

Mission To Remarry Chapter 544

Chapter 544 Lucian's face gradually turned grim, as he could not locate Benny after searching the crowd alone.

Although he was certain no one there would harbor ill intent toward Benny, he could not help feeling worried at that moment.

"Sir..." The toy vendor shuffled over again.

Upon seeing Lucian's face, the vendor stopped talking abruptly.

Inexplicably, he felt that the aura enveloping Lucian's body was immensely intimidating as if Lucian was about to swallow him whole.

Upon regaining his senses, the vendor cleared his throat and attempted to leave as if nothing had happened.

However, just as he turned on his heel, a large hand seized his shoulder.

Needless to say, that hand belonged to Lucian.

The vendor's heart trembled. He carefully turned his head around. "Sir, h-how may I help you?"

Lucian stared at him coldly.

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Benny would not have gone missing if it wasn't for this person's sudden appearance.

The vendor developed goosebumps all over his body under Lucian's intense gaze, and he could do nothing but wait for Lucian to speak.

"When you tried to sell us the toys earlier, did you see where the little boy on the far side went?" Lucian questioned him coolly.

The vendor trembled uncontrollably after hearing that. He replied in a quavering voice, "N-No, I didn't see where he went."

Lucian's gaze darkened. His voice sounded more stern than before. "You can get lost now. Don't ever think of reappearing in this resort."

With that, Lucian strode away without waiting for the vendor to say anything.

The vendor slowly returned to his senses. He was frightened by Lucian's words but did not take them seriously,

After all, Lucian looked no different from a tourist. He wondered who Lucian was to decide whether he could reappear at the resort or not.

With that thought in his mind, he turned around, wanting to approach the rest of the crowd to sell his toys. Just then, a series of footsteps sounded behind him.

The next second, a large hand clasped his shoulder.

"Excuse me. Our boss said that you are not welcome here."

A man's voice reverberated beside the vendor's ears.

Before the vendor could make sense of the turns of events, he was already being dragged away from the beach.

After Lucian's subordinates were done dealing with the vendor, they hastily dispersed themselves among the crowd to resume their search for Benny.

Earlier, they had received instructions from their superior informing them of the owner of the resort's dissatisfaction with that place.

The first issue was the vendor's presence, which disrupted the peace at the resort.

More importantly, the owner of the resort, Lucian, had so rarely visited the resort but proceeded to lose his child because of the overwhelming crowd.

Everyone had hurried over after they were made aware of Benny's disappearance. "I heard the child who went missing is a little boy, but I thought Mr. Farwell's child is a little girl?" one of the employees asked his colleague in bewilderment.

Another employee reminded, "Regardless of the child's gender, that child must be someone Mr. Farwell regards with utmost importance since he said so. We should hurry up and locate the child!".

The employee who asked the question sheepishly agreed.

With the help of almost all the staff in the resort in conducting a search that lasted nearly half an hour, they finally found Benny at the ongoing band concert held in the middle of the beach.

Watching Benny standing beside the band, the employee could not help but feel uncertain if Benny was Lucian's missing child.

After all, Benny did not appear anxious. Instead, he was even eyeing the drum set of the band with eyes gleaming in excitement.

The employee wondered if any child who got lost would behave in that manner.

After a few seconds of hesitation, he cautiously took a picture of Benny and sent it to his superior.

He received a reply swiftly: Watch over that child closely. Mr. Farwell will be there at once!

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Meanwhile, Roxanne was getting impatient after waiting for a long time with Archie and Estella.

However, she had no choice but to wait in distress because she was worried about Archie and Estella whenever she recalled Lucian's words.

Suddenly, her phone vibrated.

Roxanne frowned and instantly picked up the call without hesitation.

"We found Benny. He's watching the band's performance. I've already instructed someone to keep an eye on him. Come over." Lucian's deep voice sounded.

Roxanne felt relieved after hearing that. She immediately expressed her gratitude. "Thank you. I'll be there immediately."

On the other end of the line, Lucian grunted in response before hanging up the call and hurrying to Benny's location first.

