

Chapter 721 Ruining Her Reputation

Meanwhile, the news naturally didn't escape Jessica's attention. At the sight of Roxanne's name on the list, a gloomy expression appeared on her face.

That woman is not only working with Jack but also has her name listed so close to the top.

Jessica couldn't help but recall the distance between Roxanne and Jack's seats the other night.

What has she done to deserve it?

After staring at Roxanne's name for a long time, an insidious look flashed across her eyes.

I'll reveal her true colors for everyone to see since she is nothing more than a pretty face. I have no idea what she has done to Jack for him to think so highly of her, and I can't believe how big-headed she has become. When I finally expose her, she'll no longer be able to show her face in the local medical industry anymore. When that happens, Jack will never be able to be together with her regardless of how much he likes that pretty face of hers!

Just imagining how Roxanne was ridiculed by the public was enough to spark a sense of elation within Jessica.

Now that she had figured out her plan, the grim-looking Jessica made a few calls.

In the afternoon, Stephen's expression drastically darkened at the sight of Jessica's empty seat.

After all, he had gone all out to obtain an opportunity to seek Lucian's forgiveness.

Little did he expect that after all that he had done, his plans were foiled by his own daughter.

Regardless of how much effort he put in, it would be all for naught if Jessica refused to apologize.

At that moment, given how late his daughter was to lunch, it was clear that she had no intention of showing any remorse.

Just as Stephen's frustration began to set in, the sound of footsteps could be heard from upstairs, followed by Jessica emerging from the corner of the stairs.

The sight of her elicited a sigh of relief from Stephen. Subsequently, his tone was very much eased when he spoke. "Have you given the matter I told you some thought?"

His words caused Jessica's expression to darken momentarily before recovering its usual calm. Smiling obediently, she replied, "Since that's what you want, I have no choice even if it's against my wishes. So, instead of delaying it any further, can you help me ask Ms. Jarvis if she's free tonight?"

The relieved Stephen answered, "All right. I'll check with her."

From his perspective, apologizing to Roxanne and obtaining her forgiveness as soon as possible was the best possible outcome.

Only then would Lucian let Hightower Group go.

After lunch, Stephen sent Jack a message to check if he and Roxanne were available that night in front of his daughter.

When Jack received the message, a sense of dread crept into him.

However, since it was Jessica, he didn't give it much thought. In the worst-case scenario of her trying to repeat her tantrum, he would be there to keep the situation under control.

Holding that thought, Jack relayed the message to Roxanne who swiftly agreed to the meeting.

Once he received her confirmation, Jack replied to Stephen immediately and fixed the time and place.

After being told of the appointment, an icy glint flashed across Jessica's eyes.

“Remember to mind your attitude in the evening.” Worried that his daughter would behave rashly again, the concerned Stephen reminded, “Ms. Jarvis has powerful patrons. Hence, she’s not someone we can afford to offend.”

Unfortunately, her father’s words had only served to intensify Jessica’s contempt for Roxanne and fanned the flames of her desire to ruin the latter’s reputation.

When evening arrived, Jessica headed out early.

Thinking that she was really going to apologize to Roxanne, the naive Stephen watched her get into the car and left.

Chapter 722 Do You Feel Pressured

Meanwhile, Roxanne had delegated Madilyn to pick the children up to Madilyn as she promptly headed to the meeting.

No sooner had she stepped out the door than she saw Jack’s car at the entrance.

At the sight of her, he alighted from the car and took a look behind her. Feeling slightly disappointed, he inquired, “Are the children still at school?”

Roxanne nodded. “I got a friend of mine to pick them up. Is there a reason why you want to see them, Mr. Damaris?”

Jack casually nodded. “I’ve brought them some gifts. But since they’re not around, let’s just forget it. I’ll personally hand them over the next time I see the boys.”

The fact that he had prepared presents for them surprised Roxanne, for she didn’t expect him to be so attentive.

“Since you have gotten them the presents, it’s only right you hand them to the boys yourself.” Roxanne pursed her lips into a smile upon regaining her senses.

With that, she turned around and headed toward her car.

She had barely taken a step when Jack’s voice rang out from behind her.

“I think you shouldn’t drive, as it’ll be hard to avoid drinking tonight. If you drive there, you’ll just end up having to collect your car tomorrow.”

His words caused Roxanne to stop as a conflicted expression emerged on her face.

She still remembered the tantrum Jessica had thrown when she got drunk because Jack was too close to her.

Therefore, if Jessica were to see her arrive in Jack's car, the former would change her mind at the last minute even if her desire to apologize was sincere.

Cognizant of her concerns, Jack reassured her, "What happened the last time was my fault. That said, since there's nothing going on between the two of us, you shouldn't overthink the matter. If she repeats her accusations from the other day, I'll clear the air."

Sensing from his tone that he felt responsible, Roxanne knitted her brows. "It's not your fault, Mr. Damaris. There's no need to blame yourself."

No sooner had she spoken than she glanced at her watch and realized it was time to go. If they were to delay any further, they would likely be late for the appointment.

Cognizant of the situation, Roxanne stopped hesitating and walked up to Jack's side.

After declining his suggestion for her to sit in the front passenger seat, she opened the back seat door and got in.

Despite the frown on his face, Jack reminded himself of her concerns and didn't persist and returned to the car.

Soon, the car gradually started driving from Roxanne's home.

"By the way, why was the list of partners announced so suddenly?" Along the journey to the restaurant, Roxanne couldn't help but ask.

With his hand on the wheel, Jack replied in a deep voice, "Well, it wasn't. The Damaris family has been making preparations for a long time and has gotten in touch with the media. Also, since the aim of our project is to provide a public service, they naturally deserve to know. Therefore, announcing the name list is our way of being transparent to them, on top of showing everyone how important the project is to the Damaris family."

Roxanne couldn't help but feel amazed by the explanation.

When Larry mentioned earlier that commencement events were to be held soon, she didn't take him seriously.

It turned out that the Damaris family had indeed liaised with the media.

Nevertheless, the turn of events didn't come as such a surprise after hearing Jack's reasoning.

“Actually, I had wanted to inform you yesterday but was called away by Grandpa.” Showing concern, Jack inquired, “Do you feel pressured due to the sudden announcement?”

As a fellow doctor, Roxanne—finding no reason to hide her thoughts from him—responded with a nod. “A little, but the pressure will serve as my future motivation.”

Chapter 723 Shocking News

Although he was initially surprised by Roxanne's words, Jack quickly found it reasonable after giving it some thought.

After all, from the first day he met her, he knew that she wasn't someone to shy away from a challenge.

With that thought in mind, he gave the lady sitting in the backseat a look of admiration through the rearview mirror.

When he saw the resolve written all over Roxanne's face, Jack couldn't help but feel moved by it.

Finally, they made their way through the heavy traffic and managed to arrive at the restaurant right on the dot.

They expected Jessica to have arrived; however, the latter was nowhere to be seen.

As the empty table caused both of them to exchange glances, a sense of dread descended upon the two of them concurrently.

“I'll call and check,” Jack suggested with a cocked brow once they took their seats.

Nodding in acknowledgment, Roxanne could feel an inexplicable sense of trepidation creeping into her.

“Jack, have you arrived?”

Jessica’s voice rang out the moment the call connected.

With the phone on speaker, Jack grunted in response before asking, “Where are you?”

At that moment, Jessica—sitting languidly in the café next door—replied with an apologetic tone, “I’m really sorry. Please wait a few more minutes for me, as I’m currently stuck in traffic. I thought I was going to be early when I left home but…”

Her explanation caused Jack and Roxanne to glance at each other. Although they were skeptical about it, they couldn’t find any fault with the excuse since it was indeed peak hour.

Even though Roxanne’s house was close, traffic did hold them back for almost half an hour.

As a result, Jessica would naturally take longer since Hightower residence was even further away.

Having considered it, Jack replied grimly, “All right then. There’s no need to rush. Just drive safe.”

Despite the contempt that flashed across Jessica’s eyes, she didn’t let it affect her cordial tone. “As I’ll probably be stuck here for a while, there’s no need to wait for me. I’ll get the restaurant staff to serve you first.”

Just when Jack wanted to decline, the waiter arrived with the food. Having no other choice but to accept it implicitly, he responded, “We’ll be waiting for you.”

With a hum of acknowledgment, Jessica ended the call before going on to make another.

Oblivious to what she was up to, Jack and Roxanne assumed that she was really held up by traffic.

All they did was stare at the food in front of them with neither showing any intention to dig in.

Firstly, Jessica had not shown up. Secondly, both of them felt that something was amiss.

In spite of that, when Roxanne scanned the surroundings and didn't notice anything out of the ordinary, she had no choice but to suppress the suspicion that arose within her.

Subsequently, both of them discussed the partnership while waiting for Jessica to show up.

However, unknown to them, a camera flash repeatedly lit up from amongst the trees outside the window.

Back at the café Jessica was in, she had just finished a cup of coffee when the screen on her phone started blinking.

After throwing it a glance, she picked it up to answer.

"I've gotten the pictures," said a voice succinctly.

His words elicited a cocked brow from Jessica as she replied in glee, "In that case, I'll be waiting for your shocking exposé tomorrow."

"Me too," the man responded in a solemn tone.

With that, Jessica ended the call.

Chapter 724 Please Do Not Take Offence

Subsequently, she got to her feet and regained her composure before heading to the restaurant next door.

"I'm sorry to have kept you waiting."

Upon entering the restaurant, Jessica gave her two guests an apologetic look.

Her arrival brought a sense of relief to Roxanne and Jack who responded with a faint smile. "It's all right. Please take a seat."

Nodding in acknowledgment, Jessica sat down beside them. However, at the sight of the untouched food on the table, she looked at them in surprise. "Didn't I ask

you to start first? Why did you wait for me? I'm really sorry that the food is now cold."

Since Roxanne didn't know Jessica that well, she simply broke into a cordial smile.

As for Jack, he gave her a perfunctory reply. "Since you're the host, it's right that we wait for you."

He had barely spoken when silence descended upon the table.

At a loss as to what to do, Roxanne gave Jack an awkward look, for she intended to leave early if possible.

When Jessica wasn't around, she and Jack could still talk about the partnership.

Now that the former had arrived, they would have to stop.

Thus, Roxanne had no desire to continue wasting time there.

When Jack's eyes met hers, he easily guessed what was on her mind. Taking the initiative to break the silence, he said, "Jessica, didn't you mention that this meal..."

Jolted back to her senses, Jessica threw Roxanne a knowing glance. "Ah, I'm sorry. I was befuddled after getting stuck in the traffic for so long. The fact that I'm supposed to apologize to Ms. Jarvis over dinner almost slipped my mind."

Jessica then got to her feet and raised her glass at Roxanne. "I had too much to drink the other night, Ms. Jarvis. Therefore, I hope that you'll excuse my behavior. This toast is a symbol of my apology!"

No sooner had she spoken than she downed her glass of wine in a single gulp. After that, she showed her empty glass to them and even paused in front of Roxanne to hint at her.

Her gesture elicited a conflicted look in Roxanne's eyes, as it was evident that Jessica was pressuring her into reciprocating with a drink.

However, she would only drink when it was absolutely necessary.

On top of that, Jessica was supposed to apologize instead of putting her in another difficult position.

“Ms. Jarvis, are you unwilling to forgive me?” With a slight knit of her brows, Jessica was filled with remorse. “I understand why you wouldn’t want to do so, considering how outrageous my behavior was. For throwing a tantrum at you in front of so many, I was even grounded by my father the moment I got home. Subsequently, I used the last few days to reflect upon my actions.”

Pausing briefly, Jessica pursed her lips in a self-deprecating manner and turned to look at Jack. “I don’t deny having feelings for Jack, but who he fancies is none of my business. Also, I shouldn’t have forced my feelings upon him and put both of you in a difficult spot. It doesn’t matter whether both of you forgive me or not. I just want to let you know that I’m truly sorry for my actions.”

Jessica’s brimming sincerity ignited a glint in Roxanne’s eyes.

In truth, she wasn’t bothered at all by what happened that day. Now that Jessica had apologized, it was only appropriate for her to provide a response.

Holding that thought, Roxanne raised her glass in the end. “Ms. Hightower, it’s not as serious as you make it out to be. To be honest, I didn’t take offense over what happened that day. Therefore, you shouldn’t too.”

The moment she finished, Roxanne flashed a flat smile before downing a glass of wine.

No sooner had she done so that her brows instantly furrowed.

Chapter 725 Why Did You Not Pick Us Up

“What’s wrong?”

Noticing the grim look on her face, Jack frowned and inquired.

However, Roxanne just waved at him before throwing Jessica a glance.

Did Jessica do this on purpose? Why did she choose such a strong wine for dinner?

Nevertheless, when Roxanne didn’t notice anything amiss after drinking it, she wondered if she had been overthinking what was going on.

After downing two glasses of wine, the three of them fell into another awkward silence.

After all, the reason they were gathered was just to hear Jessica's apology.

Cognizant of the tension, Jessica exchanged pleasantries briefly before getting up to take her leave.

Once she was gone, Jack turned toward Roxanne. "Are you hungry? Do you want to eat someplace else?"

Both of them barely ate and the food was already cold.

Nonetheless, Roxanne, feeling a little woozy, wondered what sort of wine had Jessica ordered. Although she only had a small glass, the after-effects were extremely strong.

In response to Jack's question, she shook her head with a frown. "It's fine. I should head back earlier anyway, as the children should be home by now. I can't let them wait up for me."

Naturally, Jack didn't insist and got up to leave with her.

When they went down the stairs upon leaving the restaurant, Roxanne accidentally slipped and almost fell down.

Fortunately, Jack noticed it and turned around to catch her in the nick of time.

"Thank you," Roxanne murmured before retracting her hand.

Jack flashed a smile. "No problem."

After they got into the car one after the other, Jack—who didn't drink—decided to drive Roxanne home to not trouble the driver.

On the way home, a black sedan followed them from a safe distance.

With his attention entirely focused on Roxanne, Jack didn't notice the car at all.

As the traffic jam had cleared, it took them less than ten minutes to reach Roxanne's home.

"It's getting late, so forgive me for not inviting you in," Roxanne explained in a cursory tone.

Jack gave her a casual nod. “You should hurry back in. As for Archie and Benny’s presents, I’ll hand them over the next time I see them.”

After acknowledging him with a smile, Roxanne alighted and headed home.

It wasn’t until he saw her go back in that Jack drove leisurely back to the Damaris residence.

“Mommy!” The moment Roxanne stepped through the door, the two boys beamed and rushed up to her side.

She tousled their hair with a smile before changing out of her shoes.

Meanwhile, they gave her a puzzled look. “Why didn’t you pick us up tonight?”

After the interaction from the day before, the boys and Estella assumed that Roxanne would pick them up as usual.

Thus, the sight of Madilyn surprised them.

While Estella was visibly disappointed, the boys were worried that their mother had a new tiff with their father.

Consequently, Roxanne was baffled to see the children’s anxious looks. “I had a last-minute appointment tonight. What’s wrong?”

Upon exchanging glances, the boys observed Roxanne for a while. Only after they determined she wasn’t lying did relief descend upon them. Smiling gleefully, they replied, “Nothing. We’re just curious. That’s all.”

Roxanne grinned apologetically. “I’m sorry I didn’t inform you ahead of time. Going forward, I’ll try my best to pick you up on time, all right?”

Hearing Roxanne’s promise, there was a glint in the boys’ eyes and they jumped in joy.

Chapter 726 I Cannot Forgive You

The next morning, while Roxanne was having breakfast with the children before sending them to school, the doorbell suddenly rang. The ring caused Roxanne and the boys to exchange glances as the same thought popped into their minds—Lucian and Estella were there.

After all, both of them usually dropped by at that hour. Without a second thought, Roxanne got up and opened the door. She was subsequently greeted by the sight of her best friend looking all anxious.

“Did something happen?” A sinking feeling crept into her heart. The frowning Madilyn stretched her head to look at the children—who were busy eating—before pulling Roxanne out the door.

Cognizant that it was something the children weren’t supposed to know, Roxanne followed the former to the yard. “What’s wrong?”

“Did you see the news in the morning?” Madilyn sounded exceptionally grim. Hearing that, Roxanne shook her head in response as she was clueless.

As Lysa was held back by something at home and couldn’t come to work for the week, she had woken up early in the morning to prepare breakfast and watch the children eat.

Consequently, she didn’t have time to read the morning news at all.

Nevertheless, Roxanne could tell from Madilyn’s expression that something grave had happened.

Knitting her brows, Madilyn didn’t even know how to break the news.

“What on earth happened?” Madilyn’s reaction told Roxanne that it was something related to her. She repeated with a frown, “If you don’t tell me, I’ll go in and read it myself.”

Just when she turned around to go back in, Madilyn grabbed her hand to stop her.

“News of you going on a date late at night with Jack has splashed across the headlines. They accuse both of you of being close and suspect that strings were pulled for you to be included as one of the Damaris family’s partners.”

Madilyn—who greatly resented the news—spoke in a swift but incoherent manner.

In spite of that, Roxanne face darkened, as she had caught the gist of it.

My date with Jack...

The only thing that came to mind was the dinner the night before.

However, there were three of us. How did it end up becoming a date?

In the midst of racking her brain, an image suddenly flashed across her mind.

Last night, Jessica didn't show up for a long time even though both of us had arrived...

"Whatever it is, you had better not send the boys to school. I'll take them instead, as I'm worried that you would be swarmed by reporters there. Also, don't leave home as far as possible," Madilyn instructed with a solemn expression on her face.

Roxanne was well aware of the gravity of the situation.

Even though she was certain of her innocence, the media wasn't going to let her off the hook easily.

In addition, Roxanne didn't want her affairs to burden her children, causing them an unnecessary emotional burden.

With that in mind, she nodded without hesitation before expressing her gratitude. "Thank God you came all the way here to tell me."

However, Madilyn ranted, "Why are they slandering such a good doctor like you? Once I find out who's responsible, I'll definitely give them a piece of my mind!"

While Roxanne was trying to calm Madilyn down with a smile, Jessica's face emerged again in her mind, for she couldn't think of anyone else.

However, Roxanne had no clue whether someone else was behind Jessica.

Realizing it was getting late, both of them went back into the house.

As for the boys, their faces drooped in disappointment upon learning that Madilyn was taking them to school.

Since telling them the truth wasn't an option, Roxanne apologized, "I'm sorry. There's just something I need to deal with urgently. Once I'm done, I'll definitely send you to school every day."

Noticing the gloomy look on Roxanne's face, the brothers—in spite of their dejection—acknowledged her promise obediently.

Chapter 722 Do You Feel Pressured

Meanwhile, Roxanne had delegated Madilyn to pick the children up to Madilyn as she promptly headed to the meeting.

No sooner had she stepped out the door than she saw Jack's car at the entrance.

At the sight of her, he alighted from the car and took a look behind her. Feeling slightly disappointed, he inquired, "Are the children still at school?"

Roxanne nodded. "I got a friend of mine to pick them up. Is there a reason why you want to see them, Mr. Damaris?"

Jack casually nodded. "I've brought them some gifts. But since they're not around, let's just forget it. I'll personally hand them over the next time I see the boys."

The fact that he had prepared presents for them surprised Roxanne, for she didn't expect him to be so attentive.

"Since you have gotten them the presents, it's only right you hand them to the boys yourself." Roxanne pursed her lips into a smile upon regaining her senses.

With that, she turned around and headed toward her car.

She had barely taken a step when Jack's voice rang out from behind her.

"I think you shouldn't drive, as it'll be hard to avoid drinking tonight. If you drive there, you'll just end up having to collect your car tomorrow."

His words caused Roxanne to stop as a conflicted expression emerged on her face.

She still remembered the tantrum Jessica had thrown when she got drunk because Jack was too close to her.

Therefore, if Jessica were to see her arrive in Jack's car, the former would change her mind at the last minute even if her desire to apologize was sincere.

Cognizant of her concerns, Jack reassured her, “What happened the last time was my fault. That said, since there’s nothing going on between the two of us, you shouldn’t overthink the matter. If she repeats her accusations from the other day, I’ll clear the air.”

Sensing from his tone that he felt responsible, Roxanne knitted her brows. “It’s not your fault, Mr. Damaris. There’s no need to blame yourself.”

No sooner had she spoken than she glanced at her watch and realized it was time to go. If they were to delay any further, they would likely be late for the appointment.

Cognizant of the situation, Roxanne stopped hesitating and walked up to Jack’s side.

After declining his suggestion for her to sit in the front passenger seat, she opened the back seat door and got in.

Despite the frown on his face, Jack reminded himself of her concerns and didn’t persist and returned to the car.

Soon, the car gradually started driving from Roxanne’s home.

“By the way, why was the list of partners announced so suddenly?” Along the journey to the restaurant, Roxanne couldn’t help but ask.

With his hand on the wheel, Jack replied in a deep voice, “Well, it wasn’t. The Damaris family has been making preparations for a long time and has gotten in touch with the media. Also, since the aim of our project is to provide a public service, they naturally deserve to know. Therefore, announcing the name list is our way of being transparent to them, on top of showing everyone how important the project is to the Damaris family.”

Roxanne couldn’t help but feel amazed by the explanation.

When Larry mentioned earlier that commencement events were to be held soon, she didn’t take him seriously.

It turned out that the Damaris family had indeed liaised with the media.

Nevertheless, the turn of events didn’t come as such a surprise after hearing Jack’s reasoning.

“Actually, I had wanted to inform you yesterday but was called away by Grandpa.” Showing concern, Jack inquired, “Do you feel pressured due to the sudden announcement?”

As a fellow doctor, Roxanne—finding no reason to hide her thoughts from him—responded with a nod. “A little, but the pressure will serve as my future motivation.”

Chapter 723 Shocking News

Although he was initially surprised by Roxanne’s words, Jack quickly found it reasonable after giving it some thought.

After all, from the first day he met her, he knew that she wasn’t someone to shy away from a challenge.

With that thought in mind, he gave the lady sitting in the backseat a look of admiration through the rearview mirror.

When he saw the resolve written all over Roxanne’s face, Jack couldn’t help but feel moved by it.

Finally, they made their way through the heavy traffic and managed to arrive at the restaurant right on the dot.

They expected Jessica to have arrived; however, the latter was nowhere to be seen.

As the empty table caused both of them to exchange glances, a sense of dread descended upon the two of them concurrently.

“I’ll call and check,” Jack suggested with a cocked brow once they took their seats.

Nodding in acknowledgment, Roxanne could feel an inexplicable sense of trepidation creeping into her.

“Jack, have you arrived?”

Jessica’s voice rang out the moment the call connected.

With the phone on speaker, Jack grunted in response before asking, “Where are you?”

At that moment, Jessica—sitting languidly in the café next door—replied with an apologetic tone, “I’m really sorry. Please wait a few more minutes for me, as I’m currently stuck in traffic. I thought I was going to be early when I left home but...”

Her explanation caused Jack and Roxanne to glance at each other. Although they were skeptical about it, they couldn’t find any fault with the excuse since it was indeed peak hour.

Even though Roxanne’s house was close, traffic did hold them back for almost half an hour.

As a result, Jessica would naturally take longer since Hightower residence was even further away.

Having considered it, Jack replied grimly, “All right then. There’s no need to rush. Just drive safe.”

Despite the contempt that flashed across Jessica’s eyes, she didn’t let it affect her cordial tone. “As I’ll probably be stuck here for a while, there’s no need to wait for me. I’ll get the restaurant staff to serve you first.”

Just when Jack wanted to decline, the waiter arrived with the food. Having no other choice but to accept it implicitly, he responded, “We’ll be waiting for you.”

With a hum of acknowledgment, Jessica ended the call before going on to make another.

Oblivious to what she was up to, Jack and Roxanne assumed that she was really held up by traffic.

All they did was stare at the food in front of them with neither showing any intention to dig in.

Firstly, Jessica had not shown up. Secondly, both of them felt that something was amiss.

In spite of that, when Roxanne scanned the surroundings and didn’t notice anything out of the ordinary, she had no choice but to suppress the suspicion that arose within her.

Subsequently, both of them discussed the partnership while waiting for Jessica to show up.

However, unknown to them, a camera flash repeatedly lit up from amongst the trees outside the window.

Back at the café Jessica was in, she had just finished a cup of coffee when the screen on her phone started blinking.

After throwing it a glance, she picked it up to answer.

“I’ve gotten the pictures,” said a voice succinctly.

His words elicited a cocked brow from Jessica as she replied in glee, “In that case, I’ll be waiting for your shocking exposé tomorrow.”

“Me too,” the man responded in a solemn tone.

With that, Jessica ended the call.

Chapter 724 Please Do Not Take Offence

Subsequently, she got to her feet and regained her composure before heading to the restaurant next door.

“I’m sorry to have kept you waiting.”

Upon entering the restaurant, Jessica gave her two guests an apologetic look.

Her arrival brought a sense of relief to Roxanne and Jack who responded with a faint smile. “It’s all right. Please take a seat.”

Nodding in acknowledgment, Jessica sat down beside them. However, at the sight of the untouched food on the table, she looked at them in surprise. “Didn’t I ask you to start first? Why did you wait for me? I’m really sorry that the food is now cold.”

Since Roxanne didn’t know Jessica that well, she simply broke into a cordial smile.

As for Jack, he gave her a perfunctory reply. “Since you’re the host, it’s right that we wait for you.”

He had barely spoken when silence descended upon the table.

At a loss as to what to do, Roxanne gave Jack an awkward look, for she intended to leave early if possible.

When Jessica wasn't around, she and Jack could still talk about the partnership.

Now that the former had arrived, they would have to stop.

Thus, Roxanne had no desire to continue wasting time there.

When Jack's eyes met hers, he easily guessed what was on her mind. Taking the initiative to break the silence, he said, "Jessica, didn't you mention that this meal..."

Jolted back to her senses, Jessica threw Roxanne a knowing glance. "Ah, I'm sorry. I was befuddled after getting stuck in the traffic for so long. The fact that I'm supposed to apologize to Ms. Jarvis over dinner almost slipped my mind."

Jessica then got to her feet and raised her glass at Roxanne. "I had too much to drink the other night, Ms. Jarvis. Therefore, I hope that you'll excuse my behavior. This toast is a symbol of my apology!"

No sooner had she spoken than she downed her glass of wine in a single gulp. After that, she showed her empty glass to them and even paused in front of Roxanne to hint at her.

Her gesture elicited a conflicted look in Roxanne's eyes, as it was evident that Jessica was pressuring her into reciprocating with a drink.

However, she would only drink when it was absolutely necessary.

On top of that, Jessica was supposed to apologize instead of putting her in another difficult position.

"Ms. Jarvis, are you unwilling to forgive me?" With a slight knit of her brows, Jessica was filled with remorse. "I understand why you wouldn't want to do so, considering how outrageous my behavior was. For throwing a tantrum at you in front of so many, I was even grounded by my father the moment I got home. Subsequently, I used the last few days to reflect upon my actions."

Pausing briefly, Jessica pursed her lips in a self-deprecating manner and turned to look at Jack. “I don’t deny having feelings for Jack, but who he fancies is none of my business. Also, I shouldn’t have forced my feelings upon him and put both of you in a difficult spot. It doesn’t matter whether both of you forgive me or not. I just want to let you know that I’m truly sorry for my actions.”

Jessica’s brimming sincerity ignited a glint in Roxanne’s eyes.

In truth, she wasn’t bothered at all by what happened that day. Now that Jessica had apologized, it was only appropriate for her to provide a response.

Holding that thought, Roxanne raised her glass in the end. “Ms. Hightower, it’s not as serious as you make it out to be. To be honest, I didn’t take offense over what happened that day. Therefore, you shouldn’t too.”

The moment she finished, Roxanne flashed a flat smile before downing a glass of wine.

No sooner had she done so that her brows instantly furrowed.

Chapter 725 Why Did You Not Pick Us Up

“What’s wrong?”

Noticing the grim look on her face, Jack frowned and inquired.

However, Roxanne just waved at him before throwing Jessica a glance.

