around and get underfoot. Taking care of Essie has probably even turned into a nuisance for her. Otherwise, why would she have left the three kids at home and let them eat takeaway?

Roxanne turned and cast a glance at him. "It's something I promised her I'd do. As long as she doesn't tell me otherwise, I'll definitely make dinner for her. Even though you're her father, you can't make decisions on her behalf."

With that, she spun around and went into the kitchen.

When Archie, Benny, and Estella headed downstairs, they saw Lucian standing in the living room expressionlessly.

The trio exchanged glances at the sight of that, picking up on the strange atmosphere in the living room.

It doesn't take a genius to figure out that the two adults must've gotten into an argument, and it was about those flowers.

[Leaving The Country After Divorce Chapter 702](#)

Chapter 702 Refrain From Eating That

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The kids nodded obediently and glanced at each other guiltily. They had thought that it was Roxanne who had returned and almost screamed when they opened

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Evidently, they were extremely happy with what they had for lunch. Lucian suppressed his anger and asked in a deep voice, "Who sent them?"

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Besides, with their social status, they never needed to go out and buy food as such.

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Only then did Estella realize what was going on. She slowly took off her pair of

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This time, Lucian didn't stop her from approaching him.

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She glanced at the flowers in her hands and felt somewhat guilty. Lucian had noticed the flowers as well, and a wave of annoyance washed over him once more. She's rejected all my flowers before this. But now, she's holding a bouquet someone has gifted her. It's most probably from either Larry or Jack. What does she take me for?

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Roxanne was slightly baffled when she heard that. Why is he telling me that? When we were abroad, I would always make lunch for them. But whenever I was busy, I would have no choice but to order takeouts for them. Those takeouts were mostly fast foods. They should be used to it by now.

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may not be. Lucian probably said that to Essie.

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Lucian was exasperated when he looked at the flowers in her hands. Coldly, he said, "You're an interesting woman, Ms. Jarvis. How could you go on a date when your children were here having fast food for lunch?"

Feeling guilty, Roxanne said, "I'm sorry. I forgot Roxanne was here, and I forgot to remind my friend about it. Archie and Benny are used to eating these when we were abroad. My friend might have—"

Before she could finish her sentence, Lucian interrupted, "Ms. Jarvis, you were busy dating. How could you have remembered anything?"

Chapter 704 Lilies

Roxanne's expression froze when she heard Lucian mentioning her going on a date again. "You should've told me if you were busy, Ms. Jarvis. I would've come to bring Essie home," Lucian added.

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Lucian's eyes darkened. He looked down at Estella, and only then did he realize how cold he had sounded. I got angry when I saw those flowers. But Roxanne may not think I have the right to be angry.

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Estella quickly shook her head when she heard Roxanne apologizing to her. "It's all right, Ms. Jarvis. You're back now. Besides, those fried chickens were delicious! I love them!"

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Chapter 704 Lilies

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Hearing his tone, Estella knew he was pissed. “Daddy!” she said anxiously. Lucian’s eyes darkened. He looked down at Estella, and only then did he realize how cold he had sounded. I got angry when I saw those flowers. But Roxanne may not think I have the right to be angry.

“I’m sorry I couldn’t come back earlier to accompany you, Essie.” Roxanne ignored Lucian and cast Estella an apologetic look.

Estella quickly shook her head when she heard Roxanne apologizing to her. “It’s all right, Ms. Jarvis. You’re back now. Besides, those fried chickens were delicious! I love them!”

With that, Estella shot her father a discontented look. Forget that he forbade me from eating delicious food. Now, he even got angry at Ms. Jarvis! I'm not happy with that!

Lucian merely frowned and kept mum. He was afraid that he would lose his temper if he were to talk again.

Roxanne knew Estella didn't want her to put too much blame on herself. She smiled appreciatively and said, "I'll make you something yummy tonight, okay?" Ms. Jarvis is making me dinner! Estella's eyes lit up, and she nodded excitedly. "Okay!"

After that, Roxanne walked into the living room.

Only when she walked past Archie and Benny did they notice the bouquet in her hands. They instinctively turned toward Lucian.

As they expected, Lucian's expression was as black as thunder.

Although they weren't pleased when Lucian told them to stop eating fried chicken, they chose to side with him because his effort to pursue Roxanne could be jeopardized.

"Mommy!" Archie cautiously tugged at the hem of Roxanne's clothes.

Roxanne looked down at him in confusion.

Archie glanced at Lucian before pulling Roxanne into the kitchen. He whispered next to her ear, "Did Mr. Damaris give you those flowers?"

Roxanne was stunned for a few seconds because she didn't expect Archie to ask about the flowers. Is he asking this because he thinks I'm going to let Jack become their father?

Holding that thought, Roxanne smiled and explained, "It is from Mr. Damaris, but it's not what you think it is. I did him a favor, so he gave me these flowers to express his gratitude."

Archie and Benny weren't convinced. Who gives others flowers to express their gratitude?

Noticing the puzzlement on their faces, Roxanne said patiently, "These are lilies. Go on and find out what these flowers symbolize, all right? If you guys want to thank someone in the future, you can give them lilies."

Archie and Benny shared a look and nodded dubiously.

"All right, I'm gonna go tidy things up in the living room. You guys keep Essie company." Roxanne smiled and ruffled the boys' hair.

Archie and Benny nodded obediently.

They went out of the kitchen and brought Estella to the room, and the first thing they did was find out what the flowers symbolized.

When they found out that lilies were given to express gratitude, they heaved a sigh of relief.

Chapter 705 Cannot Make Decisions On Her Behalf

After cleaning up the coffee table, Roxanne got up to go and throw away some trash when she found Lucian standing in the doorway, blocking her path. “Could you please let me through, Mr. Farwell?”

Lucian frowned when he heard her voice and turned sideways to let her pass.

He watched her walk away and could not stop his gaze from flicking toward the flowers she had temporarily left on the couch. His eyes flashed with anger.

After returning from throwing the trash, she heard him ask in a low voice, “Didn’t you say you were going to treat me the same as the others?”

Roxanne halted her footsteps at those words and raised her gaze to meet his with a quizzical expression. Furrowing his brows, Lucian asked, “Why did you send back all the flowers I sent you previously, yet bring home the flowers other people give you?”

Before Roxanne could respond, she heard him press further. “So who are the flowers from? Larry? Or is it Jack?”

“They’re...” She started to answer his question without even thinking about it.

The next moment, however, she noticed his awful attitude and stopped herself abruptly.

Lucian thought she was about to respond, but to his surprise, she fell silent after beginning her sentence.

After waiting for a while and still not getting an answer from her, Lucian looked even more displeased.

All Roxanne wanted was to ignore the man in front of her. She continued walking further into the house, but he grabbed her wrist.

“Why aren’t you answering?” Lucian gazed at her darkly, his suspicions about her relationship with Larry and Jack deepening.

Roxanne stopped walking and glanced back at him. She was also feeling frustrated and furious, and her gaze was cold.

“I’ve explained to you my relationship with them many a time. If you insist on misunderstanding the matter, there’s nothing I can do about that. Also, what you said earlier was something you came up with yourself. I never agreed to it.”

Lucian’s gaze grew even more sullen after he heard her reply. After a while, his lips curled with sarcasm as he remarked, “Indeed, I’ve deluded myself.”

Then he let go of her wrist.

Surprise flashed across Roxanne’s eyes.

It’s the first time he has let me off so easily...

For a moment, the atmosphere between the pair was thick with tension.

“If there’s nothing else, I’ll be going to prepare dinner.” Not wanting to linger around any longer, she withdrew her gaze first and headed toward the kitchen.

This time, Lucian did not stop her.

Roxanne was at the kitchen doorway when his voice rang out again. “There’s no need to prepare dinner for Essie. I’ll be taking her home when she comes downstairs.”

His gaze was so dark that it was utterly frightening.

The way I see it, Roxanne’s acceptance of flowers from another man is equivalent to her accepting that man’s pursuit of her. Naturally, I shouldn’t hang around and get underfoot. Taking care of Essie has probably even turned into a nuisance for her. Otherwise, why would she have left the three kids at home and let them eat takeaway?

Roxanne turned and cast a glance at him. “It’s something I promised her I’d do. As long as she doesn’t tell me otherwise, I’ll definitely make dinner for her. Even though you’re her father, you can’t make decisions on her behalf.”

With that, she spun around and went into the kitchen.

When Archie, Benny, and Estella headed downstairs, they saw Lucian standing in the living room expressionlessly.

The trio exchanged glances at the sight of that, picking up on the strange atmosphere in the living room.

It doesn’t take a genius to figure out that the two adults must’ve gotten into an argument, and it was about those flowers.

Chapter 706 Secretly Took One Of Her Flowers

Downstairs, Lucian, too, noticed the children making their way down. They were about to say something when Lucian looked up at Estella and said impassively, “Come down, Essie. We should be heading home.”

Upon hearing that, the children were taken aback. Estella widened her eyes in confusion. “Daddy...”

I’ve already promised Ms. Jarvis I’d stay and have dinner tonight. What does Daddy mean by this? Even if he and Ms. Jarvis got into an argument, he shouldn’t take me home. After all, he told me he wanted me to help him woo her. If I leave as well, how will that get Ms. Jarvis to stop being mad?

Nonetheless, Lucian was unmoved. “Ms. Jarvis has other matters to attend to, and we don’t know whether there will be any other guests tonight. It’s better if we don’t get in her way.”

Having said that, he took two strides in the direction of the staircase and stretched out a hand toward Estella. Estella pursed her lips and hid behind the two older boys. “No! I want to have dinner with Ms. Jarvis!”

Archie and Benny quickly shielded Estella behind them. “Mr. Farwell, we don’t have any other guests tonight, so you and Essie can stay.”

Lucian furrowed his brows. Knowing that the boys were not his children, he had no choice but to soften his tone a few notches as he replied, “If you like Essie so

much, you can play together at the kindergarten. But she has to go back with me now.”

Archie and Benny looked at each other anxiously, knowing that he was angry because Roxanne had brought home that bouquet. However, they did not know what to do. They had wanted to explain everything clearly to him. If they were to move aside then, he would surely take Essie and leave.

For a moment, the two of them were caught in a dilemma.

After some time, Archie suddenly stepped aside and ran down the stairs.

Naturally, Benny could not stop Lucian by himself. Hence, he could only watch as Lucian picked Estella up in his arms and turned to walk toward the front door. Estella’s reluctance at being carried by Lucian was written all over her face. She stared fixedly in the direction of the kitchen, hoping Roxanne would come out and stop her father.

Alas, even as Lucian had almost carried her to the front door, there was still no sign of Roxanne.

Estella could not help feeling a little disappointed.

“Mr. Farwell!”

Suddenly, Lucian heard Archie’s voice ring out from behind him.

Estella was puzzled to see Archie holding a single lily in his hand.

Lucian frowned when he heard Archie calling him. He paused in his tracks and turned around. “What is it?”

Archie hurried toward them. He did not even pause to catch his breath, and his small face was flushed as he said, “If you let Essie stay for dinner, I’ll give you this lily.”

Confusion spread across Lucian’s stern face. He did not know where Archie had gotten the flower, nor did he understand what the boy meant by those words.

Having guessed Lucian’s thoughts, Archie explained sweetly, “I took this flower from the bouquet Mommy brought back. She said that if I want to thank someone, I should give them lilies because lilies symbolize gratitude.”

Then, Archie added guiltily, “Don’t tell Mommy I secretly took one of her flowers, okay?”

Realization dawned on Lucian. So what Archie meant to say is that he’ll be very grateful if I don’t take Essie home.

Chapter 707 Let Us Play A Game

Archie held out the flower again hesitantly. “There are plenty of lilies in Mommy’s bouquet. That’s why I dared to take one of them.” Lucian’s brows furrowed as he finally understood what Archie meant.

Someone obviously sent those flowers that Roxanne brought back as a thankyou

gift. I was the one who misunderstood the whole thing. No wonder she flew into such a rage!

Lucian's expression relaxed drastically after he realized the truth of the situation. He swept his gaze over to Roxanne, who was busy in the kitchen, then turned back and took the lily Archie was holding. "I'm sorry. I jumped to conclusions. Essie and I will stay for dinner."

With that, he set Estella down. As soon as her feet touched the ground, Estella shot her father a glare before running off toward the kitchen to look for Roxanne.

In the living room, Lucian held the lily taken from Roxanne's bouquet of flowers with a frown. He and the boys stared at each other for some time.

Archie and Benny could see Lucian's frustration, and they snuck glances at each other with troubled looks in their eyes. Daddy and Mommy often argue, but it's clear that Mommy is very angry this time. What can we do to help them make up?

Over in the kitchen, Estella clung to Roxanne's leg. Roxanne, still fuming with anger, was perplexed when she saw Estella running into the kitchen, looking aggrieved. "What's the matter, Essie? Did the brothers bully you?"

As she spoke, she cast a glance toward the door. That doesn't make sense.

The boys have always been fond of Essie, so why would they bully her? Apart from the boys, the only other possible culprit is Lucian.

The next second, Estella's reply confirmed her suspicions. "It was Daddy! He's a meanie!" Estella said huffily, complaining about her father to Roxanne.

Estella's response did not surprise Roxanne. However, the latter was still curious about what caused Estella to become so angry. "How was he mean to you?"

Puffing out her cheeks, Estella recounted what had happened angrily. "Daddy wanted to take me home and wouldn't let me have dinner with you!"

A look of surprise flashed across Roxanne's eyes. Lucian did mention taking Essie home just now, but I already shot him down. I didn't think he'd still go ahead with it. I wonder how she managed to run in here.

As the thought went through her mind, she subconsciously lifted her gaze, worried that Lucian would suddenly barge in. Once she looked up, however, she spotted Archie and Benny standing at the kitchen doorway.

"Mommy, let's play a game together!" Benny said with a bright smile. His words threw Roxanne for a loop. Pursing his lips, Archie nodded solemnly. "Yes, let's play a game!"

Seeing that the usually serious Archie was also suggesting they play a game together made Roxanne even more confused. And for some reason, his cheeks are so flushed.

Estella burrowed into Roxanne's arms and turned to look at Archie and Benny curiously. They were so anxious when Daddy nearly took me home, and I'm still mad about it. Yet, they want to play a game now. How strange. Just as Estella was wondering what was going on, Benny winked at her discreetly and signaled for her to look through the doorway at Lucian. Getting his hint, she reluctantly glanced at her father.

Leaving The Country After Divorce Chapter 704

Chapter 704 Lilies

Roxanne's expression froze when she heard Lucian mentioning her going on a date again. "You should've told me if you were busy, Ms. Jarvis. I would've come to bring Essie home," Lucian added.

Hearing his tone, Estella knew he was pissed. "Daddy!" she said anxiously. Lucian's eyes darkened. He looked down at Estella, and only then did he realize how cold he had sounded. I got angry when I saw those flowers. But Roxanne may not think I have the right to be angry.

"I'm sorry I couldn't come back earlier to accompany you, Essie." Roxanne ignored Lucian and cast Estella an apologetic look.

Estella quickly shook her head when she heard Roxanne apologizing to her. "It's all right, Ms. Jarvis. You're back now. Besides, those fried chickens were delicious! I love them!"

With that, Estella shot her father a discontented look. Forget that he forbade me from eating delicious food. Now, he even got angry at Ms. Jarvis! I'm not happy with that!

Lucian merely frowned and kept mum. He was afraid that he would lose his temper if he were to talk again.

Roxanne knew Estella didn't want her to put too much blame on herself. She smiled appreciatively and said, "I'll make you something yummy tonight, okay?" Ms. Jarvis is making me dinner! Estella's eyes lit up, and she nodded excitedly. "Okay!"

After that, Roxanne walked into the living room.

Only when she walked past Archie and Benny did they notice the bouquet in her hands. They instinctively turned toward Lucian.