"Have they found Benny?" Archie asked carefully after taking in his mother's expression.

Roxanne nodded slightly and flashed a reassuring smile at him.

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Things That Will Happen When Prince Charles Becomes King

She Earned A World Record For The Greatest Robbery Of Government

Archie appeared more agitated than his mother. "Let's hurry up and find Benny! He's alone. He must be scared out of his wits!"

Archie tugged at Roxanne's hand as he spoke.

Roxanne was eager to check on Benny's condition too, but she did not forget Archie and Estella's presence as she reminded, "You two must hold my hands tightly later. Don't wander off and get lost like Benny."

Archie and Estella agreed obediently.

Only then did Roxanne lead them toward the crowd.

The venue of the band's performance was easy to find, but it was a challenge to reach there because of the dense crowd. With much effort, Roxanne finally pushed her way through the throng.

Lucian was waiting for their arrival at the outer edge of the crowd. He hastily strode forward in Roxanne's direction when he saw her bringing Archie and Estella over. Then he reached out to hold Estella's hand.

This time, Estella did not refuse him and compliantly held his hand.

"Where's Benny?" Archie gazed at Lucian in perturbation.

Lucian gestured for them to look at the band.

Roxanne and the two kids saw that Benny had taken over the drummer's position. The latter was focusing on hitting the drums, seemingly in the groove, while wearing a cool facial expression.

The people in the surroundings were engaged in a heated discussion about Benny.

"Where did this child come from? Is he the missing child the resort staff is looking for? How can he be so good at playing the drums at such a young age?"

"He's so cute and cool. I wonder whose child is this? His parents are so blessed!"

Compliments about Benny reverberated in the air.

Roxanne's tense emotion gradually relaxed when she looked at Benny's serious demeanor while listening to the praises from the crowd. She even felt a hint of contentment rise within her.

Others might not know it, but Roxanne was well aware that Archie and Benny were much smarter than their peers since they were little.

Archie and Benny also had plenty of hobbies.

Roxanne had always allowed her children to do as they pleased, sending them to any lessons they were interested in.

Benny had started learning to play the drums at three years old.

The music instructor had commended Benny for having talent for playing the drums a few months into the course.

In fact, that was the first time Roxanne had seen Benny collaborating with a band, and that was also when she truly realized his capabilities.

Onstage, all the other members of the band were regarding Benny with an astonished expression too.

They had caught sight of Benny observing their performance, and the latter had been staring intently at the drum set.

The members of the band thought Benny was adorable, and they were merely putting on a casual performance that day, so they invited Benny up on the stage to be their drummer.

Assuming Benny was just keen to try out the drums in curiosity, the band members had already mentally prepared themselves to be embarrassed.

Unexpectedly, Benny was able to keep up with their tempo. Although there were some minor errors, his standards far surpassed the band members' expectations.

Following a drum beat by Benny, the fireworks show officially began.

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The colorful and dazzling fireworks emblazoned the sky.

Everyone simultaneously quieted down and looked up at the scenic view of the night sky.

At that instant, only the music played by the band echoed on the beach.

Seemingly to coordinate with the tranquil ambiance, the band members tacitly switched the song they were playing to a more relaxing piece.

Benny paused for a few seconds before slowly catching up with the band's rhythm.

Holding Archie's hand, Roxanne gazed up at the bursting fireworks in the sky. Then she turned her attention back to Benny, who was playing the drums. A heartfelt grin spread across her face.

Beside Roxanne, Estella grasped her father's hand and jumped on the spot, wanting to get a clearer view of the fireworks display.

Estella was too short. The horde of onlookers clouded her field of vision when she gazed up.

Lucian glanced downward at Estella before slightly bending down his body. Then, he carried her in his arm and placed her on his shoulder.

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Estella's eyes shone as she appreciated the beauty of the fireworks in the sky.

Meanwhile, Archie was unable to see the fireworks too. A hint of disappointment flashed across his eyes when he saw Estella sitting on Lucian's shoulder.

If Daddy had not abandoned Mommy and us, perhaps Benny and I could also sit on his shoulder...