Did Jessica do this on purpose? Why did she choose such a strong wine for dinner?

Nevertheless, when Roxanne didn’t notice anything amiss after drinking it, she wondered if she had been overthinking what was going on.

After downing two glasses of wine, the three of them fell into another awkward silence.

After all, the reason they were gathered was just to hear Jessica’s apology.

Cognizant of the tension, Jessica exchanged pleasantries briefly before getting up to take her leave.

Once she was gone, Jack turned toward Roxanne. “Are you hungry? Do you want to eat someplace else?”

Both of them barely ate and the food was already cold.

Nonetheless, Roxanne, feeling a little woozy, wondered what sort of wine had Jessica ordered. Although she only had a small glass, the after-effects were extremely strong.

In response to Jack’s question, she shook her head with a frown. “It’s fine. I should head back earlier anyway, as the children should be home by now. I can’t let them wait up for me.”

Naturally, Jack didn’t insist and got up to leave with her.

When they went down the stairs upon leaving the restaurant, Roxanne accidentally slipped and almost fell down.

Fortunately, Jack noticed it and turned around to catch her in the nick of time.

“Thank you,” Roxanne murmured before retracting her hand.

Jack flashed a smile. “No problem.”

After they got into the car one after the other, Jack—who didn’t drink—decided to drive Roxanne home to not trouble the driver.

On the way home, a black sedan followed them from a safe distance.

With his attention entirely focused on Roxanne, Jack didn’t notice the car at all.

As the traffic jam had cleared, it took them less than ten minutes to reach Roxanne’s home.

“It’s getting late, so forgive me for not inviting you in,” Roxanne explained in a cursory tone.

Jack gave her a casual nod. “You should hurry back in. As for Archie and Benny’s presents, I’ll hand them over the next time I see them.”

After acknowledging him with a smile, Roxanne alighted and headed home.

It wasn't until he saw her go back in that Jack drove leisurely back to the Damaris residence.

“Mommy!” The moment Roxanne stepped through the door, the two boys beamed and rushed up to her side.

She tousled their hair with a smile before changing out of her shoes.

Meanwhile, they gave her a puzzled look. “Why didn't you pick us up tonight?”

After the interaction from the day before, the boys and Estella assumed that Roxanne would pick them up as usual.

Thus, the sight of Madilyn surprised them.

While Estella was visibly disappointed, the boys were worried that their mother had a new tiff with their father.

Consequently, Roxanne was baffled to see the children's anxious looks. “I had a last-minute appointment tonight. What's wrong?”

Upon exchanging glances, the boys observed Roxanne for a while. Only after they determined she wasn't lying did relief descend upon them. Smiling gleefully, they replied, “Nothing. We're just curious. That's all.”

Roxanne grinned apologetically. “I'm sorry I didn't inform you ahead of time. Going forward, I'll try my best to pick you up on time, all right?”

Hearing Roxanne's promise, there was a glint in the boys' eyes and they jumped in joy.

Chapter 726 I Cannot Forgive You

The next morning, while Roxanne was having breakfast with the children before sending them to school, the doorbell suddenly rang. The ring caused Roxanne and the boys to exchange glances as the same thought popped into their minds—Lucian and Estella were there.

After all, both of them usually dropped by at that hour. Without a second thought, Roxanne got up and opened the door. She was subsequently greeted by the sight of her best friend looking all anxious.

“Did something happen?” A sinking feeling crept into her heart. The frowning Madilyn stretched her head to look at the children—who were busy eating—before pulling Roxanne out the door.

Cognizant that it was something the children weren’t supposed to know, Roxanne followed the former to the yard. “What’s wrong?”

“Did you see the news in the morning?” Madilyn sounded exceptionally grim. Hearing that, Roxanne shook her head in response as she was clueless.

As Lysa was held back by something at home and couldn’t come to work for the week, she had woken up early in the morning to prepare breakfast and watch the children eat.

Consequently, she didn’t have time to read the morning news at all.

Nevertheless, Roxanne could tell from Madilyn’s expression that something grave had happened.

Knitting her brows, Madilyn didn’t even know how to break the news.

“What on earth happened?” Madilyn’s reaction told Roxanne that it was something related to her. She repeated with a frown, “If you don’t tell me, I’ll go in and read it myself.”

Just when she turned around to go back in, Madilyn grabbed her hand to stop her.

“News of you going on a date late at night with Jack has splashed across the headlines. They accuse both of you of being close and suspect that strings were pulled for you to be included as one of the Damaris family’s partners.”

Madilyn—who greatly resented the news—spoke in a swift but incoherent manner.

In spite of that, Roxanne face darkened, as she had caught the gist of it.

My date with Jack...

The only thing that came to mind was the dinner the night before.

However, there were three of us. How did it end up becoming a date?

In the midst of racking her brain, an image suddenly flashed across her mind.

Last night, Jessica didn't show up for a long time even though both of us had arrived...

"Whatever it is, you had better not send the boys to school. I'll take them instead, as I'm worried that you would be swarmed by reporters there. Also, don't leave home as far as possible," Madilyn instructed with a solemn expression on her face.

Roxanne was well aware of the gravity of the situation.

Even though she was certain of her innocence, the media wasn't going to let her off the hook easily.

In addition, Roxanne didn't want her affairs to burden her children, causing them an unnecessary emotional burden.

With that in mind, she nodded without hesitation before expressing her gratitude. "Thank God you came all the way here to tell me."

However, Madilyn ranted, "Why are they slandering such a good doctor like you? Once I find out who's responsible, I'll definitely give them a piece of my mind!"

While Roxanne was trying to calm Madilyn down with a smile, Jessica's face emerged again in her mind, for she couldn't think of anyone else.

However, Roxanne had no clue whether someone else was behind Jessica.

Realizing it was getting late, both of them went back into the house.

As for the boys, their faces drooped in disappointment upon learning that Madilyn was taking them to school.

Since telling them the truth wasn't an option, Roxanne apologized, "I'm sorry. There's just something I need to deal with urgently. Once I'm done, I'll definitely send you to school every day."

Noticing the gloomy look on Roxanne's face, the brothers—in spite of their dejection—acknowledged her promise obediently.



Chapter 723 Shocking News

Although he was initially surprised by Roxanne's words, Jack quickly found it reasonable after giving it some thought.

After all, from the first day he met her, he knew that she wasn't someone to shy away from a challenge.

With that thought in mind, he gave the lady sitting in the backseat a look of admiration through the rearview mirror.

When he saw the resolve written all over Roxanne's face, Jack couldn't help but feel moved by it.

Finally, they made their way through the heavy traffic and managed to arrive at the restaurant right on the dot.

They expected Jessica to have arrived; however, the latter was nowhere to be seen.

As the empty table caused both of them to exchange glances, a sense of dread descended upon the two of them concurrently.

"I'll call and check," Jack suggested with a cocked brow once they took their seats.

Nodding in acknowledgment, Roxanne could feel an inexplicable sense of trepidation creeping into her.

"Jack, have you arrived?"

Jessica's voice rang out the moment the call connected.

With the phone on speaker, Jack grunted in response before asking, "Where are you?"

At that moment, Jessica—sitting languidly in the café next door—replied with an apologetic tone, "I'm really sorry. Please wait a few more minutes for me, as I'm currently stuck in traffic. I thought I was going to be early when I left home but..."

Her explanation caused Jack and Roxanne to glance at each other. Although they were skeptical about it, they couldn't find any fault with the excuse since it was indeed peak hour.

Even though Roxanne's house was close, traffic did hold them back for almost half an hour.

As a result, Jessica would naturally take longer since Hightower residence was even further away.

Having considered it, Jack replied grimly, "All right then. There's no need to rush. Just drive safe."

Despite the contempt that flashed across Jessica's eyes, she didn't let it affect her cordial tone. "As I'll probably be stuck here for a while, there's no need to wait for me. I'll get the restaurant staff to serve you first."

Just when Jack wanted to decline, the waiter arrived with the food. Having no other choice but to accept it implicitly, he responded, "We'll be waiting for you."

With a hum of acknowledgment, Jessica ended the call before going on to make another.

Oblivious to what she was up to, Jack and Roxanne assumed that she was really held up by traffic.

All they did was stare at the food in front of them with neither showing any intention to dig in.

Firstly, Jessica had not shown up. Secondly, both of them felt that something was amiss.

In spite of that, when Roxanne scanned the surroundings and didn't notice anything out of the ordinary, she had no choice but to suppress the suspicion that arose within her.

Subsequently, both of them discussed the partnership while waiting for Jessica to show up.

However, unknown to them, a camera flash repeatedly lit up from amongst the trees outside the window.

Back at the café Jessica was in, she had just finished a cup of coffee when the screen on her phone started blinking.

After throwing it a glance, she picked it up to answer.

“I’ve gotten the pictures,” said a voice succinctly.

His words elicited a cocked brow from Jessica as she replied in glee, “In that case, I’ll be waiting for your shocking exposé tomorrow.”

“Me too,” the man responded in a solemn tone.

With that, Jessica ended the call.

Chapter 724 Please Do Not Take Offence

Subsequently, she got to her feet and regained her composure before heading to the restaurant next door.

“I’m sorry to have kept you waiting.”

Upon entering the restaurant, Jessica gave her two guests an apologetic look.

Her arrival brought a sense of relief to Roxanne and Jack who responded with a faint smile. “It’s all right. Please take a seat.”

Nodding in acknowledgment, Jessica sat down beside them. However, at the sight of the untouched food on the table, she looked at them in surprise. “Didn’t I ask you to start first? Why did you wait for me? I’m really sorry that the food is now cold.”

Since Roxanne didn’t know Jessica that well, she simply broke into a cordial smile.

As for Jack, he gave her a perfunctory reply. “Since you’re the host, it’s right that we wait for you.”

He had barely spoken when silence descended upon the table.

At a loss as to what to do, Roxanne gave Jack an awkward look, for she intended to leave early if possible.

When Jessica wasn’t around, she and Jack could still talk about the partnership.

Now that the former had arrived, they would have to stop.

Thus, Roxanne had no desire to continue wasting time there.

When Jack's eyes met hers, he easily guessed what was on her mind. Taking the initiative to break the silence, he said, "Jessica, didn't you mention that this meal..."

Jolted back to her senses, Jessica threw Roxanne a knowing glance. "Ah, I'm sorry. I was befuddled after getting stuck in the traffic for so long. The fact that I'm supposed to apologize to Ms. Jarvis over dinner almost slipped my mind."

Jessica then got to her feet and raised her glass at Roxanne. "I had too much to drink the other night, Ms. Jarvis. Therefore, I hope that you'll excuse my behavior. This toast is a symbol of my apology!"

No sooner had she spoken than she downed her glass of wine in a single gulp. After that, she showed her empty glass to them and even paused in front of Roxanne to hint at her.

Her gesture elicited a conflicted look in Roxanne's eyes, as it was evident that Jessica was pressuring her into reciprocating with a drink.

However, she would only drink when it was absolutely necessary.

On top of that, Jessica was supposed to apologize instead of putting her in another difficult position.

"Ms. Jarvis, are you unwilling to forgive me?" With a slight knit of her brows, Jessica was filled with remorse. "I understand why you wouldn't want to do so, considering how outrageous my behavior was. For throwing a tantrum at you in front of so many, I was even grounded by my father the moment I got home. Subsequently, I used the last few days to reflect upon my actions."

Pausing briefly, Jessica pursed her lips in a self-deprecating manner and turned to look at Jack. "I don't deny having feelings for Jack, but who he fancies is none of my business. Also, I shouldn't have forced my feelings upon him and put both of you in a difficult spot. It doesn't matter whether both of you forgive me or not. I just want to let you know that I'm truly sorry for my actions."

Jessica's brimming sincerity ignited a glint in Roxanne's eyes.

In truth, she wasn't bothered at all by what happened that day. Now that Jessica had apologized, it was only appropriate for her to provide a response.

Holding that thought, Roxanne raised her glass in the end. "Ms. Hightower, it's not as serious as you make it out to be. To be honest, I didn't take offense over what happened that day. Therefore, you shouldn't too."

The moment she finished, Roxanne flashed a flat smile before downing a glass of wine.

No sooner had she done so that her brows instantly furrowed.

Chapter 725 Why Did You Not Pick Us Up

"What's wrong?"

Noticing the grim look on her face, Jack frowned and inquired.

However, Roxanne just waved at him before throwing Jessica a glance.

Did Jessica do this on purpose? Why did she choose such a strong wine for dinner?

Nevertheless, when Roxanne didn't notice anything amiss after drinking it, she wondered if she had been overthinking what was going on.

After downing two glasses of wine, the three of them fell into another awkward silence.

After all, the reason they were gathered was just to hear Jessica's apology.

Cognizant of the tension, Jessica exchanged pleasantries briefly before getting up to take her leave.

Once she was gone, Jack turned toward Roxanne. "Are you hungry? Do you want to eat someplace else?"

Both of them barely ate and the food was already cold.

Nonetheless, Roxanne, feeling a little woozy, wondered what sort of wine had Jessica ordered. Although she only had a small glass, the after-effects were extremely strong.

In response to Jack's question, she shook her head with a frown. "It's fine. I should head back earlier anyway, as the children should be home by now. I can't let them wait up for me."

Naturally, Jack didn't insist and got up to leave with her.

When they went down the stairs upon leaving the restaurant, Roxanne accidentally slipped and almost fell down.

Fortunately, Jack noticed it and turned around to catch her in the nick of time.

"Thank you," Roxanne murmured before retracting her hand.

Jack flashed a smile. "No problem."

After they got into the car one after the other, Jack—who didn't drink—decided to drive Roxanne home to not trouble the driver.

On the way home, a black sedan followed them from a safe distance.

With his attention entirely focused on Roxanne, Jack didn't notice the car at all.

As the traffic jam had cleared, it took them less than ten minutes to reach Roxanne's home.

"It's getting late, so forgive me for not inviting you in," Roxanne explained in a cursory tone.

Jack gave her a casual nod. "You should hurry back in. As for Archie and Benny's presents, I'll hand them over the next time I see them."

After acknowledging him with a smile, Roxanne alighted and headed home.

It wasn't until he saw her go back in that Jack drove leisurely back to the Damaris residence.

"Mommy!" The moment Roxanne stepped through the door, the two boys beamed and rushed up to her side.

She tousled their hair with a smile before changing out of her shoes.

Meanwhile, they gave her a puzzled look. "Why didn't you pick us up tonight?"

After the interaction from the day before, the boys and Estella assumed that Roxanne would pick them up as usual.

Thus, the sight of Madilyn surprised them.

While Estella was visibly disappointed, the boys were worried that their mother had a new tiff with their father.

Consequently, Roxanne was baffled to see the children's anxious looks. "I had a last-minute appointment tonight. What's wrong?"

Upon exchanging glances, the boys observed Roxanne for a while. Only after they determined she wasn't lying did relief descend upon them. Smiling gleefully, they replied, "Nothing. We're just curious. That's all."

Roxanne grinned apologetically. "I'm sorry I didn't inform you ahead of time. Going forward, I'll try my best to pick you up on time, all right?"

Hearing Roxanne's promise, there was a glint in the boys' eyes and they jumped in joy.

Chapter 726 I Cannot Forgive You

The next morning, while Roxanne was having breakfast with the children before sending them to school, the doorbell suddenly rang. The ring caused Roxanne and the boys to exchange glances as the same thought popped into their minds—Lucian and Estella were there.

After all, both of them usually dropped by at that hour. Without a second thought, Roxanne got up and opened the door. She was subsequently greeted by the sight of her best friend looking all anxious.

"Did something happen?" A sinking feeling crept into her heart. The frowning Madilyn stretched her head to look at the children—who were busy eating—before pulling Roxanne out the door.

Cognizant that it was something the children weren't supposed to know, Roxanne followed the former to the yard. "What's wrong?"

"Did you see the news in the morning?" Madilyn sounded exceptionally grim. Hearing that, Roxanne shook her head in response as she was clueless.

As Lysa was held back by something at home and couldn't come to work for the week, she had woken up early in the morning to prepare breakfast and watch the children eat.

Consequently, she didn't have time to read the morning news at all.

Nevertheless, Roxanne could tell from Madilyn's expression that something grave had happened.

Knitting her brows, Madilyn didn't even know how to break the news.

"What on earth happened?" Madilyn's reaction told Roxanne that it was something related to her. She repeated with a frown, "If you don't tell me, I'll go in and read it myself."

Just when she turned around to go back in, Madilyn grabbed her hand to stop her.

"News of you going on a date late at night with Jack has splashed across the headlines. They accuse both of you of being close and suspect that strings were pulled for you to be included as one of the Damaris family's partners."

Madilyn—who greatly resented the news—spoke in a swift but incoherent manner.

In spite of that, Roxanne face darkened, as she had caught the gist of it.

My date with Jack...

The only thing that came to mind was the dinner the night before.

However, there were three of us. How did it end up becoming a date?

In the midst of racking her brain, an image suddenly flashed across her mind.

Last night, Jessica didn't show up for a long time even though both of us had arrived...

"Whatever it is, you had better not send the boys to school. I'll take them instead, as I'm worried that you would be swarmed by reporters there. Also, don't leave home as far as possible," Madilyn instructed with a solemn expression on her face.

Roxanne was well aware of the gravity of the situation.

Even though she was certain of her innocence, the media wasn't going to let her off the hook easily.

In addition, Roxanne didn't want her affairs to burden her children, causing them an unnecessary emotional burden.

With that in mind, she nodded without hesitation before expressing her gratitude. "Thank God you came all the way here to tell me."

However, Madilyn ranted, "Why are they slandering such a good doctor like you? Once I find out who's responsible, I'll definitely give them a piece of my mind!"

While Roxanne was trying to calm Madilyn down with a smile, Jessica's face emerged again in her mind, for she couldn't think of anyone else.

However, Roxanne had no clue whether someone else was behind Jessica.

Realizing it was getting late, both of them went back into the house.

As for the boys, their faces drooped in disappointment upon learning that Madilyn was taking them to school.

Since telling them the truth wasn't an option, Roxanne apologized, "I'm sorry. There's just something I need to deal with urgently. Once I'm done, I'll definitely send you to school every day."

Noticing the gloomy look on Roxanne's face, the brothers—in spite of their dejection—acknowledged her promise obediently.

Chapter 727 Suppressing The News

After watching Madilyn leave with the children, Roxanne went upstairs into the study and checked the news on her phone.

The moment she went on Twitter, she saw the top trending topics. Pretty Doctor Pulled Strings To Advance Her Career. Jack Damaris Goes On A Late-night Date With A Pretty Doctor. Jack Damaris' Love Life Exposed...

One by one, the topics were either related to her relationship with Jack or casting doubt on her credentials as a partner in the Damaris family's project.

Just looking at those topics gave Roxanne a headache. Upon randomly clicking on one of them, she saw that it had almost a million views. Jack Damaris dates one of the doctors of the Damaris family's new project. Their suspected relationship was exposed...

Inserted underneath the title were a few blurry photographs. The first one showed Roxanne sitting opposite Jack in the restaurant. Both of them looked like they were chatting, while the table in front of them was filled with food.

The second picture showed them at the staircase of the restaurant entrance. Jack turned around to hold Roxanne's hand and they looked intimate.

Finally, the last picture was Jack dropping Roxanne off at her home. After going through them, a sense of gloominess hung over Roxanne.

Even though our photos were taken throughout the night, Jack and I were completely oblivious to the fact. As for the comments below, they could only be described as colorful.

A: Is she that Dr. Jarvis on the list? I knew there was something strange about her. How can someone so young be such a skilled doctor?

B: Just as expected, she's on the list because of her looks! Having said that, Dr. Jarvis is really pretty. If I were in the same position, I would have included her on the list too!

C: What a beautiful couple!

The first comment that doubted her capabilities instantly disheartened Roxanne.

Even though she was expecting it the moment the name list was released, she never imagined it would happen in such a manner.

Due to the exposé, the doubt cast upon her credentials was the most discussed matter.

Finally, she received a call from Jack while she was still surfing Twitter.

It took her a few seconds to regain her senses before answering it.

“I’m sorry. I just saw the news online.” Jack was extremely apologetic over the phone. “Don’t worry. I’ll take responsibility by removing all the fake news.”

Despite his reassurances, the frowning Roxanne still had her concerns. Nonetheless, she replied, “Thank you.”

After a momentary silence, Jack continued, “About what happened last night, I’ll demand an explanation from the Hightower family. Given Jessica’s strange behavior, she must definitely have something to do with this.”

Surprised by his point, Roxanne hesitated for a few seconds before stopping him. “Let’s just let it slide since we don’t have any evidence. What matters now is clarifying the rumors online.”

Even though Roxanne shared his suspicions, she knew Jessica would unlikely admit to it in the absence of any proof.

Therefore, confronting her was a futile endeavor.

Furthermore, now that the news had exploded, all Roxanne could get from the mastermind was an apology even if she found them. That was of no help to her current predicament.

Over the line, Roxanne’s dissuasion prompted Jack to realize his hastiness. Upon calming down and seeing her perspective, he replied in a deep voice, “You’re right. I was too consumed by my emotions. Let me think of a way to suppress the controversy first.”

After Roxanne hummed in agreement, Jack ended the call quickly.

Watching her phone screen fade to black, Roxanne took a deep breath.

With Jack taking action, she too, couldn’t sit idly by and allow the matter to go out of hand.

Chapter 728 Is The Hightower Family Involved

Initially, Roxanne wanted to put out a statement. However, since her Twitter account was mostly used to surf for news, it essentially had no content. Therefore, whatever she had to say would likely not reach anyone.

After further contemplation, she decided to give Colby a call and got him to use the research institute's account to put out her clarification.

Although the account wasn't particularly popular, it was still a much better option than using hers. "What happened?" Colby had gone to the research institute early and only learned of the controversy when Roxanne gave him a call.

When he saw the pictures of Roxanne and Jack interacting with each other, he felt a faint squeeze in his heart. Sighing in resignation, Roxanne clarified, "I can't really give you a good explanation but what happened last night was a misunderstanding. Both of us were not alone at the dinner."

Even though her assurances failed to cheer Colby up, he remained hopeful and persuaded himself to have faith in Roxanne.

After all, if I don't trust her, one can't expect the netizens who are ridiculing her to do the same. Moreover, Roxanne has no reason to lie about the matter.

Holding that thought, the relieved Colby answered in a grim voice, "I understand. I'll put the statement out." Roxanne grunted in acknowledgment before ending the call.

Half an hour later, both Jack's and the research institute's statements were released at almost the same time and quickly became a trending topic.

However, instead of convincing anyone, the response triggered was entirely hostile and filled with skepticism. In fact, on Jack's Twitter account, netizens even began to cast doubt on the Damaris family.

B3232: Why are the Damaris family's selection criteria for the partners so lenient? How can one be included in such an important project or even end up on the name list by pulling some strings? Do you take us for fools?

Love212: Is being pretty all that's needed to be selected? In that case, even I am qualified.

Many similar comments populated the feed, to the extent Jack ended up arguing with the netizens in the comments section.

After skimming through the comments, Roxanne sent Jack a message: Don't worry about me. I'll deal with this myself.

At the other end, the sullen-looking Jack was busy responding to the barrage of insults. Subsequently, he was baffled when he received Roxanne's sudden message. He responded: I was the one who caused this, so how can I sit idly by and do nothing?

Smiling wryly, Roxanne replied: Just let me be the lightning rod of their disparagement. At the rate you're going, the Damaris family will be dragged into the matter. When that happens, I'll be the one to blame.

Upon reading her message, the frowning Jack furrowed went through the comments online.

It was then that he realized his presence had shifted the netizens' focus from Roxanne to the Damaris family.

If he were to continue on his path, the Damaris family's reputation— built over a century—would be ruined.

Cognizant of what was at stake, Jack weighed his options before deciding to remain silent. In spite of that, he still couldn't just sit around and do nothing. Jack: In that case, I'll investigate if the Hightower family was behind this.

Roxanne responded with her agreement.

Meanwhile, when the netizens realized Jack had left, they swarmed toward the research institute's Twitter account and demanded for Roxanne to give an explanation.

Naturally, Colby couldn't tolerate the slander against Roxanne. Faced with their relentless skepticism about her medical skills, he posted a list of all the major projects that the research institute had completed under Roxanne's leadership.

Unfortunately, most of the netizens were laymen who were not bothered about such details.

In fact, even those who could see through the situation had their voices drowned swiftly.



Chapter 724 Please Do Not Take Offence

Subsequently, she got to her feet and regained her composure before heading to the restaurant next door.

“I’m sorry to have kept you waiting.”

Upon entering the restaurant, Jessica gave her two guests an apologetic look.

Her arrival brought a sense of relief to Roxanne and Jack who responded with a faint smile. “It’s all right. Please take a seat.”

Nodding in acknowledgment, Jessica sat down beside them. However, at the sight of the untouched food on the table, she looked at them in surprise. “Didn’t I ask you to start first? Why did you wait for me? I’m really sorry that the food is now cold.”

Since Roxanne didn’t know Jessica that well, she simply broke into a cordial smile.

As for Jack, he gave her a perfunctory reply. “Since you’re the host, it’s right that we wait for you.”

He had barely spoken when silence descended upon the table.

At a loss as to what to do, Roxanne gave Jack an awkward look, for she intended to leave early if possible.

When Jessica wasn’t around, she and Jack could still talk about the partnership.

Now that the former had arrived, they would have to stop.

Thus, Roxanne had no desire to continue wasting time there.

When Jack’s eyes met hers, he easily guessed what was on her mind. Taking the initiative to break the silence, he said, “Jessica, didn’t you mention that this meal...”

Jolted back to her senses, Jessica threw Roxanne a knowing glance. “Ah, I’m sorry. I was befuddled after getting stuck in the traffic for so long. The fact that I’m supposed to apologize to Ms. Jarvis over dinner almost slipped my mind.”

Jessica then got to her feet and raised her glass at Roxanne. “I had too much to drink the other night, Ms. Jarvis. Therefore, I hope that you’ll excuse my behavior. This toast is a symbol of my apology!”

No sooner had she spoken than she downed her glass of wine in a single gulp. After that, she showed her empty glass to them and even paused in front of Roxanne to hint at her.

Her gesture elicited a conflicted look in Roxanne’s eyes, as it was evident that Jessica was pressuring her into reciprocating with a drink.

However, she would only drink when it was absolutely necessary.

On top of that, Jessica was supposed to apologize instead of putting her in another difficult position.

“Ms. Jarvis, are you unwilling to forgive me?” With a slight knit of her brows, Jessica was filled with remorse. “I understand why you wouldn’t want to do so, considering how outrageous my behavior was. For throwing a tantrum at you in front of so many, I was even grounded by my father the moment I got home. Subsequently, I used the last few days to reflect upon my actions.”

Pausing briefly, Jessica pursed her lips in a self-deprecating manner and turned to look at Jack. “I don’t deny having feelings for Jack, but who he fancies is none of my business. Also, I shouldn’t have forced my feelings upon him and put both of you in a difficult spot. It doesn’t matter whether both of you forgive me or not. I just want to let you know that I’m truly sorry for my actions.”

Jessica’s brimming sincerity ignited a glint in Roxanne’s eyes.

In truth, she wasn’t bothered at all by what happened that day. Now that Jessica had apologized, it was only appropriate for her to provide a response.

Holding that thought, Roxanne raised her glass in the end. “Ms. Hightower, it’s not as serious as you make it out to be. To be honest, I didn’t take offense over what happened that day. Therefore, you shouldn’t too.”

The moment she finished, Roxanne flashed a flat smile before downing a glass of wine.

No sooner had she done so that her brows instantly furrowed.

Chapter 725 Why Did You Not Pick Us Up

“What’s wrong?”

Noticing the grim look on her face, Jack frowned and inquired.

However, Roxanne just waved at him before throwing Jessica a glance.

Did Jessica do this on purpose? Why did she choose such a strong wine for dinner?