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Archie glanced at Lucian before pulling Roxanne into the kitchen. He whispered next to her ear, “Did Mr. Damaris give you those flowers?”

Roxanne was stunned for a few seconds because she didn’t expect Archie to ask about the flowers. Is he asking this because he thinks I’m going to let Jack become their father?

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Archie and Benny weren’t convinced. Who gives others flowers to express their gratitude?

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“All right, I’m gonna go tidy things up in the living room. You guys keep Essie company.” Roxanne smiled and ruffled the boys’ hair.

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They went out of the kitchen and brought Estella to the room, and the first thing they did was find out what the flowers symbolized.

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Chapter 705 Cannot Make Decisions On Her Behalf

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After returning from throwing the trash, she heard him ask in a low voice, “Didn’t you say you were going to treat me the same as the others?”

Roxanne halted her footsteps at those words and raised her gaze to meet his with a quizzical expression. Furrowing his brows, Lucian asked, “Why did you send back all the flowers I sent you previously, yet bring home the flowers other people give you?”

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Chapter 706 Secretly Took One Of Her Flowers

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Upon hearing that, the children were taken aback. Estella widened her eyes in confusion. "Daddy..."

I've already promised Ms. Jarvis I'd stay and have dinner tonight. What does Daddy mean by this? Even if he and Ms. Jarvis got into an argument, he shouldn't take me home. After all, he told me he wanted me to help him woo her. If I leave as well, how will that get Ms. Jarvis to stop being mad?

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Chapter 707 Let Us Play A Game

Archie held out the flower again hesitantly. “There are plenty of lilies in Mommy’s bouquet. That’s why I dared to take one of them.” Lucian’s brows furrowed as he finally understood what Archie meant.

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Estella’s response did not surprise Roxanne. However, the latter was still curious about what caused Estella to become so angry. “How was he mean to you?”

Puffing out her cheeks, Estella recounted what had happened angrily. “Daddy wanted to take me home and wouldn’t let me have dinner with you!”

A look of surprise flashed across Roxanne’s eyes. Lucian did mention taking Essie home just now, but I already shot him down. I didn’t think he’d still go ahead with it. I wonder how she managed to run in here.

As the thought went through her mind, she subconsciously lifted her gaze, worried that Lucian would suddenly barge in. Once she looked up, however, she spotted Archie and Benny standing at the kitchen doorway.

“Mommy, let’s play a game together!” Benny said with a bright smile. His words threw Roxanne for a loop. Pursing his lips, Archie nodded solemnly. “Yes, let’s play a game!”

Seeing that the usually serious Archie was also suggesting they play a game together made Roxanne even more confused. And for some reason, his cheeks are so flushed.

Estella burrowed into Roxanne’s arms and turned to look at Archie and Benny curiously. They were so anxious when Daddy nearly took me home, and I’m still mad about it. Yet, they want to play a game now. How strange.

Just as Estella was wondering what was going on, Benny winked at her discreetly and signaled for her to look through the doorway at Lucian. Getting his hint, she reluctantly glanced at her father.

Chapter 708 Looks A Little Guilty

Through the kitchen door, one could see into the living room. Estella looked up and saw Lucian frowning. There was also a rare look of frustration on his face. She puffed out her cheeks and fumed inwardly, Needless to say, he must have regretted getting mad at Ms. Jarvis and me. Hmph! It serves him right for getting angry at us before getting his facts straight!

Even so, after grumbling about it silently, Estella still remembered that she wanted Roxanne to become her mother. Helping Daddy also means helping myself.

With that thought in mind, she decided to set aside her prejudice and lend Lucian a helping hand. She tugged at the hem of Roxanne's shirt gingerly and said in an adorable voice, "Ms. Jarvis, let's play a game together..."

Estella's acting skills were top-notch. She wore an aggrieved expression as she spoke, appearing as though she had yet to recover from how upset she felt when Lucian had wanted to take her home.

Roxanne's heart could not help softening at how pitiful Estella looked. After hesitating for several seconds, she finally raised her hand to pat the latter's head and agreed to a game. "Okay."

The three children looked at each other with joy in their eyes when they saw Roxanne acquiesce. After promising to play with them, Roxanne surveyed the ingredients she had prepped. It looks like everything is ready. All that's left is to cook up the dishes later this evening.

She double-checked to make sure everything had been prepared, then stood up and followed the children out of the kitchen. As soon as she walked out, she saw Lucian, who was still standing in the living room.

He was standing next to the coffee table with slightly downcast eyes, staring in the direction of the couch.

Noticing movements from where the others were, he raised his head and looked toward them. When he met Roxanne's eyes, something seemed to cross his mind, and his gaze flinched for a split second. Visibly frowning, he quickly shifted his focus back to the couch.

Roxanne could not help feeling stunned by his behavior. This guy was questioning me in a fury earlier, but as I look at him now, he looks a little guilty. Puzzled, she followed his line of sight and saw the bunch of lilies she had left on the couch.

I don't know if it's just my imagination, but I can't shake the feeling that someone seems to have tampered with the flowers. They look a little messy. The children were waiting for Roxanne before starting the game, and when they saw that she was lost in thought, Archie and Benny called out impatiently, "Mommy!"

Hearing that, she jolted to her senses and shot the children an apologetic smile. "What are we playing?"

Archie, Benny, and Estella exchanged looks, the wheels in their minds spinning. After a while, they suggested, "Let's play Red Light, Green Light."

Roxanne had no idea what the trio had in mind. She thought they merely wanted to play a game out of boredom, so she readily agreed.

Benny ran up to Lucian and said innocently, "Mr. Farwell, why don't you play together with us?"

Roxanne's brows drew together slightly when she saw that. She was worried

that Lucian was still angry and that it would startle Benny. To her surprise, Lucian merely frowned for a few seconds, then lifted his head and glanced toward her before agreeing to it in an indifferent manner. "Sure."

The twinkle in the children's eyes grew brighter after both the adults consented to play with them. Estella was the caller for the first round. She stood at the bottom of the staircase while the starting point for the other four was the front door of the mansion.

Since the distance between the two points was very near, Roxanne and Lucian had to take smaller steps to accommodate the children's strides.

[Leaving The Country After Divorce Chapter 705](#)

Chapter 705 Cannot Make Decisions On Her Behalf

After cleaning up the coffee table, Roxanne got up to go and throw away some trash when she found Lucian standing in the doorway, blocking her path. "Could you please let me through, Mr. Farwell?"

Lucian frowned when he heard her voice and turned sideways to let her pass.

He watched her walk away and could not stop his gaze from flicking toward the flowers she had temporarily left on the couch. His eyes flashed with anger.

After returning from throwing the trash, she heard him ask in a low voice, "Didn't you say you were going to treat me the same as the others?"

Roxanne halted her footsteps at those words and raised her gaze to meet his with a quizzical expression. Furrowing his brows, Lucian asked, "Why did you send back all the flowers I sent you previously, yet bring home the flowers other people give you?"

Before Roxanne could respond, she heard him press further. "So who are the flowers from? Larry? Or is it Jack?"

"They're..." She started to answer his question without even thinking about it. The next moment, however, she noticed his awful attitude and stopped herself abruptly.

Lucian thought she was about to respond, but to his surprise, she fell silent after beginning her sentence.

After waiting for a while and still not getting an answer from her, Lucian looked even more displeased.

All Roxanne wanted was to ignore the man in front of her. She continued walking further into the house, but he grabbed her wrist.

"Why aren't you answering?" Lucian gazed at her darkly, his suspicions about her relationship with Larry and Jack deepening.

Roxanne stopped walking and glanced back at him. She was also feeling frustrated and furious, and her gaze was cold.

“I’ve explained to you my relationship with them many a time. If you insist on misunderstanding the matter, there’s nothing I can do about that. Also, what you said earlier was something you came up with yourself. I never agreed to it.”

Lucian’s gaze grew even more sullen after he heard her reply. After a while, his lips curled with sarcasm as he remarked, “Indeed, I’ve deluded myself.”

Then he let go of her wrist.

Surprise flashed across Roxanne’s eyes.

It’s the first time he has let me off so easily...

For a moment, the atmosphere between the pair was thick with tension.

“If there’s nothing else, I’ll be going to prepare dinner.” Not wanting to linger around any longer, she withdrew her gaze first and headed toward the kitchen.

This time, Lucian did not stop her.

Roxanne was at the kitchen doorway when his voice rang out again. “There’s no need to prepare dinner for Essie. I’ll be taking her home when she comes downstairs.”

His gaze was so dark that it was utterly frightening.

The way I see it, Roxanne’s acceptance of flowers from another man is equivalent to her accepting that man’s pursuit of her. Naturally, I shouldn’t hang around and get underfoot. Taking care of Essie has probably even turned into a nuisance for her. Otherwise, why would she have left the three kids at home and let them eat takeaway?

Roxanne turned and cast a glance at him. “It’s something I promised her I’d do. As long as she doesn’t tell me otherwise, I’ll definitely make dinner for her. Even though you’re her father, you can’t make decisions on her behalf.”

With that, she spun around and went into the kitchen.

When Archie, Benny, and Estella headed downstairs, they saw Lucian standing in the living room expressionlessly.

The trio exchanged glances at the sight of that, picking up on the strange atmosphere in the living room.

It doesn’t take a genius to figure out that the two adults must’ve gotten into an argument, and it was about those flowers.

Chapter 706 Secretly Took One Of Her Flowers

Downstairs, Lucian, too, noticed the children making their way down. They were about to say something when Lucian looked up at Estella and said impassively, “Come down, Essie. We should be heading home.”

Upon hearing that, the children were taken aback. Estella widened her eyes in confusion. “Daddy...”

I've already promised Ms. Jarvis I'd stay and have dinner tonight. What does Daddy mean by this? Even if he and Ms. Jarvis got into an argument, he shouldn't take me home. After all, he told me he wanted me to help him woo her. If I leave as well, how will that get Ms. Jarvis to stop being mad? Nonetheless, Lucian was unmoved. "Ms. Jarvis has other matters to attend to, and we don't know whether there will be any other guests tonight. It's better if we don't get in her way."

Having said that, he took two strides in the direction of the staircase and stretched out a hand toward Estella. Estella pursed her lips and hid behind the two older boys. "No! I want to have dinner with Ms. Jarvis!"

Archie and Benny quickly shielded Estella behind them. "Mr. Farwell, we don't have any other guests tonight, so you and Essie can stay."

Lucian furrowed his brows. Knowing that the boys were not his children, he had no choice but to soften his tone a few notches as he replied, "If you like Essie so much, you can play together at the kindergarten. But she has to go back with me now."

Archie and Benny looked at each other anxiously, knowing that he was angry because Roxanne had brought home that bouquet. However, they did not know what to do. They had wanted to explain everything clearly to him. If they were to move aside then, he would surely take Essie and leave.

For a moment, the two of them were caught in a dilemma.

After some time, Archie suddenly stepped aside and ran down the stairs.

Naturally, Benny could not stop Lucian by himself. Hence, he could only watch as Lucian picked Estella up in his arms and turned to walk toward the front door. Estella's reluctance at being carried by Lucian was written all over her face. She stared fixedly in the direction of the kitchen, hoping Roxanne would come out and stop her father.

Alas, even as Lucian had almost carried her to the front door, there was still no sign of Roxanne.

Estella could not help feeling a little disappointed.

"Mr. Farwell!"

Suddenly, Lucian heard Archie's voice ring out from behind him.

Estella was puzzled to see Archie holding a single lily in his hand.

Lucian frowned when he heard Archie calling him. He paused in his tracks and turned around. "What is it?"

Archie hurried toward them. He did not even pause to catch his breath, and his small face was flushed as he said, "If you let Essie stay for dinner, I'll give you this lily."

Confusion spread across Lucian's stern face. He did not know where Archie had

gotten the flower, nor did he understand what the boy meant by those words. Having guessed Lucian's thoughts, Archie explained sweetly, "I took this flower from the bouquet Mommy brought back. She said that if I want to thank someone, I should give them lilies because lilies symbolize gratitude." Then, Archie added guiltily, "Don't tell Mommy I secretly took one of her flowers, okay?" Realization dawned on Lucian. So what Archie meant to say is that he'll be very grateful if I don't take Essie home.

Chapter 707 Let Us Play A Game

Archie held out the flower again hesitantly. "There are plenty of lilies in Mommy's bouquet. That's why I dared to take one of them." Lucian's brows furrowed as he finally understood what Archie meant.

Someone obviously sent those flowers that Roxanne brought back as a thankyou gift. I was the one who misunderstood the whole thing. No wonder she flew into such a rage!

Lucian's expression relaxed drastically after he realized the truth of the situation. He swept his gaze over to Roxanne, who was busy in the kitchen, then turned back and took the lily Archie was holding. "I'm sorry. I jumped to conclusions. Essie and I will stay for dinner."

With that, he set Estella down. As soon as her feet touched the ground, Estella shot her father a glare before running off toward the kitchen to look for Roxanne.

In the living room, Lucian held the lily taken from Roxanne's bouquet of flowers with a frown. He and the boys stared at each other for some time.

Archie and Benny could see Lucian's frustration, and they snuck glances at each other with troubled looks in their eyes. Daddy and Mommy often argue, but it's clear that Mommy is very angry this time. What can we do to help them make up?

Over in the kitchen, Estella clung to Roxanne's leg. Roxanne, still fuming with anger, was perplexed when she saw Estella running into the kitchen, looking aggrieved. "What's the matter, Essie? Did the brothers bully you?"

As she spoke, she cast a glance toward the door. That doesn't make sense.

The boys have always been fond of Essie, so why would they bully her? Apart from the boys, the only other possible culprit is Lucian.

The next second, Estella's reply confirmed her suspicions. "It was Daddy! He's a meanie!" Estella said huffily, complaining about her father to Roxanne.

Estella's response did not surprise Roxanne. However, the latter was still curious about what caused Estella to become so angry. "How was he mean to you?"

Puffing out her cheeks, Estella recounted what had happened angrily. “Daddy wanted to take me home and wouldn’t let me have dinner with you!”

A look of surprise flashed across Roxanne’s eyes. Lucian did mention taking Essie home just now, but I already shot him down. I didn’t think he’d still go ahead with it. I wonder how she managed to run in here.

As the thought went through her mind, she subconsciously lifted her gaze, worried that Lucian would suddenly barge in. Once she looked up, however, she spotted Archie and Benny standing at the kitchen doorway.

“Mommy, let’s play a game together!” Benny said with a bright smile. His words threw Roxanne for a loop. Pursing his lips, Archie nodded solemnly. “Yes, let’s play a game!”

Seeing that the usually serious Archie was also suggesting they play a game together made Roxanne even more confused. And for some reason, his cheeks are so flushed.

Estella burrowed into Roxanne’s arms and turned to look at Archie and Benny curiously. They were so anxious when Daddy nearly took me home, and I’m still mad about it. Yet, they want to play a game now. How strange.

Just as Estella was wondering what was going on, Benny winked at her discreetly and signaled for her to look through the doorway at Lucian. Getting his hint, she reluctantly glanced at her father.

Chapter 708 Looks A Little Guilty

Through the kitchen door, one could see into the living room. Estella looked up and saw Lucian frowning. There was also a rare look of frustration on his face. She puffed out her cheeks and fumed inwardly, Needless to say, he must have regretted getting mad at Ms. Jarvis and me. Hmph! It serves him right for getting angry at us before getting his facts straight!

Even so, after grumbling about it silently, Estella still remembered that she wanted Roxanne to become her mother. Helping Daddy also means helping myself.

With that thought in mind, she decided to set aside her prejudice and lend Lucian a helping hand. She tugged at the hem of Roxanne’s shirt gingerly and said in an adorable voice, “Ms. Jarvis, let’s play a game together...”

Estella’s acting skills were top-notch. She wore an aggrieved expression as she spoke, appearing as though she had yet to recover from how upset she felt when Lucian had wanted to take her home.

