

Chapter 771 I Am Sorry

Shortly after, Archie's arm also started itching. Archie and Benny gazed at Roxanne blankly, not understanding what had happened to them.

A glint of self-recrimination flashed across Roxanne's eyes when she saw that they had both gotten infected.

If only I had closed the door earlier, I would've noticed their entry in time and stopped them from approaching. Then, they wouldn't have gotten infected...

"It's so itchy, Mommy." With a frown marring his countenance, Benny stretched out his hand to scratch the itch.

"Don't touch it!" Roxanne hastily ordered.

As her words rang out, Lucian stepped forward and grabbed Archie and Benny's hands to prevent them from simply scratching their itches.

Just now, he didn't dare touch them out of consideration that he was already infected. That was why he didn't physically stop them.

Since they had also been infected then, that was no longer a worry.

Meanwhile, Estella already had that experience. While refraining from scratching her body, she pinned her eyes on Archie and Benny as she apologized, "I'm sorry. This is all on me..."

When Archie and Benny heard that, they endured the itch assailing them and comforted her instead. "We asked for it. It has nothing to do with you."

After saying that, it occurred to them that Estella had suffered such torment for an indeterminably long time. Gritting their teeth, they turned solemn and said to Lucian, "Let go of us, Mr. Farwell. We won't scratch anywhere!"

Since Essie can endure it, we can naturally do the same! We need to be good role models for her!

Lucian eyed them both skeptically. Only when he was sure he couldn't detect any signs of lying did he slowly loosen his hold on them.

Sure enough, Archie and Benny didn't touch the red spots on their bodies throughout it all.

"Ms. Jarvis..." Estella muttered with much difficulty out of the blue.

Roxanne's heart lurched. She dropped her hand from Estella's wrist and touched the girl's face instead.

When they came over earlier, the red spots hadn't yet spread to her face.

Right then, however, her entire face was stained red.

With a single touch, Roxanne discovered that Estella was already running a slight fever. At once, her heart sank.

"What's wrong?" Lucian inquired with a frown, his expression likewise darkening a shade.

Shaking her head, Roxanne merely murmured, "I'm stepping out to make a call."

After saying that, she instructed the three children, "I'm going out for a while. Don't touch the red spots on your bodies."

In response, the children nodded obediently.

Having obtained their agreement, Roxanne pivoted and left the room.

His brows scrunching together, Lucian touched Estella's forehead. Upon detecting that she was running a fever, he initially wanted to step out after Roxanne to ask about her condition. But it was clear that someone needed to keep the children company, so he could only give that plan up.

At the door, Roxanne rolled up her sleeves and took a gander at her arm. Unsurprisingly, red spots had also manifested on her arm.

Since they were adults, their resistance was stronger than children. For that reason, Archie and Benny developed a reaction as soon as they touched Estella, while she and Lucian were infected slowly.

If her diagnosis was correct, Estella's symptoms obviously indicated an allergy due to bacterial infection.

As time dragged on, the symptoms would only worsen.

She and Lucian would still be fine, but the three children would inevitably have to suffer quite a bit.

Worse still, Estella had already developed subsequent symptoms.

At the thought of the children inside, Roxanne didn't dare delay things anymore. She whipped out her phone and called Colby right away.

She initially thought that she would have to wait for a while before he answered, as it was late at night.

Unexpectedly, the person on the other end picked up the call mere seconds after it was connected.

Chapter 772 We Will Take Good Care Of Essie

"What's the matter, Dr. Jarvis?"

Colby had just fallen asleep when he was jolted awake by Roxanne's call. When he glimpsed the caller ID, he immediately answered the call.

Hearing his voice, Roxanne furtively breathed a sigh of relief. She hadn't the time to exchange pleasantries with him, so she cut to the chase. "If it isn't too much trouble, can you make a trip to the research institute right now?"

At that, Colby sat up from the bed. "Is there anything important?"

While saying that, he had already started changing without waiting for her reply.

He knew that there must be something crucial that she was calling at that hour, but he wanted to know the specifics.

Roxanne glanced at the three children in the room, her voice grave. "I have kids here who developed an allergic reaction due to bacterial infection. The spray we formulated back then might be effective, but I'm really needed here. As such, I can only seek your help."

Having said that, she added, “Forget it if it’s too much trouble. I can also make a trip over myself.”

By then, Colby had already gone downstairs after snagging a coat and draping it over himself. “I’ve already left home and will be arriving soon.”

Roxanne thanked him gratefully, saying, “I’m really sorry for troubling you at this hour.”

At her words, Colby merely chuckled nonchalantly. “It’s no big deal. The children’s health comes first. I remember that the symptoms of such an allergy can get exceedingly serious. Take care of them first. I’ll rush over as soon as possible.”

Roxanne murmured an acknowledgment and thanked him again before hanging up the phone.

By the time she returned to the room, Estella’s face had already flushed bright red. The red spots on Archie and Benny’s bodies had also spread to their necks.

It was the first time they had such a severe illness. Although they were already sufficiently strong, they were still inexorably afraid.