Nevertheless, when Roxanne didn’t notice anything amiss after drinking it, she wondered if she had been overthinking what was going on.

After downing two glasses of wine, the three of them fell into another awkward silence.

After all, the reason they were gathered was just to hear Jessica’s apology.

Cognizant of the tension, Jessica exchanged pleasantries briefly before getting up to take her leave.

Once she was gone, Jack turned toward Roxanne. “Are you hungry? Do you want to eat someplace else?”

Both of them barely ate and the food was already cold.

Nonetheless, Roxanne, feeling a little woozy, wondered what sort of wine had Jessica ordered. Although she only had a small glass, the after-effects were extremely strong.

In response to Jack’s question, she shook her head with a frown. “It’s fine. I should head back earlier anyway, as the children should be home by now. I can’t let them wait up for me.”

Naturally, Jack didn’t insist and got up to leave with her.

When they went down the stairs upon leaving the restaurant, Roxanne accidentally slipped and almost fell down.

Fortunately, Jack noticed it and turned around to catch her in the nick of time.

“Thank you,” Roxanne murmured before retracting her hand.

Jack flashed a smile. “No problem.”

After they got into the car one after the other, Jack—who didn’t drink—decided to drive Roxanne home to not trouble the driver.

On the way home, a black sedan followed them from a safe distance.

With his attention entirely focused on Roxanne, Jack didn’t notice the car at all.

As the traffic jam had cleared, it took them less than ten minutes to reach Roxanne’s home.

“It’s getting late, so forgive me for not inviting you in,” Roxanne explained in a cursory tone.

Jack gave her a casual nod. “You should hurry back in. As for Archie and Benny’s presents, I’ll hand them over the next time I see them.”

After acknowledging him with a smile, Roxanne alighted and headed home.

It wasn’t until he saw her go back in that Jack drove leisurely back to the Damaris residence.

“Mommy!” The moment Roxanne stepped through the door, the two boys beamed and rushed up to her side.

She tousled their hair with a smile before changing out of her shoes.

Meanwhile, they gave her a puzzled look. “Why didn’t you pick us up tonight?”

After the interaction from the day before, the boys and Estella assumed that Roxanne would pick them up as usual.

Thus, the sight of Madilyn surprised them.

While Estella was visibly disappointed, the boys were worried that their mother had a new tiff with their father.

Consequently, Roxanne was baffled to see the children’s anxious looks. “I had a last-minute appointment tonight. What’s wrong?”

Upon exchanging glances, the boys observed Roxanne for a while. Only after they determined she wasn't lying did relief descend upon them. Smiling gleefully, they replied, "Nothing. We're just curious. That's all."

Roxanne grinned apologetically. "I'm sorry I didn't inform you ahead of time. Going forward, I'll try my best to pick you up on time, all right?"

Hearing Roxanne's promise, there was a glint in the boys' eyes and they jumped in joy.

Chapter 726 I Cannot Forgive You

The next morning, while Roxanne was having breakfast with the children before sending them to school, the doorbell suddenly rang. The ring caused Roxanne and the boys to exchange glances as the same thought popped into their minds—Lucian and Estella were there.

After all, both of them usually dropped by at that hour. Without a second thought, Roxanne got up and opened the door. She was subsequently greeted by the sight of her best friend looking all anxious.

"Did something happen?" A sinking feeling crept into her heart. The frowning Madilyn stretched her head to look at the children—who were busy eating—before pulling Roxanne out the door.

Cognizant that it was something the children weren't supposed to know, Roxanne followed the former to the yard. "What's wrong?"

"Did you see the news in the morning?" Madilyn sounded exceptionally grim. Hearing that, Roxanne shook her head in response as she was clueless.

As Lysa was held back by something at home and couldn't come to work for the week, she had woken up early in the morning to prepare breakfast and watch the children eat.

Consequently, she didn't have time to read the morning news at all.

Nevertheless, Roxanne could tell from Madilyn's expression that something grave had happened.

Knitting her brows, Madilyn didn't even know how to break the news.

“What on earth happened?” Madilyn’s reaction told Roxanne that it was something related to her. She repeated with a frown, “If you don’t tell me, I’ll go in and read it myself.”

Just when she turned around to go back in, Madilyn grabbed her hand to stop her.

“News of you going on a date late at night with Jack has splashed across the headlines. They accuse both of you of being close and suspect that strings were pulled for you to be included as one of the Damaris family’s partners.”

Madilyn—who greatly resented the news—spoke in a swift but incoherent manner.

In spite of that, Roxanne face darkened, as she had caught the gist of it.

My date with Jack...

The only thing that came to mind was the dinner the night before.

However, there were three of us. How did it end up becoming a date?

In the midst of racking her brain, an image suddenly flashed across her mind.

Last night, Jessica didn’t show up for a long time even though both of us had arrived...

“Whatever it is, you had better not send the boys to school. I’ll take them instead, as I’m worried that you would be swarmed by reporters there. Also, don’t leave home as far as possible,” Madilyn instructed with a solemn expression on her face.

Roxanne was well aware of the gravity of the situation.

Even though she was certain of her innocence, the media wasn’t going to let her off the hook easily.

In addition, Roxanne didn’t want her affairs to burden her children, causing them an unnecessary emotional burden.

With that in mind, she nodded without hesitation before expressing her gratitude. “Thank God you came all the way here to tell me.”

However, Madilyn ranted, “Why are they slandering such a good doctor like you? Once I find out who’s responsible, I’ll definitely give them a piece of my mind!”

While Roxanne was trying to calm Madilyn down with a smile, Jessica's face emerged again in her mind, for she couldn't think of anyone else.

However, Roxanne had no clue whether someone else was behind Jessica.

Realizing it was getting late, both of them went back into the house.

As for the boys, their faces drooped in disappointment upon learning that Madilyn was taking them to school.

Since telling them the truth wasn't an option, Roxanne apologized, "I'm sorry. There's just something I need to deal with urgently. Once I'm done, I'll definitely send you to school every day."

Noticing the gloomy look on Roxanne's face, the brothers—in spite of their dejection—acknowledged her promise obediently.

Chapter 727 Suppressing The News

After watching Madilyn leave with the children, Roxanne went upstairs into the study and checked the news on her phone.

The moment she went on Twitter, she saw the top trending topics. Pretty Doctor Pulled Strings To Advance Her Career. Jack Damaris Goes On A Late-night Date With A Pretty Doctor. Jack Damaris' Love Life Exposed...

One by one, the topics were either related to her relationship with Jack or casting doubt on her credentials as a partner in the Damaris family's project.

Just looking at those topics gave Roxanne a headache. Upon randomly clicking on one of them, she saw that it had almost a million views. Jack Damaris dates one of the doctors of the Damaris family's new project. Their suspected relationship was exposed...

Inserted underneath the title were a few blurry photographs. The first one showed Roxanne sitting opposite Jack in the restaurant. Both of them looked like they were chatting, while the table in front of them was filled with food.

The second picture showed them at the staircase of the restaurant entrance. Jack turned around to hold Roxanne's hand and they looked intimate.

Finally, the last picture was Jack dropping Roxanne off at her home. After going through them, a sense of gloominess hung over Roxanne.

Even though our photos were taken throughout the night, Jack and I were completely oblivious to the fact. As for the comments below, they could only be described as colorful.

A: Is she that Dr. Jarvis on the list? I knew there was something strange about her. How can someone so young be such a skilled doctor?

B: Just as expected, she's on the list because of her looks! Having said that, Dr. Jarvis is really pretty. If I were in the same position, I would have included her on the list too!

C: What a beautiful couple!

The first comment that doubted her capabilities instantly disheartened Roxanne.

Even though she was expecting it the moment the name list was released, she never imagined it would happen in such a manner.

Due to the exposé, the doubt cast upon her credentials was the most discussed matter.

Finally, she received a call from Jack while she was still surfing Twitter.

It took her a few seconds to regain her senses before answering it.

"I'm sorry. I just saw the news online." Jack was extremely apologetic over the phone. "Don't worry. I'll take responsibility by removing all the fake news."

Despite his reassurances, the frowning Roxanne still had her concerns. Nonetheless, she replied, "Thank you."

After a momentary silence, Jack continued, "About what happened last night, I'll demand an explanation from the Hightower family. Given Jessica's strange behavior, she must definitely have something to do with this."

Surprised by his point, Roxanne hesitated for a few seconds before stopping him. "Let's just let it slide since we don't have any evidence. What matters now is clarifying the rumors online."

Even though Roxanne shared his suspicions, she knew Jessica would unlikely admit to it in the absence of any proof.

Therefore, confronting her was a futile endeavor.

Furthermore, now that the news had exploded, all Roxanne could get from the mastermind was an apology even if she found them. That was of no help to her current predicament.

Over the line, Roxanne's dissuasion prompted Jack to realize his hastiness. Upon calming down and seeing her perspective, he replied in a deep voice, "You're right. I was too consumed by my emotions. Let me think of a way to suppress the controversy first."

After Roxanne hummed in agreement, Jack ended the call quickly.

Watching her phone screen fade to black, Roxanne took a deep breath.

With Jack taking action, she too, couldn't sit idly by and allow the matter to go out of hand.

Chapter 728 Is The Hightower Family Involved

Initially, Roxanne wanted to put out a statement. However, since her Twitter account was mostly used to surf for news, it essentially had no content. Therefore, whatever she had to say would likely not reach anyone.

After further contemplation, she decided to give Colby a call and got him to use the research institute's account to put out her clarification.

Although the account wasn't particularly popular, it was still a much better option than using hers. "What happened?" Colby had gone to the research institute early and only learned of the controversy when Roxanne gave him a call.

When he saw the pictures of Roxanne and Jack interacting with each other, he felt a faint squeeze in his heart. Sighing in resignation, Roxanne clarified, "I can't really give you a good explanation but what happened last night was a misunderstanding. Both of us were not alone at the dinner."

Even though her assurances failed to cheer Colby up, he remained hopeful and persuaded himself to have faith in Roxanne.

After all, if I don't trust her, one can't expect the netizens who are ridiculing her to do the same. Moreover, Roxanne has no reason to lie about the matter.

Holding that thought, the relieved Colby answered in a grim voice, "I understand. I'll put the statement out." Roxanne grunted in acknowledgment before ending the call.

Half an hour later, both Jack's and the research institute's statements were released at almost the same time and quickly became a trending topic.

However, instead of convincing anyone, the response triggered was entirely hostile and filled with skepticism. In fact, on Jack's Twitter account, netizens even began to cast doubt on the Damaris family.

B3232: Why are the Damaris family's selection criteria for the partners so lenient? How can one be included in such an important project or even end up on the name list by pulling some strings? Do you take us for fools?

Love212: Is being pretty all that's needed to be selected? In that case, even I am qualified.

Many similar comments populated the feed, to the extent Jack ended up arguing with the netizens in the comments section.

After skimming through the comments, Roxanne sent Jack a message: Don't worry about me. I'll deal with this myself.

At the other end, the sullen-looking Jack was busy responding to the barrage of insults. Subsequently, he was baffled when he received Roxanne's sudden message. He responded: I was the one who caused this, so how can I sit idly by and do nothing?

Smiling wryly, Roxanne replied: Just let me be the lightning rod of their disparagement. At the rate you're going, the Damaris family will be dragged into the matter. When that happens, I'll be the one to blame.

Upon reading her message, the frowning Jack furrowed went through the comments online.

It was then that he realized his presence had shifted the netizens' focus from Roxanne to the Damaris family.

If he were to continue on his path, the Damaris family's reputation— built over a century—would be ruined.

Cognizant of what was at stake, Jack weighed his options before deciding to remain silent. In spite of that, he still couldn't just sit around and do nothing. Jack: In that case, I'll investigate if the Hightower family was behind this.

Roxanne responded with her agreement.

Meanwhile, when the netizens realized Jack had left, they swarmed toward the research institute's Twitter account and demanded for Roxanne to give an explanation.

Naturally, Colby couldn't tolerate the slander against Roxanne. Faced with their relentless skepticism about her medical skills, he posted a list of all the major projects that the research institute had completed under Roxanne's leadership.

Unfortunately, most of the netizens were laymen who were not bothered about such details.

In fact, even those who could see through the situation had their voices drowned swiftly.

Chapter 729 Silence Is Acquiescence

Meanwhile, Jessica had switched on the morning news early that morning at the Hightower residence, waiting to see Roxanne embarrass herself.

As she had anticipated, Roxanne was condemned all over the internet as soon as the news was reported. However, Jessica had not expected Jack to defend Roxanne, nor did she anticipate that the Damaris family would be dragged down too.

Feeling somewhat guilty over the situation, she hurriedly arranged for people to cause trouble at Roxanne's research institute.

As a result, when Roxanne checked the news once more at noon that day, she saw the footage of a large crowd of reporters and people demanding explanations blocking the entrance of her research institute.

She tensed up when she saw the scene on the screen, and without any hesitation, she immediately got up and rushed to the research institute.

Their target is me. I can't allow this matter to affect the institute's employees. Half an hour later, Roxanne appeared at the entrance of the research institute.

The minute the reporters and the crowd present noticed her, they turned around and rushed toward her. "You must be Ms. Jarvis, right? Do you have anything to say about the criticism on the internet?"

"What exactly is your relationship with Mr. Damaris? Are the rumors on the internet true that you joined the project through connections?"

Roxanne stepped out of the car to find herself surrounded by people, and all she could see were black microphones.

Some people even shoved their microphones to her face and kept leaning toward her.

Despite having prepared herself mentally, Roxanne was still a little overwhelmed by the situation and could only lean her back against the car door to stabilize herself.

"I—"

Just as she was about to speak, a reporter immediately interrupted her, "Other than you, we've heard a lot about every doctor on the list. How would you evaluate your medical skills?"

Since Roxanne was more or less accustomed to the doubt over her medical abilities, she immediately responded, "The Twitter account of our research institute has posted all the medical projects I've participated in during this period. You can check out the account if you have any questions about my medical skills."

She intended to add something after that but was interrupted once more. "Even so, your accomplishments are still much inferior to those of the other doctors on the list. Do you acknowledge that?"

The question brought a frown to Roxanne's face.

Many of those on the list were more experienced than her in the medical field, so she naturally could not deny the reporter's words.

Nonetheless, if she acknowledged it, not only would it mean that she had tacitly admitted that her qualifications were far from enough to work with the Damaris family, but it would also prove that the web rumors were true.

Realizing that it was a trap, Roxanne was unsure of how to respond at that moment.

However, the crowd took her silence as a sign of acquiescence, creating an uproar among them once more.

One after another, questions flooded Roxanne's ears.

Just as she was feeling helpless, there was a sudden commotion outside of the crowd.

The crowd seemed to be attracted to something as they fell silent and looked in the direction of the commotion.

Roxanne had no idea what was happening outside the crowd from where she was standing in the heart of it. She only knew that their attention had shifted away from her, giving her a moment of reprieve to think of a way to deal with it.

“Mr. Farwell?”

Just as she was trying to come up with a solution, she suddenly heard an exclamation of surprise.

Roxanne froze when she heard that, and she could not help but question if her ears were playing tricks on her.

How could a man as busy as Lucian show up here at this time of day?



[Leaving The Country After Divorce Chapter 725](#)

Chapter 725 Why Did You Not Pick Us Up

“What’s wrong?”

Noticing the grim look on her face, Jack frowned and inquired.

However, Roxanne just waved at him before throwing Jessica a glance.

Did Jessica do this on purpose? Why did she choose such a strong wine for dinner?

Nevertheless, when Roxanne didn’t notice anything amiss after drinking it, she wondered if she had been overthinking what was going on.

After downing two glasses of wine, the three of them fell into another awkward silence.

After all, the reason they were gathered was just to hear Jessica’s apology.

Cognizant of the tension, Jessica exchanged pleasantries briefly before getting up to take her leave.

Once she was gone, Jack turned toward Roxanne. “Are you hungry? Do you want to eat someplace else?”

Both of them barely ate and the food was already cold.

Nonetheless, Roxanne, feeling a little woozy, wondered what sort of wine had Jessica ordered. Although she only had a small glass, the after-effects were extremely strong.

In response to Jack’s question, she shook her head with a frown. “It’s fine. I should head back earlier anyway, as the children should be home by now. I can’t let them wait up for me.”

Naturally, Jack didn’t insist and got up to leave with her.

When they went down the stairs upon leaving the restaurant, Roxanne accidentally slipped and almost fell down.

Fortunately, Jack noticed it and turned around to catch her in the nick of time.

“Thank you,” Roxanne murmured before retracting her hand.

Jack flashed a smile. “No problem.”

After they got into the car one after the other, Jack—who didn't drink—decided to drive Roxanne home to not trouble the driver.

On the way home, a black sedan followed them from a safe distance.

With his attention entirely focused on Roxanne, Jack didn't notice the car at all.

As the traffic jam had cleared, it took them less than ten minutes to reach Roxanne's home.

"It's getting late, so forgive me for not inviting you in," Roxanne explained in a cursory tone.

Jack gave her a casual nod. "You should hurry back in. As for Archie and Benny's presents, I'll hand them over the next time I see them."

After acknowledging him with a smile, Roxanne alighted and headed home.

It wasn't until he saw her go back in that Jack drove leisurely back to the Damaris residence.

"Mommy!" The moment Roxanne stepped through the door, the two boys beamed and rushed up to her side.

She tousled their hair with a smile before changing out of her shoes.

Meanwhile, they gave her a puzzled look. "Why didn't you pick us up tonight?"

After the interaction from the day before, the boys and Estella assumed that Roxanne would pick them up as usual.

Thus, the sight of Madilyn surprised them.

While Estella was visibly disappointed, the boys were worried that their mother had a new tiff with their father.

Consequently, Roxanne was baffled to see the children's anxious looks. "I had a last-minute appointment tonight. What's wrong?"

Upon exchanging glances, the boys observed Roxanne for a while. Only after they determined she wasn't lying did relief descend upon them. Smiling gleefully, they replied, "Nothing. We're just curious. That's all."

Roxanne grinned apologetically. “I’m sorry I didn’t inform you ahead of time. Going forward, I’ll try my best to pick you up on time, all right?”

Hearing Roxanne’s promise, there was a glint in the boys’ eyes and they jumped in joy.

Chapter 726 I Cannot Forgive You

The next morning, while Roxanne was having breakfast with the children before sending them to school, the doorbell suddenly rang. The ring caused Roxanne and the boys to exchange glances as the same thought popped into their minds—Lucian and Estella were there.

After all, both of them usually dropped by at that hour. Without a second thought, Roxanne got up and opened the door. She was subsequently greeted by the sight of her best friend looking all anxious.

“Did something happen?” A sinking feeling crept into her heart. The frowning Madilyn stretched her head to look at the children—who were busy eating—before pulling Roxanne out the door.

Cognizant that it was something the children weren’t supposed to know, Roxanne followed the former to the yard. “What’s wrong?”

“Did you see the news in the morning?” Madilyn sounded exceptionally grim. Hearing that, Roxanne shook her head in response as she was clueless.

As Lysa was held back by something at home and couldn’t come to work for the week, she had woken up early in the morning to prepare breakfast and watch the children eat.

Consequently, she didn’t have time to read the morning news at all.

Nevertheless, Roxanne could tell from Madilyn’s expression that something grave had happened.

Knitting her brows, Madilyn didn’t even know how to break the news.

“What on earth happened?” Madilyn’s reaction told Roxanne that it was something related to her. She repeated with a frown, “If you don’t tell me, I’ll go in and read it myself.”

Just when she turned around to go back in, Madilyn grabbed her hand to stop her.

“News of you going on a date late at night with Jack has splashed across the headlines. They accuse both of you of being close and suspect that strings were pulled for you to be included as one of the Damaris family’s partners.”

Madilyn—who greatly resented the news—spoke in a swift but incoherent manner.

In spite of that, Roxanne face darkened, as she had caught the gist of it.

My date with Jack...

The only thing that came to mind was the dinner the night before.

However, there were three of us. How did it end up becoming a date?

In the midst of racking her brain, an image suddenly flashed across her mind.

Last night, Jessica didn’t show up for a long time even though both of us had arrived...

“Whatever it is, you had better not send the boys to school. I’ll take them instead, as I’m worried that you would be swarmed by reporters there. Also, don’t leave home as far as possible,” Madilyn instructed with a solemn expression on her face.

Roxanne was well aware of the gravity of the situation.

Even though she was certain of her innocence, the media wasn’t going to let her off the hook easily.

In addition, Roxanne didn’t want her affairs to burden her children, causing them an unnecessary emotional burden.

With that in mind, she nodded without hesitation before expressing her gratitude. “Thank God you came all the way here to tell me.”

However, Madilyn ranted, “Why are they slandering such a good doctor like you? Once I find out who’s responsible, I’ll definitely give them a piece of my mind!”

While Roxanne was trying to calm Madilyn down with a smile, Jessica’s face emerged again in her mind, for she couldn’t think of anyone else.

However, Roxanne had no clue whether someone else was behind Jessica.

Realizing it was getting late, both of them went back into the house.

As for the boys, their faces drooped in disappointment upon learning that Madilyn was taking them to school.

Since telling them the truth wasn't an option, Roxanne apologized, "I'm sorry. There's just something I need to deal with urgently. Once I'm done, I'll definitely send you to school every day."

Noticing the gloomy look on Roxanne's face, the brothers—in spite of their dejection—acknowledged her promise obediently.

Chapter 727 Suppressing The News

After watching Madilyn leave with the children, Roxanne went upstairs into the study and checked the news on her phone.

The moment she went on Twitter, she saw the top trending topics. Pretty Doctor Pulled Strings To Advance Her Career. Jack Damaris Goes On A Late-night Date With A Pretty Doctor. Jack Damaris' Love Life Exposed...

One by one, the topics were either related to her relationship with Jack or casting doubt on her credentials as a partner in the Damaris family's project.

Just looking at those topics gave Roxanne a headache. Upon randomly clicking on one of them, she saw that it had almost a million views. Jack Damaris dates one of the doctors of the Damaris family's new project. Their suspected relationship was exposed...

Inserted underneath the title were a few blurry photographs. The first one showed Roxanne sitting opposite Jack in the restaurant. Both of them looked like they were chatting, while the table in front of them was filled with food.

The second picture showed them at the staircase of the restaurant entrance. Jack turned around to hold Roxanne's hand and they looked intimate.

Finally, the last picture was Jack dropping Roxanne off at her home. After going through them, a sense of gloominess hung over Roxanne.

Even though our photos were taken throughout the night, Jack and I were completely oblivious to the fact. As for the comments below, they could only be described as colorful.

A: Is she that Dr. Jarvis on the list? I knew there was something strange about her. How can someone so young be such a skilled doctor?

B: Just as expected, she's on the list because of her looks! Having said that, Dr. Jarvis is really pretty. If I were in the same position, I would have included her on the list too!

C: What a beautiful couple!

The first comment that doubted her capabilities instantly disheartened Roxanne.

Even though she was expecting it the moment the name list was released, she never imagined it would happen in such a manner.

Due to the exposé, the doubt cast upon her credentials was the most discussed matter.

Finally, she received a call from Jack while she was still surfing Twitter.

It took her a few seconds to regain her senses before answering it.

"I'm sorry. I just saw the news online." Jack was extremely apologetic over the phone. "Don't worry. I'll take responsibility by removing all the fake news."

Despite his reassurances, the frowning Roxanne still had her concerns. Nonetheless, she replied, "Thank you."

After a momentary silence, Jack continued, "About what happened last night, I'll demand an explanation from the Hightower family. Given Jessica's strange behavior, she must definitely have something to do with this."

Surprised by his point, Roxanne hesitated for a few seconds before stopping him. "Let's just let it slide since we don't have any evidence. What matters now is clarifying the rumors online."

Even though Roxanne shared his suspicions, she knew Jessica would unlikely admit to it in the absence of any proof.

Therefore, confronting her was a futile endeavor.

Furthermore, now that the news had exploded, all Roxanne could get from the mastermind was an apology even if she found them. That was of no help to her current predicament.

Over the line, Roxanne's dissuasion prompted Jack to realize his hastiness. Upon calming down and seeing her perspective, he replied in a deep voice, "You're right. I was too consumed by my emotions. Let me think of a way to suppress the controversy first."

After Roxanne hummed in agreement, Jack ended the call quickly.

Watching her phone screen fade to black, Roxanne took a deep breath.

With Jack taking action, she too, couldn't sit idly by and allow the matter to go out of hand.

Chapter 728 Is The Hightower Family Involved

Initially, Roxanne wanted to put out a statement. However, since her Twitter account was mostly used to surf for news, it essentially had no content. Therefore, whatever she had to say would likely not reach anyone.

After further contemplation, she decided to give Colby a call and got him to use the research institute's account to put out her clarification.

Although the account wasn't particularly popular, it was still a much better option than using hers. "What happened?" Colby had gone to the research institute early and only learned of the controversy when Roxanne gave him a call.

When he saw the pictures of Roxanne and Jack interacting with each other, he felt a faint squeeze in his heart. Sighing in resignation, Roxanne clarified, "I can't really give you a good explanation but what happened last night was a misunderstanding. Both of us were not alone at the dinner."

Even though her assurances failed to cheer Colby up, he remained hopeful and persuaded himself to have faith in Roxanne.

After all, if I don't trust her, one can't expect the netizens who are ridiculing her to do the same. Moreover, Roxanne has no reason to lie about the matter.

Holding that thought, the relieved Colby answered in a grim voice, “I understand. I’ll put the statement out.” Roxanne grunted in acknowledgment before ending the call.

Half an hour later, both Jack’s and the research institute’s statements were released at almost the same time and quickly became a trending topic.

However, instead of convincing anyone, the response triggered was entirely hostile and filled with skepticism. In fact, on Jack’s Twitter account, netizens even began to cast doubt on the Damaris family.

B3232: Why are the Damaris family’s selection criteria for the partners so lenient? How can one be included in such an important project or even end up on the name list by pulling some strings? Do you take us for fools?

Love212: Is being pretty all that’s needed to be selected? In that case, even I am qualified.

Many similar comments populated the feed, to the extent Jack ended up arguing with the netizens in the comments section.

After skimming through the comments, Roxanne sent Jack a message: Don’t worry about me. I’ll deal with this myself.

At the other end, the sullen-looking Jack was busy responding to the barrage of insults. Subsequently, he was baffled when he received Roxanne’s sudden message. He responded: I was the one who caused this, so how can I sit idly by and do nothing?

Smiling wryly, Roxanne replied: Just let me be the lightning rod of their disparagement. At the rate you’re going, the Damaris family will be dragged into the matter. When that happens, I’ll be the one to blame.

Upon reading her message, the frowning Jack furrowed went through the comments online.

It was then that he realized his presence had shifted the netizens’ focus from Roxanne to the Damaris family.

If he were to continue on his path, the Damaris family’s reputation— built over a century—would be ruined.

Cognizant of what was at stake, Jack weighed his options before deciding to remain silent. In spite of that, he still couldn't just sit around and do nothing. Jack: In that case, I'll investigate if the Hightower family was behind this.

Roxanne responded with her agreement.

Meanwhile, when the netizens realized Jack had left, they swarmed toward the research institute's Twitter account and demanded for Roxanne to give an explanation.

Naturally, Colby couldn't tolerate the slander against Roxanne. Faced with their relentless skepticism about her medical skills, he posted a list of all the major projects that the research institute had completed under Roxanne's leadership.

Unfortunately, most of the netizens were laymen who were not bothered about such details.

In fact, even those who could see through the situation had their voices drowned swiftly.

Chapter 729 Silence Is Acquiescence

Meanwhile, Jessica had switched on the morning news early that morning at the Hightower residence, waiting to see Roxanne embarrass herself.

As she had anticipated, Roxanne was condemned all over the internet as soon as the news was reported. However, Jessica had not expected Jack to defend Roxanne, nor did she anticipate that the Damaris family would be dragged down too.

Feeling somewhat guilty over the situation, she hurriedly arranged for people to cause trouble at Roxanne's research institute.