Roxanne sensed Archie's dejection. She scanned her surroundings with a troubled look on her face. "Archie, can you not see the fireworks?"

Although Archie was crestfallen, he shook his head sensibly. "I can see some of it. It's all right, Mommy."

Roxanne was reminded of the anticipatory look on Archie's petite face when he heard about the fireworks display in the afternoon. At the sight of his thoughtful and acquiescent demeanor at that moment, she could not help feeling pangs of heartache and guilt.

If it weren't for my selfish decision, perhaps Archie and Benny would live a more blissful life

now.

Archie sensed Roxanne's remorse. He grabbed her hand and comforted her, "We'll come here again and watch the fireworks next time. I'm very happy that we can find Benny this time."

With that, he curved his lips and beamed at his mother as if to prove that he was truly fine.

Roxanne's feelings of guilt intensified.

"Come here. I'll carry you." Lucian's deep voice sounded from atop.

Archie subconsciously gazed up and met Lucian's eyes, which were brimming with tenderness.

Seeing that, Archie hesitated and turned to look at Roxanne to ask for her opinion.

Roxanne frowned and scrupled for a few moments before taking a step back to make way for Lucian. "Thank you, Mr. Farwell."

She had caused Archie and Benny to be left out from indulging in fatherly affection for so many years. Although they had yet to realize their relationship with Lucian, Roxanne could not bring herself to deprive Archie and Benny of the opportunity to enjoy paternal love anymore.

Archie's eyes gleamed when he saw his mother agreeing. Still, he hesitated when he looked at Lucian.

Archie knew Roxanne did not fancy Lucian, so he could not shake off the feeling that he was betraying his mother if he allowed Lucian to carry him.

"If you don't hurry up, the fireworks display will end soon," Lucian reminded with his brows raised after taking in Archie's ambivalence.

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Roxanne gave her son a reassuring look. "Let Mr. Farwell lift you so you can see the fireworks."

Upon hearing that, Archie finally stretch out his hand in Lucian's direction.

With one hand supporting Estella, who was sitting on one side of his shoulder, Lucian leaned sideways slightly and placed Archie on the other side of his shoulder effortlessly

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That was the first time Archie had sat in such a high position. A look of pleasant surprise spread across his face as he gazed down and noticed a sea of heads covered in black hair.

He looked up again at the night sky when the sound of fireworks exploding rang beside his ears.

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The brilliant lights of the fireworks seemed exceptionally mesmerizing when viewed from the reflections in the kids' eyes.

Roxanne stood carefully beside Lucian while gazing up at the night sky. Nevertheless, she constantly glanced at Archie and Estella from the corner of her eye, fearing they might fall from Lucian's shoulders.

Fortunately, both of them were safe until the end of the fireworks show.

Archie felt slightly reluctant to get down afterward because that was the first time he had sat on his father's shoulder. However, he did not reveal his emotions. Instead, he submissively allowed Lucian to put him down on the floor and thanked the latter politely, "Thank you, Mr. Farwell."

Lucian merely nodded in response without saying a word.

The crowd was still immersed in the romantic atmosphere of the fireworks show.

Suddenly, the band onstage went silent.

Roxanne had been keeping an eye on Benny's whereabouts, so she had instantaneously noticed the changes on the stage and shifted her gaze in that direction.

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She saw Benny stepping out from behind the drum set and standing in the middle of the stage while holding a microphone.

As if to help Benny, the guitarist casually plucked the strings on his guitar to attract everyone's attention to the stage.

"Ahem. Everyone, please listen to this little boy. He has a favor to ask from all of you." The lead singer cleared his voice and requested for the audience to hear Benny out.

Hearing that, Roxanne and the others could already guess what Benny was about to say.

Staring at his solemn expression onstage, Roxanne felt contented and even teared up a little,

"Hello, everyone. My name is Benny." The little boy's childish voice magnified and resonated throughout the venue as he spoke into the microphone.

Benny did not appear nervous or afraid despite facing the huge crowd.

"I came here to watch the fireworks show with my mommy and brother, but I

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accidentally got lost because there were too many people just now. If anyone sees someone looking for a child, please help me inform my mommy that I'm here. My mommy is very pretty, so it will be easy to identify her!"