Utter distress inundated Roxanne at the expressions on their faces. But still, she gritted her teeth and soothed them. “Don’t be afraid. It’s just a bit of an allergy. I’ve already asked someone to send the medication over. Just put up with it for a while longer.”

Unwilling to cause her concern, the children nodded meekly.

Turning her back to them, Roxanne sighed soundlessly.

While Colby had promised that he would rush over as soon as possible, she couldn’t help feeling anxious. Thus, she went downstairs to wait.

At the sight of her retreating back, Lucian’s gaze darkened. He shifted his eyes to the three children on the bed.

Discerning his intention, Archie and Benny instantly patted themselves on the chest and vowed, “We’ll take good care of Essie!”

Following that, Lucian bobbed his head at them and left the room as well.

When he arrived downstairs, he bumped into Roxanne, who was about to head upstairs with a pot of hot water in hand.

Lucian took the pot from her. “What illness is this exactly?”

Roxanne didn’t bother to stand on ceremony with him. She whirled around and took a few brand-new towels from the bathroom before following behind him. “It’s an allergy due to bacterial infection. Adults can still endure it, but kids’ resistance is low. As time drags on, there’ll be a series of complications, such as high fever, laryngeal edema, and the like. In serious cases, there’s even a possibility of asphyxia.”

At her words, Lucian’s heart promptly sank to rock bottom.

Essie is already running a high fever now. It’d be bad if things were to drag on.

“I’ve already asked someone to help get the medication. Right now, I’m going to use hot towels on them to alleviate the itching first.”

Roxanne’s heart was similarly heavy.

Earlier, she initially planned to go downstairs to wait for Colby. But when she arrived downstairs, that idea occurred to her.

Lucian didn’t know much about pathology, so he could only do as she said.

Chapter 773 What Is Their Relationship

An hour later, Roxanne’s phone rang. Colby had arrived. Roxanne went downstairs to open the door for him.

Meanwhile, Lucian and the children heard the male voice on the other end of the phone. Without waiting for the man to speak, the children took the initiative to urge him to follow Roxanne downstairs for a look.

Seeing that they were even more anxious than him, Lucian inclined his head a fraction and went downstairs with huge strides. “Thank you.” Roxanne stood in the courtyard as she took the sprays from Colby.

Since the condition was contagious, she could only try her best to keep a distance from him. However, he brought a number of sprays, so she couldn't quite carry them all. "I'll carry them in for you," Colby suggested at her conflicted expression.

Without an ounce of hesitation, Roxanne turned him down. "As you know, this kind of bacteria is highly contagious. I already feel horribly bad for troubling you to make this trip late at night. You'd best not go into the house, for I'm afraid that you'd get infected as well."

As a fellow doctor, Colby also played a part in formulating the spray. Naturally, he knew full well the contagiousness of such a bacteria.

Therefore, he didn't insist after she had said as much.

Just when he was racking his brain for a way to help her carry the sprays in, a figure suddenly walked out of the mansion door.

He reflexively lifted his eyes and cast his gaze over.

The instant he recognized the person at the door, a glimmer of surprise flittered across his eyes.

Lucian? Why is he here at this hour?

While he was still perplexed, Lucian had already walked over to him with mighty strides and regarded him expressionlessly. "You're... Dr. Galloway?"

He had seen Colby once when he went to the research institute to pick Roxanne up previously.

When it came to the men around Roxanne, he had a deep impression of them, even if he had only seen them once.

Snapping back to his senses, Colby courteously extended his hand and greeted, "Mr. Farwell."

His brows furrowing imperceptibly, Lucian didn't extend his hand. Instead, he merely explained, "Sorry, but I'm infected, so I'd better not shake hands with you for your sake, Dr. Galloway."

Upon hearing that, Colby was again stupefied.

When Roxanne asked me to go over to the research institute to get the medication, she said there were kids who were sick, so I instinctively presumed that it was Archie and Benny. But if it were them, why would he be here? To top it off, he's even infected? What's their relationship exactly?

Likewise, the look in Lucian's eyes was pitch dark.

I remember that Roxanne exited the research institute with this man when we met the last time. And in such an urgent situation now, she asked him for help. What's their relationship exactly?

For a moment, the atmosphere between them turned a touch tense.

Worried about Archie and Benny upstairs, Roxanne didn't notice the strange atmosphere between the two men. "It's late now, and considering the situation today, I won't be inviting you in."

Gathering his wits about him, Colby nodded in understanding. Before leaving, he didn't forget to remind her gently, "Take care of yourself. Don't tire yourself out."

Roxanne merely pursed her lips and flashed him a smile.

A while later, Colby got into his car and left.

Roxanne and Lucian remained in the courtyard, watching until his car had disappeared from their lines of sight before they spun around and went back into the mansion.

They held two large bottles of spray in each hand respectively.

By the time they returned to the bedroom, they were greeted by the sight of the three children lying on the bed sickly. Estella had already plunged into semi-consciousness from her high fever.