As a result, when Roxanne checked the news once more at noon that day, she saw the footage of a large crowd of reporters and people demanding explanations blocking the entrance of her research institute.

She tensed up when she saw the scene on the screen, and without any hesitation, she immediately got up and rushed to the research institute.

Their target is me. I can't allow this matter to affect the institute's employees. Half an hour later, Roxanne appeared at the entrance of the research institute.

The minute the reporters and the crowd present noticed her, they turned around and rushed toward her. "You must be Ms. Jarvis, right? Do you have anything to say about the criticism on the internet?"

"What exactly is your relationship with Mr. Damaris? Are the rumors on the internet true that you joined the project through connections?"

Roxanne stepped out of the car to find herself surrounded by people, and all she could see were black microphones.

Some people even shoved their microphones to her face and kept leaning toward her.

Despite having prepared herself mentally, Roxanne was still a little overwhelmed by the situation and could only lean her back against the car door to stabilize herself.

"I—"

Just as she was about to speak, a reporter immediately interrupted her, "Other than you, we've heard a lot about every doctor on the list. How would you evaluate your medical skills?"

Since Roxanne was more or less accustomed to the doubt over her medical abilities, she immediately responded, "The Twitter account of our research institute has posted all the medical projects I've participated in during this period. You can check out the account if you have any questions about my medical skills."

She intended to add something after that but was interrupted once more. "Even so, your accomplishments are still much inferior to those of the other doctors on the list. Do you acknowledge that?"

The question brought a frown to Roxanne's face.

Many of those on the list were more experienced than her in the medical field, so she naturally could not deny the reporter's words.

Nonetheless, if she acknowledged it, not only would it mean that she had tacitly admitted that her qualifications were far from enough to work with the Damaris family, but it would also prove that the web rumors were true.

Realizing that it was a trap, Roxanne was unsure of how to respond at that moment.

However, the crowd took her silence as a sign of acquiescence, creating an uproar among them once more.

One after another, questions flooded Roxanne's ears.

Just as she was feeling helpless, there was a sudden commotion outside of the crowd.

The crowd seemed to be attracted to something as they fell silent and looked in the direction of the commotion.

Roxanne had no idea what was happening outside the crowd from where she was standing in the heart of it. She only knew that their attention had shifted away from her, giving her a moment of reprieve to think of a way to deal with it.

“Mr. Farwell?”

Just as she was trying to come up with a solution, she suddenly heard an exclamation of surprise.

Roxanne froze when she heard that, and she could not help but question if her ears were playing tricks on her.

How could a man as busy as Lucian show up here at this time of day?

Chapter 730 What Makes You Say That

As the hubbub got closer, Lucian soon entered Roxanne's field of vision, spotting a stern expression. Roxanne stared at the man before her in astonishment. “Why are you here?”

His formal outfit suggested that he was just in a meeting, yet his tie appeared loose as though it had been tugged slightly. Upon hearing her query, Lucian's expression turned icy. “If you can come, why can't I?”

After saying that, he shot her a look while suppressing his anger before turning to face the reporters behind him, his cold eyes swept across their faces. “If you have any questions, I can answer on her behalf.”

The crowd shuddered at his gaze, and everyone turned to look at one another. No one dared to say a word for some time. Given Lucian’s status, if they said something wrong that day, they might lose their jobs.

No one wanted to face that kind of repercussion. Lucian frowned and grabbed the wrist of the woman behind him before glancing at the crowd in front of him. “If there are no questions, I’m taking her away.”

Without waiting for a reaction, he held Roxanne’s hand and pulled her out of the crowd. The previously clamoring crowd fell silent as the two passed by and was even compelled by Lucian’s powerful aura to make way for them.

Coming out of the crowd, Roxanne had not had time to breathe a sigh of relief when she looked at the person in front of her, and her anxiety only increased further.

“Get in.” Lucian brought her all the way to his car and said in a terrifyingly chilly voice as he opened the passenger door.

Roxanne pursed her lips slightly but stood still. “I drove here, so I can just drive myself back in a bit.”

Although flustered, she still kept her composure.

The rumors about Jack and me haven’t been clarified and will only become more outrageous if I get into Lucian’s car in front of those reporters.

Her rejection further enraged Lucian.

Earlier that day, as soon as he came out of the conference room, he was stopped by Cayden, who stammered out the news about Roxanne and Jack to him.

Lucian already had a suspicion about the two’s relationship, so when he saw the photos circulating on the internet, he merely felt irony.

Yet, the next moment, he saw the scene where Roxanne appeared at the entrance of the research institute and was surrounded by people.

Even though rage surged up within him, he still rushed over.

Even so, this woman repeatedly rejects my kindness!

Roxanne noticed the man's increasingly cold expression and softened her voice a little. "I don't want to be misunderstood anymore. Go now. Otherwise, even you will be dragged into this mess."

Upon hearing the tone of her voice, a look of suspicion flashed in Lucian's eyes before he lifted his gaze to glance at the crowd not far away.

Everyone was blatantly staring at them, but when they saw him looking over, they quickly withdrew their gazes and dispersed as though nothing had happened.

Only then did Lucian shift his gaze to the woman before him and ask with a frown, "What makes you say that?"

Roxanne looked up to meet his gaze and noticed that the sense of trust was more prevalent despite the doubt in his eyes.

She knew very well what his suspicions were.

While everyone else was suspicious of the reason she could participate in the project, he merely doubted her relationship with Jack.

At the thought, other than the bitterness within her, Roxanne also found it a little funny that even after her many explanations, Lucian persisted in his thoughts about her relationship with Jack.

Even though he did help me, I bet he's still irritated by those photos.



[Leaving The Country After Divorce Chapter 726](#)

Chapter 726 I Cannot Forgive You

The next morning, while Roxanne was having breakfast with the children before sending them to school, the doorbell suddenly rang. The ring caused Roxanne and the boys to exchange glances as the same thought popped into their minds—Lucian and Estella were there.

After all, both of them usually dropped by at that hour. Without a second thought, Roxanne got up and opened the door. She was subsequently greeted by the sight of her best friend looking all anxious.

“Did something happen?” A sinking feeling crept into her heart. The frowning Madilyn stretched her head to look at the children—who were busy eating—before pulling Roxanne out the door.

Cognizant that it was something the children weren’t supposed to know, Roxanne followed the former to the yard. “What’s wrong?”

“Did you see the news in the morning?” Madilyn sounded exceptionally grim. Hearing that, Roxanne shook her head in response as she was clueless.

As Lysa was held back by something at home and couldn’t come to work for the week, she had woken up early in the morning to prepare breakfast and watch the children eat.

Consequently, she didn’t have time to read the morning news at all.

Nevertheless, Roxanne could tell from Madilyn’s expression that something grave had happened.

Knitting her brows, Madilyn didn’t even know how to break the news.

“What on earth happened?” Madilyn’s reaction told Roxanne that it was something related to her. She repeated with a frown, “If you don’t tell me, I’ll go in and read it myself.”

Just when she turned around to go back in, Madilyn grabbed her hand to stop her.

“News of you going on a date late at night with Jack has splashed across the headlines. They accuse both of you of being close and suspect that strings were pulled for you to be included as one of the Damaris family’s partners.”

Madilyn—who greatly resented the news—spoke in a swift but incoherent manner.

In spite of that, Roxanne face darkened, as she had caught the gist of it.

My date with Jack...

The only thing that came to mind was the dinner the night before.

However, there were three of us. How did it end up becoming a date?

In the midst of racking her brain, an image suddenly flashed across her mind.

Last night, Jessica didn't show up for a long time even though both of us had arrived...

"Whatever it is, you had better not send the boys to school. I'll take them instead, as I'm worried that you would be swarmed by reporters there. Also, don't leave home as far as possible," Madilyn instructed with a solemn expression on her face.

Roxanne was well aware of the gravity of the situation.

Even though she was certain of her innocence, the media wasn't going to let her off the hook easily.

In addition, Roxanne didn't want her affairs to burden her children, causing them an unnecessary emotional burden.

With that in mind, she nodded without hesitation before expressing her gratitude. "Thank God you came all the way here to tell me."

However, Madilyn ranted, "Why are they slandering such a good doctor like you? Once I find out who's responsible, I'll definitely give them a piece of my mind!"

While Roxanne was trying to calm Madilyn down with a smile, Jessica's face emerged again in her mind, for she couldn't think of anyone else.

However, Roxanne had no clue whether someone else was behind Jessica.

Realizing it was getting late, both of them went back into the house.

As for the boys, their faces drooped in disappointment upon learning that Madilyn was taking them to school.

Since telling them the truth wasn't an option, Roxanne apologized, "I'm sorry. There's just something I need to deal with urgently. Once I'm done, I'll definitely send you to school every day."

Noticing the gloomy look on Roxanne's face, the brothers—in spite of their dejection—acknowledged her promise obediently.

Chapter 727 Suppressing The News

After watching Madilyn leave with the children, Roxanne went upstairs into the study and checked the news on her phone.

The moment she went on Twitter, she saw the top trending topics. Pretty Doctor Pulled Strings To Advance Her Career. Jack Damaris Goes On A Late-night Date With A Pretty Doctor. Jack Damaris' Love Life Exposed...

One by one, the topics were either related to her relationship with Jack or casting doubt on her credentials as a partner in the Damaris family's project.

Just looking at those topics gave Roxanne a headache. Upon randomly clicking on one of them, she saw that it had almost a million views. Jack Damaris dates one of the doctors of the Damaris family's new project. Their suspected relationship was exposed...

Inserted underneath the title were a few blurry photographs. The first one showed Roxanne sitting opposite Jack in the restaurant. Both of them looked like they were chatting, while the table in front of them was filled with food.

The second picture showed them at the staircase of the restaurant entrance. Jack turned around to hold Roxanne's hand and they looked intimate.

Finally, the last picture was Jack dropping Roxanne off at her home. After going through them, a sense of gloominess hung over Roxanne.

Even though our photos were taken throughout the night, Jack and I were completely oblivious to the fact. As for the comments below, they could only be described as colorful.

A: Is she that Dr. Jarvis on the list? I knew there was something strange about her. How can someone so young be such a skilled doctor?

B: Just as expected, she's on the list because of her looks! Having said that, Dr. Jarvis is really pretty. If I were in the same position, I would have included her on the list too!

C: What a beautiful couple!

The first comment that doubted her capabilities instantly disheartened Roxanne.

Even though she was expecting it the moment the name list was released, she never imagined it would happen in such a manner.

Due to the exposé, the doubt cast upon her credentials was the most discussed matter.

Finally, she received a call from Jack while she was still surfing Twitter.

It took her a few seconds to regain her senses before answering it.

“I’m sorry. I just saw the news online.” Jack was extremely apologetic over the phone. “Don’t worry. I’ll take responsibility by removing all the fake news.”

Despite his reassurances, the frowning Roxanne still had her concerns. Nonetheless, she replied, “Thank you.”

After a momentary silence, Jack continued, “About what happened last night, I’ll demand an explanation from the Hightower family. Given Jessica’s strange behavior, she must definitely have something to do with this.”

Surprised by his point, Roxanne hesitated for a few seconds before stopping him. “Let’s just let it slide since we don’t have any evidence. What matters now is clarifying the rumors online.”

Even though Roxanne shared his suspicions, she knew Jessica would unlikely admit to it in the absence of any proof.

Therefore, confronting her was a futile endeavor.

Furthermore, now that the news had exploded, all Roxanne could get from the mastermind was an apology even if she found them. That was of no help to her current predicament.

Over the line, Roxanne’s dissuasion prompted Jack to realize his hastiness. Upon calming down and seeing her perspective, he replied in a deep voice, “You’re right. I was too consumed by my emotions. Let me think of a way to suppress the controversy first.”

After Roxanne hummed in agreement, Jack ended the call quickly.

Watching her phone screen fade to black, Roxanne took a deep breath.

With Jack taking action, she too, couldn't sit idly by and allow the matter to go out of hand.

Chapter 728 Is The Hightower Family Involved

Initially, Roxanne wanted to put out a statement. However, since her Twitter account was mostly used to surf for news, it essentially had no content. Therefore, whatever she had to say would likely not reach anyone.

After further contemplation, she decided to give Colby a call and got him to use the research institute's account to put out her clarification.

Although the account wasn't particularly popular, it was still a much better option than using hers. "What happened?" Colby had gone to the research institute early and only learned of the controversy when Roxanne gave him a call.

When he saw the pictures of Roxanne and Jack interacting with each other, he felt a faint squeeze in his heart. Sighing in resignation, Roxanne clarified, "I can't really give you a good explanation but what happened last night was a misunderstanding. Both of us were not alone at the dinner."

Even though her assurances failed to cheer Colby up, he remained hopeful and persuaded himself to have faith in Roxanne.

After all, if I don't trust her, one can't expect the netizens who are ridiculing her to do the same. Moreover, Roxanne has no reason to lie about the matter.

Holding that thought, the relieved Colby answered in a grim voice, "I understand. I'll put the statement out." Roxanne grunted in acknowledgment before ending the call.

Half an hour later, both Jack's and the research institute's statements were released at almost the same time and quickly became a trending topic.

However, instead of convincing anyone, the response triggered was entirely hostile and filled with skepticism. In fact, on Jack's Twitter account, netizens even began to cast doubt on the Damaris family.

B3232: Why are the Damaris family's selection criteria for the partners so lenient? How can one be included in such an important project or even end up on the name list by pulling some strings? Do you take us for fools?

Love212: Is being pretty all that's needed to be selected? In that case, even I am qualified.

Many similar comments populated the feed, to the extent Jack ended up arguing with the netizens in the comments section.

After skimming through the comments, Roxanne sent Jack a message: Don't worry about me. I'll deal with this myself.

At the other end, the sullen-looking Jack was busy responding to the barrage of insults. Subsequently, he was baffled when he received Roxanne's sudden message. He responded: I was the one who caused this, so how can I sit idly by and do nothing?

Smiling wryly, Roxanne replied: Just let me be the lightning rod of their disparagement. At the rate you're going, the Damaris family will be dragged into the matter. When that happens, I'll be the one to blame.

Upon reading her message, the frowning Jack furrowed went through the comments online.

It was then that he realized his presence had shifted the netizens' focus from Roxanne to the Damaris family.

If he were to continue on his path, the Damaris family's reputation—built over a century—would be ruined.

Cognizant of what was at stake, Jack weighed his options before deciding to remain silent. In spite of that, he still couldn't just sit around and do nothing. Jack: In that case, I'll investigate if the Hightower family was behind this.

Roxanne responded with her agreement.

Meanwhile, when the netizens realized Jack had left, they swarmed toward the research institute's Twitter account and demanded for Roxanne to give an explanation.

Naturally, Colby couldn't tolerate the slander against Roxanne. Faced with their relentless skepticism about her medical skills, he posted a list of all the major projects that the research institute had completed under Roxanne's leadership.

Unfortunately, most of the netizens were laymen who were not bothered about such details.

In fact, even those who could see through the situation had their voices drowned swiftly.

Chapter 729 Silence Is Acquiescence

Meanwhile, Jessica had switched on the morning news early that morning at the Hightower residence, waiting to see Roxanne embarrass herself.

As she had anticipated, Roxanne was condemned all over the internet as soon as the news was reported. However, Jessica had not expected Jack to defend Roxanne, nor did she anticipate that the Damaris family would be dragged down too.

Feeling somewhat guilty over the situation, she hurriedly arranged for people to cause trouble at Roxanne's research institute.

As a result, when Roxanne checked the news once more at noon that day, she saw the footage of a large crowd of reporters and people demanding explanations blocking the entrance of her research institute.

She tensed up when she saw the scene on the screen, and without any hesitation, she immediately got up and rushed to the research institute.

Their target is me. I can't allow this matter to affect the institute's employees. Half an hour later, Roxanne appeared at the entrance of the research institute.

The minute the reporters and the crowd present noticed her, they turned around and rushed toward her. "You must be Ms. Jarvis, right? Do you have anything to say about the criticism on the internet?"

"What exactly is your relationship with Mr. Damaris? Are the rumors on the internet true that you joined the project through connections?"

Roxanne stepped out of the car to find herself surrounded by people, and all she could see were black microphones.

Some people even shoved their microphones to her face and kept leaning toward her.

Despite having prepared herself mentally, Roxanne was still a little overwhelmed by the situation and could only lean her back against the car door to stabilize herself.

“I—”

Just as she was about to speak, a reporter immediately interrupted her, “Other than you, we’ve heard a lot about every doctor on the list. How would you evaluate your medical skills?”

Since Roxanne was more or less accustomed to the doubt over her medical abilities, she immediately responded, “The Twitter account of our research institute has posted all the medical projects I’ve participated in during this period. You can check out the account if you have any questions about my medical skills.”

She intended to add something after that but was interrupted once more. “Even so, your accomplishments are still much inferior to those of the other doctors on the list. Do you acknowledge that?”

The question brought a frown to Roxanne’s face.

Many of those on the list were more experienced than her in the medical field, so she naturally could not deny the reporter’s words.

Nonetheless, if she acknowledged it, not only would it mean that she had tacitly admitted that her qualifications were far from enough to work with the Damaris family, but it would also prove that the web rumors were true.

Realizing that it was a trap, Roxanne was unsure of how to respond at that moment.

However, the crowd took her silence as a sign of acquiescence, creating an uproar among them once more.

One after another, questions flooded Roxanne’s ears.

Just as she was feeling helpless, there was a sudden commotion outside of the crowd.

The crowd seemed to be attracted to something as they fell silent and looked in the direction of the commotion.

Roxanne had no idea what was happening outside the crowd from where she was standing in the heart of it. She only knew that their attention had shifted away from her, giving her a moment of reprieve to think of a way to deal with it.

“Mr. Farwell?”

Just as she was trying to come up with a solution, she suddenly heard an exclamation of surprise.

Roxanne froze when she heard that, and she could not help but question if her ears were playing tricks on her.

How could a man as busy as Lucian show up here at this time of day?

Chapter 730 What Makes You Say That

As the hubbub got closer, Lucian soon entered Roxanne’s field of vision, spotting a stern expression. Roxanne stared at the man before her in astonishment. “Why are you here?”

His formal outfit suggested that he was just in a meeting, yet his tie appeared loose as though it had been tugged slightly. Upon hearing her query, Lucian’s expression turned icy. “If you can come, why can’t I?”

After saying that, he shot her a look while suppressing his anger before turning to face the reporters behind him, his cold eyes swept across their faces. “If you have any questions, I can answer on her behalf.”

The crowd shuddered at his gaze, and everyone turned to look at one another. No one dared to say a word for some time. Given Lucian’s status, if they said something wrong that day, they might lose their jobs.

No one wanted to face that kind of repercussion. Lucian frowned and grabbed the wrist of the woman behind him before glancing at the crowd in front of him. “If there are no questions, I’m taking her away.”

Without waiting for a reaction, he held Roxanne’s hand and pulled her out of the crowd. The previously clamoring crowd fell silent as the two passed by and was even compelled by Lucian’s powerful aura to make way for them.

Coming out of the crowd, Roxanne had not had time to breathe a sigh of relief when she looked at the person in front of her, and her anxiety only increased further.

“Get in.” Lucian brought her all the way to his car and said in a terrifyingly chilly voice as he opened the passenger door.

Roxanne pursed her lips slightly but stood still. “I drove here, so I can just drive myself back in a bit.”

Although flustered, she still kept her composure.

The rumors about Jack and me haven’t been clarified and will only become more outrageous if I get into Lucian’s car in front of those reporters.

Her rejection further enraged Lucian.

Earlier that day, as soon as he came out of the conference room, he was stopped by Cayden, who stammered out the news about Roxanne and Jack to him.

Lucian already had a suspicion about the two’s relationship, so when he saw the photos circulating on the internet, he merely felt irony.

Yet, the next moment, he saw the scene where Roxanne appeared at the entrance of the research institute and was surrounded by people.

Even though rage surged up within him, he still rushed over.

Even so, this woman repeatedly rejects my kindness!

Roxanne noticed the man’s increasingly cold expression and softened her voice a little. “I don’t want to be misunderstood anymore. Go now. Otherwise, even you will be dragged into this mess.”

Upon hearing the tone of her voice, a look of suspicion flashed in Lucian’s eyes before he lifted his gaze to glance at the crowd not far away.

Everyone was blatantly staring at them, but when they saw him looking over, they quickly withdrew their gazes and dispersed as though nothing had happened.

Only then did Lucian shift his gaze to the woman before him and ask with a frown, “What makes you say that?”

Roxanne looked up to meet his gaze and noticed that the sense of trust was more prevalent despite the doubt in his eyes.

She knew very well what his suspicions were.

While everyone else was suspicious of the reason she could participate in the project, he merely doubted her relationship with Jack.

At the thought, other than the bitterness within her, Roxanne also found it a little funny that even after her many explanations, Lucian persisted in his thoughts about her relationship with Jack.

Even though he did help me, I bet he's still irritated by those photos.

Chapter 731 How To Clarify

Roxanne looked at the man before her. At the thought that he came to help her out of the situation despite being angry, she was moved and softened her expression as she briefly and concisely told him what had happened the day before.

“Ms. Hightower told Jack to get in touch with me, saying that she wanted to apologize to me in person. I went for the appointment as I couldn't refuse her request. I never expected to be photographed then. The photo of us holding hands was Jack supporting me because I nearly fell down the stairs. I knew I'd be drinking during the meal so I didn't drive. Jack drove me there instead as we were heading the same way, and he sent me back afterward. He only dropped me at the entrance and didn't even get out of the car.”

She knew what explanation the man wanted from her, so she picked the part he wanted to hear in the hope that it would calm him down and he would not put her in a difficult spot before the media.

Lucian's eyes darkened when he heard her explanation. The suspicion in his eyes gradually faded alongside the anger within him, but he quickly discovered something was off.

“If Jessica went to apologize to you, why are you and Jack the only two people in the photo? Where was she?”

Roxanne's tone was hesitant when she replied with a slight frown, “Ms. Hightower told us to eat first as she was stuck in traffic. That photo was taken while we were waiting for her.”

A cold glint flashed across Lucian's eyes as he nodded.

“Today's news is truly just a misunderstanding. You don't need to be angry about it, Mr. Farwell, so go back quickly,” Roxanne urged with furrowed brows when she noticed someone filming in the corner.

Lucian followed her gaze and narrowed his eyes dangerously when he saw the camera in the corner.

Seeing that, the reporter holding it trembled, got up in fear, and ran away.

Only then did Lucian turn around. "Can you get in the car now, Ms. Jarvis?" he asked indifferently.

Roxanne did not expect him to be so insistent and felt a little helpless. "There are enough people involved in this matter. I don't want it to affect people who have nothing to do with it."

As her words fell, she saw the man's eyes darkening and tensed up involuntarily.

"Such small trouble can't affect me." Lucian grabbed her wrist and led her in the direction of the car. "Nor do I want to be just an irrelevant person in your eyes."

Roxanne felt her heart skip a beat when she heard that, and by the time she reacted, he had already sat her down in his car.

Outside the car window, many reporters merely looked over dumbfoundedly, holding their cameras up but not daring to take any photos.

As the car slowly drove away from the entrance of the research institute, those reporters and the crowd were also left far behind.

The noise surrounding Roxanne also faded into silence.

She could not help but stare blankly at Lucian's impassive profile, and she unknowingly calmed down.

Neither of them uttered a single word throughout the car ride.

Roxanne did not even ask Lucian where he was taking her, merely contemplating how she was going to clarify the rumors later with narrowed eyes.

By the time she snapped back to reality, they had arrived at her house.

"Rest well at home these two days. I'll handle the chaos online and take charge of picking up Archie and Benny," Lucian said solemnly.

Roxanne, however, appeared a little hesitant when she heard his words. "It's fine. I'll get a friend to pick them up."

"What if the reporters find the kindergarten?" Lucian shot down her idea with a frown. "Can your friend handle it?"

The thought of the reporters heckling her children caused a sinking feeling to creep into Roxanne's heart. In the end, she agreed, "In that case... I'll leave them in your care, Mr. Farwell."

Chapter 732 Troubling Alfred

In the evening, after kindergarten class was over, Archie and Benny stared at their father standing before them in confusion.

"Your mommy has something to do, so I'll be in charge of sending you to school for the next few days," Lucian explained in a deep voice.

The boys exchanged glances upon hearing his words but did not give it much

thought. After all, from their perspective, whichever of their parents doing that was the same.

The fact that Mommy is leaving the matter of sending us to school to Daddy means their relationship is developing in a good direction.

As that thought came into their minds, Archie and Benny were secretly pleased as they obediently followed Lucian into the car.

Estella was also on cloud nine.

If Daddy is responsible for taking Archie and Benny to school these few days, it means I get to visit Ms. Jarvis' home every day!

All three kids were in a good mood and chattered away in the back seat.

Unlike them, Lucian was thinking of Roxanne with a solemn look.

It's obvious that Jessica was behind this incident. It seems that the lesson I gave to the Hightower family last time wasn't good enough, so she still has the energy to come out and cause trouble!

Lucian stopped the car once they arrived at Roxanne's house and brought the three children into the mansion.

At that moment, Roxanne was preparing dinner in the kitchen while thinking about everything that had happened earlier that day.

She was so distracted that she did not notice that the children had returned.

"Mommy!" The kids did not think much of it, merely running excitedly to the kitchen once they had changed their shoes.

Only then did Roxanne snap back to her senses and look down at the children with a smile.

Benny hugged his mother's thigh innocently. "Mommy, why did Mr. Farwell pick us up? Where's Aunt Madilyn?"

Hearing that, Roxanne subconsciously lifted her gaze to look at the man in the living room.

She did not expect the children to ask such a question, so she did not prepare an explanation.

Similarly caught off guard by the question, Lucian looked at Benny with a frown.

After a long while, Roxanne finally came up with a random excuse. "Aunt Madilyn has to work overtime for the next two days and is very busy."

Benny noticed his mother was acting strangely, but he figured that she was probably too shy to tell them about her relationship progress with their father, so he simply nodded understandingly. "All right then. We'll be good and listen to Mr. Farwell."

Seeing that the boy did not ask any further questions, Roxanne breathed a sigh of relief and absentmindedly patted the children's heads.

Meanwhile, in the living room, Lucian noticed that the children were surrounding Roxanne, so he got up, went to the balcony, and called Jonathan.

On the other side, Jonathan had belatedly learned the news about Roxanne and was preparing to contact Lucian.

Hence, he immediately picked up the call and, without waiting for Lucian to speak, said, “I already learned about Dr. Jarvis’ matter. I think I should be of help.”

Lucian smiled when he heard that. “I also contacted you for this matter.”

At present, the netizens were mostly questioning whether Roxanne was qualified enough to join the Damaris family’s project and how she managed to join it.

No one knew the answer to that question better than Alfred.

If the old man willingly clarified in her defense, the discussions would naturally die down.

However, the Queen family would be dragged into the farce as a consequence.

“Don’t worry. Dr. Jarvis’ matter is your matter, and your matter is mine as well.

My family will definitely help you out. After all, only we can help,” Jonathan replied with conviction.

Lucian hummed in response. “Indeed. This matter can only die down with Old Mr. Queen’s intervention. Sorry to trouble him, and I’ll pay a visit to thank him next time.”

[Leaving The Country After Divorce Chapter 727](#)

Chapter 727 Suppressing The News

After watching Madilyn leave with the children, Roxanne went upstairs into the study and checked the news on her phone.

The moment she went on Twitter, she saw the top trending topics. Pretty Doctor Pulled Strings To Advance Her Career. Jack Damaris Goes On A Late-night Date With A Pretty Doctor. Jack Damaris’ Love Life Exposed...

One by one, the topics were either related to her relationship with Jack or casting doubt on her credentials as a partner in the Damaris family’s project.

Just looking at those topics gave Roxanne a headache. Upon randomly clicking on one of them, she saw that it had almost a million views. Jack Damaris dates one of the doctors of the Damaris family’s new project. Their suspected relationship was exposed...