Roxanne’s heart could not help softening at how pitiful Estella looked. After hesitating for several seconds, she finally raised her hand to pat the latter’s head and agreed to a game. “Okay.”

The three children looked at each other with joy in their eyes when they saw

Roxanne acquiesce. After promising to play with them, Roxanne surveyed the ingredients she had prepped. It looks like everything is ready. All that's left is to cook up the dishes later this evening.

She double-checked to make sure everything had been prepared, then stood up and followed the children out of the kitchen. As soon as she walked out, she saw Lucian, who was still standing in the living room.

He was standing next to the coffee table with slightly downcast eyes, staring in the direction of the couch.

Noticing movements from where the others were, he raised his head and looked toward them. When he met Roxanne's eyes, something seemed to cross his mind, and his gaze flinched for a split second. Visibly frowning, he quickly shifted his focus back to the couch.

Roxanne could not help feeling stunned by his behavior. This guy was questioning me in a fury earlier, but as I look at him now, he looks a little guilty. Puzzled, she followed his line of sight and saw the bunch of lilies she had left on the couch.

I don't know if it's just my imagination, but I can't shake the feeling that someone seems to have tampered with the flowers. They look a little messy. The children were waiting for Roxanne before starting the game, and when they saw that she was lost in thought, Archie and Benny called out impatiently, "Mommy!"

Hearing that, she jolted to her senses and shot the children an apologetic smile. "What are we playing?"

Archie, Benny, and Estella exchanged looks, the wheels in their minds spinning. After a while, they suggested, "Let's play Red Light, Green Light."

Roxanne had no idea what the trio had in mind. She thought they merely wanted to play a game out of boredom, so she readily agreed.

Benny ran up to Lucian and said innocently, "Mr. Farwell, why don't you play together with us?"

Roxanne's brows drew together slightly when she saw that. She was worried that Lucian was still angry and that it would startle Benny. To her surprise, Lucian merely frowned for a few seconds, then lifted his head and glanced toward her before agreeing to it in an indifferent manner. "Sure."

The twinkle in the children's eyes grew brighter after both the adults consented to play with them. Estella was the caller for the first round. She stood at the bottom of the staircase while the starting point for the other four was the front door of the mansion.

Since the distance between the two points was very near, Roxanne and Lucian had to take smaller steps to accommodate the children's strides.

Chapter 709 Red Light

The game began with Roxanne and Lucian in the middle and the boys on either side. “Green light... Red light!” Estella waited for them to take a few steps before suddenly spinning around.

Although the others stopped in their tracks at once, the two little ones lost their balance and swayed about for a little bit before steadying themselves.

Fortunately, all Estella wanted was for them to all play together. Hence, she did not take issue with it and quickly turned back. When the game resumed, Roxanne could not help wondering whether the boys’ excitement was causing them to veer toward the center.

She glanced at Archie, who was next to her, helplessly. However, all his attention was on Estella standing right in the center. It seemed as though he was straying in that direction solely because he was eager to tag Estella. Seeing that, Roxanne sighed inwardly and moved toward the center to make room for him.

Meanwhile, Lucian, too, noticed the same thing with Benny. He seems to be behaving oddly, but I can’t quite put my finger on it. After all, if he’s so eager to win the game, it’ll make more sense for him to walk forward. Instead, he’s walking sideways like a crab and keeps running into me.

Although Lucian had no idea what Benny was up to, the former still subconsciously took a few steps toward the center to make way for the latter. Just as Lucian and Roxanne were preoccupied with staying out of the boys’ way, Estella suddenly swung around and called out, “Red light!”

Archie happened to take a step at the same time Estella shouted. Losing his balance, he staggered a little.

Roxanne frowned, worried there would not be enough space for Archie to regain his balance. Not even bothering to think about whether she would get eliminated from the game, she carefully inched further toward the center to leave him more space.

However, she stepped on something as she shifted aside, catching her by surprise. Roxanne froze, then looked down immediately to see what it was. As for Lucian, he had also gotten similarly tricked. He moved inward to let Benny pass, but right after steadying himself, he felt someone step on his foot. When Lucian lowered his head, he saw Roxanne retracting her leg while looking somewhat embarrassed. With Archie taking up all the space on her other side, however, she had nowhere to lower that foot after doing so.

For a moment, all she could do was stand on one leg awkwardly. She gazed at Estella with a helpless expression, desperately wishing the latter would quickly turn back around.

If she doesn’t, I really don’t think I can keep standing like this. Estella seemed to

have read her mind. Her eyes crinkled as she smiled and turned around slowly. Roxanne was about to put her foot down when she heard Estella's voice ring out again. "Green light... Red light!" Startled, Roxanne could not find anywhere to stand. Her body swayed on the spot before toppling forward.

Archie, Benny, and Estella watched the scene nervously. They were afraid she would really take a fall. At the same time, they were worried that Lucian would miss out on the opportunity.

As she was panicking, Roxanne reached out, wanting to grab something to steady herself. However, as soon as she reached out, she remembered they had deliberately chosen to play in an empty space. Hence, there was nothing for her to hold on to.

She was about to withdraw her hand when a large hand grabbed hers firmly. Immediately after that, she felt herself getting pulled into a pair of strong arms. When the children saw Lucian's swift and natural reaction, they could not help exclaiming, "Wow!"

[Leaving The Country After Divorce Chapter 706](#)

Chapter 706 Secretly Took One Of Her Flowers

Downstairs, Lucian, too, noticed the children making their way down. They were about to say something when Lucian looked up at Estella and said impassively, "Come down, Essie. We should be heading home."

Upon hearing that, the children were taken aback. Estella widened her eyes in confusion. "Daddy..."

I've already promised Ms. Jarvis I'd stay and have dinner tonight. What does Daddy mean by this? Even if he and Ms. Jarvis got into an argument, he shouldn't take me home. After all, he told me he wanted me to help him woo her. If I leave as well, how will that get Ms. Jarvis to stop being mad?

Nonetheless, Lucian was unmoved. "Ms. Jarvis has other matters to attend to, and we don't know whether there will be any other guests tonight. It's better if we don't get in her way."

Having said that, he took two strides in the direction of the staircase and stretched out a hand toward Estella. Estella pursed her lips and hid behind the two older boys. "No! I want to have dinner with Ms. Jarvis!"

Archie and Benny quickly shielded Estella behind them. "Mr. Farwell, we don't have any other guests tonight, so you and Essie can stay."

Lucian furrowed his brows. Knowing that the boys were not his children, he had no choice but to soften his tone a few notches as he replied, "If you like Essie so

much, you can play together at the kindergarten. But she has to go back with me now.”

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Then, Archie added guiltily, “Don’t tell Mommy I secretly took one of her flowers, okay?”

Realization dawned on Lucian. So what Archie meant to say is that he’ll be very grateful if I don’t take Essie home.

Chapter 707 Let Us Play A Game

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Estella's response did not surprise Roxanne. However, the latter was still curious about what caused Estella to become so angry. "How was he mean to you?"

Puffing out her cheeks, Estella recounted what had happened angrily. "Daddy wanted to take me home and wouldn't let me have dinner with you!"

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As the thought went through her mind, she subconsciously lifted her gaze, worried that Lucian would suddenly barge in. Once she looked up, however, she spotted Archie and Benny standing at the kitchen doorway.

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Chapter 708 Looks A Little Guilty

Through the kitchen door, one could see into the living room. Estella looked up and saw Lucian frowning. There was also a rare look of frustration on his face. She puffed out her cheeks and fumed inwardly, Needless to say, he must have regretted getting mad at Ms. Jarvis and me. Hmph! It serves him right for getting angry at us before getting his facts straight!

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Estella's acting skills were top-notch. She wore an aggrieved expression as she spoke, appearing as though she had yet to recover from how upset she felt when Lucian had wanted to take her home.

Roxanne's heart could not help softening at how pitiful Estella looked. After hesitating for several seconds, she finally raised her hand to pat the latter's head and agreed to a game. "Okay."

The three children looked at each other with joy in their eyes when they saw Roxanne acquiesce. After promising to play with them, Roxanne surveyed the ingredients she had prepped. It looks like everything is ready. All that's left is to cook up the dishes later this evening.

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Chapter 709 Red Light

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Although the others stopped in their tracks at once, the two little ones lost their balance and swayed about for a little bit before steadying themselves.

Fortunately, all Estella wanted was for them to all play together. Hence, she did not take issue with it and quickly turned back. When the game resumed, Roxanne could not help wondering whether the boys' excitement was causing them to veer toward the center.

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Although Lucian had no idea what Benny was up to, the former still subconsciously took a few steps toward the center to make way for the latter. Just as Lucian and Roxanne were preoccupied with staying out of the boys' way, Estella suddenly swung around and called out, "Red light!"

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As she was panicking, Roxanne reached out, wanting to grab something to steady herself. However, as soon as she reached out, she remembered they had deliberately chosen to play in an empty space. Hence, there was nothing for her to hold on to.

She was about to withdraw her hand when a large hand grabbed hers firmly. Immediately after that, she felt herself getting pulled into a pair of strong arms.

When the children saw Lucian's swift and natural reaction, they could not help exclaiming, "Wow!"

Chapter 710 Hugging Her

Roxanne could clearly hear the children's voices. Unbidden, a strange feeling rose within her. However, it was soon engulfed by a wave of guilt.

Just half an hour ago, she had a falling out with the man beside her. And now, she lost her balance and fell into Lucian's arms when they were merely playing a game with the children.

To anyone else, however, her actions might very well seem deliberate. Only she herself knew that it was truly an accident on her part. But if I were to clarify things now, I'd only make myself look all the more suspicious...

She rested in the man's embrace stiffly, her emotions a jumbled mess. On the contrary, Estella was still immersed in the game. She emphatically ordered, "Everyone isn't to move!"

Archie and Benny immediately answered in the affirmative. Upon receiving no response from the two adults, Estella stared at them with feigned sternness, her expression solemn.

"Got it." Lucian's deep voice sounded beside her ears. A flash of surprise flitted across Roxanne's eyes. If I were to listen to Essie and remain still, I'd have to continue staying in his arms... Worse still, the kids' gazes have been fixated on us ever since...

At that thought, a sense of aversion welled within her. She tried to break free from Lucian's arms, but the arm encircling her tightened instead.

"Essie is still awaiting your reply," Lucian reminded in a low voice beside her ear. Hearing that, Roxanne once again went stiff. She could almost sense Estella's tangible gaze on her.

Although she couldn't quite see the little girl's countenance from her angle, she could imagine her pitiful expression. Ultimately, she relented and murmured, "Okay."

Seeing that both the adults had agreed, all three children wore expressions of sheer delight. As Lucian hugged Roxanne, he dipped his eyes and stole a peek at the children's expressions. Without fail, he clocked the fleeting glee on their faces.

Realizing their true motive in suggesting the game, he felt touched yet amused. Still, he obligingly held the woman in his arms without moving a muscle.

At the sight of her amenability, he couldn't help chuckling lowly. Roxanne promptly went tense when she distinctly heard his laughter. She lifted her eyes and glanced at the man.

The smile on his face hadn't faded completely. When their eyes met, there was

still a hint of tenderness in his eyes. She was initially irked, but upon beholding his charming smile, she swiftly plunged into a trance.

This is the first time I've seen him smile like that...

The two of them gazed at each other for an indeterminate time before she abruptly snapped back to reality. In hindsight, she realized that Estella seemingly hadn't turned around even after such a long time had passed.

Following that realization, her brows furrowed slightly. In a soft voice, she stated, "I'm a bit tired, so I'm not playing anymore." After saying that, she broke free from Lucian's embrace, whirled around, and went upstairs.

The children watched her leave and exchanged guilty glances, aware that they were seemingly too deliberate that Roxanne noticed something amiss.

Likewise, a frown marred Lucian's countenance. Exasperation was written clear in his eyes. It looks like she's still unwilling to forgive me.

Estella was the first to gather her wits. Lifting her hand to point at her father, she announced in a soft voice, "Daddy, you're out!" Inclining his head nonchalantly, Lucian took a step back and extracted himself from between Archie and Benny

Chapter 711 Have Dinner Together

The children were no longer in the mood to continue playing. Roxanne had left anyway, so there was no need for them to carry on with the game.

At the side, Lucian watched as they dragged their feet over to the carpet and plopped down listlessly. Twitching his lips in amusement, he lifted his eyes and glanced upstairs. Then, he headed up the stairs.

After all, he had to talk to Roxanne about the misunderstanding earlier and clarify things.

The children initially thought their battle plan this time was a total flop, but they spotted Lucian voluntarily going upstairs when they looked over their shoulders. Without a shadow of a doubt, he was going to look for Roxanne. When they saw that, a spark of hope flared within them. Upstairs, Roxanne shut herself in the bedroom, feeling exceedingly conflicted.

She didn't know what was wrong with her earlier. Just a while ago, I was irritated by Lucian's domineering attitude. Yet, I was still bewitched by the tenderness in his eyes during the game.

Recalling her emotions earlier, she couldn't help feeling scornful of herself. Perhaps it was because I'd never seen such an expression on him in the many years I'd loved him, so my past feelings for him made an appearance in those few minutes just now...

While she was spacing out, footsteps suddenly rang out outside the door. They clearly didn't belong to the children, so it could only be Lucian. Upon perceiving that, Roxanne felt all the more conflicted. Why did he come upstairs?

Before she could brace herself mentally, a knock sounded on her bedroom door. On the heels of that, Lucian's baritone voice penetrated the door. He sounded a touch muffled through the door. "Are you in there? Let's talk."

Despite having guessed that the man came upstairs to seek her out, Roxanne was still stunned for a few seconds when she heard him say so in person. She didn't quite know how to respond to that.

I haven't yet decided how I should face him...

A few knocks sounded again. "If you're reluctant to allow me in, we can talk like this." Right after saying that, the man outside the door started speaking without waiting for her response.

"I was indeed too impulsive earlier, but I think you should understand my feelings. You might not believe me when I say this, but to me, your willingness to accept flowers from another man was no different from accepting another man for real. Thus, I actually planned to remove myself and Essie from your life."

The instant those words drifted into Roxanne's ears, her brows creased deeply. Mixed emotions brewed in her eyes. If it were six years ago, she would never believe that he would utter such words.

I never expected that he would comprise time and again for my sake. She was inexorably moved. Lifting her eyes, she stared in the direction of the door blankly.

"Right now, perhaps I feel the same as you did six years ago," Lucian admitted with a soundless sigh. Undeniably, it was easier to articulate some things with a door between them, since they didn't need to face each other directly.

At the mention of her past self six years ago, Roxanne's gaze flickered.

"If you need time to calm down, I don't mind going home first and leaving Essie here. Please also send her to kindergarten tomorrow. I'll come and pick her up at night."

Once again, Lucian's voice rang out at the door. Frowning slightly, Roxanne got up and walked over to the door. By the time she opened the door, the man had already reached the landing.

"Stay and have dinner together, Mr. Farwell," she couldn't help offering as she gazed at him. When her voice fell, even she herself was stunned for a moment.

Chapter 712 Exceptional Acting Skills

Lucian, who was standing on the landing, frowned imperceptibly upon hearing that. He turned around and looked at Roxanne by the bedroom door in puzzlement.

Roxanne had her eyes lowered and her brows knitted together slightly as though regretting her offer earlier. Clocking that, Lucian smirked cryptically. "You

don't need to force yourself, Ms. Jarvis. I won't change my mind because of a meal."

After he had said that, he tilted his head at her. Then, he spun on his heel and headed down the stairs again.

Roxanne lifted her eyes when she heard movement. Sighing inwardly, she repeated, "Let's have dinner together. Essie would definitely be sad if you were to leave."

That remark was meant for both Lucian and herself. Since he mentioned her past self six years ago, she couldn't help recalling how she felt when she left six years ago at the sight of his lonely figure.

Although her pain then was courtesy of him, she was still soft-hearted and didn't want others to experience the same sorrow she did at that time.