"Mommy..." Archie and Benny mumbled indistinctly when they saw them entering the room, still somewhat conscious.

Roxanne hastened forward and touched their foreheads, only to sense searing heat.

At that, she quickly took the sprays over and sprayed the children all over.

Chapter 774 Perceived The Identities Of Archie And Benny

Fortunately, the spray they formulated worked in no time. Mere seconds after Roxanne sprayed the children all over, they stopped itching, simply in a daze from the high fever.

After spraying them all over, she turned and looked at the man behind her. She handed the spray in her hand to him. “Go and deal with it in the bathroom, Mr. Farwell.”

Dipping his head slightly, Lucian took the spray and went into the bathroom.

Roxanne, on the other hand, opened another bottle of spray and sprayed herself in the bedroom.

Having done that, she sprayed the room. Then, she took some disinfectant upstairs and sanitized the room.

When she had finished sanitizing the place, Lucian so happened to step out of the bathroom.

At the sight of her bustling around in the bedroom, he strode forward with a frown, planning to help.

“Carry the kids out. This room has to be left unoccupied for two days,” Roxanne instructed, noticing his intention.

Upon hearing that, Lucian swiftly changed directions. He carried the children downstairs one by one and placed them on the couch for the time being. Subsequently, he headed back to Roxanne’s bedroom.

It was the middle of the night, so Roxanne was a tad drowsy after she had finished doing everything. She was planning to go downstairs to check on the children when she collided with a solid chest the moment she turned around.

Before she realized what had happened, Lucian had already reached out and supported her by the waist.

Roxanne was stumped for several seconds before she abruptly jolted back to reality. At once, she backed away. “Why are you back?”

“The kids are all asleep, so I came upstairs to see whether you needed my help,” Lucian replied in a deep voice.

Tilting her head a fraction in acknowledgment of his reply, Roxanne lifted the spray in her hand. "I've already dealt with things here. Next, you need to sanitize your car thoroughly."

Lucian grunted in acquiescence.

The two of them went downstairs, one after another, to sanitize his car.

"Are there any valuable things in the car?" Roxanne asked, glancing over her shoulder at Lucian after having sanitized the car. She then elaborated, "The windows have to be opened tonight for the air to circulate overnight. Then, the car can be used tomorrow."

In response, Lucian shook his head.

Thus, Roxanne rolled down all four windows fully. Having done that, she reminded him, "Remember to also sanitize your house tomorrow. This bacteria is highly contagious."

Lucian murmured in affirmation before following her back into the mansion unhurriedly.

The children's symptoms had been alleviated by far after they had used the spray. Hence, they would be fine once their fever abated.

However, it was evidently uncomfortable for them to sleep on the couch, for all three of them were sleeping rather fitfully.

"Mommy, Daddy..." Benny muttered as he opened his eyes dazedly and saw the two adults entering the house.

Hearing that, Roxanne merely assumed that he was talking in his sleep. But still, her heart inexorably lurched, and she stole a peek at the man beside her on reflex.

Meanwhile, Lucian frowned, for he thought Benny was dreaming about the man who abandoned him and his mother.

At that possibility, he swung his gaze at the woman beside him with a dark look in his eyes.

On the contrary, Roxanne had no idea of his thoughts. When she locked gazes with him, she merely felt guilty, fearful he had perceived Archie and Benny's identities.

As Lucian glimpsed her expression, his gaze darkened further.

The two of them stared at each other for a long time, different thoughts running through their minds. Roxanne was the first to avert her gaze. She suggested airily, "Let's carry them to the guest room on the first floor. That room can still be occupied."

Languidly retracting his gaze, Lucian leaned down and scooped Archie and Benny up. He then whirled around and headed toward the guest room.

Roxanne, on the other hand, carefully scooped Estella up and entered the room behind him.

Chapter 775 In His Arms

After having settled the three children, Lucian and Roxanne looked at each other. The second floor had to be left unoccupied, and there was only one guest room on the first floor. The only remaining room was Lysa's room.

While Roxanne was wondering where she should house Lucian, the man offered, "I'll make do on the couch." Having said that, he went over to the spot in question.

Roxanne's brows creased slightly. But on second thought, there are only a few hours until dawn, and he might not necessarily be able to sleep well even if he manages to fall asleep. Besides, I really have no place for him to sleep.

At that thought, she didn't say anything further. She merely took a blanket from the guest room and handed it to the man. Reaching out, Lucian took it from her and urged lowly, "It's late, so you should rest as well."

Roxanne inclined her head imperceptibly. When she recalled Benny's mumbles in his dream earlier, a peculiar feeling surged within her, and she couldn't help explaining, "Just now... Benny must have been having some bizarre dream. Please don't take it to heart, Mr. Farwell."

Her words had Lucian frowning slightly. In consideration that she had worked hard that night, he initially planned to ignore Benny's remark earlier. Yet, she just had to bring it up again.

“Archie and Benny never had a father since young, so—” Roxanne added guiltily, feeling ill at ease when he said nothing even after some time had passed.