Inserted underneath the title were a few blurry photographs. The first one showed Roxanne sitting opposite Jack in the restaurant. Both of them looked like they were chatting, while the table in front of them was filled with food.

The second picture showed them at the staircase of the restaurant entrance. Jack turned around to hold Roxanne's hand and they looked intimate.

Finally, the last picture was Jack dropping Roxanne off at her home. After going through them, a sense of gloominess hung over Roxanne.

Even though our photos were taken throughout the night, Jack and I were completely oblivious to the fact. As for the comments below, they could only be described as colorful.

A: Is she that Dr. Jarvis on the list? I knew there was something strange about her. How can someone so young be such a skilled doctor?

B: Just as expected, she's on the list because of her looks! Having said that, Dr. Jarvis is really pretty. If I were in the same position, I would have included her on the list too!

C: What a beautiful couple!

The first comment that doubted her capabilities instantly disheartened Roxanne.

Even though she was expecting it the moment the name list was released, she never imagined it would happen in such a manner.

Due to the exposé, the doubt cast upon her credentials was the most discussed matter.

Finally, she received a call from Jack while she was still surfing Twitter.

It took her a few seconds to regain her senses before answering it.

"I'm sorry. I just saw the news online." Jack was extremely apologetic over the phone. "Don't worry. I'll take responsibility by removing all the fake news."

Despite his reassurances, the frowning Roxanne still had her concerns. Nonetheless, she replied, "Thank you."

After a momentary silence, Jack continued, “About what happened last night, I’ll demand an explanation from the Hightower family. Given Jessica’s strange behavior, she must definitely have something to do with this.”

Surprised by his point, Roxanne hesitated for a few seconds before stopping him. “Let’s just let it slide since we don’t have any evidence. What matters now is clarifying the rumors online.”

Even though Roxanne shared his suspicions, she knew Jessica would unlikely admit to it in the absence of any proof.

Therefore, confronting her was a futile endeavor.

Furthermore, now that the news had exploded, all Roxanne could get from the mastermind was an apology even if she found them. That was of no help to her current predicament.

Over the line, Roxanne’s dissuasion prompted Jack to realize his hastiness. Upon calming down and seeing her perspective, he replied in a deep voice, “You’re right. I was too consumed by my emotions. Let me think of a way to suppress the controversy first.”

After Roxanne hummed in agreement, Jack ended the call quickly.

Watching her phone screen fade to black, Roxanne took a deep breath.

With Jack taking action, she too, couldn’t sit idly by and allow the matter to go out of hand.

Chapter 728 Is The Hightower Family Involved

Initially, Roxanne wanted to put out a statement. However, since her Twitter account was mostly used to surf for news, it essentially had no content. Therefore, whatever she had to say would likely not reach anyone.

After further contemplation, she decided to give Colby a call and got him to use the research institute’s account to put out her clarification.

Although the account wasn’t particularly popular, it was still a much better option than using hers. “What happened?” Colby had gone to the research institute early and only learned of the controversy when Roxanne gave him a call.

When he saw the pictures of Roxanne and Jack interacting with each other, he felt a faint squeeze in his heart. Sighing in resignation, Roxanne clarified, “I can’t really give you a good explanation but what happened last night was a misunderstanding. Both of us were not alone at the dinner.”

Even though her assurances failed to cheer Colby up, he remained hopeful and persuaded himself to have faith in Roxanne.

After all, if I don’t trust her, one can’t expect the netizens who are ridiculing her to do the same. Moreover, Roxanne has no reason to lie about the matter.

Holding that thought, the relieved Colby answered in a grim voice, “I understand. I’ll put the statement out.” Roxanne grunted in acknowledgment before ending the call.

Half an hour later, both Jack’s and the research institute’s statements were released at almost the same time and quickly became a trending topic.

However, instead of convincing anyone, the response triggered was entirely hostile and filled with skepticism. In fact, on Jack’s Twitter account, netizens even began to cast doubt on the Damaris family.

B3232: Why are the Damaris family’s selection criteria for the partners so lenient? How can one be included in such an important project or even end up on the name list by pulling some strings? Do you take us for fools?

Love212: Is being pretty all that’s needed to be selected? In that case, even I am qualified.

Many similar comments populated the feed, to the extent Jack ended up arguing with the netizens in the comments section.

After skimming through the comments, Roxanne sent Jack a message: Don’t worry about me. I’ll deal with this myself.

At the other end, the sullen-looking Jack was busy responding to the barrage of insults. Subsequently, he was baffled when he received Roxanne’s sudden message. He responded: I was the one who caused this, so how can I sit idly by and do nothing?

Smiling wryly, Roxanne replied: Just let me be the lightning rod of their disparagement. At the rate you're going, the Damaris family will be dragged into the matter. When that happens, I'll be the one to blame.

Upon reading her message, the frowning Jack furrowed went through the comments online.

It was then that he realized his presence had shifted the netizens' focus from Roxanne to the Damaris family.

If he were to continue on his path, the Damaris family's reputation— built over a century—would be ruined.

Cognizant of what was at stake, Jack weighed his options before deciding to remain silent. In spite of that, he still couldn't just sit around and do nothing. Jack: In that case, I'll investigate if the Hightower family was behind this.

Roxanne responded with her agreement.

Meanwhile, when the netizens realized Jack had left, they swarmed toward the research institute's Twitter account and demanded for Roxanne to give an explanation.

Naturally, Colby couldn't tolerate the slander against Roxanne. Faced with their relentless skepticism about her medical skills, he posted a list of all the major projects that the research institute had completed under Roxanne's leadership.

Unfortunately, most of the netizens were laymen who were not bothered about such details.

In fact, even those who could see through the situation had their voices drowned swiftly.

Chapter 729 Silence Is Acquiescence

Meanwhile, Jessica had switched on the morning news early that morning at the Hightower residence, waiting to see Roxanne embarrass herself.

As she had anticipated, Roxanne was condemned all over the internet as soon as the news was reported. However, Jessica had not expected Jack to defend

Roxanne, nor did she anticipate that the Damaris family would be dragged down too.

Feeling somewhat guilty over the situation, she hurriedly arranged for people to cause trouble at Roxanne's research institute.

As a result, when Roxanne checked the news once more at noon that day, she saw the footage of a large crowd of reporters and people demanding explanations blocking the entrance of her research institute.

She tensed up when she saw the scene on the screen, and without any hesitation, she immediately got up and rushed to the research institute.

Their target is me. I can't allow this matter to affect the institute's employees. Half an hour later, Roxanne appeared at the entrance of the research institute.

The minute the reporters and the crowd present noticed her, they turned around and rushed toward her. "You must be Ms. Jarvis, right? Do you have anything to say about the criticism on the internet?"

"What exactly is your relationship with Mr. Damaris? Are the rumors on the internet true that you joined the project through connections?"

Roxanne stepped out of the car to find herself surrounded by people, and all she could see were black microphones.

Some people even shoved their microphones to her face and kept leaning toward her.

Despite having prepared herself mentally, Roxanne was still a little overwhelmed by the situation and could only lean her back against the car door to stabilize herself.

"I—"

Just as she was about to speak, a reporter immediately interrupted her, "Other than you, we've heard a lot about every doctor on the list. How would you evaluate your medical skills?"

Since Roxanne was more or less accustomed to the doubt over her medical abilities, she immediately responded, "The Twitter account of our research institute

has posted all the medical projects I've participated in during this period. You can check out the account if you have any questions about my medical skills.”

She intended to add something after that but was interrupted once more. “Even so, your accomplishments are still much inferior to those of the other doctors on the list. Do you acknowledge that?”

The question brought a frown to Roxanne's face.

Many of those on the list were more experienced than her in the medical field, so she naturally could not deny the reporter's words.

Nonetheless, if she acknowledged it, not only would it mean that she had tacitly admitted that her qualifications were far from enough to work with the Damaris family, but it would also prove that the web rumors were true.

Realizing that it was a trap, Roxanne was unsure of how to respond at that moment.

However, the crowd took her silence as a sign of acquiescence, creating an uproar among them once more.

One after another, questions flooded Roxanne's ears.

Just as she was feeling helpless, there was a sudden commotion outside of the crowd.

The crowd seemed to be attracted to something as they fell silent and looked in the direction of the commotion.

Roxanne had no idea what was happening outside the crowd from where she was standing in the heart of it. She only knew that their attention had shifted away from her, giving her a moment of reprieve to think of a way to deal with it.

“Mr. Farwell?”

Just as she was trying to come up with a solution, she suddenly heard an exclamation of surprise.

Roxanne froze when she heard that, and she could not help but question if her ears were playing tricks on her.

How could a man as busy as Lucian show up here at this time of day?

Chapter 730 What Makes You Say That

As the hubbub got closer, Lucian soon entered Roxanne's field of vision, spotting a stern expression. Roxanne stared at the man before her in astonishment. "Why are you here?"

His formal outfit suggested that he was just in a meeting, yet his tie appeared loose as though it had been tugged slightly. Upon hearing her query, Lucian's expression turned icy. "If you can come, why can't I?"

After saying that, he shot her a look while suppressing his anger before turning to face the reporters behind him, his cold eyes swept across their faces. "If you have any questions, I can answer on her behalf."

The crowd shuddered at his gaze, and everyone turned to look at one another. No one dared to say a word for some time. Given Lucian's status, if they said something wrong that day, they might lose their jobs.

No one wanted to face that kind of repercussion. Lucian frowned and grabbed the wrist of the woman behind him before glancing at the crowd in front of him. "If there are no questions, I'm taking her away."

Without waiting for a reaction, he held Roxanne's hand and pulled her out of the crowd. The previously clamoring crowd fell silent as the two passed by and was even compelled by Lucian's powerful aura to make way for them.

Coming out of the crowd, Roxanne had not had time to breathe a sigh of relief when she looked at the person in front of her, and her anxiety only increased further.

"Get in." Lucian brought her all the way to his car and said in a terrifyingly chilly voice as he opened the passenger door.

Roxanne pursed her lips slightly but stood still. "I drove here, so I can just drive myself back in a bit."

Although flustered, she still kept her composure.

The rumors about Jack and me haven't been clarified and will only become more outrageous if I get into Lucian's car in front of those reporters.

Her rejection further enraged Lucian.

Earlier that day, as soon as he came out of the conference room, he was stopped by Cayden, who stammered out the news about Roxanne and Jack to him.

Lucian already had a suspicion about the two's relationship, so when he saw the photos circulating on the internet, he merely felt irony.

Yet, the next moment, he saw the scene where Roxanne appeared at the entrance of the research institute and was surrounded by people.

Even though rage surged up within him, he still rushed over.

Even so, this woman repeatedly rejects my kindness!

Roxanne noticed the man's increasingly cold expression and softened her voice a little. "I don't want to be misunderstood anymore. Go now. Otherwise, even you will be dragged into this mess."

Upon hearing the tone of her voice, a look of suspicion flashed in Lucian's eyes before he lifted his gaze to glance at the crowd not far away.

Everyone was blatantly staring at them, but when they saw him looking over, they quickly withdrew their gazes and dispersed as though nothing had happened.

Only then did Lucian shift his gaze to the woman before him and ask with a frown, "What makes you say that?"

Roxanne looked up to meet his gaze and noticed that the sense of trust was more prevalent despite the doubt in his eyes.

She knew very well what his suspicions were.

While everyone else was suspicious of the reason she could participate in the project, he merely doubted her relationship with Jack.

At the thought, other than the bitterness within her, Roxanne also found it a little funny that even after her many explanations, Lucian persisted in his thoughts about her relationship with Jack.

Even though he did help me, I bet he's still irritated by those photos.

Chapter 731 How To Clarify

Roxanne looked at the man before her. At the thought that he came to help her out of the situation despite being angry, she was moved and softened her expression as she briefly and concisely told him what had happened the day before.

“Ms. Hightower told Jack to get in touch with me, saying that she wanted to apologize to me in person. I went for the appointment as I couldn't refuse her request. I never expected to be photographed then. The photo of us holding hands was Jack supporting me because I nearly fell down the stairs. I knew I'd be drinking during the meal so I didn't drive. Jack drove me there instead as we were heading the same way, and he sent me back afterward. He only dropped me at the entrance and didn't even get out of the car.”

She knew what explanation the man wanted from her, so she picked the part he wanted to hear in the hope that it would calm him down and he would not put her in a difficult spot before the media.

Lucian's eyes darkened when he heard her explanation. The suspicion in his eyes gradually faded alongside the anger within him, but he quickly discovered something was off.

“If Jessica went to apologize to you, why are you and Jack the only two people in the photo? Where was she?”

Roxanne's tone was hesitant when she replied with a slight frown, “Ms. Hightower told us to eat first as she was stuck in traffic. That photo was taken while we were waiting for her.”

A cold glint flashed across Lucian's eyes as he nodded.

“Today's news is truly just a misunderstanding. You don't need to be angry about it, Mr. Farwell, so go back quickly,” Roxanne urged with furrowed brows when she noticed someone filming in the corner.

Lucian followed her gaze and narrowed his eyes dangerously when he saw the camera in the corner.

Seeing that, the reporter holding it trembled, got up in fear, and ran away.

Only then did Lucian turn around. “Can you get in the car now, Ms. Jarvis?” he asked indifferently.

Roxanne did not expect him to be so insistent and felt a little helpless. “There are enough people involved in this matter. I don't want it to affect people who have nothing to do with it.”

As her words fell, she saw the man's eyes darkening and tensed up involuntarily.

“Such small trouble can't affect me.” Lucian grabbed her wrist and led her in the direction of the car. “Nor do I want to be just an irrelevant person in your eyes.”

Roxanne felt her heart skip a beat when she heard that, and by the time she reacted,

he had already sat her down in his car.

Outside the car window, many reporters merely looked over dumbfoundedly, holding their cameras up but not daring to take any photos.

As the car slowly drove away from the entrance of the research institute, those reporters and the crowd were also left far behind.

The noise surrounding Roxanne also faded into silence.

She could not help but stare blankly at Lucian's impassive profile, and she unknowingly calmed down.

Neither of them uttered a single word throughout the car ride.

Roxanne did not even ask Lucian where he was taking her, merely contemplating how she was going to clarify the rumors later with narrowed eyes.

By the time she snapped back to reality, they had arrived at her house.

"Rest well at home these two days. I'll handle the chaos online and take charge of picking up Archie and Benny," Lucian said solemnly.

Roxanne, however, appeared a little hesitant when she heard his words. "It's fine. I'll get a friend to pick them up."

"What if the reporters find the kindergarten?" Lucian shot down her idea with a frown. "Can your friend handle it?"

The thought of the reporters heckling her children caused a sinking feeling to creep into Roxanne's heart. In the end, she agreed, "In that case... I'll leave them in your care, Mr. Farwell."

Chapter 732 Troubling Alfred

In the evening, after kindergarten class was over, Archie and Benny stared at their father standing before them in confusion.

"Your mommy has something to do, so I'll be in charge of sending you to school for the next few days," Lucian explained in a deep voice.

The boys exchanged glances upon hearing his words but did not give it much thought. After all, from their perspective, whichever of their parents doing that was the same.

The fact that Mommy is leaving the matter of sending us to school to Daddy means their relationship is developing in a good direction.

As that thought came into their minds, Archie and Benny were secretly pleased as they obediently followed Lucian into the car.

Estella was also on cloud nine.

If Daddy is responsible for taking Archie and Benny to school these few days, it means I get to visit Ms. Jarvis' home every day!

All three kids were in a good mood and chattered away in the back seat.

Unlike them, Lucian was thinking of Roxanne with a solemn look.

It's obvious that Jessica was behind this incident. It seems that the lesson I gave to

the Hightower family last time wasn't good enough, so she still has the energy to come out and cause trouble!

Lucian stopped the car once they arrived at Roxanne's house and brought the three children into the mansion.

At that moment, Roxanne was preparing dinner in the kitchen while thinking about everything that had happened earlier that day.

She was so distracted that she did not notice that the children had returned.

"Mommy!" The kids did not think much of it, merely running excitedly to the kitchen once they had changed their shoes.

Only then did Roxanne snap back to her senses and look down at the children with a smile.

Benny hugged his mother's thigh innocently. "Mommy, why did Mr. Farwell pick us up? Where's Aunt Madilyn?"

Hearing that, Roxanne subconsciously lifted her gaze to look at the man in the living room.

She did not expect the children to ask such a question, so she did not prepare an explanation.

Similarly caught off guard by the question, Lucian looked at Benny with a frown.

After a long while, Roxanne finally came up with a random excuse. "Aunt Madilyn has to work overtime for the next two days and is very busy."

Benny noticed his mother was acting strangely, but he figured that she was probably too shy to tell them about her relationship progress with their father, so he simply nodded understandingly. "All right then. We'll be good and listen to Mr. Farwell."

Seeing that the boy did not ask any further questions, Roxanne breathed a sigh of relief and absentmindedly patted the children's heads.

Meanwhile, in the living room, Lucian noticed that the children were surrounding Roxanne, so he got up, went to the balcony, and called Jonathan.

On the other side, Jonathan had belatedly learned the news about Roxanne and was preparing to contact Lucian.

Hence, he immediately picked up the call and, without waiting for Lucian to speak, said, "I already learned about Dr. Jarvis' matter. I think I should be of help."

Lucian smiled when he heard that. "I also contacted you for this matter."

At present, the netizens were mostly questioning whether Roxanne was qualified enough to join the Damaris family's project and how she managed to join it.

No one knew the answer to that question better than Alfred.

If the old man willingly clarified in her defense, the discussions would naturally die down.

However, the Queen family would be dragged into the farce as a consequence.

"Don't worry. Dr. Jarvis' matter is your matter, and your matter is mine as well."

My family will definitely help you out. After all, only we can help,” Jonathan replied with conviction.

Lucian hummed in response. “Indeed. This matter can only die down with Old Mr. Queen’s intervention. Sorry to trouble him, and I’ll pay a visit to thank him next time.”

Chapter 733 Waiting For Her Response

Jonathan smiled meaningfully when he heard his friend’s words. “You can’t come alone. The person my grandpa is helping is Dr. Jarvis, so you must bring her along.”

Lucian responded with a light chuckle, “I plan on doing that.”

After engaging in small talk for a while longer, the two hung up.

Lucian turned around and went back into the living room.

By then, Roxanne was done making dinner and was sitting at the dining table with the children, waiting for him to go over and eat together.

A hint of warmth flitted across Lucian’s eyes when he saw the scene before him.

He walked over and—upon noticing the extra plate and cutlery on the table—asked knowingly, “Did you prepare this for me, Ms. Jarvis?”

Roxanne nodded gently in response. “Since I’m troubling you to ferry Archie and Benny to and fro from school for the next few days, Mr. Farwell, you can have dinner at my place.”

Before Lucian could respond, Estella threw up her hands joyfully. “Thank you, Ms. Jarvis!”

Roxanne smiled, feeling much more relaxed than before, as she watched the young girl’s delight.

Since Estella had replied, Lucian arched his brows but said nothing, merely picking up his fork and eating.

After dinner, the little girl was still reluctant to leave.

Seeing as it was still early, Roxanne and Lucian did not persist and allowed the children to play for a while longer.

After tidying up the dining room, Roxanne left the kitchen to see Lucian sitting on the couch with his brows furrowed, his slender hands rubbing circles on his temples. It looks like he has a headache.

Thinking of his recent insomnia, she hesitantly stepped forward and said softly, “Let me give you a massage. It’ll also help your insomnia.”

Lucian withdrew his hand and turned back to look at her before stating, “If you’re doing this because I helped you today, then forget it.”

He did not want her to be nice to him just to return the favor.

His words brought a frown to Roxanne’s face, and for a moment, she did not know how to reply.

Now that she thought about it, she also could not figure out why she said those words just now.

Yet, seeing Lucian's slightly haggard face triggered a strange feeling in her heart. Lucian frowned but kept silent, waiting for her reply.

However, there were no movements behind him.

Just when he was about to shoot her another question, a pair of hands rested on his temples and massaged them softly.

Lucian's eyes darkened at her actions, but he still did not utter a word.

With Roxanne's personality, if she only intended to return the favor, she wouldn't have given me a massage after hearing what I had just said. The fact that she's doing this now shows that she's not just being nice to me to repay the favor from the incident earlier day. Well, this is enough for me.

He could not deny that the headache caused by insomnia was greatly relieved under her ministrations.

Lucian even felt a little drowsy.

Feeling sleepiness threatening to overwhelm him, he raised his hand and grabbed her wrist, pulling her hand down.

Roxanne was taken aback by his action.

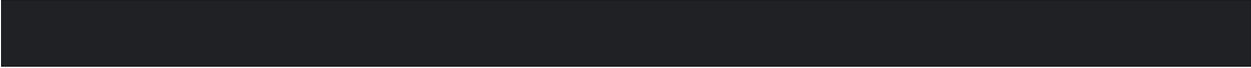
"As expected of the top traditional medicine doctor. My headache is much better."

Lucian got up from the couch. "It's getting late. I should take Estella back. I'll pick up Archie and Benny in the morning."

At that, Roxanne nodded somewhat sluggishly and watched as Lucian walked toward the backyard.

Not long after, Estella was led into the mansion by her father before bidding Roxanne farewell obediently.

Roxanne smiled at the little girl and followed them out of the mansion. Only after Lucian's car had gone a distance away did she turn around and head back in.



[Leaving The Country After Divorce Chapter 728](#)

Chapter 728 Is The Hightower Family Involved

Initially, Roxanne wanted to put out a statement. However, since her Twitter account was mostly used to surf for news, it essentially had no content. Therefore, whatever she had to say would likely not reach anyone.

After further contemplation, she decided to give Colby a call and got him to use the research institute's account to put out her clarification.

Although the account wasn't particularly popular, it was still a much better option than using hers. "What happened?" Colby had gone to the research institute early and only learned of the controversy when Roxanne gave him a call.

When he saw the pictures of Roxanne and Jack interacting with each other, he felt a faint squeeze in his heart. Sighing in resignation, Roxanne clarified, "I can't really give you a good explanation but what happened last night was a misunderstanding. Both of us were not alone at the dinner."

Even though her assurances failed to cheer Colby up, he remained hopeful and persuaded himself to have faith in Roxanne.

After all, if I don't trust her, one can't expect the netizens who are ridiculing her to do the same. Moreover, Roxanne has no reason to lie about the matter.

Holding that thought, the relieved Colby answered in a grim voice, "I understand. I'll put the statement out." Roxanne grunted in acknowledgment before ending the call.

Half an hour later, both Jack's and the research institute's statements were released at almost the same time and quickly became a trending topic.

However, instead of convincing anyone, the response triggered was entirely hostile and filled with skepticism. In fact, on Jack's Twitter account, netizens even began to cast doubt on the Damaris family.

B3232: Why are the Damaris family's selection criteria for the partners so lenient? How can one be included in such an important project or even end up on the name list by pulling some strings? Do you take us for fools?

Love212: Is being pretty all that's needed to be selected? In that case, even I am qualified.

Many similar comments populated the feed, to the extent Jack ended up arguing with the netizens in the comments section.

After skimming through the comments, Roxanne sent Jack a message: Don't worry about me. I'll deal with this myself.

At the other end, the sullen-looking Jack was busy responding to the barrage of insults. Subsequently, he was baffled when he received Roxanne's sudden

message. He responded: I was the one who caused this, so how can I sit idly by and do nothing?

Smiling wryly, Roxanne replied: Just let me be the lightning rod of their disparagement. At the rate you're going, the Damaris family will be dragged into the matter. When that happens, I'll be the one to blame.

Upon reading her message, the frowning Jack furrowed went through the comments online.

It was then that he realized his presence had shifted the netizens' focus from Roxanne to the Damaris family.

If he were to continue on his path, the Damaris family's reputation— built over a century—would be ruined.

Cognizant of what was at stake, Jack weighed his options before deciding to remain silent. In spite of that, he still couldn't just sit around and do nothing. Jack: In that case, I'll investigate if the Hightower family was behind this.

Roxanne responded with her agreement.

Meanwhile, when the netizens realized Jack had left, they swarmed toward the research institute's Twitter account and demanded for Roxanne to give an explanation.

Naturally, Colby couldn't tolerate the slander against Roxanne. Faced with their relentless skepticism about her medical skills, he posted a list of all the major projects that the research institute had completed under Roxanne's leadership.

Unfortunately, most of the netizens were laymen who were not bothered about such details.

In fact, even those who could see through the situation had their voices drowned swiftly.

Chapter 729 Silence Is Acquiescence

Meanwhile, Jessica had switched on the morning news early that morning at the Hightower residence, waiting to see Roxanne embarrass herself.

As she had anticipated, Roxanne was condemned all over the internet as soon as the news was reported. However, Jessica had not expected Jack to defend Roxanne, nor did she anticipate that the Damaris family would be dragged down too.

Feeling somewhat guilty over the situation, she hurriedly arranged for people to cause trouble at Roxanne's research institute.

As a result, when Roxanne checked the news once more at noon that day, she saw the footage of a large crowd of reporters and people demanding explanations blocking the entrance of her research institute.

She tensed up when she saw the scene on the screen, and without any hesitation, she immediately got up and rushed to the research institute.

Their target is me. I can't allow this matter to affect the institute's employees. Half an hour later, Roxanne appeared at the entrance of the research institute.

The minute the reporters and the crowd present noticed her, they turned around and rushed toward her. "You must be Ms. Jarvis, right? Do you have anything to say about the criticism on the internet?"

"What exactly is your relationship with Mr. Damaris? Are the rumors on the internet true that you joined the project through connections?"

Roxanne stepped out of the car to find herself surrounded by people, and all she could see were black microphones.

Some people even shoved their microphones to her face and kept leaning toward her.

Despite having prepared herself mentally, Roxanne was still a little overwhelmed by the situation and could only lean her back against the car door to stabilize herself.

"I—"

Just as she was about to speak, a reporter immediately interrupted her, "Other than you, we've heard a lot about every doctor on the list. How would you evaluate your medical skills?"

Since Roxanne was more or less accustomed to the doubt over her medical abilities, she immediately responded, “The Twitter account of our research institute has posted all the medical projects I’ve participated in during this period. You can check out the account if you have any questions about my medical skills.”

She intended to add something after that but was interrupted once more. “Even so, your accomplishments are still much inferior to those of the other doctors on the list. Do you acknowledge that?”

The question brought a frown to Roxanne’s face.

Many of those on the list were more experienced than her in the medical field, so she naturally could not deny the reporter’s words.

Nonetheless, if she acknowledged it, not only would it mean that she had tacitly admitted that her qualifications were far from enough to work with the Damaris family, but it would also prove that the web rumors were true.

Realizing that it was a trap, Roxanne was unsure of how to respond at that moment.

However, the crowd took her silence as a sign of acquiescence, creating an uproar among them once more.

One after another, questions flooded Roxanne’s ears.

Just as she was feeling helpless, there was a sudden commotion outside of the crowd.

The crowd seemed to be attracted to something as they fell silent and looked in the direction of the commotion.

Roxanne had no idea what was happening outside the crowd from where she was standing in the heart of it. She only knew that their attention had shifted away from her, giving her a moment of reprieve to think of a way to deal with it.

“Mr. Farwell?”

Just as she was trying to come up with a solution, she suddenly heard an exclamation of surprise.

Roxanne froze when she heard that, and she could not help but question if her ears were playing tricks on her.

How could a man as busy as Lucian show up here at this time of day?

Chapter 730 What Makes You Say That

As the hubbub got closer, Lucian soon entered Roxanne's field of vision, spotting a stern expression. Roxanne stared at the man before her in astonishment. "Why are you here?"

His formal outfit suggested that he was just in a meeting, yet his tie appeared loose as though it had been tugged slightly. Upon hearing her query, Lucian's expression turned icy. "If you can come, why can't I?"

After saying that, he shot her a look while suppressing his anger before turning to face the reporters behind him, his cold eyes swept across their faces. "If you have any questions, I can answer on her behalf."