Hearing her offer, Lucian paused in his tracks. The look in his eyes darkened as his heart clenched painfully. He could surmise the reason she was allowing him to stay, and precisely because of that, he hated his past self more than he already did.

"I'll consider your feelings for me in all seriousness. But I hope that you can give me a bit more time." Roxanne relented once more.

When Lucian turned around to face her, his expression had already reverted to its usual indifference. "Thank you." Roxanne flashed him a smile as mixed feelings surged within her heart. Subsequently, the two of them went downstairs, one after another.

Downstairs, the children were playing with Legos distractedly. As soon as they heard movement from upstairs, they instantly sprang to their feet and sprinted to the landing. They gazed at Lucian and Roxanne eagerly, curious to know the progress of their conversation.

Failing to perceive anything even after a while, Benny snapped and asked candidly, "Are you mad, Mommy?"

Roxanne stilled for a few seconds. As the children's actions earlier occurred to her, she queried in return, "Did you guys do it on purpose?"

The children's expressions stiffened for a heartbeat when they heard her question.

Fortunately, they all had exceptional acting skills. Their expressions quickly turned innocent, and they regarded their mother in perplexity. "Did we do something wrong?"

"Did I bump into you by accident just now? I'm sorry, Mommy. I was just too competitive," Archie confessed without prompting.

Roxanne eyed them suspiciously for several seconds before frowning in exasperation.

Oh well, they're all smarter than the last. Even if they had really done

something, I might not necessarily be able to tell. Besides, they're all looking as innocent as ever that I can't even bear to doubt them.

Hence, she had no choice but to put away her suspicions. Patting them on the head, she assured softly, "I'm not mad. I'm just a bit tired."

The children skeptically shifted their gazes to Lucian at the side.

Lucian nodded at them flippantly.

The children finally breathed a sigh of relief, knowing that the two adults must have made up.

In the blink of an eye, smiles bloomed on their faces once more.

Lucian and Roxanne played with them for a while longer. This time, the kids didn't dare have any tricks up their sleeves, but they still enjoyed themselves immensely.

When evening fell, Roxanne corralled the trio who were playing madly and had them help her prepare dinner together.

Naturally, the children were all more than glad to do so.

[Leaving The Country After Divorce Chapter 707](#)

Chapter 707 Let Us Play A Game

Archie held out the flower again hesitantly. "There are plenty of lilies in Mommy's bouquet. That's why I dared to take one of them." Lucian's brows furrowed as he finally understood what Archie meant.

Someone obviously sent those flowers that Roxanne brought back as a thank you gift. I was the one who misunderstood the whole thing. No wonder she flew into such a rage!

Lucian's expression relaxed drastically after he realized the truth of the situation. He swept his gaze over to Roxanne, who was busy in the kitchen, then turned back and took the lily Archie was holding. "I'm sorry. I jumped to conclusions. Essie and I will stay for dinner."

With that, he set Estella down. As soon as her feet touched the ground, Estella shot her father a glare before running off toward the kitchen to look for Roxanne.

In the living room, Lucian held the lily taken from Roxanne's bouquet of flowers with a frown. He and the boys stared at each other for some time.

Archie and Benny could see Lucian's frustration, and they snuck glances at each other with troubled looks in their eyes. Daddy and Mommy often argue, but it's clear that Mommy is very angry this time. What can we do to help them make up?

Over in the kitchen, Estella clung to Roxanne's leg. Roxanne, still fuming with anger, was perplexed when she saw Estella running into the kitchen, looking aggrieved. "What's the matter, Essie? Did the brothers bully you?"

As she spoke, she cast a glance toward the door. That doesn't make sense.

The boys have always been fond of Essie, so why would they bully her? Apart from the boys, the only other possible culprit is Lucian.

The next second, Estella's reply confirmed her suspicions. "It was Daddy! He's a meanie!" Estella said huffily, complaining about her father to Roxanne.

Estella's response did not surprise Roxanne. However, the latter was still curious about what caused Estella to become so angry. "How was he mean to you?"

Puffing out her cheeks, Estella recounted what had happened angrily. "Daddy wanted to take me home and wouldn't let me have dinner with you!"

A look of surprise flashed across Roxanne's eyes. Lucian did mention taking Essie home just now, but I already shot him down. I didn't think he'd still go ahead with it. I wonder how she managed to run in here.

As the thought went through her mind, she subconsciously lifted her gaze, worried that Lucian would suddenly barge in. Once she looked up, however, she spotted Archie and Benny standing at the kitchen doorway.

"Mommy, let's play a game together!" Benny said with a bright smile. His words threw Roxanne for a loop. Pursing his lips, Archie nodded solemnly. "Yes, let's play a game!"

Seeing that the usually serious Archie was also suggesting they play a game together made Roxanne even more confused. And for some reason, his cheeks are so flushed.

Estella burrowed into Roxanne's arms and turned to look at Archie and Benny curiously. They were so anxious when Daddy nearly took me home, and I'm still mad about it. Yet, they want to play a game now. How strange.

Just as Estella was wondering what was going on, Benny winked at her discreetly and signaled for her to look through the doorway at Lucian. Getting his hint, she reluctantly glanced at her father.

Chapter 708 Looks A Little Guilty

Through the kitchen door, one could see into the living room. Estella looked up and saw Lucian frowning. There was also a rare look of frustration on his face. She puffed out her cheeks and fumed inwardly. Needless to say, he must have regretted getting mad at Ms. Jarvis and me. Hmph! It serves him right for getting angry at us before getting his facts straight!

Even so, after grumbling about it silently, Estella still remembered that she wanted Roxanne to become her mother. Helping Daddy also means helping

myself.

With that thought in mind, she decided to set aside her prejudice and lend Lucian a helping hand. She tugged at the hem of Roxanne's shirt gingerly and said in an adorable voice, "Ms. Jarvis, let's play a game together..."

Estella's acting skills were top-notch. She wore an aggrieved expression as she spoke, appearing as though she had yet to recover from how upset she felt when Lucian had wanted to take her home.

Roxanne's heart could not help softening at how pitiful Estella looked. After hesitating for several seconds, she finally raised her hand to pat the latter's head and agreed to a game. "Okay."

The three children looked at each other with joy in their eyes when they saw Roxanne acquiesce. After promising to play with them, Roxanne surveyed the ingredients she had prepped. It looks like everything is ready. All that's left is to cook up the dishes later this evening.

She double-checked to make sure everything had been prepared, then stood up and followed the children out of the kitchen. As soon as she walked out, she saw Lucian, who was still standing in the living room.

He was standing next to the coffee table with slightly downcast eyes, staring in the direction of the couch.

Noticing movements from where the others were, he raised his head and looked toward them. When he met Roxanne's eyes, something seemed to cross his mind, and his gaze flinched for a split second. Visibly frowning, he quickly shifted his focus back to the couch.

Roxanne could not help feeling stunned by his behavior. This guy was questioning me in a fury earlier, but as I look at him now, he looks a little guilty. Puzzled, she followed his line of sight and saw the bunch of lilies she had left on the couch.

I don't know if it's just my imagination, but I can't shake the feeling that someone seems to have tampered with the flowers. They look a little messy. The children were waiting for Roxanne before starting the game, and when they saw that she was lost in thought, Archie and Benny called out impatiently, "Mommy!"

Hearing that, she jolted to her senses and shot the children an apologetic smile. "What are we playing?"

Archie, Benny, and Estella exchanged looks, the wheels in their minds spinning. After a while, they suggested, "Let's play Red Light, Green Light."

Roxanne had no idea what the trio had in mind. She thought they merely wanted to play a game out of boredom, so she readily agreed.

Benny ran up to Lucian and said innocently, "Mr. Farwell, why don't you play together with us?"

Roxanne's brows drew together slightly when she saw that. She was worried that Lucian was still angry and that it would startle Benny. To her surprise, Lucian merely frowned for a few seconds, then lifted his head and glanced toward her before agreeing to it in an indifferent manner. "Sure."

The twinkle in the children's eyes grew brighter after both the adults consented to play with them. Estella was the caller for the first round. She stood at the bottom of the staircase while the starting point for the other four was the front door of the mansion.

Since the distance between the two points was very near, Roxanne and Lucian had to take smaller steps to accommodate the children's strides.

Chapter 709 Red Light

The game began with Roxanne and Lucian in the middle and the boys on either side. "Green light... Red light!" Estella waited for them to take a few steps before suddenly spinning around.

Although the others stopped in their tracks at once, the two little ones lost their balance and swayed about for a little bit before steadying themselves.

Fortunately, all Estella wanted was for them to all play together. Hence, she did not take issue with it and quickly turned back. When the game resumed, Roxanne could not help wondering whether the boys' excitement was causing them to veer toward the center.

She glanced at Archie, who was next to her, helplessly. However, all his attention was on Estella standing right in the center. It seemed as though he was straying in that direction solely because he was eager to tag Estella.

Seeing that, Roxanne sighed inwardly and moved toward the center to make room for him.

Meanwhile, Lucian, too, noticed the same thing with Benny. He seems to be behaving oddly, but I can't quite put my finger on it. After all, if he's so eager to win the game, it'll make more sense for him to walk forward. Instead, he's walking sideways like a crab and keeps running into me.

Although Lucian had no idea what Benny was up to, the former still subconsciously took a few steps toward the center to make way for the latter.

Just as Lucian and Roxanne were preoccupied with staying out of the boys' way, Estella suddenly swung around and called out, "Red light!"

Archie happened to take a step at the same time Estella shouted. Losing his balance, he staggered a little.

Roxanne frowned, worried there would not be enough space for Archie to regain his balance. Not even bothering to think about whether she would get eliminated from the game, she carefully inched further toward the center to leave him more space.

However, she stepped on something as she shifted aside, catching her by surprise. Roxanne froze, then looked down immediately to see what it was. As for Lucian, he had also gotten similarly tricked. He moved inward to let Benny pass, but right after steadying himself, he felt someone step on his foot. When Lucian lowered his head, he saw Roxanne retracting her leg while looking somewhat embarrassed. With Archie taking up all the space on her other side, however, she had nowhere to lower that foot after doing so.

For a moment, all she could do was stand on one leg awkwardly. She gazed at Estella with a helpless expression, desperately wishing the latter would quickly turn back around.

If she doesn't, I really don't think I can keep standing like this. Estella seemed to have read her mind. Her eyes crinkled as she smiled and turned around slowly. Roxanne was about to put her foot down when she heard Estella's voice ring out again. "Green light... Red light!" Startled, Roxanne could not find anywhere to stand. Her body swayed on the spot before toppling forward.

Archie, Benny, and Estella watched the scene nervously. They were afraid she would really take a fall. At the same time, they were worried that Lucian would miss out on the opportunity.

As she was panicking, Roxanne reached out, wanting to grab something to steady herself. However, as soon as she reached out, she remembered they had deliberately chosen to play in an empty space. Hence, there was nothing for her to hold on to.

She was about to withdraw her hand when a large hand grabbed hers firmly. Immediately after that, she felt herself getting pulled into a pair of strong arms. When the children saw Lucian's swift and natural reaction, they could not help exclaiming, "Wow!"

Chapter 710 Hugging Her

Roxanne could clearly hear the children's voices. Unbidden, a strange feeling rose within her. However, it was soon engulfed by a wave of guilt.

Just half an hour ago, she had a falling out with the man beside her. And now, she lost her balance and fell into Lucian's arms when they were merely playing a game with the children.

To anyone else, however, her actions might very well seem deliberate. Only she herself knew that it was truly an accident on her part. But if I were to clarify things now, I'd only make myself look all the more suspicious...

She rested in the man's embrace stiffly, her emotions a jumbled mess. On the contrary, Estella was still immersed in the game. She emphatically ordered, "Everyone isn't to move!"

Archie and Benny immediately answered in the affirmative. Upon receiving no

response from the two adults, Estella stared at them with feigned sternness, her expression solemn.

“Got it.” Lucian’s deep voice sounded beside her ears. A flash of surprise flitted across Roxanne’s eyes. If I were to listen to Essie and remain still, I’d have to continue staying in his arms... Worse still, the kids’ gazes have been fixated on us ever since...

At that thought, a sense of aversion welled within her. She tried to break free from Lucian’s arms, but the arm encircling her tightened instead.

“Essie is still awaiting your reply,” Lucian reminded in a low voice beside her ear. Hearing that, Roxanne once again went stiff. She could almost sense Estella’s tangible gaze on her.

Although she couldn’t quite see the little girl’s countenance from her angle, she could imagine her pitiful expression. Ultimately, she relented and murmured, “Okay.”

Seeing that both the adults had agreed, all three children wore expressions of sheer delight. As Lucian hugged Roxanne, he dipped his eyes and stole a peek at the children’s expressions. Without fail, he clocked the fleeting glee on their faces.

Realizing their true motive in suggesting the game, he felt touched yet amused. Still, he obligingly held the woman in his arms without moving a muscle. At the sight of her amenability, he couldn’t help chuckling lowly. Roxanne promptly went tense when she distinctly heard his laughter. She lifted her eyes and glanced at the man.

The smile on his face hadn’t faded completely. When their eyes met, there was still a hint of tenderness in his eyes. She was initially irked, but upon beholding his charming smile, she swiftly plunged into a trance.

This is the first time I’ve seen him smile like that...

The two of them gazed at each other for an indeterminate time before she abruptly snapped back to reality. In hindsight, she realized that Estella seemingly hadn’t turned around even after such a long time had passed.

Following that realization, her brows furrowed slightly. In a soft voice, she stated, “I’m a bit tired, so I’m not playing anymore.” After saying that, she broke free from Lucian’s embrace, whirled around, and went upstairs.

The children watched her leave and exchanged guilty glances, aware that they were seemingly too deliberate that Roxanne noticed something amiss.

Likewise, a frown marred Lucian’s countenance. Exasperation was written clear in his eyes. It looks like she’s still unwilling to forgive me.

Estella was the first to gather her wits. Lifting her hand to point at her father, she announced in a soft voice, “Daddy, you’re out!” Inclining his head nonchalantly, Lucian took a step back and extracted himself from between Archie and Benny

Chapter 711 Have Dinner Together

The children were no longer in the mood to continue playing. Roxanne had left anyway, so there was no need for them to carry on with the game.

At the side, Lucian watched as they dragged their feet over to the carpet and plopped down listlessly. Twitching his lips in amusement, he lifted his eyes and glanced upstairs. Then, he headed up the stairs.

After all, he had to talk to Roxanne about the misunderstanding earlier and clarify things.

The children initially thought their battle plan this time was a total flop, but they spotted Lucian voluntarily going upstairs when they looked over their shoulders. Without a shadow of a doubt, he was going to look for Roxanne. When they saw that, a spark of hope flared within them. Upstairs, Roxanne shut herself in the bedroom, feeling exceedingly conflicted.

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Recalling her emotions earlier, she couldn't help feeling scornful of herself. Perhaps it was because I'd never seen such an expression on him in the many years I'd loved him, so my past feelings for him made an appearance in those few minutes just now...

While she was spacing out, footsteps suddenly rang out outside the door. They clearly didn't belong to the children, so it could only be Lucian. Upon perceiving that, Roxanne felt all the more conflicted. Why did he come upstairs?

Before she could brace herself mentally, a knock sounded on her bedroom door. On the heels of that, Lucian's baritone voice penetrated the door. He sounded a touch muffled through the door. "Are you in there? Let's talk."

Despite having guessed that the man came upstairs to seek her out, Roxanne was still stunned for a few seconds when she heard him say so in person. She didn't quite know how to respond to that.

I haven't yet decided how I should face him...

A few knocks sounded again. "If you're reluctant to allow me in, we can talk like this." Right after saying that, the man outside the door started speaking without waiting for her response.

"I was indeed too impulsive earlier, but I think you should understand my feelings. You might not believe me when I say this, but to me, your willingness to accept flowers from another man was no different from accepting another man for real. Thus, I actually planned to remove myself and Essie from your life."