Before she had finished speaking, Lucian cut her off coldly, “I know he was merely talking in his dream. I won’t take it to heart.”

Upon hearing that, Roxanne was inevitably stunned for a few seconds. Subsequently, she furtively breathed a sigh of relief.

Although his tone isn’t all that amicable, at the very least, he has made his stance clear. Moreover, from the look of things, it doesn’t seem as though he has perceived Archie and Benny’s identities.

Not daring to say anything further, she briefly bid him good night and went into Lysa’s room.

Her emotions were a jumbled mess as she lay on the bed. She couldn’t sleep even after a long time had passed.

In the living room, Lucian was all conflicted. He lay on the couch with his eyes closed and brows creased deeply.

An indeterminate time passed, but sleep didn’t come.

The urge to simply get up and settle work matters gripped him.

No sooner had he moved an inch than he heard the soft click of a door opening. On the heels of that, a series of cautious footsteps drifted into his ears.

They sounded as though they originated in the direction of Roxanne’s room.

Lucian frowned, but ultimately, he remained lying on the couch and feigned sleep.

I’m pretty sure she doesn’t want to face me right now.

In truth, Roxanne indeed couldn’t sleep and wanted to come out to get a glass of water.

The instant she stepped out of her room, her first reaction was to cast her gaze in the direction of the couch. Seeing that Lucian was seemingly sound asleep, she tiptoed out of the room.

After she had taken a drink, she happened to walk past the couch on her way back to her room. She instinctively looked down at the man sleeping soundly on the couch.

With the light from her room, she could see that half the blanket on him was already out of place. That aside, his brows were knitted together deeply, seemingly indicating a fitful sleep.

She didn't think much about it, merely presuming that he accidentally flung the blanket off in his sleep. After a moment's hesitation, she circled the couch and carefully grasped a corner of the blanket to tuck it around him.

Unexpectedly, before she could do anything, Lucian suddenly awakened from his sleep and cut his gaze over with a frown.

In the darkness, Roxanne sensed a pair of eyes fixated on her.

She lifted her eyes reflexively, only to meet the man's dark gaze.

"I..." She subconsciously wanted to explain herself, but a gigantic hand seized her wrist as soon as she did so.

In the next heartbeat, she ended up in the man's arms.

Chapter 776 Never Allow Her Close To Another Man

"What exactly are your thoughts about me?" Lucian's voice was a touch hoarse.

He started feigning sleep right when he heard Roxanne coming out of her room. In his hurry, he forgot all about the blanket he had flipped open halfway. Never had he expected her to actually come over and attempt to tuck the blanket around him.

Just a while ago, he was feeling irritable thanks to her relationship with another man, but earlier, his heart melted because of the hint of tenderness she showed him.

Roxanne was stunned for several seconds. Promptly snapping back to her senses, she automatically lifted her hands to shove at him. To her surprise, the man's grip on her tightened, making it so that she couldn't struggle at all.

Lucian's voice continued echoing beside her ear. "When are you planning to accept me?"

At his question, Roxanne's eyes constricted imperceptibly. Snapping her head to the side, she gaped at the man who was an inch away from her. Her brows furrowed slightly, and her voice turned remarkably steely. "You're all befuddled from sleep, Lucian! Hurry up and let go of me!"

Contrarily, Lucian snickered cryptically. "You were the one who provoked me first."

His statement had bewilderment swamping Roxanne. She only realized what he meant when the events earlier flashed across her mind. "You weren't asleep?"

Arching a brow, Lucian chuckled noncommittally. "I pondered over Benny's mumbles earlier, and I think we can make it a reality."

At the thought of Benny's groggy address of the man and his comment then, Roxanne's heart abruptly jolted. Her struggles grew increasingly forceful. "He was merely mumbling in his sleep, so you don't need to take it to heart, Mr. Farwell..."

"As you said, the two boys had no father the moment they were born. Likewise, Essie had no mother the moment she was born."

At the mention of Estella, Lucian eyed the woman in his arms meaningfully before he continued, "It so happens that the boys aren't averse to me. Even if it's for their sake, you should consider me, Ms. Jarvis."

Roxanne started wavering. The scales deep within her gradually tilted toward him.

Indeed, all three kids lack a complete family. If I were to really get together with him, at the very least, I could make things up to Archie and Benny, enabling them to be with their father.

But at the thought of Estella, a knot of uneasiness lodged within her. "If possible, kids will want to be with their biological parents."

Until now, I've got no idea who Essie's biological mother is nor the despicable means she utilized to climb into his bed back then. On top of it all, I can't fathom how she could leave blithely after giving birth to Essie for him. Furthermore, his love for Essie leaves me no doubt about his feelings toward her biological mother.

Knowing nothing of her thoughts, Lucian presumed she was still pining after Archie and Benny's biological father. His voice became somewhat chilly. "You're still pining after that man?"

Jolted out of her musings, Roxanne frowned in puzzlement.

"You're still waiting for him though he abandoned you and your sons?" Lucian was both anguished and vexed. The look in his eyes was dark and gloomy.