The crowd shuddered at his gaze, and everyone turned to look at one another. No one dared to say a word for some time. Given Lucian's status, if they said something wrong that day, they might lose their jobs.

No one wanted to face that kind of repercussion. Lucian frowned and grabbed the wrist of the woman behind him before glancing at the crowd in front of him. "If there are no questions, I'm taking her away."

Without waiting for a reaction, he held Roxanne's hand and pulled her out of the crowd. The previously clamoring crowd fell silent as the two passed by and was even compelled by Lucian's powerful aura to make way for them.

Coming out of the crowd, Roxanne had not had time to breathe a sigh of relief when she looked at the person in front of her, and her anxiety only increased further.

"Get in." Lucian brought her all the way to his car and said in a terrifyingly chilly voice as he opened the passenger door.

Roxanne pursed her lips slightly but stood still. "I drove here, so I can just drive myself back in a bit."

Although flustered, she still kept her composure.

The rumors about Jack and me haven't been clarified and will only become more outrageous if I get into Lucian's car in front of those reporters.

Her rejection further enraged Lucian.

Earlier that day, as soon as he came out of the conference room, he was stopped by Cayden, who stammered out the news about Roxanne and Jack to him.

Lucian already had a suspicion about the two's relationship, so when he saw the photos circulating on the internet, he merely felt irony.

Yet, the next moment, he saw the scene where Roxanne appeared at the entrance of the research institute and was surrounded by people.

Even though rage surged up within him, he still rushed over.

Even so, this woman repeatedly rejects my kindness!

Roxanne noticed the man's increasingly cold expression and softened her voice a little. "I don't want to be misunderstood anymore. Go now. Otherwise, even you will be dragged into this mess."

Upon hearing the tone of her voice, a look of suspicion flashed in Lucian's eyes before he lifted his gaze to glance at the crowd not far away.

Everyone was blatantly staring at them, but when they saw him looking over, they quickly withdrew their gazes and dispersed as though nothing had happened.

Only then did Lucian shift his gaze to the woman before him and ask with a frown, "What makes you say that?"

Roxanne looked up to meet his gaze and noticed that the sense of trust was more prevalent despite the doubt in his eyes.

She knew very well what his suspicions were.

While everyone else was suspicious of the reason she could participate in the project, he merely doubted her relationship with Jack.

At the thought, other than the bitterness within her, Roxanne also found it a little funny that even after her many explanations, Lucian persisted in his thoughts about her relationship with Jack.

Even though he did help me, I bet he's still irritated by those photos.

Chapter 731 How To Clarify

Roxanne looked at the man before her. At the thought that he came to help her out of the situation despite being angry, she was moved and softened her expression as she briefly and concisely told him what had happened the day before.

“Ms. Hightower told Jack to get in touch with me, saying that she wanted to apologize to me in person. I went for the appointment as I couldn't refuse her request. I never expected to be photographed then. The photo of us holding hands was Jack supporting me because I nearly fell down the stairs. I knew I'd be drinking during the meal so I didn't drive. Jack drove me there instead as we were heading the same way, and he sent me back afterward. He only dropped me at the entrance and didn't even get out of the car.”

She knew what explanation the man wanted from her, so she picked the part he wanted to hear in the hope that it would calm him down and he would not put her in a difficult spot before the media.

Lucian's eyes darkened when he heard her explanation. The suspicion in his eyes gradually faded alongside the anger within him, but he quickly discovered something was off.

“If Jessica went to apologize to you, why are you and Jack the only two people in the photo? Where was she?”

Roxanne's tone was hesitant when she replied with a slight frown, “Ms. Hightower told us to eat first as she was stuck in traffic. That photo was taken while we were waiting for her.”

A cold glint flashed across Lucian's eyes as he nodded.

“Today's news is truly just a misunderstanding. You don't need to be angry about it, Mr. Farwell, so go back quickly,” Roxanne urged with furrowed brows when she noticed someone filming in the corner.

Lucian followed her gaze and narrowed his eyes dangerously when he saw the camera in the corner.

Seeing that, the reporter holding it trembled, got up in fear, and ran away.

Only then did Lucian turn around. “Can you get in the car now, Ms. Jarvis?” he asked indifferently.

Roxanne did not expect him to be so insistent and felt a little helpless. “There are enough people involved in this matter. I don't want it to affect people who have nothing to do with it.”

As her words fell, she saw the man's eyes darkening and tensed up involuntarily. "Such small trouble can't affect me." Lucian grabbed her wrist and led her in the direction of the car. "Nor do I want to be just an irrelevant person in your eyes." Roxanne felt her heart skip a beat when she heard that, and by the time she reacted, he had already sat her down in his car.

Outside the car window, many reporters merely looked over dumbfoundedly, holding their cameras up but not daring to take any photos.

As the car slowly drove away from the entrance of the research institute, those reporters and the crowd were also left far behind.

The noise surrounding Roxanne also faded into silence.

She could not help but stare blankly at Lucian's impassive profile, and she unknowingly calmed down.

Neither of them uttered a single word throughout the car ride.

Roxanne did not even ask Lucian where he was taking her, merely contemplating how she was going to clarify the rumors later with narrowed eyes.

By the time she snapped back to reality, they had arrived at her house.

"Rest well at home these two days. I'll handle the chaos online and take charge of picking up Archie and Benny," Lucian said solemnly.

Roxanne, however, appeared a little hesitant when she heard his words. "It's fine. I'll get a friend to pick them up."

"What if the reporters find the kindergarten?" Lucian shot down her idea with a frown. "Can your friend handle it?"

The thought of the reporters heckling her children caused a sinking feeling to creep into Roxanne's heart. In the end, she agreed, "In that case... I'll leave them in your care, Mr. Farwell."

Chapter 732 Troubling Alfred

In the evening, after kindergarten class was over, Archie and Benny stared at their father standing before them in confusion.

"Your mommy has something to do, so I'll be in charge of sending you to school for the next few days," Lucian explained in a deep voice.

The boys exchanged glances upon hearing his words but did not give it much thought. After all, from their perspective, whichever of their parents doing that was the same.

The fact that Mommy is leaving the matter of sending us to school to Daddy means their relationship is developing in a good direction.

As that thought came into their minds, Archie and Benny were secretly pleased as they obediently followed Lucian into the car.

Estella was also on cloud nine.

If Daddy is responsible for taking Archie and Benny to school these few days, it

means I get to visit Ms. Jarvis' home every day!

All three kids were in a good mood and chattered away in the back seat.

Unlike them, Lucian was thinking of Roxanne with a solemn look.

It's obvious that Jessica was behind this incident. It seems that the lesson I gave to the Hightower family last time wasn't good enough, so she still has the energy to come out and cause trouble!

Lucian stopped the car once they arrived at Roxanne's house and brought the three children into the mansion.

At that moment, Roxanne was preparing dinner in the kitchen while thinking about everything that had happened earlier that day.

She was so distracted that she did not notice that the children had returned.

"Mommy!" The kids did not think much of it, merely running excitedly to the kitchen once they had changed their shoes.

Only then did Roxanne snap back to her senses and look down at the children with a smile.

Benny hugged his mother's thigh innocently. "Mommy, why did Mr. Farwell pick us up? Where's Aunt Madilyn?"

Hearing that, Roxanne subconsciously lifted her gaze to look at the man in the living room.

She did not expect the children to ask such a question, so she did not prepare an explanation.

Similarly caught off guard by the question, Lucian looked at Benny with a frown.

After a long while, Roxanne finally came up with a random excuse. "Aunt Madilyn has to work overtime for the next two days and is very busy."

Benny noticed his mother was acting strangely, but he figured that she was probably too shy to tell them about her relationship progress with their father, so he simply nodded understandingly. "All right then. We'll be good and listen to Mr. Farwell."

Seeing that the boy did not ask any further questions, Roxanne breathed a sigh of relief and absentmindedly patted the children's heads.

Meanwhile, in the living room, Lucian noticed that the children were surrounding Roxanne, so he got up, went to the balcony, and called Jonathan.

On the other side, Jonathan had belatedly learned the news about Roxanne and was preparing to contact Lucian.

Hence, he immediately picked up the call and, without waiting for Lucian to speak, said, "I already learned about Dr. Jarvis' matter. I think I should be of help."

Lucian smiled when he heard that. "I also contacted you for this matter."

At present, the netizens were mostly questioning whether Roxanne was qualified enough to join the Damaris family's project and how she managed to join it.

No one knew the answer to that question better than Alfred.

If the old man willingly clarified in her defense, the discussions would naturally die down.

However, the Queen family would be dragged into the farce as a consequence. “Don’t worry. Dr. Jarvis’ matter is your matter, and your matter is mine as well. My family will definitely help you out. After all, only we can help,” Jonathan replied with conviction.

Lucian hummed in response. “Indeed. This matter can only die down with Old Mr. Queen’s intervention. Sorry to trouble him, and I’ll pay a visit to thank him next time.”

Chapter 733 Waiting For Her Response

Jonathan smiled meaningfully when he heard his friend’s words. “You can’t come alone. The person my grandpa is helping is Dr. Jarvis, so you must bring her along.”

Lucian responded with a light chuckle, “I plan on doing that.”

After engaging in small talk for a while longer, the two hung up.

Lucian turned around and went back into the living room.

By then, Roxanne was done making dinner and was sitting at the dining table with the children, waiting for him to go over and eat together.

A hint of warmth flitted across Lucian’s eyes when he saw the scene before him. He walked over and—upon noticing the extra plate and cutlery on the table—asked knowingly, “Did you prepare this for me, Ms. Jarvis?”

Roxanne nodded gently in response. “Since I’m troubling you to ferry Archie and Benny to and fro from school for the next few days, Mr. Farwell, you can have dinner at my place.”

Before Lucian could respond, Estella threw up her hands joyfully. “Thank you, Ms. Jarvis!”

Roxanne smiled, feeling much more relaxed than before, as she watched the young girl’s delight.

Since Estella had replied, Lucian arched his brows but said nothing, merely picking up his fork and eating.

After dinner, the little girl was still reluctant to leave.

Seeing as it was still early, Roxanne and Lucian did not persist and allowed the children to play for a while longer.

After tidying up the dining room, Roxanne left the kitchen to see Lucian sitting on the couch with his brows furrowed, his slender hands rubbing circles on his temples. It looks like he has a headache.

Thinking of his recent insomnia, she hesitantly stepped forward and said softly, “Let me give you a massage. It’ll also help your insomnia.”

Lucian withdrew his hand and turned back to look at her before stating, “If you’re

doing this because I helped you today, then forget it.”

He did not want her to be nice to him just to return the favor.

His words brought a frown to Roxanne’s face, and for a moment, she did not know how to reply.

Now that she thought about it, she also could not figure out why she said those words just now.

Yet, seeing Lucian’s slightly haggard face triggered a strange feeling in her heart.

Lucian frowned but kept silent, waiting for her reply.

However, there were no movements behind him.

Just when he was about to shoot her another question, a pair of hands rested on his temples and massaged them softly.

Lucian’s eyes darkened at her actions, but he still did not utter a word.

With Roxanne’s personality, if she only intended to return the favor, she wouldn’t have given me a massage after hearing what I had just said. The fact that she’s doing this now shows that she’s not just being nice to me to repay the favor from the incident earlier day. Well, this is enough for me.

He could not deny that the headache caused by insomnia was greatly relieved under her ministrations.

Lucian even felt a little drowsy.

Feeling sleepiness threatening to overwhelm him, he raised his hand and grabbed her wrist, pulling her hand down.

Roxanne was taken aback by his action.

“As expected of the top traditional medicine doctor. My headache is much better.”

Lucian got up from the couch. “It’s getting late. I should take Estella back. I’ll pick up Archie and Benny in the morning.”

At that, Roxanne nodded somewhat sluggishly and watched as Lucian walked toward the backyard.

Not long after, Estella was led into the mansion by her father before bidding Roxanne farewell obediently.

Roxanne smiled at the little girl and followed them out of the mansion. Only after Lucian’s car had gone a distance away did she turn around and head back in.

Chapter 734 Quick Turnaround

That very night, the Queen family announced that Roxanne was the one who had cured Alfred’s sickness, resulting in the latter nominating her as a candidate for the Damaris family’s project.

The internet went abuzz right after that.

In a short span of time, those who were initially against Roxanne now sided with her, although there were some who still questioned her ability.

Roxanne was astounded to suddenly receive such an update before going to bed.

She had once thought of asking Alfred to help clear the air, but she also didn't want to involve him in the whole ordeal.

Yet, the Queen family had decided to help her voluntarily.

Thanks to that, the situation was now far more controlled compared to during the day, even if some remained doubtful of her.

Not wanting to disrupt Alfred's quiet time, Roxanne decided to dial Jonathan's number.

The latter had just finished taking care of his family's PR errands when he answered Roxanne's call.

"I just saw the announcement made by your family. Thank you for speaking up for me, Mr. Queen," the woman said with gratitude.

Jonathan let out a profound chuckle. "Don't just thank me. To be honest, I took a lot of risks over this matter. I wouldn't necessarily have spoken up if it were just for your sake."

Roxanne froze briefly upon hearing that, and she thought back to the similar tone he had used during the medical consultation back at the orphanage.

She had thanked him under the assumption that he had helped her when it was, in fact, Lucian's decision all along.

Did he do something again?

"Did Lucian go and look for you?" Roxanne surmised.

Jonathan's laughter came through the phone instantly. "That's right. Well, I did consider taking action, but it was Lucian's personal phone call that really convinced me to make the announcement. So if you want to express your gratitude, I'm not the only one you should be thanking."

Conflict swirled within Roxanne's heart.

So that phone call he made on the balcony while I was making dinner was to Mr. Queen? He was asking him to make an appearance and help me. He probably would've continued to keep this from me if Mr. Queen hadn't explained anything.

Roxanne felt perplexed at the thought of this.

"I will, Mr. Queen. Thank you," she finally responded, concealing her mixed emotions. "I'll thank Old Mr. Queen in person another time."

Jonathan agreed with a smile.

Right after hanging up, Roxanne opened up her chat conversation with Lucian, but even after staring at her screen for God knows how long, she couldn't figure out what to write.

Ultimately, she put her phone away without sending out a single text message.

Back at the Hightower residence, Stephen thought that since his daughter had apologized to Roxanne and the latter had forgiven her, Lucian would now let them off and that they were clear from danger.

Yet, even after waiting all day, the situation remained the same as that of the past

two days, with various companies calling in and asking to terminate joint projects for all sorts of reasons.

Things became direr by night, where those who called couldn't even come up with any more excuses, instead telling Stephen frankly that Lucian had told them not to work with the Hightowers. Naturally, Stephen dared not say anything in response. It was only after hanging up that he realized something amiss, so he headed upstairs to knock on Jessica's door.

The young woman was currently staring at her phone with a grim expression. It's only been one day! I took so long planning everything, and yet the tables have already turned? To think that even the Queen family backed that woman up! What's so great about her?

Chapter 735 An Uncontrollable Degree

Boiling with rage, Stephen banged on the door.

Jessica glanced at the door with a sullen look before getting up and walking over. She saw how infuriated her father looked the moment she opened the door.

"Is this your doing?" the man roared at her.

Jessica froze momentarily.

Although he had lost her temper with her in the past, this was her first time seeing him so livid.

It's all Roxanne's fault.

In spite of her fear, the woman mustered up the courage to stare at her father.

"What did I do wrong? All I wanted was to show everyone her true colors!"

Stephen's brows furrowed deeply at that. "What did you say?"

"Seriously, I don't know what people see in her that even the Queen family would step forward to defend her! I'll never believe she could cure Old Mr. Queen!"

Stephen grew puzzled at her words, and deep down, he began to sense that something was off.

It felt as though his daughter had committed something atrocious unbeknown to him.

Feeling his stomach drop upon recalling what Farwell Group had done tonight, he strode into Jessica's bedroom and gazed at her phone screen.

Then, he picked up the device to see a string of comments—all of which were about Roxanne.

It all started from the three photos that surfaced last night.

At that moment, Stephen realized that his daughter was behind the whole incident.

"You imbecile!" With a bellow, he smashed Jessica's phone into bits.

The woman jumped in fright and stared at her father. "Are you insane? What are you getting all worked up for?"

Yet, she received a vicious slap across the face as soon as her words fell.

She clutched her cheek and turned to her father in disbelief.

“Do you have any idea who has Roxanne’s back?” Stephen yelled in fury. “It’s because you got on her nerves back then that Farwell Group started giving us hell the very next day! Why do you think I told you to apologize to her? But look at what you’ve done now! Do you think Farwell Group’s going to let us off this time?”

Jessica was rendered speechless for a moment. “That can’t be... I know Lucian’s fiancée. Why would he ever back Roxanne up?”

Seeing that the circumstances had unfolded to such an extent, Stephen could only cling to the last hope he possibly had. “I want you to apologize to Roxanne publicly! Do it now and post it online. We might still stand a chance if you manage to subdue these comments!”

Despite her reluctance, Jessica knew she had no choice but to concede when Farwell Group was against them.

In a matter of minutes, she used another phone to post a public apology on Twitter, citing her jealousy over Roxanne and Jack’s relationship as the reason behind her actions.

Her words appeared sincere enough, but unfortunately, the post caused nothing more than a small buzz before being flooded by similar comments once again. Even if more people now believed in Roxanne, the suspicions from those who didn’t still carry a considerable amount of impact on her.

Both Jessica and Stephen’s faces turned increasingly pale as the number of comments continued to pick up.

Evidently, the situation had escalated to an uncontrollable degree.

At this rate, it’ll be over for the Hightower family.

Jessica’s eyes became filled with panic, followed by hatred.

It’s all because of Roxanne! As if seducing Jack wasn’t enough, she even went after Lucian when he already has a fiancée! None of this would’ve happened to our family if it weren’t for her!

Chapter 736 Who Dares Question You

The next morning, Roxanne woke up and immediately checked the comments online. She was now the most trending person on Twitter. Thinking that the comments were leaning to her disadvantage, Roxanne’s heart sank as she glanced at the first post with a frown.

To her surprise, the most viral Tweet was a video of her own professor in an interview. It wasn’t just him; many of Harvey’s internationally-renowned research partners from his overseas institutes were present too.

“I’ve long heard about the Damaris family’s project,” Harvey stated in the video. “As Janet’s professor, I’m extremely proud that my student has been chosen to take part in this project. I’ve also come across many comments on her medical prowess within the nation. Please give Janet your trust for she’ll be sure to surprise you.”

The man had a smile on his face, but his eyes looked stern. After he was done speaking, it was the other researchers’ turn to give their opinion about Roxanne.

Upon seeing those familiar faces, emotion swirled within Roxanne as her eyes began to water. The comment section under this post blew up, but unlike yesterday, most of the comments were of people apologizing to Roxanne.

Bibomama: Janet? Is this the same Janet I know? She actually came back to the country in secret, and she’s this gorgeous?

11Zollo22: She’d make it big with just her looks, but she’s relying on her talents instead? That’s it. I’m officially a fan of hers now.

Most of the comments indicated surprise that Roxanne was actually Janet, and those who had never heard of the latter were quickly filled in by other netizens.

Janet wasn’t as popular in the country compared to Roxanne, but she was still fairly well-known internationally, so it was more acceptable for her to be joining the Damaris family project as the former.

Thanks to yesterday’s news, Roxanne’s good looks had added a touch of color to Janet’s name.

Now, Janet was referred to as the goddess of the medical world by social media.

Roxanne hadn’t gotten used to the sudden changes in opinions that had occurred overnight.

After scrolling on her phone a while longer, she exited Twitter and looked up her professor’s contact so she could thank him.

Yet, a phone call came from the latter just as she was about to dial his number.

The woman picked up immediately. “Professor Lambert—”

“Why didn’t you tell me about something this serious? What do you take me for?” Harvey questioned her right away.

In spite of his sullen tone, Roxanne felt a sense of warmth well up within her, for she knew he was only worried about her. “I’m sorry, Professor Lambert. It all happened because of me, so…”

If she were to disclose her identity as Janet, it wouldn’t take long for everyone to figure out that she was Harvey’s student.

Given the severity of yesterday’s comments, the woman was afraid of ruining Harvey’s reputation. She didn’t want others rebuking him for having such an unethical student.

The sudden turn of tides today had to be due to both the Queen family and Jessica’s respective statements.

“I’m not having any of your excuses. You’re my student, and if anyone dares question you, that means they’re questioning me too,” Harvey declared.



[Leaving The Country After Divorce Chapter 729](#)

Chapter 729 Silence Is Acquiescence

Meanwhile, Jessica had switched on the morning news early that morning at the Hightower residence, waiting to see Roxanne embarrass herself.

As she had anticipated, Roxanne was condemned all over the internet as soon as the news was reported. However, Jessica had not expected Jack to defend Roxanne, nor did she anticipate that the Damaris family would be dragged down too.

Feeling somewhat guilty over the situation, she hurriedly arranged for people to cause trouble at Roxanne’s research institute.

As a result, when Roxanne checked the news once more at noon that day, she saw the footage of a large crowd of reporters and people demanding explanations blocking the entrance of her research institute.

She tensed up when she saw the scene on the screen, and without any hesitation, she immediately got up and rushed to the research institute.

Their target is me. I can't allow this matter to affect the institute's employees. Half an hour later, Roxanne appeared at the entrance of the research institute.

The minute the reporters and the crowd present noticed her, they turned around and rushed toward her. "You must be Ms. Jarvis, right? Do you have anything to say about the criticism on the internet?"

"What exactly is your relationship with Mr. Damaris? Are the rumors on the internet true that you joined the project through connections?"

Roxanne stepped out of the car to find herself surrounded by people, and all she could see were black microphones.

Some people even shoved their microphones to her face and kept leaning toward her.

Despite having prepared herself mentally, Roxanne was still a little overwhelmed by the situation and could only lean her back against the car door to stabilize herself.

"I—"

Just as she was about to speak, a reporter immediately interrupted her, "Other than you, we've heard a lot about every doctor on the list. How would you evaluate your medical skills?"

Since Roxanne was more or less accustomed to the doubt over her medical abilities, she immediately responded, "The Twitter account of our research institute has posted all the medical projects I've participated in during this period. You can check out the account if you have any questions about my medical skills."

She intended to add something after that but was interrupted once more. "Even so, your accomplishments are still much inferior to those of the other doctors on the list. Do you acknowledge that?"

The question brought a frown to Roxanne's face.

Many of those on the list were more experienced than her in the medical field, so she naturally could not deny the reporter's words.

Nonetheless, if she acknowledged it, not only would it mean that she had tacitly admitted that her qualifications were far from enough to work with the Damaris family, but it would also prove that the web rumors were true.

Realizing that it was a trap, Roxanne was unsure of how to respond at that moment.

However, the crowd took her silence as a sign of acquiescence, creating an uproar among them once more.

One after another, questions flooded Roxanne's ears.

Just as she was feeling helpless, there was a sudden commotion outside of the crowd.

The crowd seemed to be attracted to something as they fell silent and looked in the direction of the commotion.

Roxanne had no idea what was happening outside the crowd from where she was standing in the heart of it. She only knew that their attention had shifted away from her, giving her a moment of reprieve to think of a way to deal with it.

"Mr. Farwell?"

Just as she was trying to come up with a solution, she suddenly heard an exclamation of surprise.

Roxanne froze when she heard that, and she could not help but question if her ears were playing tricks on her.

How could a man as busy as Lucian show up here at this time of day?

Chapter 730 What Makes You Say That

As the hubbub got closer, Lucian soon entered Roxanne's field of vision, spotting a stern expression. Roxanne stared at the man before her in astonishment. "Why are you here?"

His formal outfit suggested that he was just in a meeting, yet his tie appeared loose as though it had been tugged slightly. Upon hearing her query, Lucian's expression turned icy. "If you can come, why can't I?"

After saying that, he shot her a look while suppressing his anger before turning to face the reporters behind him, his cold eyes swept across their faces. "If you have any questions, I can answer on her behalf."

The crowd shuddered at his gaze, and everyone turned to look at one another. No one dared to say a word for some time. Given Lucian's status, if they said something wrong that day, they might lose their jobs.

No one wanted to face that kind of repercussion. Lucian frowned and grabbed the wrist of the woman behind him before glancing at the crowd in front of him. "If there are no questions, I'm taking her away."

Without waiting for a reaction, he held Roxanne's hand and pulled her out of the crowd. The previously clamoring crowd fell silent as the two passed by and was even compelled by Lucian's powerful aura to make way for them.

Coming out of the crowd, Roxanne had not had time to breathe a sigh of relief when she looked at the person in front of her, and her anxiety only increased further.

"Get in." Lucian brought her all the way to his car and said in a terrifyingly chilly voice as he opened the passenger door.

Roxanne pursed her lips slightly but stood still. "I drove here, so I can just drive myself back in a bit."

Although flustered, she still kept her composure.

The rumors about Jack and me haven't been clarified and will only become more outrageous if I get into Lucian's car in front of those reporters.

Her rejection further enraged Lucian.

Earlier that day, as soon as he came out of the conference room, he was stopped by Cayden, who stammered out the news about Roxanne and Jack to him.

Lucian already had a suspicion about the two's relationship, so when he saw the photos circulating on the internet, he merely felt irony.

Yet, the next moment, he saw the scene where Roxanne appeared at the entrance of the research institute and was surrounded by people.

Even though rage surged up within him, he still rushed over.

Even so, this woman repeatedly rejects my kindness!

Roxanne noticed the man's increasingly cold expression and softened her voice a little. "I don't want to be misunderstood anymore. Go now. Otherwise, even you will be dragged into this mess."

Upon hearing the tone of her voice, a look of suspicion flashed in Lucian's eyes before he lifted his gaze to glance at the crowd not far away.

Everyone was blatantly staring at them, but when they saw him looking over, they quickly withdrew their gazes and dispersed as though nothing had happened.

Only then did Lucian shift his gaze to the woman before him and ask with a frown, "What makes you say that?"

Roxanne looked up to meet his gaze and noticed that the sense of trust was more prevalent despite the doubt in his eyes.

She knew very well what his suspicions were.

While everyone else was suspicious of the reason she could participate in the project, he merely doubted her relationship with Jack.

At the thought, other than the bitterness within her, Roxanne also found it a little funny that even after her many explanations, Lucian persisted in his thoughts about her relationship with Jack.

Even though he did help me, I bet he's still irritated by those photos.

Chapter 731 How To Clarify

Roxanne looked at the man before her. At the thought that he came to help her out of the situation despite being angry, she was moved and softened her expression as she briefly and concisely told him what had happened the day before.

“Ms. Hightower told Jack to get in touch with me, saying that she wanted to apologize to me in person. I went for the appointment as I couldn’t refuse her request. I never expected to be photographed then. The photo of us holding hands was Jack supporting me because I nearly fell down the stairs. I knew I’d be drinking during the meal so I didn’t drive. Jack drove me there instead as we were heading the same way, and he sent me back afterward. He only dropped me at the entrance and didn’t even get out of the car.”

She knew what explanation the man wanted from her, so she picked the part he wanted to hear in the hope that it would calm him down and he would not put her in a difficult spot before the media.

Lucian’s eyes darkened when he heard her explanation. The suspicion in his eyes gradually faded alongside the anger within him, but he quickly discovered something was off.

“If Jessica went to apologize to you, why are you and Jack the only two people in the photo? Where was she?”

Roxanne’s tone was hesitant when she replied with a slight frown, “Ms. Hightower told us to eat first as she was stuck in traffic. That photo was taken while we were waiting for her.”

A cold glint flashed across Lucian’s eyes as he nodded.

“Today’s news is truly just a misunderstanding. You don’t need to be angry about it, Mr. Farwell, so go back quickly,” Roxanne urged with furrowed brows when she noticed someone filming in the corner.

Lucian followed her gaze and narrowed his eyes dangerously when he saw the camera in the corner.

Seeing that, the reporter holding it trembled, got up in fear, and ran away.

Only then did Lucian turn around. “Can you get in the car now, Ms. Jarvis?” he asked indifferently.