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Once again, Lucian’s voice rang out at the door. Frowning slightly, Roxanne got up and walked over to the door. By the time she opened the door, the man had already reached the landing.

“Stay and have dinner together, Mr. Farwell,” she couldn’t help offering as she gazed at him. When her voice fell, even she herself was stunned for a moment.

Chapter 712 Exceptional Acting Skills

Lucian, who was standing on the landing, frowned imperceptibly upon hearing that. He turned around and looked at Roxanne by the bedroom door in puzzlement.

Roxanne had her eyes lowered and her brows knitted together slightly as though regretting her offer earlier. Clocking that, Lucian smirked cryptically. “You don’t need to force yourself, Ms. Jarvis. I won’t change my mind because of a meal.”

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Hearing her offer, Lucian paused in his tracks. The look in his eyes darkened as his heart clenched painfully. He could surmise the reason she was allowing him to stay, and precisely because of that, he hated his past self more than he already did.

“I’ll consider your feelings for me in all seriousness. But I hope that you can give

me a bit more time.” Roxanne relented once more.

When Lucian turned around to face her, his expression had already reverted to its usual indifference. “Thank you.” Roxanne flashed him a smile as mixed feelings surged within her heart. Subsequently, the two of them went downstairs, one after another.

Downstairs, the children were playing with Legos distractedly. As soon as they heard movement from upstairs, they instantly sprang to their feet and sprinted to the landing. They gazed at Lucian and Roxanne eagerly, curious to know the progress of their conversation.

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Fortunately, they all had exceptional acting skills. Their expressions quickly turned innocent, and they regarded their mother in perplexity. “Did we do something wrong?”

“Did I bump into you by accident just now? I’m sorry, Mommy. I was just too competitive,” Archie confessed without prompting.

Roxanne eyed them suspiciously for several seconds before frowning in exasperation.

Oh well, they’re all smarter than the last. Even if they had really done something, I might not necessarily be able to tell. Besides, they’re all looking as innocent as ever that I can’t even bear to doubt them.

Hence, she had no choice but to put away her suspicions. Patting them on the head, she assured softly, “I’m not mad. I’m just a bit tired.”

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Lucian nodded at them flippantly.

The children finally breathed a sigh of relief, knowing that the two adults must have made up.

In the blink of an eye, smiles bloomed on their faces once more.

Lucian and Roxanne played with them for a while longer. This time, the kids didn’t dare have any tricks up their sleeves, but they still enjoyed themselves immensely.

When evening fell, Roxanne corralled the trio who were playing madly and had them help her prepare dinner together.

Naturally, the children were all more than glad to do so.

Chapter 713 The Man Sleeping Soundly

The children weren't much help in the kitchen, but with them around, Roxanne's turbulent emotions slowly subsided. When she came out after cooking dinner, she immediately spotted Lucian sitting on the couch.

He seemed to be rather tired, for he had already dozed off while they were preparing dinner. His head tipped slightly to the side, and he half-leaned against the couch. Even while asleep, he was still as elegant as ever.

Seeing that, Roxanne instinctively gentled her movements to not make too much noise and made a shushing gesture at the children.

The children followed her gaze. The instant they laid eyes on the sleeping man, a glimmer of bemusement flashed across Archie and Benny's faces.

Daddy would usually settle work matters whenever he was free. But today, he actually fell asleep. Has he been too exhausted from work recently?

The brothers looked at Estella in confusion. When Estella's eyes fell on the man asleep on the couch, the smile on her face gradually faded. Her eyes brimmed with worry.

Meeting the boys' gazes, she explained softly, "Daddy hasn't been sleeping well these days. He keeps having insomnia, but he has a lot of work during the day. So, things have been pretty bad."

While Lucian had never mentioned that to her, she overheard his conversation with Catalina. Learning that her father had been having trouble sleeping, she had been exceedingly worried.

Subsequently, she seemingly remembered something. She whirled around and gazed at Roxanne expectantly. Roxanne was a tad puzzled upon noticing her gaze.

"Aren't you an impressive doctor, Ms. Jarvis? Can you please help Daddy?"

Estella cautiously grasped the hem of the woman's shirt. The worried look on the girl's face made Roxanne's heart ache.

If he's suffering from insomnia due to physical reasons, it's indeed a piece of cake for me to treat him. But then, physical contact will be inevitable during the treatment process.

She felt rather conflicted as she recalled what happened when they were playing in the afternoon. "Daddy's condition has persisted for several days." Estella gave Roxanne's shirt another tug and looked at her with a beseeching look in her eyes.

In the end, Roxanne couldn't bring herself to turn Estella down. After wavering for a brief moment, she agreed with a smile, "Okay. We'll eat first and let your daddy sleep for a while. When we've finished eating, I'll check him over."

Upon receiving her agreement, Estella nodded obediently. "Thank you, Ms. Jarvis." Beaming, Roxanne stroked her head. Then, she had dinner with the

three children while the food was still hot.

Knowing that Lucian was catching up on sleep, the children were particularly thoughtful. They were extra careful as they ate, almost making no noise.

After dinner, they all stared at Roxanne in anticipation, hoping she would treat Lucian as soon as possible. Exasperation flooded Roxanne when she saw the look on their faces. "Go and play first. I can't concentrate with you all eyeballing me."

Despite feeling somewhat reluctant, the children still went to the backyard docilely, thinking that it was indeed inappropriate for them to be a hindrance at the side while she was treating Lucian.

Roxanne sighed with relief as she watched the kids leave. Considering her level of expertise, she didn't really need to concentrate if she was merely treating insomnia.

In truth, she just didn't want them to see her having any physical contact with the man. With them looking on, she couldn't help remembering her various intimate interactions with him previously.

Only when the children had gone so far that their voices couldn't be heard anymore did she stroll over to the couch and look down at the man who was still sleeping soundly

[Leaving The Country After Divorce Chapter 708](#)

Chapter 708 Looks A Little Guilty

Through the kitchen door, one could see into the living room. Estella looked up and saw Lucian frowning. There was also a rare look of frustration on his face. She puffed out her cheeks and fumed inwardly, Needless to say, he must have regretted getting mad at Ms. Jarvis and me. Hmph! It serves him right for getting angry at us before getting his facts straight!

Even so, after grumbling about it silently, Estella still remembered that she wanted Roxanne to become her mother. Helping Daddy also means helping myself.

With that thought in mind, she decided to set aside her prejudice and lend Lucian a helping hand. She tugged at the hem of Roxanne's shirt gingerly and said in an adorable voice, "Ms. Jarvis, let's play a game together..."

Estella's acting skills were top-notch. She wore an aggrieved expression as she spoke, appearing as though she had yet to recover from how upset she felt when Lucian had wanted to take her home.

Roxanne's heart could not help softening at how pitiful Estella looked. After

hesitating for several seconds, she finally raised her hand to pat the latter's head and agreed to a game. "Okay."

The three children looked at each other with joy in their eyes when they saw Roxanne acquiesce. After promising to play with them, Roxanne surveyed the ingredients she had prepped. It looks like everything is ready. All that's left is to cook up the dishes later this evening.

She double-checked to make sure everything had been prepared, then stood up and followed the children out of the kitchen. As soon as she walked out, she saw Lucian, who was still standing in the living room.

He was standing next to the coffee table with slightly downcast eyes, staring in the direction of the couch.

Noticing movements from where the others were, he raised his head and looked toward them. When he met Roxanne's eyes, something seemed to cross his mind, and his gaze flinched for a split second. Visibly frowning, he quickly shifted his focus back to the couch.

Roxanne could not help feeling stunned by his behavior. This guy was questioning me in a fury earlier, but as I look at him now, he looks a little guilty. Puzzled, she followed his line of sight and saw the bunch of lilies she had left on the couch.

I don't know if it's just my imagination, but I can't shake the feeling that someone seems to have tampered with the flowers. They look a little messy. The children were waiting for Roxanne before starting the game, and when they saw that she was lost in thought, Archie and Benny called out impatiently, "Mommy!"

Hearing that, she jolted to her senses and shot the children an apologetic smile. "What are we playing?"

Archie, Benny, and Estella exchanged looks, the wheels in their minds spinning. After a while, they suggested, "Let's play Red Light, Green Light."

Roxanne had no idea what the trio had in mind. She thought they merely wanted to play a game out of boredom, so she readily agreed.

Benny ran up to Lucian and said innocently, "Mr. Farwell, why don't you play together with us?"

Roxanne's brows drew together slightly when she saw that. She was worried that Lucian was still angry and that it would startle Benny. To her surprise, Lucian merely frowned for a few seconds, then lifted his head and glanced toward her before agreeing to it in an indifferent manner. "Sure."

The twinkle in the children's eyes grew brighter after both the adults consented to play with them. Estella was the caller for the first round. She stood at the bottom of the staircase while the starting point for the other four was the front door of the mansion.

Since the distance between the two points was very near, Roxanne and Lucian had to take smaller steps to accommodate the children's strides.

Chapter 709 Red Light

The game began with Roxanne and Lucian in the middle and the boys on either side. "Green light... Red light!" Estella waited for them to take a few steps before suddenly spinning around.

Although the others stopped in their tracks at once, the two little ones lost their balance and swayed about for a little bit before steadying themselves.

Fortunately, all Estella wanted was for them to all play together. Hence, she did not take issue with it and quickly turned back. When the game resumed, Roxanne could not help wondering whether the boys' excitement was causing them to veer toward the center.

She glanced at Archie, who was next to her, helplessly. However, all his attention was on Estella standing right in the center. It seemed as though he was straying in that direction solely because he was eager to tag Estella. Seeing that, Roxanne sighed inwardly and moved toward the center to make room for him.

Meanwhile, Lucian, too, noticed the same thing with Benny. He seems to be behaving oddly, but I can't quite put my finger on it. After all, if he's so eager to win the game, it'll make more sense for him to walk forward. Instead, he's walking sideways like a crab and keeps running into me.

Although Lucian had no idea what Benny was up to, the former still subconsciously took a few steps toward the center to make way for the latter. Just as Lucian and Roxanne were preoccupied with staying out of the boys' way, Estella suddenly swung around and called out, "Red light!"

Archie happened to take a step at the same time Estella shouted. Losing his balance, he staggered a little.

Roxanne frowned, worried there would not be enough space for Archie to regain his balance. Not even bothering to think about whether she would get eliminated from the game, she carefully inched further toward the center to leave him more space.

However, she stepped on something as she shifted aside, catching her by surprise. Roxanne froze, then looked down immediately to see what it was. As for Lucian, he had also gotten similarly tricked. He moved inward to let Benny pass, but right after steadying himself, he felt someone step on his foot. When Lucian lowered his head, he saw Roxanne retracting her leg while looking somewhat embarrassed. With Archie taking up all the space on her other side, however, she had nowhere to lower that foot after doing so.

For a moment, all she could do was stand on one leg awkwardly. She gazed at

Estella with a helpless expression, desperately wishing the latter would quickly turn back around.

If she doesn't, I really don't think I can keep standing like this. Estella seemed to have read her mind. Her eyes crinkled as she smiled and turned around slowly. Roxanne was about to put her foot down when she heard Estella's voice ring out again. "Green light... Red light!" Startled, Roxanne could not find anywhere to stand. Her body swayed on the spot before toppling forward.

Archie, Benny, and Estella watched the scene nervously. They were afraid she would really take a fall. At the same time, they were worried that Lucian would miss out on the opportunity.

As she was panicking, Roxanne reached out, wanting to grab something to steady herself. However, as soon as she reached out, she remembered they had deliberately chosen to play in an empty space. Hence, there was nothing for her to hold on to.

She was about to withdraw her hand when a large hand grabbed hers firmly. Immediately after that, she felt herself getting pulled into a pair of strong arms. When the children saw Lucian's swift and natural reaction, they could not help exclaiming, "Wow!"

Chapter 710 Hugging Her

Roxanne could clearly hear the children's voices. Unbidden, a strange feeling rose within her. However, it was soon engulfed by a wave of guilt.

Just half an hour ago, she had a falling out with the man beside her. And now, she lost her balance and fell into Lucian's arms when they were merely playing a game with the children.

To anyone else, however, her actions might very well seem deliberate. Only she herself knew that it was truly an accident on her part. But if I were to clarify things now, I'd only make myself look all the more suspicious...

She rested in the man's embrace stiffly, her emotions a jumbled mess. On the contrary, Estella was still immersed in the game. She emphatically ordered, "Everyone isn't to move!"

Archie and Benny immediately answered in the affirmative. Upon receiving no response from the two adults, Estella stared at them with feigned sternness, her expression solemn.

"Got it." Lucian's deep voice sounded beside her ears. A flash of surprise flitted across Roxanne's eyes. If I were to listen to Essie and remain still, I'd have to continue staying in his arms... Worse still, the kids' gazes have been fixated on us ever since...

At that thought, a sense of aversion welled within her. She tried to break free from Lucian's arms, but the arm encircling her tightened instead.

“Essie is still awaiting your reply,” Lucian reminded in a low voice beside her ear. Hearing that, Roxanne once again went stiff. She could almost sense Estella’s tangible gaze on her.

Although she couldn’t quite see the little girl’s countenance from her angle, she could imagine her pitiful expression. Ultimately, she relented and murmured, “Okay.”

Seeing that both the adults had agreed, all three children wore expressions of sheer delight. As Lucian hugged Roxanne, he dipped his eyes and stole a peek at the children’s expressions. Without fail, he clocked the fleeting glee on their faces.

Realizing their true motive in suggesting the game, he felt touched yet amused. Still, he obligingly held the woman in his arms without moving a muscle.

At the sight of her amenability, he couldn’t help chuckling lowly. Roxanne promptly went tense when she distinctly heard his laughter. She lifted her eyes and glanced at the man.

The smile on his face hadn’t faded completely. When their eyes met, there was still a hint of tenderness in his eyes. She was initially irked, but upon beholding his charming smile, she swiftly plunged into a trance.

This is the first time I’ve seen him smile like that...

The two of them gazed at each other for an indeterminate time before she abruptly snapped back to reality. In hindsight, she realized that Estella seemingly hadn’t turned around even after such a long time had passed.

Following that realization, her brows furrowed slightly. In a soft voice, she stated, “I’m a bit tired, so I’m not playing anymore.” After saying that, she broke free from Lucian’s embrace, whirled around, and went upstairs.

The children watched her leave and exchanged guilty glances, aware that they were seemingly too deliberate that Roxanne noticed something amiss.

Likewise, a frown marred Lucian’s countenance. Exasperation was written clear in his eyes. It looks like she’s still unwilling to forgive me.

Estella was the first to gather her wits. Lifting her hand to point at her father, she announced in a soft voice, “Daddy, you’re out!” Inclining his head nonchalantly, Lucian took a step back and extracted himself from between Archie and Benny

Chapter 711 Have Dinner Together

The children were no longer in the mood to continue playing. Roxanne had left anyway, so there was no need for them to carry on with the game.

At the side, Lucian watched as they dragged their feet over to the carpet and plopped down listlessly. Twitching his lips in amusement, he lifted his eyes and glanced upstairs. Then, he headed up the stairs.

After all, he had to talk to Roxanne about the misunderstanding earlier and

clarify things.

The children initially thought their battle plan this time was a total flop, but they spotted Lucian voluntarily going upstairs when they looked over their shoulders. Without a shadow of a doubt, he was going to look for Roxanne. When they saw that, a spark of hope flared within them. Upstairs, Roxanne shut herself in the bedroom, feeling exceedingly conflicted.

She didn't know what was wrong with her earlier. Just a while ago, I was irritated by Lucian's domineering attitude. Yet, I was still bewitched by the tenderness in his eyes during the game.

Recalling her emotions earlier, she couldn't help feeling scornful of herself. Perhaps it was because I'd never seen such an expression on him in the many years I'd loved him, so my past feelings for him made an appearance in those few minutes just now...