At that, Roxanne froze for a few seconds before a wry smile tugged at her lips.

Well, he doesn't yet know the scumbag he's speaking of is himself.

When Lucian received no response from her, the temperature around him dropped several degrees. Making no secret of his possessiveness, he declared, "If he dares seek you guys out again, I'll never let him off the hook!"

No matter her thoughts on this, as long as I'm alive, I'll never allow her to draw close to another man, let alone one who once hurt her!

Chapter 777 Just Hug You For A While

Following Lucian's remark, a wealth of irony suffused Roxanne. She lifted a hand and pressed it against his chest. "Thank you for the kind gesture, Mr. Farwell. But I'm afraid you'll never have that chance."

After saying that, she exerted force, hoping to break free from his embrace and get to her feet. To her surprise, Lucian actually dropped his arm around her.

Roxanne breathed a sigh of relief. Just when she was about to stand up, a hand suddenly grabbed her wrist and yanked her toward the couch hard.

"Ahh!" she instinctively exclaimed at Lucian's unexpected action. In the next second, she fell right onto his lap. Lucian supported her waist firmly with a hand, helping to steady her.

Roxanne gaped at the man beside her in astonishment. Despite feeling a tad irate, she stated in feigned calmness, "Thank you for steadying me, Mr. Farwell. You may now let go of me."

Having said that, she reached out to find a fulcrum to regain her feet.

Unexpectedly, Lucian hugged her even tighter. All she could reach were his thighs and abs.

She groped around before she finally found the fulcrum. Just as she was going to stand up, a sensual moan sounded beside her ear.

“Stay still.” Lucian’s voice was tinged with a trace of hoarseness.

Hearing that, Roxanne clenched her fingers on reflex. Consequently, the hand around her waist tightened as well.

As she belatedly realized where she had placed her hand and cast her mind back to the man’s reaction earlier, her face instantly flushed bright red. She panickily retracted her hand. “I didn’t mean to do that!”

In response, Lucian gave a bark of low laughter. “I wish you meant to do that.”

At that remark, the blush on Roxanne’s face gradually spread.

If the lights were turned on, one would be able to see a faint splotch of pink staining even her chest.

“Let go of me.” Roxanne started struggling furiously after stilling for a few seconds.

Alas, the man’s grip on her was truly too tight. Furthermore, the children’s room was just at the side, so they would inevitably wake the children up if they made too much noise.

Since she was bogged down with too many concerns, her struggles were pitifully weak.

In fact, she grew all the closer to the man the more she struggled.

Lucian didn’t do anything, merely watching enigmatically as she gradually drew close to him.

That aside, mirth bubbled within him at the sight of her erratic struggles.

“Have you had enough? The kids are still sleeping in the room! What if they were to witness this scene?” Roxanne was both anxious and irritated when she failed to break free even after struggling for an eternity.

Upon hearing that, Lucian followed her gaze and took a gander at the children's room.

To this very moment, she's still foolishly concerned about their opinion. Little does she know that the trio has long since betrayed her. If they were to witness this scene, they'd probably be even happier than me!

Roxanne was racking her brain for a way to get out of the situation when she abruptly sensed the man burying his head in the crook of her neck before chortling softly.

As his warm breath brushed her neck, it triggered an itchy sensation. She shuddered sensitively.

Before she could figure out the reason for his laughter, the hard object beneath her snagged her attention.

She promptly stiffened. "Let go of me, Lucian..."

Tightening his arms around her, Lucian urged in a hoarse voice, "Stay still. I'll just hug you for a while."

I've waited for her for six whole years. And now, I've finally got her in my arms. Although I've done my best to restrain myself, my body still inexorably reacted to the stimuli. Besides, I don't want to keep her in the dark about my desire for her.

Chapter 778 So Cruel To Abandon An Adorable Daughter

Frightened, Roxanne truly did as he said and remained still for a long while. After coming back to her senses, she began struggling again. In the next second, Lucian pinned her beneath him.

"I've already warned you, but still, you couldn't stay still. If you were to wriggle around again this time, I wouldn't be able to make any promises about what would happen." He leaned close to her, his eyes narrowing dangerously.

Roxanne's heart tightened as she stared at the man's countenance that was mere inches away from her. She wanted to struggle, but she was worried about his words earlier.

Just as she was at a loss, sudden movement sounded from the children's room out of the blue. Both their breaths caught. As the sounds of the footsteps drew increasingly nearer to the door, Lucian's brows scrunched together. Dropping his hold on the woman in his arms, he resumed a proper sitting position expressionlessly.

Finally, Roxanne was free of the man's restraint. Before she could breathe a sigh of relief, she heard the click of the children's room door opening.

When the thought of the distance between her and Lucian then occurred to her, her heart jolted once more. She hastily sprang up from the couch and stood at the side.

In the next heartbeat, the children's room door slowly opened. Benny plodded out of the room groggily while muttering, "Mommy..."