Roxanne did not expect him to be so insistent and felt a little helpless. “There are enough people involved in this matter. I don’t want it to affect people who have nothing to do with it.”

As her words fell, she saw the man’s eyes darkening and tensed up involuntarily.

“Such small trouble can’t affect me.” Lucian grabbed her wrist and led her in the direction of the car. “Nor do I want to be just an irrelevant person in your eyes.”

Roxanne felt her heart skip a beat when she heard that, and by the time she reacted, he had already sat her down in his car.

Outside the car window, many reporters merely looked over dumbfoundedly, holding their cameras up but not daring to take any photos.

As the car slowly drove away from the entrance of the research institute, those reporters and the crowd were also left far behind.

The noise surrounding Roxanne also faded into silence.

She could not help but stare blankly at Lucian's impassive profile, and she unknowingly calmed down.

Neither of them uttered a single word throughout the car ride.

Roxanne did not even ask Lucian where he was taking her, merely contemplating how she was going to clarify the rumors later with narrowed eyes.

By the time she snapped back to reality, they had arrived at her house.

"Rest well at home these two days. I'll handle the chaos online and take charge of picking up Archie and Benny," Lucian said solemnly.

Roxanne, however, appeared a little hesitant when she heard his words. "It's fine. I'll get a friend to pick them up."

"What if the reporters find the kindergarten?" Lucian shot down her idea with a frown. "Can your friend handle it?"

The thought of the reporters heckling her children caused a sinking feeling to creep into Roxanne's heart. In the end, she agreed, "In that case... I'll leave them in your care, Mr. Farwell."

Chapter 732 Troubling Alfred

In the evening, after kindergarten class was over, Archie and Benny stared at their father standing before them in confusion.

"Your mommy has something to do, so I'll be in charge of sending you to school for the next few days," Lucian explained in a deep voice.

The boys exchanged glances upon hearing his words but did not give it much thought. After all, from their perspective, whichever of their parents doing that was the same.

The fact that Mommy is leaving the matter of sending us to school to Daddy means their relationship is developing in a good direction.

As that thought came into their minds, Archie and Benny were secretly pleased as they obediently followed Lucian into the car.

Estella was also on cloud nine.

If Daddy is responsible for taking Archie and Benny to school these few days, it means I get to visit Ms. Jarvis' home every day!

All three kids were in a good mood and chattered away in the back seat.

Unlike them, Lucian was thinking of Roxanne with a solemn look.

It's obvious that Jessica was behind this incident. It seems that the lesson I gave to the Hightower family last time wasn't good enough, so she still has the energy to come out and cause trouble!

Lucian stopped the car once they arrived at Roxanne's house and brought the three children into the mansion.

At that moment, Roxanne was preparing dinner in the kitchen while thinking about everything that had happened earlier that day.

She was so distracted that she did not notice that the children had returned.

“Mommy!” The kids did not think much of it, merely running excitedly to the kitchen once they had changed their shoes.

Only then did Roxanne snap back to her senses and look down at the children with a smile.

Benny hugged his mother’s thigh innocently. “Mommy, why did Mr. Farwell pick us up? Where’s Aunt Madilyn?”

Hearing that, Roxanne subconsciously lifted her gaze to look at the man in the living room.

She did not expect the children to ask such a question, so she did not prepare an explanation.

Similarly caught off guard by the question, Lucian looked at Benny with a frown.

After a long while, Roxanne finally came up with a random excuse. “Aunt Madilyn has to work overtime for the next two days and is very busy.”

Benny noticed his mother was acting strangely, but he figured that she was probably too shy to tell them about her relationship progress with their father, so he simply nodded understandingly. “All right then. We’ll be good and listen to Mr. Farwell.”

Seeing that the boy did not ask any further questions, Roxanne breathed a sigh of relief and absentmindedly patted the children’s heads.

Meanwhile, in the living room, Lucian noticed that the children were surrounding Roxanne, so he got up, went to the balcony, and called Jonathan.

On the other side, Jonathan had belatedly learned the news about Roxanne and was preparing to contact Lucian.

Hence, he immediately picked up the call and, without waiting for Lucian to speak, said, “I already learned about Dr. Jarvis’ matter. I think I should be of help.”

Lucian smiled when he heard that. “I also contacted you for this matter.”

At present, the netizens were mostly questioning whether Roxanne was qualified enough to join the Damaris family’s project and how she managed to join it.

No one knew the answer to that question better than Alfred.

If the old man willingly clarified in her defense, the discussions would naturally die down.

However, the Queen family would be dragged into the farce as a consequence.

“Don’t worry. Dr. Jarvis’ matter is your matter, and your matter is mine as well. My family will definitely help you out. After all, only we can help,” Jonathan replied with conviction.

Lucian hummed in response. “Indeed. This matter can only die down with Old Mr. Queen’s intervention. Sorry to trouble him, and I’ll pay a visit to thank him next time.”

Chapter 733 Waiting For Her Response

Jonathan smiled meaningfully when he heard his friend's words. "You can't come alone. The person my grandpa is helping is Dr. Jarvis, so you must bring her along."

Lucian responded with a light chuckle, "I plan on doing that."

After engaging in small talk for a while longer, the two hung up.

Lucian turned around and went back into the living room.

By then, Roxanne was done making dinner and was sitting at the dining table with the children, waiting for him to go over and eat together.

A hint of warmth flitted across Lucian's eyes when he saw the scene before him.

He walked over and—upon noticing the extra plate and cutlery on the table—asked knowingly, "Did you prepare this for me, Ms. Jarvis?"

Roxanne nodded gently in response. "Since I'm troubling you to ferry Archie and Benny to and fro from school for the next few days, Mr. Farwell, you can have dinner at my place."

Before Lucian could respond, Estella threw up her hands joyfully. "Thank you, Ms. Jarvis!"

Roxanne smiled, feeling much more relaxed than before, as she watched the young girl's delight.

Since Estella had replied, Lucian arched his brows but said nothing, merely picking up his fork and eating.

After dinner, the little girl was still reluctant to leave.

Seeing as it was still early, Roxanne and Lucian did not persist and allowed the children to play for a while longer.

After tidying up the dining room, Roxanne left the kitchen to see Lucian sitting on the couch with his brows furrowed, his slender hands rubbing circles on his temples. It looks like he has a headache.

Thinking of his recent insomnia, she hesitantly stepped forward and said softly, "Let me give you a massage. It'll also help your insomnia."

Lucian withdrew his hand and turned back to look at her before stating, "If you're doing this because I helped you today, then forget it."

He did not want her to be nice to him just to return the favor.

His words brought a frown to Roxanne's face, and for a moment, she did not know how to reply.

Now that she thought about it, she also could not figure out why she said those words just now.

Yet, seeing Lucian's slightly haggard face triggered a strange feeling in her heart.

Lucian frowned but kept silent, waiting for her reply.

However, there were no movements behind him.

Just when he was about to shoot her another question, a pair of hands rested on his

temples and massaged them softly.

Lucian's eyes darkened at her actions, but he still did not utter a word.

With Roxanne's personality, if she only intended to return the favor, she wouldn't have given me a massage after hearing what I had just said. The fact that she's doing this now shows that she's not just being nice to me to repay the favor from the incident earlier day. Well, this is enough for me.

He could not deny that the headache caused by insomnia was greatly relieved under her ministrations.

Lucian even felt a little drowsy.

Feeling sleepiness threatening to overwhelm him, he raised his hand and grabbed her wrist, pulling her hand down.

Roxanne was taken aback by his action.

"As expected of the top traditional medicine doctor. My headache is much better."

Lucian got up from the couch. "It's getting late. I should take Estella back. I'll pick up Archie and Benny in the morning."

At that, Roxanne nodded somewhat sluggishly and watched as Lucian walked toward the backyard.

Not long after, Estella was led into the mansion by her father before bidding Roxanne farewell obediently.

Roxanne smiled at the little girl and followed them out of the mansion. Only after Lucian's car had gone a distance away did she turn around and head back in.

Chapter 734 Quick Turnaround

That very night, the Queen family announced that Roxanne was the one who had cured Alfred's sickness, resulting in the latter nominating her as a candidate for the Damaris family's project.

The internet went abuzz right after that.

In a short span of time, those who were initially against Roxanne now sided with her, although there were some who still questioned her ability.

Roxanne was astounded to suddenly receive such an update before going to bed. She had once thought of asking Alfred to help clear the air, but she also didn't want to involve him in the whole ordeal.

Yet, the Queen family had decided to help her voluntarily.

Thanks to that, the situation was now far more controlled compared to during the day, even if some remained doubtful of her.

Not wanting to disrupt Alfred's quiet time, Roxanne decided to dial Jonathan's number.

The latter had just finished taking care of his family's PR errands when he answered Roxanne's call.

"I just saw the announcement made by your family. Thank you for speaking up for

me, Mr. Queen,” the woman said with gratitude.

Jonathan let out a profound chuckle. “Don’t just thank me. To be honest, I took a lot of risks over this matter. I wouldn’t necessarily have spoken up if it were just for your sake.”

Roxanne froze briefly upon hearing that, and she thought back to the similar tone he had used during the medical consultation back at the orphanage.

She had thanked him under the assumption that he had helped her when it was, in fact, Lucian’s decision all along.

Did he do something again?

“Did Lucian go and look for you?” Roxanne surmised.

Jonathan’s laughter came through the phone instantly. “That’s right. Well, I did consider taking action, but it was Lucian’s personal phone call that really convinced me to make the announcement. So if you want to express your gratitude, I’m not the only one you should be thanking.”

Conflict swirled within Roxanne’s heart.

So that phone call he made on the balcony while I was making dinner was to Mr. Queen? He was asking him to make an appearance and help me. He probably would’ve continued to keep this from me if Mr. Queen hadn’t explained anything. Roxanne felt perplexed at the thought of this.

“I will, Mr. Queen. Thank you,” she finally responded, concealing her mixed emotions. “I’ll thank Old Mr. Queen in person another time.”

Jonathan agreed with a smile.

Right after hanging up, Roxanne opened up her chat conversation with Lucian, but even after staring at her screen for God knows how long, she couldn’t figure out what to write.

Ultimately, she put her phone away without sending out a single text message.

Back at the Hightower residence, Stephen thought that since his daughter had apologized to Roxanne and the latter had forgiven her, Lucian would now let them off and that they were clear from danger.

Yet, even after waiting all day, the situation remained the same as that of the past two days, with various companies calling in and asking to terminate joint projects for all sorts of reasons.

Things became direr by night, where those who called couldn’t even come up with any more excuses, instead telling Stephen frankly that Lucian had told them not to work with the Hightowers. Naturally, Stephen dared not say anything in response. It was only after hanging up that he realized something amiss, so he headed upstairs to knock on Jessica’s door.

The young woman was currently staring at her phone with a grim expression.

It’s only been one day! I took so long planning everything, and yet the tables have

already turned? To think that even the Queen family backed that woman up!
What's so great about her?

Chapter 735 An Uncontrollable Degree

Boiling with rage, Stephen banged on the door.

Jessica glanced at the door with a sullen look before getting up and walking over. She saw how infuriated her father looked the moment she opened the door.

“Is this your doing?” the man roared at her.

Jessica froze momentarily.

Although he had lost her temper with her in the past, this was her first time seeing him so livid.

It's all Roxanne's fault.

In spite of her fear, the woman mustered up the courage to stare at her father.

“What did I do wrong? All I wanted was to show everyone her true colors!”

Stephen's brows furrowed deeply at that. “What did you say?”

“Seriously, I don't know what people see in her that even the Queen family would step forward to defend her! I'll never believe she could cure Old Mr. Queen!”

Stephen grew puzzled at her words, and deep down, he began to sense that something was off.

It felt as though his daughter had committed something atrocious unbeknown to him.

Feeling his stomach drop upon recalling what Farwell Group had done tonight, he strode into Jessica's bedroom and gazed at her phone screen.

Then, he picked up the device to see a string of comments—all of which were about Roxanne.

It all started from the three photos that surfaced last night.

At that moment, Stephen realized that his daughter was behind the whole incident.

“You imbecile!” With a bellow, he smashed Jessica's phone into bits.

The woman jumped in fright and stared at her father. “Are you insane? What are you getting all worked up for?”

Yet, she received a vicious slap across the face as soon as her words fell.

She clutched her cheek and turned to her father in disbelief.

“Do you have any idea who has Roxanne's back?” Stephen yelled in fury. “It's because you got on her nerves back then that Farwell Group started giving us hell the very next day! Why do you think I told you to apologize to her? But look at what you've done now! Do you think Farwell Group's going to let us off this time?”

Jessica was rendered speechless for a moment. “That can't be... I know Lucian's fiancée. Why would he ever back Roxanne up?”

Seeing that the circumstances had unfolded to such an extent, Stephen could only

cling to the last hope he possibly had. “I want you to apologize to Roxanne publicly! Do it now and post it online. We might still stand a chance if you manage to subdue these comments!”

Despite her reluctance, Jessica knew she had no choice but to concede when Farwell Group was against them.

In a matter of minutes, she used another phone to post a public apology on Twitter, citing her jealousy over Roxanne and Jack’s relationship as the reason behind her actions.

Her words appeared sincere enough, but unfortunately, the post caused nothing more than a small buzz before being flooded by similar comments once again. Even if more people now believed in Roxanne, the suspicions from those who didn’t still carry a considerable amount of impact on her.

Both Jessica and Stephen’s faces turned increasingly pale as the number of comments continued to pick up.

Evidently, the situation had escalated to an uncontrollable degree.

At this rate, it’ll be over for the Hightower family.

Jessica’s eyes became filled with panic, followed by hatred.

It’s all because of Roxanne! As if seducing Jack wasn’t enough, she even went after Lucian when he already has a fiancée! None of this would’ve happened to our family if it weren’t for her!

Chapter 736 Who Dares Question You

The next morning, Roxanne woke up and immediately checked the comments online. She was now the most trending person on Twitter. Thinking that the comments were leaning to her disadvantage, Roxanne’s heart sank as she glanced at the first post with a frown.

To her surprise, the most viral Tweet was a video of her own professor in an interview. It wasn’t just him; many of Harvey’s internationally-renowned research partners from his overseas institutes were present too.

“I’ve long heard about the Damaris family’s project,” Harvey stated in the video. “As Janet’s professor, I’m extremely proud that my student has been chosen to take part in this project. I’ve also come across many comments on her medical prowess within the nation. Please give Janet your trust for she’ll be sure to surprise you.”

The man had a smile on his face, but his eyes looked stern. After he was done speaking, it was the other researchers’ turn to give their opinion about Roxanne.

Upon seeing those familiar faces, emotion swirled within Roxanne as her eyes began to water. The comment section under this post blew up, but unlike yesterday, most of the comments were of people apologizing to Roxanne.

Bibomama: Janet? Is this the same Janet I know? She actually came back to the country in secret, and she's this gorgeous?

11Zollo22: She'd make it big with just her looks, but she's relying on her talents instead? That's it. I'm officially a fan of hers now.

Most of the comments indicated surprise that Roxanne was actually Janet, and those who had never heard of the latter were quickly filled in by other netizens.

Janet wasn't as popular in the country compared to Roxanne, but she was still fairly well-known internationally, so it was more acceptable for her to be joining the Damaris family project as the former.

Thanks to yesterday's news, Roxanne's good looks had added a touch of color to Janet's name.

Now, Janet was referred to as the goddess of the medical world by social media.

Roxanne hadn't gotten used to the sudden changes in opinions that had occurred overnight.

After scrolling on her phone a while longer, she exited Twitter and looked up her professor's contact so she could thank him.

Yet, a phone call came from the latter just as she was about to dial his number.

The woman picked up immediately. "Professor Lambert—"

"Why didn't you tell me about something this serious? What do you take me for?" Harvey questioned her right away.

In spite of his sullen tone, Roxanne felt a sense of warmth well up within her, for she knew he was only worried about her. "I'm sorry, Professor Lambert. It all happened because of me, so..."

If she were to disclose her identity as Janet, it wouldn't take long for everyone to figure out that she was Harvey's student.

Given the severity of yesterday's comments, the woman was afraid of ruining Harvey's reputation. She didn't want others rebuking him for having such an unethical student.

The sudden turn of tides today had to be due to both the Queen family and Jessica's respective statements.

"I'm not having any of your excuses. You're my student, and if anyone dares question you, that means they're questioning me too," Harvey declared.

Chapter 737 Open Admiration

Roxanne was moved upon hearing Harvey's words. "I understand. Thank you, Professor."

Unable to stand seeing her being slandered by netizens online, Harvey softened his tone after giving her a quick lecture. "Give it your all now that everyone knows you're my student. Don't let me down."

Roxanne grinned. "I'll do my best."

"I believe in you," encouraged Harvey. "Also, that Damaris kid. He's not bad, you know—"

"Professor!" Roxanne hurriedly cut him off knowing what he was about to say. "I have to make breakfast for Archie and Benny. I'll talk to you next time."

Harvey stopped at the mention of the two boys. "All right. Say hi to them for me."

"Okay," the woman responded before pausing briefly. "Please thank everyone on my behalf."

Harvey readily agreed.

Then, they both hung up.

A knock came on the door right after the call ended.

Roxanne glanced at the time before quickly getting out of bed. She opened the door to find Archie and Benny standing outside.

"Are you not feeling well, Mommy?" they asked, staring straight at her.

The children would normally be eating breakfast by then, but they had waited much longer than usual that morning only to realize there was no food, nor had their mother left her room.

Hence, they made their way over, worried that Roxanne may have fallen sick.

“Sorry for keeping you waiting. I was just in the middle of a call with Professor Lambert,” the woman apologized while caressing her sons’ heads. “Why don’t you go heat up some milk?”

Relieved that she was in good health, the boys headed back downstairs to prepare breakfast.

Roxanne then went back into the room to wash up.

By the time she was done, her sons had already prepared breakfast, including her share.

Upon taking a seat at the dining table, Roxanne suddenly recalled something. Now that the comments are looking better, I won’t have to trouble Lucian by getting him to come and pick the boys up.

Yet, the doorbell rang just as she was about to dial Lucian’s number.

As Roxanne stopped tapping on her phone and was just on her way to get the door, the two boys ran ahead in excitement and opened the mansion gates without even looking at the security camera footage.

They knew who was waiting outside.

“Good morning, Mr. Farwell!” Archie and Benny greeted in their squeaky voices.

Lucian nodded at them.

Estella wished the boys a good morning before dashing straight into the house and throwing herself into Roxanne’s arms.

“Ms. Jarvis!” she called out exuberantly while clinging to the woman.

Roxanne stilled momentarily before beaming and stroking the girl’s head. “You sure are early today, Essie.”

The child gazed up at her, looking as though there were stars in her eyes. “That’s because I couldn’t wait to see you, Ms. Jarvis!”

Roxanne felt her heart melt as she heard that, and for a second, she didn’t know how to respond to the little girl’s adoration toward her.

At that moment, Lucian walked in and raised an eyebrow upon seeing the boys’ breakfast on the dining table.

Not waiting for him to say anything, Archie and Benny took out two glasses of warm milk and placed them on the table before turning to him eagerly. “We warmed these up ourselves!”

[Leaving The Country After Divorce Chapter 730](#)

Chapter 730 What Makes You Say That

As the hubbub got closer, Lucian soon entered Roxanne’s field of vision, spotting a stern expression. Roxanne stared at the man before her in astonishment. “Why are you here?”

His formal outfit suggested that he was just in a meeting, yet his tie appeared loose as though it had been tugged slightly. Upon hearing her query, Lucian’s expression turned icy. “If you can come, why can’t I?”

After saying that, he shot her a look while suppressing his anger before turning to face the reporters behind him, his cold eyes swept across their faces. “If you have any questions, I can answer on her behalf.”

The crowd shuddered at his gaze, and everyone turned to look at one another. No one dared to say a word for some time. Given Lucian’s status, if they said something wrong that day, they might lose their jobs.

No one wanted to face that kind of repercussion. Lucian frowned and grabbed the wrist of the woman behind him before glancing at the crowd in front of him. “If there are no questions, I’m taking her away.”

Without waiting for a reaction, he held Roxanne's hand and pulled her out of the crowd. The previously clamoring crowd fell silent as the two passed by and was even compelled by Lucian's powerful aura to make way for them.

Coming out of the crowd, Roxanne had not had time to breathe a sigh of relief when she looked at the person in front of her, and her anxiety only increased further.

"Get in." Lucian brought her all the way to his car and said in a terrifyingly chilly voice as he opened the passenger door.

Roxanne pursed her lips slightly but stood still. "I drove here, so I can just drive myself back in a bit."

Although flustered, she still kept her composure.

The rumors about Jack and me haven't been clarified and will only become more outrageous if I get into Lucian's car in front of those reporters.

Her rejection further enraged Lucian.

Earlier that day, as soon as he came out of the conference room, he was stopped by Cayden, who stammered out the news about Roxanne and Jack to him.

Lucian already had a suspicion about the two's relationship, so when he saw the photos circulating on the internet, he merely felt irony.

Yet, the next moment, he saw the scene where Roxanne appeared at the entrance of the research institute and was surrounded by people.

Even though rage surged up within him, he still rushed over.

Even so, this woman repeatedly rejects my kindness!

Roxanne noticed the man's increasingly cold expression and softened her voice a little. "I don't want to be misunderstood anymore. Go now. Otherwise, even you will be dragged into this mess."

Upon hearing the tone of her voice, a look of suspicion flashed in Lucian's eyes before he lifted his gaze to glance at the crowd not far away.

Everyone was blatantly staring at them, but when they saw him looking over, they quickly withdrew their gazes and dispersed as though nothing had happened.

Only then did Lucian shift his gaze to the woman before him and ask with a frown, “What makes you say that?”

Roxanne looked up to meet his gaze and noticed that the sense of trust was more prevalent despite the doubt in his eyes.

She knew very well what his suspicions were.

While everyone else was suspicious of the reason she could participate in the project, he merely doubted her relationship with Jack.

At the thought, other than the bitterness within her, Roxanne also found it a little funny that even after her many explanations, Lucian persisted in his thoughts about her relationship with Jack.

Even though he did help me, I bet he’s still irritated by those photos.

Chapter 731 How To Clarify

Roxanne looked at the man before her. At the thought that he came to help her out of the situation despite being angry, she was moved and softened her expression as she briefly and concisely told him what had happened the day before.

“Ms. Hightower told Jack to get in touch with me, saying that she wanted to apologize to me in person. I went for the appointment as I couldn’t refuse her request. I never expected to be photographed then. The photo of us holding hands was Jack supporting me because I nearly fell down the stairs. I knew I’d be drinking during the meal so I didn’t drive. Jack drove me there instead as we were heading the same way, and he sent me back afterward. He only dropped me at the entrance and didn’t even get out of the car.”

She knew what explanation the man wanted from her, so she picked the part he wanted to hear in the hope that it would calm him down and he would not put her in a difficult spot before the media.

Lucian’s eyes darkened when he heard her explanation. The suspicion in his eyes gradually faded alongside the anger within him, but he quickly discovered something was off.

“If Jessica went to apologize to you, why are you and Jack the only two people in the photo? Where was she?”

Roxanne’s tone was hesitant when she replied with a slight frown, “Ms. Hightower told us to eat first as she was stuck in traffic. That photo was taken while we were

waiting for her.”

A cold glint flashed across Lucian’s eyes as he nodded.

“Today’s news is truly just a misunderstanding. You don’t need to be angry about it, Mr. Farwell, so go back quickly,” Roxanne urged with furrowed brows when she noticed someone filming in the corner.

Lucian followed her gaze and narrowed his eyes dangerously when he saw the camera in the corner.

Seeing that, the reporter holding it trembled, got up in fear, and ran away.

Only then did Lucian turn around. “Can you get in the car now, Ms. Jarvis?” he asked indifferently.

Roxanne did not expect him to be so insistent and felt a little helpless. “There are enough people involved in this matter. I don’t want it to affect people who have nothing to do with it.”

As her words fell, she saw the man’s eyes darkening and tensed up involuntarily.

“Such small trouble can’t affect me.” Lucian grabbed her wrist and led her in the direction of the car. “Nor do I want to be just an irrelevant person in your eyes.”

Roxanne felt her heart skip a beat when she heard that, and by the time she reacted, he had already sat her down in his car.

Outside the car window, many reporters merely looked over dumbfoundedly, holding their cameras up but not daring to take any photos.

As the car slowly drove away from the entrance of the research institute, those reporters and the crowd were also left far behind.

The noise surrounding Roxanne also faded into silence.

She could not help but stare blankly at Lucian’s impassive profile, and she unknowingly calmed down.

Neither of them uttered a single word throughout the car ride.

Roxanne did not even ask Lucian where he was taking her, merely contemplating how she was going to clarify the rumors later with narrowed eyes.

By the time she snapped back to reality, they had arrived at her house.

“Rest well at home these two days. I’ll handle the chaos online and take charge of picking up Archie and Benny,” Lucian said solemnly.

Roxanne, however, appeared a little hesitant when she heard his words. “It’s fine. I’ll get a friend to pick them up.”

“What if the reporters find the kindergarten?” Lucian shot down her idea with a frown. “Can your friend handle it?”

The thought of the reporters heckling her children caused a sinking feeling to creep into Roxanne’s heart. In the end, she agreed, “In that case... I’ll leave them in your care, Mr. Farwell.”

Chapter 732 Troubling Alfred

In the evening, after kindergarten class was over, Archie and Benny stared at their father standing before them in confusion.

“Your mommy has something to do, so I’ll be in charge of sending you to school for the next few days,” Lucian explained in a deep voice.

The boys exchanged glances upon hearing his words but did not give it much thought. After all, from their perspective, whichever of their parents doing that was the same.

The fact that Mommy is leaving the matter of sending us to school to Daddy means their relationship is developing in a good direction.

As that thought came into their minds, Archie and Benny were secretly pleased as they obediently followed Lucian into the car.

Estella was also on cloud nine.

If Daddy is responsible for taking Archie and Benny to school these few days, it means I get to visit Ms. Jarvis’ home every day!

All three kids were in a good mood and chattered away in the back seat.

Unlike them, Lucian was thinking of Roxanne with a solemn look.

It’s obvious that Jessica was behind this incident. It seems that the lesson I gave to the Hightower family last time wasn’t good enough, so she still has the energy to come out and cause trouble!

Lucian stopped the car once they arrived at Roxanne’s house and brought the three children into the mansion.

At that moment, Roxanne was preparing dinner in the kitchen while thinking about everything that had happened earlier that day.

She was so distracted that she did not notice that the children had returned.

“Mommy!” The kids did not think much of it, merely running excitedly to the kitchen once they had changed their shoes.

Only then did Roxanne snap back to her senses and look down at the children with a smile.

Benny hugged his mother’s thigh innocently. “Mommy, why did Mr. Farwell pick us up? Where’s Aunt Madilyn?”

Hearing that, Roxanne subconsciously lifted her gaze to look at the man in the living room.

She did not expect the children to ask such a question, so she did not prepare an explanation.

Similarly caught off guard by the question, Lucian looked at Benny with a frown.

After a long while, Roxanne finally came up with a random excuse. “Aunt Madilyn has to work overtime for the next two days and is very busy.”

Benny noticed his mother was acting strangely, but he figured that she was probably too shy to tell them about her relationship progress with their father, so he

simply nodded understandingly. “All right then. We’ll be good and listen to Mr. Farwell.”

Seeing that the boy did not ask any further questions, Roxanne breathed a sigh of relief and absentmindedly patted the children’s heads.

Meanwhile, in the living room, Lucian noticed that the children were surrounding Roxanne, so he got up, went to the balcony, and called Jonathan.

On the other side, Jonathan had belatedly learned the news about Roxanne and was preparing to contact Lucian.

Hence, he immediately picked up the call and, without waiting for Lucian to speak, said, “I already learned about Dr. Jarvis’ matter. I think I should be of help.”

Lucian smiled when he heard that. “I also contacted you for this matter.”

At present, the netizens were mostly questioning whether Roxanne was qualified enough to join the Damaris family’s project and how she managed to join it.