While she was spacing out, footsteps suddenly rang out outside the door. They clearly didn't belong to the children, so it could only be Lucian. Upon perceiving that, Roxanne felt all the more conflicted. Why did he come upstairs?

Before she could brace herself mentally, a knock sounded on her bedroom door. On the heels of that, Lucian's baritone voice penetrated the door. He sounded a touch muffled through the door. "Are you in there? Let's talk."

Despite having guessed that the man came upstairs to seek her out, Roxanne was still stunned for a few seconds when she heard him say so in person. She didn't quite know how to respond to that.

I haven't yet decided how I should face him...

A few knocks sounded again. "If you're reluctant to allow me in, we can talk like this." Right after saying that, the man outside the door started speaking without waiting for her response.

"I was indeed too impulsive earlier, but I think you should understand my feelings. You might not believe me when I say this, but to me, your willingness to accept flowers from another man was no different from accepting another man for real. Thus, I actually planned to remove myself and Essie from your life."

The instant those words drifted into Roxanne's ears, her brows creased deeply. Mixed emotions brewed in her eyes. If it were six years ago, she would never believe that he would utter such words.

I never expected that he would comprise time and again for my sake. She was inexorably moved. Lifting her eyes, she stared in the direction of the door blankly.

"Right now, perhaps I feel the same as you did six years ago," Lucian admitted with a soundless sigh. Undeniably, it was easier to articulate some things with a door between them, since they didn't need to face each other directly.

At the mention of her past self six years ago, Roxanne's gaze flickered. "If you need time to calm down, I don't mind going home first and leaving Essie here. Please also send her to kindergarten tomorrow. I'll come and pick her up at night."

Once again, Lucian's voice rang out at the door. Frowning slightly, Roxanne got up and walked over to the door. By the time she opened the door, the man had already reached the landing.

"Stay and have dinner together, Mr. Farwell," she couldn't help offering as she gazed at him. When her voice fell, even she herself was stunned for a moment.

Chapter 712 Exceptional Acting Skills

Lucian, who was standing on the landing, frowned imperceptibly upon hearing that. He turned around and looked at Roxanne by the bedroom door in puzzlement.

Roxanne had her eyes lowered and her brows knitted together slightly as though regretting her offer earlier. Clocking that, Lucian smirked cryptically. "You don't need to force yourself, Ms. Jarvis. I won't change my mind because of a meal."

After he had said that, he tilted his head at her. Then, he spun on his heel and headed down the stairs again.

Roxanne lifted her eyes when she heard movement. Sighing inwardly, she repeated, "Let's have dinner together. Essie would definitely be sad if you were to leave."

That remark was meant for both Lucian and herself. Since he mentioned her past self six years ago, she couldn't help recalling how she felt when she left six years ago at the sight of his lonely figure.

Although her pain then was courtesy of him, she was still soft-hearted and didn't want others to experience the same sorrow she did at that time.

Hearing her offer, Lucian paused in his tracks. The look in his eyes darkened as his heart clenched painfully. He could surmise the reason she was allowing him to stay, and precisely because of that, he hated his past self more than he already did.

"I'll consider your feelings for me in all seriousness. But I hope that you can give me a bit more time." Roxanne relented once more.

When Lucian turned around to face her, his expression had already reverted to its usual indifference. "Thank you." Roxanne flashed him a smile as mixed feelings surged within her heart. Subsequently, the two of them went downstairs, one after another.

Downstairs, the children were playing with Legos distractedly. As soon as they heard movement from upstairs, they instantly sprang to their feet and sprinted to

the landing. They gazed at Lucian and Roxanne eagerly, curious to know the progress of their conversation.

Failing to perceive anything even after a while, Benny snapped and asked candidly, "Are you mad, Mommy?"

Roxanne stilled for a few seconds. As the children's actions earlier occurred to her, she queried in return, "Did you guys do it on purpose?"

The children's expressions stiffened for a heartbeat when they heard her question.

Fortunately, they all had exceptional acting skills. Their expressions quickly turned innocent, and they regarded their mother in perplexity. "Did we do something wrong?"

"Did I bump into you by accident just now? I'm sorry, Mommy. I was just too competitive," Archie confessed without prompting.

Roxanne eyed them suspiciously for several seconds before frowning in exasperation.

Oh well, they're all smarter than the last. Even if they had really done something, I might not necessarily be able to tell. Besides, they're all looking as innocent as ever that I can't even bear to doubt them.

Hence, she had no choice but to put away her suspicions. Patting them on the head, she assured softly, "I'm not mad. I'm just a bit tired."

The children skeptically shifted their gazes to Lucian at the side.

Lucian nodded at them flippantly.

The children finally breathed a sigh of relief, knowing that the two adults must have made up.

In the blink of an eye, smiles bloomed on their faces once more.

Lucian and Roxanne played with them for a while longer. This time, the kids didn't dare have any tricks up their sleeves, but they still enjoyed themselves immensely.

When evening fell, Roxanne corralled the trio who were playing madly and had them help her prepare dinner together.

Naturally, the children were all more than glad to do so.

Chapter 713 The Man Sleeping Soundly

The children weren't much help in the kitchen, but with them around, Roxanne's turbulent emotions slowly subsided. When she came out after cooking dinner, she immediately spotted Lucian sitting on the couch.

He seemed to be rather tired, for he had already dozed off while they were preparing dinner. His head tipped slightly to the side, and he half-leaned against the couch. Even while asleep, he was still as elegant as ever.

Seeing that, Roxanne instinctively gentled her movements to not make too

much noise and made a shushing gesture at the children.

The children followed her gaze. The instant they laid eyes on the sleeping man, a glimmer of bemusement flashed across Archie and Benny's faces.

Daddy would usually settle work matters whenever he was free. But today, he actually fell asleep. Has he been too exhausted from work recently?

The brothers looked at Estella in confusion. When Estella's eyes fell on the man asleep on the couch, the smile on her face gradually faded. Her eyes brimmed with worry.

Meeting the boys' gazes, she explained softly, "Daddy hasn't been sleeping well these days. He keeps having insomnia, but he has a lot of work during the day. So, things have been pretty bad."

While Lucian had never mentioned that to her, she overheard his conversation with Catalina. Learning that her father had been having trouble sleeping, she had been exceedingly worried.

Subsequently, she seemingly remembered something. She whirled around and gazed at Roxanne expectantly. Roxanne was a tad puzzled upon noticing her gaze.

"Aren't you an impressive doctor, Ms. Jarvis? Can you please help Daddy?"

Estella cautiously grasped the hem of the woman's shirt. The worried look on the girl's face made Roxanne's heart ache.

If he's suffering from insomnia due to physical reasons, it's indeed a piece of cake for me to treat him. But then, physical contact will be inevitable during the treatment process.

She felt rather conflicted as she recalled what happened when they were playing in the afternoon. "Daddy's condition has persisted for several days." Estella gave Roxanne's shirt another tug and looked at her with a beseeching look in her eyes.

In the end, Roxanne couldn't bring herself to turn Estella down. After wavering for a brief moment, she agreed with a smile, "Okay. We'll eat first and let your daddy sleep for a while. When we've finished eating, I'll check him over."

Upon receiving her agreement, Estella nodded obediently. "Thank you, Ms. Jarvis." Beaming, Roxanne stroked her head. Then, she had dinner with the three children while the food was still hot.

Knowing that Lucian was catching up on sleep, the children were particularly thoughtful. They were extra careful as they ate, almost making no noise.

After dinner, they all stared at Roxanne in anticipation, hoping she would treat Lucian as soon as possible. Exasperation flooded Roxanne when she saw the look on their faces. "Go and play first. I can't concentrate with you all eyeballing me."

Despite feeling somewhat reluctant, the children still went to the backyard

docilely, thinking that it was indeed inappropriate for them to be a hindrance at the side while she was treating Lucian.

Roxanne sighed with relief as she watched the kids leave. Considering her level of expertise, she didn't really need to concentrate if she was merely treating insomnia.

In truth, she just didn't want them to see her having any physical contact with the man. With them looking on, she couldn't help remembering her various intimate interactions with him previously.

Only when the children had gone so far that their voices couldn't be heard anymore did she stroll over to the couch and look down at the man who was still sleeping soundly

Chapter 714 You Have Been Having Insomnia

In the afternoon, they had a row and later played with the children, so Roxanne didn't pay much attention to Lucian's countenance. But as she scrutinized his face at that moment, she discovered that his insomnia in the past few days might have been pretty severe, for there were distinct dark circles under his eyes. Besides, it was rare for him to sleep so soundly.

Even during the few times when we slept together six years ago, he had always been a light sleeper, so much so that he'd immediately jolt awake whenever I drew close to him. Then, he'd get off the bed and leave.

Recalling her experience six years ago, she sighed inwardly as she regarded the man sleeping soundly in front of her. "Mr. Farwell?" Roxanne called out to him softly, hoping to wake him up so as to facilitate the treatment process.

Regretfully, there was absolutely no reaction from Lucian. After hesitating for a few seconds, Roxanne gingerly reached out and rested her hand on his wrist, which lay limp at the side.

No sooner had her fingers come into contact with his pulse than she noticed him frowning, as though he was on the verge of waking up.

The instant she saw that, her heart jolted, and she reflexively tightened her fingers around his wrist. In the next heartbeat, she realized what she had done and hastily wanted to retract her hand. Alas, it was already too late.

While sleeping, Lucian groggily sensed someone approaching him. Just when he was about to open his eyes for a look, he felt a hand grasping his wrist. He instinctively grabbed the hand and pulled the person into his arms.

"Uh..." Caught off guard, Roxanne was yanked into his embrace. She groaned unconsciously before reaching out to break free from his hold. "It's me, Lucian! Let go of me!"

Lucian frowned slightly when he heard that voice, finding it rather familiar.

Lifting his eyes, he was greeted by the sight of Roxanne sitting on his lap

uneasily, struggling in a panic.

He was already irritated as he was awakened when he finally managed to fall asleep after having had insomnia for several days in a row.

Thus, his gaze darkened when he saw her showing aversion to him. At the same time, his grip on her tightened, rendering her immobile.

“What are you doing?” Roxanne’s brows promptly scrunched together. Sensing a dangerous aura from the man, she wanted to escape, but she was no match for the man’s strength.

Just as she was about to say something else, his strong arms locked onto her shoulders and forced her to turn around.

In an instant, she was faced with the man’s grim expression while sitting on his lap.

“Don’t misunderstand. Essie said you’ve been having insomnia recently and begged me to—” Roxanne attempted to explain things, flustered.

Unexpectedly, Lucian’s frown deepened before she had even finished speaking.

“Keep quiet.” He was suffering from a terrible headache due to insufficient sleep. For that reason, he frowned irritably at the noisy woman before him and reached out to cover her mouth.

Because of his actions, Roxanne’s voice screeched to an abrupt halt. She remained frozen in his arms for a long while, not daring to move a single muscle for fear that he would do something intimate again.

When she fell silent, Lucian’s expression eased considerably. He then closed his eyes for a while before he awakened fully.

As soon as he spotted Roxanne, who remained completely still in his arms, his gaze glinted darkly.

Perhaps because of his inherently devilish nature, her expression had him gripped by the desire to tease her.

That aside, she was seemingly frightened by him and hadn’t yet noticed that he was already fully awake.

As realization dawned upon him, a fleeting smile flashed across his eyes. He slowly leaned toward the woman in his embrace.

Chapter 715 Acted On Reflex

Terrified by Lucian’s sudden movement to the point that she didn’t dare move, Roxanne reacted like a petrified cat when the man drew close to her. She desperately tried to break free, but he effortlessly seized her hands and locked them behind her back. No matter how hard she struggled, she couldn’t break free.

“Wake up, Lucian!” Her eyes brimmed with panic as the distance between their lips diminished. Even her voice had grown a touch tense. Unfortunately, Lucian

remained unmoved and continued leaning closer to her.

Only when the distance between them was so negligible that they could sense each other's breathing and Roxanne was so nervous that her heart almost stopped pounding did she sense the man finally drawing to a stop.

Heaving a sigh of relief, she cautiously turned her face and studied his expression to ascertain whether he had awakened. The moment she did so, she met the man's clear gaze.

"Sorry. I was still half-awake earlier." Masking the mirth in his eyes, Lucian put on an apologetic expression. As he said that, he released his grip on her hands and allowed her to leave his embrace.

In all honesty, he wanted to continue teasing her. But after seeing her reaction, he felt that he should quit while he was ahead.

Before Roxanne could even lambast him, he had already apologized. For a moment, her expression froze. She couldn't quite decide between throwing a fit and forgiving him.

She was stunned for some time before she realized that she should leave the man's arms before all else. With that thought in mind, she bit her lip and lowered her eyes as she got ready to stand up.

Unexpectedly, she had been too apprehensive earlier and didn't dare budge an inch. Adding to the fact that she had been restrained for too long, her legs had already gone numb by the time she tried to get up.

Before she could regain her feet, she swayed and toppled forward, falling right into Lucian's arms.

Never having expected such a delightful surprise, Lucian calmly opened his arms and allowed her to fall straight into his embrace.

"How dare you!" Roxanne panickily struggled to pull away and glared at the man who appeared all nonchalant before her. She wanted to reprimand him, but she didn't know where to start.

After all, she was the one who accidentally fell earlier. Furthermore, she basically deserved it when he restrained her in his arms because she took the initiative to approach him first.

She could already imagine the arguments the man would use to riposte her before she had even started with her accusations.

Thinking about his possible reaction, she lowered her eyes and zipped her mouth in frustration. Getting to her feet while clutching at the back of the couch carefully, she remained standing there for a few seconds to get herself steady.

At the same time, her brain whirred at warp speed, hoping to forget the whole blunder just now.

"I hadn't been sleeping too well in the past two days. I'd finally managed to fall into a deep sleep earlier, so I likely acted on reflex when you touched me

without warning. I'm sorry," Lucian uttered airily.

Following his explanation, Roxanne appeared to have even lesser reason to blow up at him.

In a nutshell, Lucian was trying to brush off his faux pas earlier by claiming that she had disrupted his sleep.

They both stared at each other for a long time before Lucian decided to spare the woman before him, thanks to his good mood. Arching a brow, he inquired, "So, why did you suddenly approach me, Ms. Jarvis?"

Since Roxanne was still feeling irate inwardly, her tone wasn't all that pleasant. "Essie asked me to help treat your insomnia. But seeing that you were sleeping so soundly earlier, I don't think that's necessary anymore."

After saying that, she made to whirl around and leave, not in the mood to see his face anymore.

She spun on her heel and walked a distance away, but the man behind her remained unusually silent.

Finding it a tad strange, she glanced back over her shoulder in puzzlement, only to meet the man's dark gaze.

As their eyes locked, her heart lurched. She turned back and went to the backyard without a backward glance.

[Leaving The Country After Divorce Chapter 709](#)

Chapter 709 Red Light

The game began with Roxanne and Lucian in the middle and the boys on either side. "Green light... Red light!" Estella waited for them to take a few steps before suddenly spinning around.

Although the others stopped in their tracks at once, the two little ones lost their balance and swayed about for a little bit before steadying themselves.

Fortunately, all Estella wanted was for them to all play together. Hence, she did not take issue with it and quickly turned back. When the game resumed, Roxanne could not help wondering whether the boys' excitement was causing them to veer toward the center.

She glanced at Archie, who was next to her, helplessly. However, all his attention was on Estella standing right in the center. It seemed as though he was straying in that direction solely because he was eager to tag Estella. Seeing that, Roxanne sighed inwardly and moved toward the center to make room for him.

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behaving oddly, but I can't quite put my finger on it. After all, if he's so eager to win the game, it'll make more sense for him to walk forward. Instead, he's walking sideways like a crab and keeps running into me.

Although Lucian had no idea what Benny was up to, the former still subconsciously took a few steps toward the center to make way for the latter. Just as Lucian and Roxanne were preoccupied with staying out of the boys' way, Estella suddenly swung around and called out, "Red light!"