He was sick in the first place and wasn't feeling well, so even his sleep wasn't that peaceful. He automatically woke up after sleeping for a while and subconsciously wanted to seek his mother out.

At his juvenile voice, Roxanne swept a gaze over Lucian on the couch before she hastened over to him. "I'm here. What's wrong?"

Benny burrowed into her embrace. As he sensed the warmth of her hug, drowsiness assailed him again.

"Why are you here, Mommy?" Vaguely making out Lucian's back on the couch, he sensed something amiss. But he could only mumble that question since he was so sleepy that he couldn't keep his eyes open anymore.

Hearing his question, Roxanne couldn't help recalling her experience a moment ago. She stiffened slightly. "I came out to get some water."

Benny frowned suspiciously, still finding something off about it all. Nonetheless, he couldn't be bothered to dwell upon it as drowsiness flooded him. His head tipped to the side, and he fell asleep in her arms.

Sensing a heaviness on her shoulder, Roxanne breathed a sigh of relief. She lifted her hand and stroked his head. Carrying him in her arms, she went into the room.

Both Archie and Estella were sleeping soundly, their sleep undisrupted by Benny.

Roxanne placed Benny back onto the bed before tucking the blankets around the other two children.

She touched their foreheads, only to discover that their fever had subsided. Relief flashed across her eyes.

As she gazed at their sleeping countenances, the pressure brought by Lucian earlier gradually faded.

Seeing that it was already late, with only an hour left until dawn broke, she decided to stay in their room and keep watch over them.

If I were to return to Lysa's room, I'd have to go past the living room. In other words, I'd inevitably bump into Lucian again. After what happened just now, I really don't know how to face him anymore.

Following that line of thought, Roxanne felt a sense of heaviness within her.

On the bed, Estella suddenly turned over.

The movement snagged her attention, and Roxanne slowly snapped back to her senses, thinking that the little girl was about to rouse.

But in the next second, she heard Estella muttering pitifully, "Mommy..."

At her voice, Roxanne's heart clenched painfully.

From what Lucian said, she had seemingly never laid eyes on her mother from the moment she was born. I wonder what kind of woman it was who could be so cruel to abandon such an adorable daughter...

Chapter 779 Breathed A Sigh Of Relief

In the living room, Lucian likewise stayed up the entire night. Early the next morning, the children saw Roxanne in the room as soon as they woke up.

"Mommy!" Benny cried out in a juvenile voice. Then, he added happily, "I dreamed about you last night!" When Roxanne heard that, her expression stiffened for a moment.

If I'm not wrong, the so-called dream he had of me refers to when he came out of the room last night. If he were to learn that it wasn't a dream, I wonder what he would think...

While she was fretting about that, Benny's voice rang out once more. "Hmm, it doesn't seem like a dream." After saying that, he lifted his head and stared at her with curiosity etched across his features. "Did I go out of the room last night, Mommy?"

As he spoke, a mixture of emotions brewed within Roxanne. Upon hearing that question, she instinctively wanted to deny it. But on second thought, it occurred to her that she couldn't possibly fool Archie and Benny. Therefore, she could only nod helplessly.

"I saw you and Mr. Farwell in the living room. What were you two talking about, Mommy?" Benny wore an innocent expression on his face.

Words eluded Roxanne.

I just knew that he would ask that, but I never expected him to be so straightforward.

As the events of last night replayed in her mind, Roxanne's face gradually flushed bright red.

Archie and Estella were entirely ignorant of whatever happened last night. The instant they heard Benny speaking of it, curiosity showed on their faces.

Upon noticing the blush staining her face right then, they were all the more eager to hear her answer.

We've already tried our utmost best, but their relationship remained stagnant. We initially thought they would persist in a stalemate for a long time, but from what Benny said, they were alone last night. In addition, one of them even blushed at the mention of the events that transpired yesterday night!

No matter how naïve they were, they could still surmise that something must have happened last night.

Sensing their enthusiastic gazes, Roxanne felt all the more conflicted.

Just as she was wondering how she should explain things to them, someone pushed open the door from outside. Subsequently, Lucian walked in with a frown.

At the sight of him, the children grew significantly sedate. Conversely, Roxanne had mixed feelings about it.

His sudden appearance meant that she no longer had to face the trio's interrogation alone.

But at the same time, she couldn't help recalling the events that transpired last night when she laid eyes on him. Tensing all over, she reflexively avoided Lucian's gaze.

"Good morning, Mr. Farwell," Archie and Benny greeted Lucian politely.

Lucian inclined his head a fraction. His gaze then swept over Roxanne before stilling on the children. "How do you all feel? Is there still any discomfort?"

In response, the children shook their heads obediently. "Nope!"

Only then did Roxanne belatedly jolt back to her senses.

As soon as they woke up, they started interrogating me relentlessly to the point that I forgot all about checking them over. I only remember now after listening to their conversation with Lucian.

In light of her concern for the children's condition, she suppressed the strange feeling within her. Under the different looks in the eyes of Lucian and the trio, she walked over to the latter. "Let me check you guys over."