No one knew the answer to that question better than Alfred.

If the old man willingly clarified in her defense, the discussions would naturally die down.

However, the Queen family would be dragged into the farce as a consequence.

“Don’t worry. Dr. Jarvis’ matter is your matter, and your matter is mine as well.

My family will definitely help you out. After all, only we can help,” Jonathan replied with conviction.

Lucian hummed in response. “Indeed. This matter can only die down with Old Mr. Queen’s intervention. Sorry to trouble him, and I’ll pay a visit to thank him next time.”

Chapter 733 Waiting For Her Response

Jonathan smiled meaningfully when he heard his friend’s words. “You can’t come alone. The person my grandpa is helping is Dr. Jarvis, so you must bring her along.”

Lucian responded with a light chuckle, “I plan on doing that.”

After engaging in small talk for a while longer, the two hung up.

Lucian turned around and went back into the living room.

By then, Roxanne was done making dinner and was sitting at the dining table with the children, waiting for him to go over and eat together.

A hint of warmth flitted across Lucian’s eyes when he saw the scene before him.

He walked over and—upon noticing the extra plate and cutlery on the table—asked knowingly, “Did you prepare this for me, Ms. Jarvis?”

Roxanne nodded gently in response. “Since I’m troubling you to ferry Archie and Benny to and fro from school for the next few days, Mr. Farwell, you can have dinner at my place.”

Before Lucian could respond, Estella threw up her hands joyfully. “Thank you,

Ms. Jarvis!”

Roxanne smiled, feeling much more relaxed than before, as she watched the young girl’s delight.

Since Estella had replied, Lucian arched his brows but said nothing, merely picking up his fork and eating.

After dinner, the little girl was still reluctant to leave.

Seeing as it was still early, Roxanne and Lucian did not persist and allowed the children to play for a while longer.

After tidying up the dining room, Roxanne left the kitchen to see Lucian sitting on the couch with his brows furrowed, his slender hands rubbing circles on his temples. It looks like he has a headache.

Thinking of his recent insomnia, she hesitantly stepped forward and said softly, “Let me give you a massage. It’ll also help your insomnia.”

Lucian withdrew his hand and turned back to look at her before stating, “If you’re doing this because I helped you today, then forget it.”

He did not want her to be nice to him just to return the favor.

His words brought a frown to Roxanne’s face, and for a moment, she did not know how to reply.

Now that she thought about it, she also could not figure out why she said those words just now.

Yet, seeing Lucian’s slightly haggard face triggered a strange feeling in her heart.

Lucian frowned but kept silent, waiting for her reply.

However, there were no movements behind him.

Just when he was about to shoot her another question, a pair of hands rested on his temples and massaged them softly.

Lucian’s eyes darkened at her actions, but he still did not utter a word.

With Roxanne’s personality, if she only intended to return the favor, she wouldn’t have given me a massage after hearing what I had just said. The fact that she’s doing this now shows that she’s not just being nice to me to repay the favor from the incident earlier day. Well, this is enough for me.

He could not deny that the headache caused by insomnia was greatly relieved under her ministrations.

Lucian even felt a little drowsy.

Feeling sleepiness threatening to overwhelm him, he raised his hand and grabbed her wrist, pulling her hand down.

Roxanne was taken aback by his action.

“As expected of the top traditional medicine doctor. My headache is much better.”

Lucian got up from the couch. “It’s getting late. I should take Estella back. I’ll pick up Archie and Benny in the morning.”

At that, Roxanne nodded somewhat sluggishly and watched as Lucian walked

toward the backyard.

Not long after, Estella was led into the mansion by her father before bidding Roxanne farewell obediently.

Roxanne smiled at the little girl and followed them out of the mansion. Only after Lucian's car had gone a distance away did she turn around and head back in.

Chapter 734 Quick Turnaround

That very night, the Queen family announced that Roxanne was the one who had cured Alfred's sickness, resulting in the latter nominating her as a candidate for the Damaris family's project.

The internet went abuzz right after that.

In a short span of time, those who were initially against Roxanne now sided with her, although there were some who still questioned her ability.

Roxanne was astounded to suddenly receive such an update before going to bed. She had once thought of asking Alfred to help clear the air, but she also didn't want to involve him in the whole ordeal.

Yet, the Queen family had decided to help her voluntarily.

Thanks to that, the situation was now far more controlled compared to during the day, even if some remained doubtful of her.

Not wanting to disrupt Alfred's quiet time, Roxanne decided to dial Jonathan's number.

The latter had just finished taking care of his family's PR errands when he answered Roxanne's call.

"I just saw the announcement made by your family. Thank you for speaking up for me, Mr. Queen," the woman said with gratitude.

Jonathan let out a profound chuckle. "Don't just thank me. To be honest, I took a lot of risks over this matter. I wouldn't necessarily have spoken up if it were just for your sake."

Roxanne froze briefly upon hearing that, and she thought back to the similar tone he had used during the medical consultation back at the orphanage.

She had thanked him under the assumption that he had helped her when it was, in fact, Lucian's decision all along.

Did he do something again?

"Did Lucian go and look for you?" Roxanne surmised.

Jonathan's laughter came through the phone instantly. "That's right. Well, I did consider taking action, but it was Lucian's personal phone call that really convinced me to make the announcement. So if you want to express your gratitude, I'm not the only one you should be thanking."

Conflict swirled within Roxanne's heart.

So that phone call he made on the balcony while I was making dinner was to Mr.

Queen? He was asking him to make an appearance and help me. He probably would've continued to keep this from me if Mr. Queen hadn't explained anything. Roxanne felt perplexed at the thought of this.

"I will, Mr. Queen. Thank you," she finally responded, concealing her mixed emotions. "I'll thank Old Mr. Queen in person another time."

Jonathan agreed with a smile.

Right after hanging up, Roxanne opened up her chat conversation with Lucian, but even after staring at her screen for God knows how long, she couldn't figure out what to write.

Ultimately, she put her phone away without sending out a single text message.

Back at the Hightower residence, Stephen thought that since his daughter had apologized to Roxanne and the latter had forgiven her, Lucian would now let them off and that they were clear from danger.

Yet, even after waiting all day, the situation remained the same as that of the past two days, with various companies calling in and asking to terminate joint projects for all sorts of reasons.

Things became direr by night, where those who called couldn't even come up with any more excuses, instead telling Stephen frankly that Lucian had told them not to work with the Hightowers. Naturally, Stephen dared not say anything in response. It was only after hanging up that he realized something amiss, so he headed upstairs to knock on Jessica's door.

The young woman was currently staring at her phone with a grim expression.

It's only been one day! I took so long planning everything, and yet the tables have already turned? To think that even the Queen family backed that woman up!

What's so great about her?

Chapter 735 An Uncontrollable Degree

Boiling with rage, Stephen banged on the door.

Jessica glanced at the door with a sullen look before getting up and walking over.

She saw how infuriated her father looked the moment she opened the door.

"Is this your doing?" the man roared at her.

Jessica froze momentarily.

Although he had lost her temper with her in the past, this was her first time seeing him so livid.

It's all Roxanne's fault.

In spite of her fear, the woman mustered up the courage to stare at her father.

"What did I do wrong? All I wanted was to show everyone her true colors!"

Stephen's brows furrowed deeply at that. "What did you say?"

"Seriously, I don't know what people see in her that even the Queen family would step forward to defend her! I'll never believe she could cure Old Mr. Queen!"

Stephen grew puzzled at her words, and deep down, he began to sense that something was off.

It felt as though his daughter had committed something atrocious unbeknown to him.

Feeling his stomach drop upon recalling what Farwell Group had done tonight, he strode into Jessica's bedroom and gazed at her phone screen.

Then, he picked up the device to see a string of comments—all of which were about Roxanne.

It all started from the three photos that surfaced last night.

At that moment, Stephen realized that his daughter was behind the whole incident.

“You imbecile!” With a bellow, he smashed Jessica's phone into bits.

The woman jumped in fright and stared at her father. “Are you insane? What are you getting all worked up for?”

Yet, she received a vicious slap across the face as soon as her words fell.

She clutched her cheek and turned to her father in disbelief.

“Do you have any idea who has Roxanne's back?” Stephen yelled in fury. “It's because you got on her nerves back then that Farwell Group started giving us hell the very next day! Why do you think I told you to apologize to her? But look at what you've done now! Do you think Farwell Group's going to let us off this time?”

Jessica was rendered speechless for a moment. “That can't be... I know Lucian's fiancée. Why would he ever back Roxanne up?”

Seeing that the circumstances had unfolded to such an extent, Stephen could only cling to the last hope he possibly had. “I want you to apologize to Roxanne publicly! Do it now and post it online. We might still stand a chance if you manage to subdue these comments!”

Despite her reluctance, Jessica knew she had no choice but to concede when Farwell Group was against them.

In a matter of minutes, she used another phone to post a public apology on Twitter, citing her jealousy over Roxanne and Jack's relationship as the reason behind her actions.

Her words appeared sincere enough, but unfortunately, the post caused nothing more than a small buzz before being flooded by similar comments once again.

Even if more people now believed in Roxanne, the suspicions from those who didn't still carry a considerable amount of impact on her.

Both Jessica and Stephen's faces turned increasingly pale as the number of comments continued to pick up.

Evidently, the situation had escalated to an uncontrollable degree.

At this rate, it'll be over for the Hightower family.

Jessica's eyes became filled with panic, followed by hatred.

It's all because of Roxanne! As if seducing Jack wasn't enough, she even went after Lucian when he already has a fiancée! None of this would've happened to our family if it weren't for her!

Chapter 736 Who Dares Question You

The next morning, Roxanne woke up and immediately checked the comments online. She was now the most trending person on Twitter. Thinking that the comments were leaning to her disadvantage, Roxanne's heart sank as she glanced at the first post with a frown.

To her surprise, the most viral Tweet was a video of her own professor in an interview. It wasn't just him; many of Harvey's internationally-renowned research partners from his overseas institutes were present too.

"I've long heard about the Damaris family's project," Harvey stated in the video. "As Janet's professor, I'm extremely proud that my student has been chosen to take part in this project. I've also come across many comments on her medical prowess within the nation. Please give Janet your trust for she'll be sure to surprise you."

The man had a smile on his face, but his eyes looked stern. After he was done speaking, it was the other researchers' turn to give their opinion about Roxanne.

Upon seeing those familiar faces, emotion swirled within Roxanne as her eyes began to water. The comment section under this post blew up, but unlike yesterday, most of the comments were of people apologizing to Roxanne.

Bibomama: Janet? Is this the same Janet I know? She actually came back to the country in secret, and she's this gorgeous?

11Zollo22: She'd make it big with just her looks, but she's relying on her talents instead? That's it. I'm officially a fan of hers now.

Most of the comments indicated surprise that Roxanne was actually Janet, and those who had never heard of the latter were quickly filled in by other netizens.

Janet wasn't as popular in the country compared to Roxanne, but she was still fairly well-known internationally, so it was more acceptable for her to be joining the Damaris family project as the former.

Thanks to yesterday's news, Roxanne's good looks had added a touch of color to Janet's name.

Now, Janet was referred to as the goddess of the medical world by social media.

Roxanne hadn't gotten used to the sudden changes in opinions that had occurred overnight.

After scrolling on her phone a while longer, she exited Twitter and looked up her professor's contact so she could thank him.

Yet, a phone call came from the latter just as she was about to dial his number.

The woman picked up immediately. "Professor Lambert—"

"Why didn't you tell me about something this serious? What do you take me for?" Harvey questioned her right away.

In spite of his sullen tone, Roxanne felt a sense of warmth well up within her, for she knew he was only worried about her. "I'm sorry, Professor Lambert. It all happened because of me, so..."

If she were to disclose her identity as Janet, it wouldn't take long for everyone to figure out that she was Harvey's student.

Given the severity of yesterday's comments, the woman was afraid of ruining Harvey's reputation. She didn't want others rebuking him for having such an unethical student.

The sudden turn of tides today had to be due to both the Queen family and Jessica's respective statements.

"I'm not having any of your excuses. You're my student, and if anyone dares question you, that means they're questioning me too," Harvey declared.

Chapter 737 Open Admiration

Roxanne was moved upon hearing Harvey's words. "I understand. Thank you, Professor."

Unable to stand seeing her being slandered by netizens online, Harvey softened his tone after giving her a quick lecture. “Give it your all now that everyone knows you’re my student. Don’t let me down.”

Roxanne grinned. “I’ll do my best.”

“I believe in you,” encouraged Harvey. “Also, that Damaris kid. He’s not bad, you know—”

“Professor!” Roxanne hurriedly cut him off knowing what he was about to say. “I have to make breakfast for Archie and Benny. I’ll talk to you next time.”

Harvey stopped at the mention of the two boys. “All right. Say hi to them for me.”

“Okay,” the woman responded before pausing briefly. “Please thank everyone on my behalf.”

Harvey readily agreed.

Then, they both hung up.

A knock came on the door right after the call ended.

Roxanne glanced at the time before quickly getting out of bed. She opened the door to find Archie and Benny standing outside.

“Are you not feeling well, Mommy?” they asked, staring straight at her.

The children would normally be eating breakfast by then, but they had waited much longer than usual that morning only to realize there was no food, nor had their mother left her room.

Hence, they made their way over, worried that Roxanne may have fallen sick.

“Sorry for keeping you waiting. I was just in the middle of a call with Professor Lambert,” the woman apologized while caressing her sons’ heads. “Why don’t you go heat up some milk?”

Relieved that she was in good health, the boys headed back downstairs to prepare breakfast.

Roxanne then went back into the room to wash up.

By the time she was done, her sons had already prepared breakfast, including her share.

Upon taking a seat at the dining table, Roxanne suddenly recalled something. Now that the comments are looking better, I won't have to trouble Lucian by getting him to come and pick the boys up.

Yet, the doorbell rang just as she was about to dial Lucian's number.

As Roxanne stopped tapping on her phone and was just on her way to get the door, the two boys ran ahead in excitement and opened the mansion gates without even looking at the security camera footage.

They knew who was waiting outside.

“Good morning, Mr. Farwell!” Archie and Benny greeted in their squeaky voices.

Lucian nodded at them.

Estella wished the boys a good morning before dashing straight into the house and throwing herself into Roxanne's arms.

“Ms. Jarvis!” she called out exuberantly while clinging to the woman.

Roxanne stilled momentarily before beaming and stroking the girl's head. “You sure are early today, Essie.”

The child gazed up at her, looking as though there were stars in her eyes. “That's because I couldn't wait to see you, Ms. Jarvis!”

Roxanne felt her heart melt as she heard that, and for a second, she didn't know how to respond to the little girl's adoration toward her.

At that moment, Lucian walked in and raised an eyebrow upon seeing the boys' breakfast on the dining table.

Not waiting for him to say anything, Archie and Benny took out two glasses of warm milk and placed them on the table before turning to him eagerly. “We warmed these up ourselves!”

Chapter 738 No Evidence

Lucian's frown deepened when he heard the boys, and he eventually decided to hold his tongue. As the children looked on eagerly, Lucian sat down at the table and took a sip of the drink made by Archie and Benny.

Estella, too, happily joined her father and drank a mouthful until she ended up with a milk mustache. "Archie, Benny, you guys are amazing!" she exclaimed.

Wow! I've never even made breakfast for myself before! Amused by the look of admiration on Estella's face, Roxanne chuckled and promptly handed her a piece of tissue.

Archie and Benny, on the contrary, were feeling mighty proud of themselves after the little girl's compliment. "You could've told me if you didn't have time to prepare breakfast. I can always take the kids out to eat," Lucian said in a low voice.

Right there and then, Roxanne suddenly remembered why she had wanted to call earlier and turned her attention to Lucian. "I've already settled everything on my end, Mr. Farwell. I won't have to trouble you again."

As for what she was referring to, the two of them knew perfectly well while the three kids stayed in the dark. All the kids knew was that they'd no longer be able to attend school together, which left them sorely disappointed.

Puzzled, Lucian furrowed his brows and glanced at Roxanne.

What? I can't believe Roxanne has managed to settle the matter. I left so hastily this morning that I haven't even read the online discussion. Did the Farwell Group's warning to the Hightower family last night work? Was that why everything worked out?

"Professor Lambert helped me quite a bit," Roxanne said with a smile. "That's why it all went rather smoothly."

Upon hearing that Harvey had lent a helping hand, Lucian began to feel his inner doubts melt away.

After all, Harvey was a more persuasive and compelling figure in the medical field than the Farwell Group could ever be.

Alas, it wasn't convenient for Roxanne and Lucian to discuss the matter in front of the children, so the latter merely nodded his acknowledgment. "Got it."

After breakfast, Roxanne decided to head out with her family since she figured there wouldn't be any problems at the research institute.

With that, the three children piled into her car and followed behind Lucian's car to the kindergarten.

Before long, Roxanne had dropped the kids off with Pippa and watched them walk into school.

However, instead of leaving, she turned around to look at Lucian. "Thank you for your help in this matter, Mr. Farwell."

Surprised, the man cocked a brow in response.

That's odd. I did indeed help a lot, but I also made sure to keep everything on the down low. How did she find out about it?

"Well, I called Mr. Queen up," Roxanne hurriedly explained. "Moreover, if it weren't for the pressure from Farwell Group, I doubt Jessica would've apologized to me publicly."

In all honesty, Roxanne was shocked when Jessica's public apology went online the night before. Thanks to that, however, Harvey's interview in the morning yielded immediate results.

She had always suspected Jessica to have masterminded the controversy, but alas, she couldn't find the evidence to back her speculation up.

Furthermore, Jessica wasn't the kind to apologize on her own accord, which could only mean that someone else was pulling the strings.

Jack had run off early in the morning to investigate, but since Roxanne had yet to hear back from him, it'd be safe to assume that the matter had nothing to do with the Damaris family.

After much pondering, her only conclusion was that Lucian must have stepped in to help.

Come to think of it, isn't it strange that he's been helping me out so much in secret?

Realizing that Roxanne had already figured out the truth, Lucian knew he didn't have to hide it anymore. "Please be more careful if you encounter such a situation again."

To that, Roxanne nodded sheepishly in agreement.

Chapter 739 Do Not Let Her Off

Meanwhile, in the hotel, Aubree had also caught up with everything that had happened over the past two days.

Even though she didn't know who the mastermind was, she was elated when she saw Roxanne getting questioned by the online community.

Ha! I'm sure that b*tch won't be able to recover from such a powerful online onslaught. That way, she will eventually be forced to leave the country even if I don't take any action. When that time comes, I'll have Lucian all to myself!

As a result, Aubree continued to pay close attention to the discussions online, thinking that netizens would continue to attack and scold Roxanne.

To her horror, everything took a sudden turn later that night.

The first wave of anger hit Aubree when Queen Group published its statement, causing her to toss and turn the entire night as she wondered how she could blow the matter up.

Unfortunately, the situation only worsened when Jessica issued a public apology and confessed to spreading the nasty rumors out of sheer jealousy.

Since they were both in Horington's upper-class social circle, Aubree knew Jessica's reputation well enough to surmise that the latter couldn't have apologized on her own. Something must have happened that forced her to take such a drastic measure.

Therefore, as frustrating as things were, Aubree didn't dare to act rashly.

After staying up all night seething with rage, she was distracted when her phone suddenly rang in the morning.

Upon seeing that it was an unknown caller, Aubree hung up the phone without hesitation.

From the day before till that morning, she felt like she had been on an emotional rollercoaster that sent her plummeting to rock bottom.

When Harvey's interview came on, the atmosphere around her became even more frighteningly frigid, so why would she be in any mood to answer a stranger's call?

To Aubree's surprise, she had only just ended the call when she received a text from the same number: Ms. Pearson, don't you want to hear about Mr. Farwell?"

The mention of Lucian instantly grabbed Aubree's attention as she furrowed her brow and carefully weighed her options.

In the end, she decided to call the number, and the person on the other end answered within seconds.

"Who are you?" Aubree asked coldly.

Eyes blazing with fury, Jessica replied, "It doesn't matter if you don't know me, Ms. Pearson. All you need to know is the relationship between Mr. Farwell and Roxanne Jarvis!"

Upon hearing that, Aubree felt her heart sink.

What? I can't believe she knows about Lucian and Roxanne! If word gets out, what would people think about me as the fiancée?

Aubree replied cautiously, "What are you talking about? I don't understand what you're implying!"

"Ha! You'd better keep an eye on Roxanne Jarvis, Ms. Pearson. Because of her, Mr. Farwell pushed Hightower Group to its edge in just one day," Jessica snapped. "Now that you know what he's willing to do for Roxanne, what do you think their relationship's like?"

Needless to say, Aubree's heart sank even further.

The Farwell Group took action, huh? I've always known there was something between Lucian and that b*tch, but I never expected him to go to such lengths for her!

“Wait a minute. Are you Jessica Hightower?” Aubree asked.

A cold chuckle rang out on the other end before Jessica's voice sounded again. “I'm surprised that you'd even know me, Ms. Pearson. Don't worry. I won't divulge anything about the relationship between Lucian and that b*tch. That said, I do hope you won't let her off!”

With that, Aubree finally heaved a sigh of relief. “Thank you for informing me. Since that b*tch has the guts to seduce Lucian, I'll make her pay for it!”

Chapter 740 Ask Someone To Send You

After hanging up the call, all Aubree could think of was everything Lucian had done for Roxanne.

At the same time, she felt grateful for staying out of that matter. If I'd done anything, Lucian would definitely find out. If that happens, I'm afraid I'll face a fate as terrible as Jessica's. Still, Lucian is blatantly favoring that b*tch, Roxanne, now. If this situation drags on, I'll risk losing my position as Lucian's fiancée! I need to make a move.

Aubree sat inside the room for the entire morning but failed to come up with any plan. In the afternoon, when the waitress came to deliver her meal, she got up to open the door.

Aubree frowned slightly at the sight of the waitress pushing the cart full of food into the room as an idea popped into her head.

The waitress was shifting the plates of food from the cart to the dining table when a hand suddenly appeared from behind her.

“That's not needed. I'll do it myself,” Aubree uttered gently.

The waitress was stunned after hearing that. She regained her senses after a few seconds and instinctively rejected, “This is my obligation. You—”

Before she could finish the rest of her sentence, the waitress felt someone slam into her.

“Ah!” Aubree yelped and staggered two steps backward. Then, she fell to the floor on her side as an agonized expression spread across her face.

Even before the waitress could make sense of the unexpected turns of events, she already realized anyone who could stay in the presidential suite was either very affluent or highly influential, so there was no doubt she could not afford to offend this woman.

Regardless of whether she had anything to do with the customer’s fall, there was no way for her to deny responsibility since that incident happened when she delivered the meal.

“I’m terribly sorry. It was my fault for being careless. Are you all right?” the waitress hastily apologized without hesitation.

Aubree held her arm and wore a tight frown. “My arm is hurting so badly.”

The waitress panicked at once after hearing that. “I’ll send you to the hospital right away!”

She reached out to help Aubree up from the floor as she spoke.

Naturally, Aubree’s goal was not to visit the hospital. When she heard the waitress’ offer, she immediately shook her head. “That’s not needed. I’m going to make a phone call.”

Perturbation overwhelmed the waitress’ mind after Aubree said she wanted to make a phone call.

Since Aubree did not order her to leave, the waitress had no other choice but to remain rooted in her spot and wait.

Subsequently, Aubree dialed Lucian’s phone number, but it took quite a while for the call to be picked up.

“What’s the matter?” Lucian asked coldly. He had just finished his work in the morning and was about to have lunch when he suddenly received Aubree’s call.

An icy glint flashed across her eyes when she sensed his indifferent tone. Despite that, her tone was pitiful as she said, “Lucian, my arm is hurting.”

He furrowed his brows after listening to her. “Go to a hospital then.”

However, Lucian was swiftly reminded of his mother’s instruction to take care of Aubree, prompting him to add, “I’ll ask someone to send you to the hospital if necessary.”

Aubree’s expression grew increasingly ugly. “That’s not needed. The injury is not that severe, but it’s a little painful. It’ll be inconvenient for me to live alone in the hotel, so can I go to your place and stay there for a couple of days?”

The waitress was baffled when she saw the changes in Aubree’s expression and heard her tone. However, the next second, Aubree glared at the waitress, causing the latter to be scared out of her wits.

On the other end of the phone call, Lucian knitted his brows without showing any inclination to agree to Aubree’s request. All along, Roxanne has been wary of my status as Aubree’s fiancé, contributing to her reluctance to accept my pursuit. Her perception of me is finally improving now. If I allow Aubree to move into my house, I’m afraid all my previous efforts will go down the drain.

Chapter 741 Take Care Of You

Aubree was furious because Lucian did not reply even after some time. Still, she said tenderly, “I slipped and fell just now, and I think I aggravated my wound from the car accident previously. It hurts so bad.”

However, even after hearing that, Lucian merely replied emotionlessly, “If the pain is so severe, I’ll ask someone to send you to the hospital. I’ll hang up now if there’s nothing else. I have another meeting to attend in the afternoon.”

Aubree gritted her teeth. “All right. Get back to your work then.”

Lucian wasted no time disconnecting the call right after she spoke.

Her face turned grim as she stared at the darkening phone screen.

Standing at one side, the waitress piped up fearfully, “Miss, let me accompany you to the hospital—”

Before the waitress could finish her sentence, Aubree interrupted, “Get lost!”

The waitress shuddered. She looked up and saw Aubree, who had been complaining about how much her arm hurt a few moments ago, using her “injured” arm to knock all the dishes on the table to the floor.

The floor was a complete mess after a few seconds.

The waitress lamented inwardly, knowing she had been dragged into a tight spot yet not daring to utter a single word. She could only clean up the clutter on the floor as quickly as possible and leave the room before Aubree threw another fit of anger.

Aubree, eyes reddened, panted heavily inside the room. Why is this happening? I’ve waited for Lucian for so many years, staying obediently by his side without making any complaint, yet he’s giving me the cold shoulder. On the other hand, he’s treating that b*tch so well, even after her unannounced departure six years ago! What’s so good about that b*tch anyway?

The more Aubree pondered over the matter, the more furious she became. After venting her wrath briefly, she gritted her teeth and dialed Sonya’s number.

It did not take long before Sonya answered the call. “What’s the matter, Aubree?”

Aubree sobbed out, “Mrs. Farwell, I’m in pain.”

Sonya’s heart lurched with dread after hearing that. “What happened to you? Didn’t Lucian send someone to look after you?”

Aubree whimpered pitifully, “I’m at a hotel. I accidentally fell and appeared to have worsened my previous injuries. I called Lucian, but he told me he had work in the afternoon. Since my dad is still mad at me, I have no one else to turn to but you...”

Sonya frowned. “You’re at a hotel?”

Following Aubree’s argument with Samuel, Sonya had contacted her a few times before to express her concern. However, she was completely unaware that Aubree had been arranged to stay in a hotel.

At that moment, listening to Aubree describing the pain in her arm, heartache and frustration churned in Sonya. She was displeased that Lucian was mistreating the daughter-in-law she rooted for.

Aubree answered with a soft “yeah.” Then, she intentionally put up a thoughtful pretense by defending Lucian. “Lucian is swamped with work most of the time, so it doesn’t matter where I stay. Besides, Essie harbors an aversion to me now, so I want to avoid upsetting her by living under the same roof with them.”

As soon as she finished speaking, Sonya’s voice sounded through the phone’s speaker. “Where are you? I’ll go and pick you up at once.”

A hint of smugness flashed across Aubree’s face after she received her desired response. Still, she deliberately spoke in a timid voice when informing Sonya of the name of the hotel she was staying at.

With that, Sonya hung up the call and ordered the driver to send her to the hotel Aubree was at.

On the way to her destination, anger boiled within Sonya’s chest. I thought I placed Aubree in good hands by asking Lucian to care for her. However, little did I expect him to leave her alone and neglected in a hotel! He didn’t even take the time to visit Aubree when she’s suffering from a relapse!