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However, she stepped on something as she shifted aside, catching her by surprise. Roxanne froze, then looked down immediately to see what it was. As for Lucian, he had also gotten similarly tricked. He moved inward to let Benny pass, but right after steadying himself, he felt someone step on his foot. When Lucian lowered his head, he saw Roxanne retracting her leg while looking somewhat embarrassed. With Archie taking up all the space on her other side, however, she had nowhere to lower that foot after doing so.

For a moment, all she could do was stand on one leg awkwardly. She gazed at Estella with a helpless expression, desperately wishing the latter would quickly turn back around.

If she doesn't, I really don't think I can keep standing like this. Estella seemed to have read her mind. Her eyes crinkled as she smiled and turned around slowly. Roxanne was about to put her foot down when she heard Estella's voice ring out again. "Green light... Red light!" Startled, Roxanne could not find anywhere to stand. Her body swayed on the spot before toppling forward.

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Chapter 710 Hugging Her

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"Got it." Lucian's deep voice sounded beside her ears. A flash of surprise flitted across Roxanne's eyes. If I were to listen to Essie and remain still, I'd have to continue staying in his arms... Worse still, the kids' gazes have been fixated on us ever since...

At that thought, a sense of aversion welled within her. She tried to break free from Lucian's arms, but the arm encircling her tightened instead.

"Essie is still awaiting your reply," Lucian reminded in a low voice beside her ear. Hearing that, Roxanne once again went stiff. She could almost sense Estella's tangible gaze on her.

Although she couldn't quite see the little girl's countenance from her angle, she could imagine her pitiful expression. Ultimately, she relented and murmured, "Okay."

Seeing that both the adults had agreed, all three children wore expressions of sheer delight. As Lucian hugged Roxanne, he dipped his eyes and stole a peek at the children's expressions. Without fail, he clocked the fleeting glee on their faces.

Realizing their true motive in suggesting the game, he felt touched yet amused. Still, he obligingly held the woman in his arms without moving a muscle.

At the sight of her amenability, he couldn't help chuckling lowly. Roxanne promptly went tense when she distinctly heard his laughter. She lifted her eyes and glanced at the man.

The smile on his face hadn't faded completely. When their eyes met, there was still a hint of tenderness in his eyes. She was initially irked, but upon beholding his charming smile, she swiftly plunged into a trance.

This is the first time I've seen him smile like that...

The two of them gazed at each other for an indeterminate time before she abruptly snapped back to reality. In hindsight, she realized that Estella seemingly hadn't turned around even after such a long time had passed. Following that realization, her brows furrowed slightly. In a soft voice, she stated, "I'm a bit tired, so I'm not playing anymore." After saying that, she broke free from Lucian's embrace, whirled around, and went upstairs. The children watched her leave and exchanged guilty glances, aware that they were seemingly too deliberate that Roxanne noticed something amiss. Likewise, a frown marred Lucian's countenance. Exasperation was written clear in his eyes. It looks like she's still unwilling to forgive me. Estella was the first to gather her wits. Lifting her hand to point at her father, she announced in a soft voice, "Daddy, you're out!" Inclining his head nonchalantly, Lucian took a step back and extracted himself from between Archie and Benny

Chapter 711 Have Dinner Together

The children were no longer in the mood to continue playing. Roxanne had left anyway, so there was no need for them to carry on with the game.

At the side, Lucian watched as they dragged their feet over to the carpet and plopped down listlessly. Twitching his lips in amusement, he lifted his eyes and glanced upstairs. Then, he headed up the stairs.

After all, he had to talk to Roxanne about the misunderstanding earlier and clarify things.

The children initially thought their battle plan this time was a total flop, but they spotted Lucian voluntarily going upstairs when they looked over their shoulders. Without a shadow of a doubt, he was going to look for Roxanne. When they saw that, a spark of hope flared within them. Upstairs, Roxanne shut herself in the bedroom, feeling exceedingly conflicted.

She didn't know what was wrong with her earlier. Just a while ago, I was irritated by Lucian's domineering attitude. Yet, I was still bewitched by the tenderness in his eyes during the game.

Recalling her emotions earlier, she couldn't help feeling scornful of herself. Perhaps it was because I'd never seen such an expression on him in the many years I'd loved him, so my past feelings for him made an appearance in those few minutes just now...

While she was spacing out, footsteps suddenly rang out outside the door. They clearly didn't belong to the children, so it could only be Lucian. Upon perceiving that, Roxanne felt all the more conflicted. Why did he come upstairs?

Before she could brace herself mentally, a knock sounded on her bedroom door. On the heels of that, Lucian's baritone voice penetrated the door. He sounded a touch muffled through the door. "Are you in there? Let's talk."

Despite having guessed that the man came upstairs to seek her out, Roxanne was still stunned for a few seconds when she heard him say so in person. She didn't quite know how to respond to that.

I haven't yet decided how I should face him...

A few knocks sounded again. "If you're reluctant to allow me in, we can talk like this." Right after saying that, the man outside the door started speaking without waiting for her response.

"I was indeed too impulsive earlier, but I think you should understand my feelings. You might not believe me when I say this, but to me, your willingness to accept flowers from another man was no different from accepting another man for real. Thus, I actually planned to remove myself and Essie from your life."

The instant those words drifted into Roxanne's ears, her brows creased deeply. Mixed emotions brewed in her eyes. If it were six years ago, she would never believe that he would utter such words.

I never expected that he would comprise time and again for my sake. She was inexorably moved. Lifting her eyes, she stared in the direction of the door blankly.

"Right now, perhaps I feel the same as you did six years ago," Lucian admitted with a soundless sigh. Undeniably, it was easier to articulate some things with a door between them, since they didn't need to face each other directly.

At the mention of her past self six years ago, Roxanne's gaze flickered.

"If you need time to calm down, I don't mind going home first and leaving Essie here. Please also send her to kindergarten tomorrow. I'll come and pick her up at night."

Once again, Lucian's voice rang out at the door. Frowning slightly, Roxanne got up and walked over to the door. By the time she opened the door, the man had already reached the landing.

"Stay and have dinner together, Mr. Farwell," she couldn't help offering as she gazed at him. When her voice fell, even she herself was stunned for a moment.

Chapter 712 Exceptional Acting Skills

Lucian, who was standing on the landing, frowned imperceptibly upon hearing that. He turned around and looked at Roxanne by the bedroom door in puzzlement.

Roxanne had her eyes lowered and her brows knitted together slightly as though regretting her offer earlier. Clocking that, Lucian smirked cryptically. "You don't need to force yourself, Ms. Jarvis. I won't change my mind because of a meal."

After he had said that, he tilted his head at her. Then, he spun on his heel and

headed down the stairs again.

Roxanne lifted her eyes when she heard movement. Sighing inwardly, she repeated, "Let's have dinner together. Essie would definitely be sad if you were to leave."

That remark was meant for both Lucian and herself. Since he mentioned her past self six years ago, she couldn't help recalling how she felt when she left six years ago at the sight of his lonely figure.

Although her pain then was courtesy of him, she was still soft-hearted and didn't want others to experience the same sorrow she did at that time.

Hearing her offer, Lucian paused in his tracks. The look in his eyes darkened as his heart clenched painfully. He could surmise the reason she was allowing him to stay, and precisely because of that, he hated his past self more than he already did.

"I'll consider your feelings for me in all seriousness. But I hope that you can give me a bit more time." Roxanne relented once more.

When Lucian turned around to face her, his expression had already reverted to its usual indifference. "Thank you." Roxanne flashed him a smile as mixed feelings surged within her heart. Subsequently, the two of them went downstairs, one after another.

Downstairs, the children were playing with Legos distractedly. As soon as they heard movement from upstairs, they instantly sprang to their feet and sprinted to the landing. They gazed at Lucian and Roxanne eagerly, curious to know the progress of their conversation.

Failing to perceive anything even after a while, Benny snapped and asked candidly, "Are you mad, Mommy?"

Roxanne stilled for a few seconds. As the children's actions earlier occurred to her, she queried in return, "Did you guys do it on purpose?"

The children's expressions stiffened for a heartbeat when they heard her question.

Fortunately, they all had exceptional acting skills. Their expressions quickly turned innocent, and they regarded their mother in perplexity. "Did we do something wrong?"

"Did I bump into you by accident just now? I'm sorry, Mommy. I was just too competitive," Archie confessed without prompting.

Roxanne eyed them suspiciously for several seconds before frowning in exasperation.

Oh well, they're all smarter than the last. Even if they had really done something, I might not necessarily be able to tell. Besides, they're all looking as innocent as ever that I can't even bear to doubt them.

Hence, she had no choice but to put away her suspicions. Patting them on the

head, she assured softly, "I'm not mad. I'm just a bit tired."

The children skeptically shifted their gazes to Lucian at the side.

Lucian nodded at them flippantly.

The children finally breathed a sigh of relief, knowing that the two adults must have made up.

In the blink of an eye, smiles bloomed on their faces once more.

Lucian and Roxanne played with them for a while longer. This time, the kids didn't dare have any tricks up their sleeves, but they still enjoyed themselves immensely.

When evening fell, Roxanne corralled the trio who were playing madly and had them help her prepare dinner together.

Naturally, the children were all more than glad to do so.

Chapter 713 The Man Sleeping Soundly

The children weren't much help in the kitchen, but with them around, Roxanne's turbulent emotions slowly subsided. When she came out after cooking dinner, she immediately spotted Lucian sitting on the couch.

He seemed to be rather tired, for he had already dozed off while they were preparing dinner. His head tipped slightly to the side, and he half-leaned against the couch. Even while asleep, he was still as elegant as ever.

Seeing that, Roxanne instinctively gentled her movements to not make too much noise and made a shushing gesture at the children.

The children followed her gaze. The instant they laid eyes on the sleeping man, a glimmer of bemusement flashed across Archie and Benny's faces.

Daddy would usually settle work matters whenever he was free. But today, he actually fell asleep. Has he been too exhausted from work recently?

The brothers looked at Estella in confusion. When Estella's eyes fell on the man asleep on the couch, the smile on her face gradually faded. Her eyes brimmed with worry.

Meeting the boys' gazes, she explained softly, "Daddy hasn't been sleeping well these days. He keeps having insomnia, but he has a lot of work during the day. So, things have been pretty bad."

While Lucian had never mentioned that to her, she overheard his conversation with Catalina. Learning that her father had been having trouble sleeping, she had been exceedingly worried.

Subsequently, she seemingly remembered something. She whirled around and gazed at Roxanne expectantly. Roxanne was a tad puzzled upon noticing her gaze.

"Aren't you an impressive doctor, Ms. Jarvis? Can you please help Daddy?"

Estella cautiously grasped the hem of the woman's shirt. The worried look on

the girl's face made Roxanne's heart ache.

If he's suffering from insomnia due to physical reasons, it's indeed a piece of cake for me to treat him. But then, physical contact will be inevitable during the treatment process.

She felt rather conflicted as she recalled what happened when they were playing in the afternoon. "Daddy's condition has persisted for several days." Estella gave Roxanne's shirt another tug and looked at her with a beseeching look in her eyes.

In the end, Roxanne couldn't bring herself to turn Estella down. After wavering for a brief moment, she agreed with a smile, "Okay. We'll eat first and let your daddy sleep for a while. When we've finished eating, I'll check him over."

Upon receiving her agreement, Estella nodded obediently. "Thank you, Ms. Jarvis." Beaming, Roxanne stroked her head. Then, she had dinner with the three children while the food was still hot.

Knowing that Lucian was catching up on sleep, the children were particularly thoughtful. They were extra careful as they ate, almost making no noise.

After dinner, they all stared at Roxanne in anticipation, hoping she would treat Lucian as soon as possible. Exasperation flooded Roxanne when she saw the look on their faces. "Go and play first. I can't concentrate with you all eyeballing me."

Despite feeling somewhat reluctant, the children still went to the backyard docilely, thinking that it was indeed inappropriate for them to be a hindrance at the side while she was treating Lucian.

Roxanne sighed with relief as she watched the kids leave. Considering her level of expertise, she didn't really need to concentrate if she was merely treating insomnia.

In truth, she just didn't want them to see her having any physical contact with the man. With them looking on, she couldn't help remembering her various intimate interactions with him previously.

Only when the children had gone so far that their voices couldn't be heard anymore did she stroll over to the couch and look down at the man who was still sleeping soundly

Chapter 714 You Have Been Having Insomnia

In the afternoon, they had a row and later played with the children, so Roxanne didn't pay much attention to Lucian's countenance. But as she scrutinized his face at that moment, she discovered that his insomnia in the past few days might have been pretty severe, for there were distinct dark circles under his eyes. Besides, it was rare for him to sleep so soundly.

Even during the few times when we slept together six years ago, he had always

been a light sleeper, so much so that he'd immediately jolt awake whenever I drew close to him. Then, he'd get off the bed and leave.

Recalling her experience six years ago, she sighed inwardly as she regarded the man sleeping soundly in front of her. "Mr. Farwell?" Roxanne called out to him softly, hoping to wake him up so as to facilitate the treatment process.

Regretfully, there was absolutely no reaction from Lucian. After hesitating for a few seconds, Roxanne gingerly reached out and rested her hand on his wrist, which lay limp at the side.

No sooner had her fingers come into contact with his pulse than she noticed him frowning, as though he was on the verge of waking up.

The instant she saw that, her heart jolted, and she reflexively tightened her fingers around his wrist. In the next heartbeat, she realized what she had done and hastily wanted to retract her hand. Alas, it was already too late.

While sleeping, Lucian groggily sensed someone approaching him. Just when he was about to open his eyes for a look, he felt a hand grasping his wrist. He instinctively grabbed the hand and pulled the person into his arms.

"Uh..." Caught off guard, Roxanne was yanked into his embrace. She groaned unconsciously before reaching out to break free from his hold. "It's me, Lucian! Let go of me!"

Lucian frowned slightly when he heard that voice, finding it rather familiar. Lifting his eyes, he was greeted by the sight of Roxanne sitting on his lap uneasily, struggling in a panic.

He was already irritated as he was awakened when he finally managed to fall asleep after having had insomnia for several days in a row.

Thus, his gaze darkened when he saw her showing aversion to him. At the same time, his grip on her tightened, rendering her immobile.

"What are you doing?" Roxanne's brows promptly scrunched together. Sensing a dangerous aura from the man, she wanted to escape, but she was no match for the man's strength.

Just as she was about to say something else, his strong arms locked onto her shoulders and forced her to turn around.

In an instant, she was faced with the man's grim expression while sitting on his lap.

"Don't misunderstand. Essie said you've been having insomnia recently and begged me to—" Roxanne attempted to explain things, flustered.

Unexpectedly, Lucian's frown deepened before she had even finished speaking.

"Keep quiet." He was suffering from a terrible headache due to insufficient sleep. For that reason, he frowned irritably at the noisy woman before him and reached out to cover her mouth.

Because of his actions, Roxanne's voice screeched to an abrupt halt. She

remained frozen in his arms for a long while, not daring to move a single muscle for fear that he would do something intimate again.

When she fell silent, Lucian's expression eased considerably. He then closed his eyes for a while before he awakened fully.

As soon as he spotted Roxanne, who remained completely still in his arms, his gaze glinted darkly.

Perhaps because of his inherently devilish nature, her expression had him gripped by the desire to tease her.

That aside, she was seemingly frightened by him and hadn't yet noticed that he was already fully awake.

As realization dawned upon him, a fleeting smile flashed across his eyes. He slowly leaned toward the woman in his embrace.

Chapter 715 Acted On Reflex

Terrified by Lucian's sudden movement to the point that she didn't dare move, Roxanne reacted like a petrified cat when the man drew close to her. She desperately tried to break free, but he effortlessly seized her hands and locked them behind her back. No matter how hard she struggled, she couldn't break free.