It was clear as day that the children had all recovered fully. Hearing that, they docilely lifted their arms and allowed her to check them over. All the while, they stared at her with merriment dancing in their eyes.

Roxanne forced herself to ignore their gazes and checked them over, one after another. Upon seeing that the red spots on their bodies had already faded, she breathed a sigh of relief.

Chapter 780 Tag Along

After the examination, Roxanne stood up and asked Lucian to leave, not giving him any more opportunity to speak to the kids.

“Since it’s already morning, you should hurry up and bring Essie home, Mr. Farwell. You should thoroughly sanitize your house and do it as soon as possible.”

There was no room left to object to her suggestion. Lucian raised his brows while wearing an indifferent expression. Then, he gazed downward at Estella. She pouted in reluctance. “You can go back on your own, Daddy.”

Estella was still feeling a little insecure after having just recovered from the sudden and severe illness last night. She thought she could spend more time playing with Roxanne, Archie, and Benny that day, but unexpectedly, Roxanne appeared anxious to chase her away right after she woke up.

Lucian and Roxanne frowned at the same time after hearing Estella’s words. However, the thoughts that flashed across their minds were entirely different.

Before last night, she would have allowed Estella to stay at her place without hesitation.

Yet, after her conversation with Lucian the night before, Roxanne had to consider Estella’s biological mother.

In her opinion, Estella was overly-attached to her because the little girl could acquire motherly affection from her. Having said that, Roxanne knew she was not Estella’s mother after all. I cannot let Essie continue to think of me as her mother because sooner or later, her real mother will return.

On the other hand, Lucian was displeased because he sensed Roxanne’s hesitation.

“Essie...” Roxanne opened her mouth and only managed to call out Estella’s name as she did not know how to refuse the little girl.

A hint of mockery laced Lucian’s deep voice as he said, “Ms. Jarvis, according to what you’ve said, my house should still be contaminated with bacteria. If that’s the case, I’m afraid it’ll be inconvenient for me to bring Essie home. Since you’re unavailable to look after her, I’ll have no choice but to send her to the company.”

He was implying that he would leave Estella at the office and return home by himself to handle the sanitization of his house.

Roxanne looked up and glanced at him in bewilderment after hearing that. She had the urge to question whether he could really bring himself to do that when Estella had just recovered from her illness.

However, before she could say anything, Roxanne suddenly realized Lucian's suggestion was no different from what she was doing. If I let Essie stay, he won't have to leave her alone at the office.

"I don't want to go to the office!" Estella tugged at the hem of Roxanne's clothes pitifully.

Roxanne looked down and met with the little girl's large, watery eyes. In the end, she conceded. "Why don't you stay here and hang out with Archie and Benny, Essie?"

With that, she turned around to gaze at Lucian and said resolutely, "The disinfection process should not be delayed any longer. You should hurry up and go back, Mr. Farwell."

He stared at her for a few moments before nodding in response. Then, he spun on his heels and left the kids' room.

Roxanne loaded the remaining bottle of sprays in his car and reminded him in detail about the proper way to disinfect the house.

"Feel free to tag along with me if you're worried, Ms. Jarvis," Lucian teased while arching his eyebrow.

She fell silent immediately after hearing that and moved to one side. Soon, she watched as his car sped away and finally disappeared from her vision.

Only then did she return to the mansion with a heavy heart.

Although what Lucian did last night was over the line, Roxanne's strong sense of responsibility and professional ethics as a doctor caused her to feel a little worried still. She was afraid he would contract the disease again during the disinfection process.

Chapter 781 What Are You Doing

Meanwhile, at the Farwell residence, Catalina had not slept for almost the entire night. Last night, ever since Lucian brought Estella away, Catalina's body began to feel itchy. However, she did not overthink the condition and planned to continue sleeping.

Unexpectedly, after some time, the itchiness worsened, rendering her unable to fall asleep. She endured the discomfort until the following day. Upon waking up, Catalina noticed her body was covered with red spots similar to Estella's.

A few other housekeepers who were more closely acquainted with Catalina came over and checked on her. A short while later, their bodies started to itch too.

Catalina swiftly realized the illness was contagious. She immediately instructed everyone not to establish physical contact with one another and arranged for those uninfected people to stay in the courtyard.

Only after coming up with a simple plan to sort out the predicament at home did she remember to contact Lucian to report the circumstances to him.

Just as she took out her phone, Catalina saw his car driving into the house's compound.

Everyone stepped backward and watched while Lucian parked and got out of the vehicle.

"Mr. Farwell, Ms. Estella's disease is contagious. You..." Catalina moved forward and expressed her concern to Lucian while putting up with her body's discomfort.

She had served the Farwell family for many years and was considered one of the few to witness Lucian and Estella's growth. She had long since regarded them as her family.

Seeing how Lucian carried Estella in his arms when they left the house last night, Catalina assumed he would be infected too. To her surprise, he seemed completely fine.

Lucian sized her up while wearing a solemn expression. "How many people have contracted the disease?"