"Wake up, Lucian!" Her eyes brimmed with panic as the distance between their lips diminished. Even her voice had grown a touch tense. Unfortunately, Lucian remained unmoved and continued leaning closer to her.

Only when the distance between them was so negligible that they could sense each other's breathing and Roxanne was so nervous that her heart almost stopped pounding did she sense the man finally drawing to a stop.

Heaving a sigh of relief, she cautiously turned her face and studied his expression to ascertain whether he had awakened. The moment she did so, she met the man's clear gaze.

"Sorry. I was still half-awake earlier." Masking the mirth in his eyes, Lucian put on an apologetic expression. As he said that, he released his grip on her hands and allowed her to leave his embrace.

In all honesty, he wanted to continue teasing her. But after seeing her reaction, he felt that he should quit while he was ahead.

Before Roxanne could even lambast him, he had already apologized. For a moment, her expression froze. She couldn't quite decide between throwing a fit and forgiving him.

She was stunned for some time before she realized that she should leave the man's arms before all else. With that thought in mind, she bit her lip and lowered her eyes as she got ready to stand up.

Unexpectedly, she had been too apprehensive earlier and didn't dare budge an

inch. Adding to the fact that she had been restrained for too long, her legs had already gone numb by the time she tried to get up.

Before she could regain her feet, she swayed and toppled forward, falling right into Lucian's arms.

Never having expected such a delightful surprise, Lucian calmly opened his arms and allowed her to fall straight into his embrace.

"How dare you!" Roxanne panickily struggled to pull away and glared at the man who appeared all nonchalant before her. She wanted to reprimand him, but she didn't know where to start.

After all, she was the one who accidentally fell earlier. Furthermore, she basically deserved it when he restrained her in his arms because she took the initiative to approach him first.

She could already imagine the arguments the man would use to riposte her before she had even started with her accusations.

Thinking about his possible reaction, she lowered her eyes and zipped her mouth in frustration. Getting to her feet while clutching at the back of the couch carefully, she remained standing there for a few seconds to get herself steady.

At the same time, her brain whirred at warp speed, hoping to forget the whole blunder just now.

"I hadn't been sleeping too well in the past two days. I'd finally managed to fall into a deep sleep earlier, so I likely acted on reflex when you touched me without warning. I'm sorry," Lucian uttered airily.

Following his explanation, Roxanne appeared to have even lesser reason to blow up at him.

In a nutshell, Lucian was trying to brush off his faux pas earlier by claiming that she had disrupted his sleep.

They both stared at each other for a long time before Lucian decided to spare the woman before him, thanks to his good mood. Arching a brow, he inquired, "So, why did you suddenly approach me, Ms. Jarvis?"

Since Roxanne was still feeling irate inwardly, her tone wasn't all that pleasant. "Essie asked me to help treat your insomnia. But seeing that you were sleeping so soundly earlier, I don't think that's necessary anymore."

After saying that, she made to whirl around and leave, not in the mood to see his face anymore.

She spun on her heel and walked a distance away, but the man behind her remained unusually silent.

Finding it a tad strange, she glanced back over her shoulder in puzzlement, only to meet the man's dark gaze.

As their eyes locked, her heart lurched. She turned back and went to the backyard without a backward glance.

Chapter 716 Did You Pick On Her

“Mommy!” Concerned about the interaction between the two adults in the house, the children hadn’t been in the mood to play. The instant they caught sight of Roxanne coming out, they immediately swarmed over to her.

Roxanne smilingly patted them on the head, but her expression was somewhat distracted.

Clocking the look on the woman’s face, Estella tilted her head in puzzlement. She cast her gaze behind Roxanne, but she didn’t see any signs of Lucian.

“Did Daddy pick on you, Ms. Jarvis?” she queried cautiously.

The mention of the man in the house made Roxanne unconsciously frown. Feigning a nonchalant expression, she shook her head with a smile. “Nope.”

Estella stared at her with suspicion written clear in her eyes. “Where is he, then?”

Roxanne turned and glanced in the direction of the living room before replying, “He has just awakened. Perhaps... he’s still sitting on the couch.”

Having said that, she hastily withdrew her gaze and wanted to change the subject.

Alas, Estella didn’t give her that chance. She persistently questioned, “Can you treat his insomnia, Ms. Jarvis?”

Roxanne choked.

Because of Lucian’s sudden awakening and what he did after that, she hadn’t the time to take his pulse. She didn’t even know why he was suffering from insomnia, let alone treat him.

Therefore, that question truly had her caught between a rock and a difficult place.

Seemingly aware that she wouldn’t be able to answer that, Estella looked at her for a long while before declaring firmly, “He picked on you, Ms. Jarvis!”

Otherwise, she wouldn’t be unable to answer my question at all. At the very least, she would have been able to either say yes or no. Her expression now makes it apparent that she didn’t even have the chance to diagnose his problem. They must have had a row again!

At that thought, she pouted in chagrin. “Daddy is such a jerk!”

Upon hearing that, Roxanne’s wrath and embarrassment finally dissipated. She found the situation rather hilarious.

For some inexplicable reason, she’s biased toward me, so much so that she’s certain Lucian picked on me without asking any questions about whatever happened.

“Don’t be angry, Ms. Jarvis. I’ll avenge you!” Estella gingerly tugged at the hem of Roxanne’s shirt.

Seeing her solemn expression, the smile on Roxanne’s face turned genuine. “I’m not angry, and your daddy didn’t pick on me either. Calm down, Essie.”

While saying that, she stroked Estella’s head soothingly.

Still, the little girl scrutinized her for a long moment.

To convince her, Roxanne bit the bullet and added, “I’ll check him out later regarding his insomnia. It shouldn’t be a big problem.”

Estella believed her half-dubiously upon hearing her remark.

Roxanne chatted with the children for some time. When she noticed it was getting late, she brought them back into the mansion.

Unsurprisingly, Lucian was still sitting on the couch, but this time, he was dealing with work matters while wearing a frown.

When he heard them coming in, he lifted his eyes and cast his gaze over.

“Daddy.” For once, Estella voluntarily let go of Roxanne’s hand and went over to her father.

Lucian regarded his daughter in mystification, wondering what she was up to.

Estella climbed onto the couch unhurriedly and leaned close to her father’s ear. In a whisper, she demanded, “Did you pick on Ms. Jarvis earlier?”

After asking that, she pulled away from him. Sticking her hands on her hips, she shot daggers at her father as though interrogating a suspect.

Chapter 717 Not As Terrified As Before

Roxanne had no idea what Estella whispered next to Lucian's ear. All she knew was that the man looked at her meaningfully after Estella had spoken to him before denying in a low voice, "No." No sooner had he said that than they both swung their gazes at her. Lucian wore a bizarrely innocent expression, while suspicion was written all over Estella's face.

The question Estella asked her when they were in the backyard earlier flashed across Roxanne's mind. Complemented by their expressions, she felt that she could surmise the situation to a tee.

At the thought of Estella's determination to avenge her, Roxanne was both amused and exasperated. After a few seconds of silence, she stepped forward and started, "Essie is exceedingly worried about you, so I'd best take a look at you. Besides, it's a problem if you keep having insomnia."

In other words, she was trying to tell him that she only decided to treat him for Estella's sake.

When Lucian heard that, he quirked an eyebrow and glanced at his daughter beside him.

Estella nodded emphatically with triumph etched across her features.

Clocking that, Lucian chuckled lightly and held his wrist out to Roxanne.

Roxanne lifted her hand and grasped his wrist. While diagnosing his condition, however, she couldn't quite ignore the warmth emanating from his wrist.

It should have only taken a minute or two at most, but it took quite a while because she kept getting distracted.

"Never mind if you really can't determine the cause. Perhaps I've been too busy with work these days. I'll be fine after resting for a few days," Lucian drawled insouciantly upon seeing that she couldn't diagnose his condition after some time had passed.

Roxanne happened to find the cause at that instant. Dropping her fingers from his wrist, she stated placidly, "Your liver is a bit inflamed, probably because of

overwork. Take some medicine to reduce the inflammation. Alternatively, it'll also heal by itself after you rest for a few days.”

Lucian inclined his head in acknowledgment.

“It’s getting late. You should bring Essie home earlier, Mr. Farwell.” Roxanne began asking him to leave after glancing at the time.

Lucian didn’t voice any objections either. He got up from the couch nonchalantly and looked down at Estella, who was still sitting on the couch with a reluctant expression on her face.

Although Estella had played with Archie, Benny, and Roxanne for the whole afternoon, she was still disinclined to leave. She gazed at Roxanne pitifully, hoping that the latter would allow her to stay.

“Be good, Essie. I’ve got work recently, so I can’t let you sleep over here. If you want to come over in the future, you can do so anytime.” Roxanne patted her head apologetically.

At the side, Archie and Benny nodded as they seconded, “Bring Essie here often to play, Mr. Farwell!”

A strange feeling flittered deep within Roxanne’s heart when she heard the two boys saying that out of the blue.

It seems that their attitudes toward Lucian had changed entirely after the hot spring vacation. I still remember that they were even more averse to him than I was in the past. If this were to continue, I wouldn’t be surprised if they were to learn about their identities one day.

The moment Roxanne realized the direction of her thoughts, her brows knitted together imperceptibly.

For some inexplicable reason, I’m not as terrified as before at the thought of them learning about their identities. Is it because of the changes in the man before me?

As that thought occurred to her, she instinctively lifted her eyes and stole a peek at the man standing in front of her.

Lucian nodded at her apathetically before gazing down at Archie and Benny. In a gentle voice, he murmured, “Thank you. I’ll be sure to do that.”

While they conversed, they wholly ignored Roxanne, the true owner of the house.

She was deluged with exasperation, but she couldn’t be bothered to gainsay them anyway.

Chapter 718 Surprised She Is Willing To Apologize

Despite her reluctance, Estella knew that they would definitely be frequent visitors henceforth since her father was pursuing Roxanne. Thus, she obediently slid off the couch and sweetly bid Roxanne farewell before leaving with Lucian.

Only when Lucian’s car had driven into the distance did Roxanne turn back around and return to the mansion with Archie and Benny.

The two boys spent the whole day playing and worrying about the adults’ matters, so they started yawning incessantly now that things had settled down.

It was already pretty late, so Roxanne had them go in and rest while she went to the study.

As the top prestigious family in the medical field in the country, the Damaris family attracted much attention despite having gone into seclusion for many years.

Consequently, the research institute established this time promptly came to light as soon as it was completed.

When it came to the collaboration this time, the Damaris family didn’t plan on keeping a low profile. Instead, they would be publicizing the list of their collaborators in the next few days.

By then, that list would not only represent the collaborators of the Damaris family, but it would also signify the Damaris family pointing out the top doctors in the country to the ordinary people in Chanaea.

As one of the members on that list, Roxanne had to work all the harder to improve her medical skills so that she wouldn’t disappoint anyone.

While she was poring over medical books, her phone at the side rang all of a sudden.

She glanced at it, only to see that it was a call from Jack.

Hence, she answered the call without hesitation. “Is something the matter that you’re calling at this hour, Mr. Damaris?”

Jack massaged his brows, sounding a touch solemn. “Do you still remember the daughter of the Hightower family back then, Ms. Jarvis? I mean, the woman who railed at you while in a drunken state.”

Upon hearing that, Roxanne combed through her memories before she finally recalled the person in question.

Almost all her focus had been occupied by Lucian and the project recently, so she would have long since cast that woman to the back of her mind if Jack didn’t mention her.

“Yes, I remember her. Why?” she queried in puzzlement.

“It was because of this matter that my grandfather suddenly called me home this afternoon. He asked me to help contact you, claiming that Jessica Hightower would like to apologize to you in person. What do you think? If you don’t want to go, I can turn it down for you,” Jack uttered.

Roxanne wavered for a long moment.

According to what he said earlier, this is Old Mr. Damaris’ wish. While I think there’s no need for us to meet, I naturally have to show the old man some respect.

On the other end of the phone, Jack seemingly discerned her thoughts. In a deep voice, he added, “You don’t need to worry about my grandfather. He won’t doubt your capabilities because of such an irrelevant matter.”

Roxanne smiled gratefully at his reassurance. Then, she answered calmly, “It’s okay. If Ms. Hightower is sincere about apologizing, I don’t mind meeting her. Who knows, we can be friends.”

Never having expected her to agree so readily, Jack was stunned for a few seconds. Subsequently, he warned with a frown, “Forget about making friends with her. I’m

already surprised she's willing to apologize, considering her temperament. I'm afraid the meeting this time won't be that pleasant."

Roxanne had only interacted with Jessica once, so she didn't understand her all that well.

Her heart grew heavy when she heard Jack's remark, but still, she found it necessary to do Hector that favor. "Thank you for the warning, Mr. Damaris. I'll be careful when meeting her."

The Damaris family would be publicizing the list soon, so she didn't want to start any unnecessary trouble.

Jack grunted in acknowledgment. The two of them then bid each other good night before hanging up.

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Chapter 710 Hugging Her

Roxanne could clearly hear the children's voices. Unbidden, a strange feeling rose within her. However, it was soon engulfed by a wave of guilt.

Just half an hour ago, she had a falling out with the man beside her. And now, she lost her balance and fell into Lucian's arms when they were merely playing a game with the children.

To anyone else, however, her actions might very well seem deliberate. Only she herself knew that it was truly an accident on her part. But if I were to clarify things now, I'd only make myself look all the more suspicious...

She rested in the man's embrace stiffly, her emotions a jumbled mess. On the contrary, Estella was still immersed in the game. She emphatically ordered, "Everyone isn't to move!"

Archie and Benny immediately answered in the affirmative. Upon receiving no response from the two adults, Estella stared at them with feigned sternness, her expression solemn.

"Got it." Lucian's deep voice sounded beside her ears. A flash of surprise flitted across Roxanne's eyes. If I were to listen to Essie and remain still, I'd have to continue staying in his arms... Worse still, the kids' gazes have been fixated on us ever since...

At that thought, a sense of aversion welled within her. She tried to break free

from Lucian's arms, but the arm encircling her tightened instead.

"Essie is still awaiting your reply," Lucian reminded in a low voice beside her ear. Hearing that, Roxanne once again went stiff. She could almost sense Estella's tangible gaze on her.

Although she couldn't quite see the little girl's countenance from her angle, she could imagine her pitiful expression. Ultimately, she relented and murmured, "Okay."

Seeing that both the adults had agreed, all three children wore expressions of sheer delight. As Lucian hugged Roxanne, he dipped his eyes and stole a peek at the children's expressions. Without fail, he clocked the fleeting glee on their faces.

Realizing their true motive in suggesting the game, he felt touched yet amused. Still, he obligingly held the woman in his arms without moving a muscle.

At the sight of her amenability, he couldn't help chuckling lowly. Roxanne promptly went tense when she distinctly heard his laughter. She lifted her eyes and glanced at the man.

The smile on his face hadn't faded completely. When their eyes met, there was still a hint of tenderness in his eyes. She was initially irked, but upon beholding his charming smile, she swiftly plunged into a trance.

This is the first time I've seen him smile like that...

The two of them gazed at each other for an indeterminate time before she abruptly snapped back to reality. In hindsight, she realized that Estella seemingly hadn't turned around even after such a long time had passed.

Following that realization, her brows furrowed slightly. In a soft voice, she stated, "I'm a bit tired, so I'm not playing anymore." After saying that, she broke free from Lucian's embrace, whirled around, and went upstairs.

The children watched her leave and exchanged guilty glances, aware that they were seemingly too deliberate that Roxanne noticed something amiss.

Likewise, a frown marred Lucian's countenance. Exasperation was written clear in his eyes. It looks like she's still unwilling to forgive me.

Estella was the first to gather her wits. Lifting her hand to point at her father, she announced in a soft voice, "Daddy, you're out!" Inclining his head nonchalantly, Lucian took a step back and extracted himself from between Archie and Benny