She regained her senses and recalled the number of infected personnel before reporting, “Approximately four to five people. I’ve asked them to remain inside the house. Those staying in the courtyard are the unaffected group.”

Lucian nodded. Then, he returned to his car to retrieve the spray bottles and handed one to Catalina. “Use this bottle to spray those who have been infected and the remaining bottles to sanitize the house.”

Catalina bobbed her head in acknowledgment and immediately turned around to delegate the tasks.

Soon, all the housekeepers began to carry out their duties.

Lucian walked to the living room and scanned the area. Nevertheless, Aubree was nowhere to be seen.

A rustling sound came from upstairs when the housekeepers were almost done disinfecting the residence.

Aubree felt delighted for successfully punishing Estella last night. As a result, she was able to get a good night’s sleep. By the time she woke up, the time was already close to nine o’clock in the morning.

That little b*tch should suffer from severe symptoms after being infected with the disease, so I reckon Lucian won’t be home so soon.

With that thought in her mind, Aubree ambled down the stairs.

Upon arriving at the living room, she saw a few housekeepers still engaged in the sanitizing work. She asked with a frown, “What’s going on?”

Right after she was done talking, one of the housekeepers sprayed her with a bottle of an unknown substance.

Aubree scrunched up her face in utter displeasure instantaneously. “What are you doing!”

“Mr. Farwell said there is a highly contagious bacteria in the house, so he asked us to sanitize the whole place,” the housekeeper replied calmly.

Aubree's expression froze after she heard the housekeeper's explanation. "Are you saying that Lucian is back?" How is this possible? Frieda told me the bacteria could induce a very potent sensitivity reaction, and the condition cannot be easily cured. Logically, that little b*tch should still be sick. Why is Lucian back so soon?

She looked up in perplexity and swept her gaze around the living room.

Aubree's heart jumped into her throat, and her facial expression stiffened indistinctly when she caught sight of Lucian standing in front of the couch. He's really back. Does that mean that little b*tch has recovered?

Chapter 782 Pack Your Things

Aubree was stunned for a few seconds. Suppressing the panic in her heart, she approached him with concern written all over her face and pretended not to know anything about what had happened yesterday. "Lucian, what's going on?"

Lucian looked at the person in front of him expressionlessly and interrogatively. Things had been chaotic last night. He had only heard Roxanne say that Estella's symptoms were due to a bacterial allergy.

As for where the bacterium came from, he hadn't had the time to think about it until he carefully recalled what had happened when he was on the way back.

Everything had been fine before Aubree arrived at the manor. However, the bacterium had shown up the same time as her.

Lucian couldn't help but suspect the woman in front of him.

Aubree's heart clenched when he glanced at her. She pinched her palm to calm herself down, then asked innocently, "I heard from the housekeepers that there's a bacterium in the house. It can't be true, can it? The house is cleaned daily, so where did the bacterium come from?"

Lucian furrowed his brows. I don't notice anything odd by observing her face. Then again, I've never noticed how she has been treating Essie behind my back or even in front of me for six years.

At that thought, he looked away instead of investigating further. If she's the one who did it, I'll find out sooner or later.

“Essie’s allergy was suddenly triggered last night. I took her for a checkup and was told that she had come in contact with an infectious bacterium,” Lucian said, then glanced at Aubree meaningfully. “Looks like you weren’t infected. I suppose I don’t need to bring bad news to Mr. Pearson.”

Aubree was stunned. She wondered if it was a good or bad thing that she wasn’t infected. Steeling herself, she changed the topic and asked, “Essie had an allergic reaction? How is she?”

Lucian looked at her silently.

“Why did you come back all by yourself? Is anyone taking care of Essie right now?” Aubree stubbornly put on an act despite his lack of response.

However, Lucian continued to remain silent. Unable to go on with her one-woman show, she asked sheepishly, “Where is she? I’ll go and visit her.”

Lucian pursed his lips and replied, “You don’t have to. Essie has recovered.”

An imperceptible astonishment flashed past Aubree’s eyes. How did she recover so quickly? Frieda said that kind of bacterium is very difficult to detect. It’ll take normal doctors days to find the cause and even longer than that to come up with a treatment. But he doesn’t seem to be lying. He also doesn’t have any reason to lie to me about Essie’s condition.

Aubree forced herself to calm down, then flashed a casual smile at Lucian. “I’m glad that Essie’s fine. Her body has always been quite weak since she was a child. She must have been terrified this time.”

Lucian ignored her question and scanned the room. Besides the woman in front of me, who else could have brought the bacterium here...

“It’s done, Mr. Farwell,” Catalina reported after she and the other housekeepers sanitized the entire mansion.

Lucian nodded and ordered, “Investigate who had left the manor for a long time in the past few days.”

“Will do, Mr. Farwell.”

Aubree panicked a little when she heard that Lucian planned to investigate the matter thoroughly. Her heart clenched again as she pretended to avert her gaze from Lucian calmly.

“Pack your things. I’ll send you back,” Lucian said in a deep voice.