Benny contemplated briefly after saying that. Then, he added, "Perhaps there will be an uncle searching for me too. Everyone can also tell him that I'm here. He's distinguishable too because he is very tall and handsome. There are also two children around my age beside them."

Roxanne was amused by Benny's description of them.

Even Lucian wore a faint smile as he listened to Benny's speech.

Perhaps the four of them were too eye-catching. Soon, people were turning their heads in Roxanne, Lucian, and the two kids' direction.

Benny also noticed them, and when he spotted Roxanne, he held the microphone and called out in excitement, "Mommy!"

The crowd made way for Roxanne and the others to reach Benny's side.

"Mommy!"

Benny jogged over happily with the microphone in his hand when he saw Roxanne.

She bent down while beaming and pulled Benny into her embrace. "You scared me, Benny. Luckily, you're so smart."

Benny gently patted his mother's back and said, "I'm sorry, Mommy. But don't worry about me because I'm very smart. I will not follow the bad guys."

When Benny realized he had gotten lost just now, he had immediately run toward the band, following the music, because he thought he would be safer there. He had planned on borrowing the microphone from the band to find Roxanne.

Fortunately, the band members were kind and friendly. After they had been made aware of Benny's situation, they had agreed to his request with alacrity.

Benny turned on his heels and sensibly expressed his gratitude to the band members. "Thank you all."

They responded with a smile. "You're welcome. We're glad as long as you are safely reunited with your family."

The band members even added a friendly reminder to Roxanne, "Your son is very gifted in music. If you can afford it, we suggest you send him to a music academy to receive proper lessons."

Roxanne grinned in agreement.

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"I'm sorry, Benny," Archie apologized to his brother when the crowd shifted their attention away from them. "It was my fault for not holding your hand tightly enough that you got lost in the crowd."

Benny gazed at his brother and said casually, "It wasn't your fault, Archie; it's too crowded here. Besides, I wasn't lost, and it was fun playing the drums, anyway!"

Archie frowned for several seconds before nodding slowly. "I will hold your hand tightly next time," he promised, "and never allow something like this to happen again."

Benny nodded vigorously as he squeezed his brother's hand.

Estella came over to join the fun. "Me too! I'll hold both your hands!"

The little girl clutched Benny's hand as she spoke.

Touched to see the three children walking hand in hand with similarly solemn expressions, Roxanne smiled gratefully. "Come, Benny," she said gently. "Thank Mr. Farwell."

Benny appeared to be surprised by her words.

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"Mr. Farwell was the one who found you," Roxanne said.

The boy glanced up at the man before him.

As Lucian was standing with his back against the moonlight, Benny could not see his expression at that moment.

Nevertheless, the boy obeyed his mother by expressing his gratitude. "Thank you, Mr. Farwell."

Lucian nodded noncommittally. "No problem. You were clever enough to wait here."

The boy was taken aback by his father's compliment. He stroked his nose awkwardly.

The crowd on the beach thinned out after the fireworks show,

Despite Roxanne's reservations, she took the children for a walk at the beach, considering that they might be still fearful.

The weather was lovely, and the water was placid. As the children wanted to go to the beach, Roxanne let go of their hands and allowed them to run toward the shore while she waited on the side.

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Chapter 549

“Archie...” Benny looked at Estella, who was beside him cautiously. “Was it really Mr. Farwell who found me?”

Archie nodded. “Mommy was panicking earlier. She was about to take Essie and me to look for you when Mr. Farwell stopped her and went to look on his own.”

Benny glanced at Lucian, who was standing not far away, with a complicated mix of emotions within him.

“It was fortunate that Mr. Farwell found you in time. Otherwise, Mommy would have really cried.” Archie’s heart twinged with guilt when he thought about how anxious Roxanne had been.

Because of that, the boy had to thank his father despite not liking him.

Benny was full of regret when he learned that Roxanne had been on the verge of tears. “Did I not thank Mr. Farwell enough earlier?”

As he was unaware of the situation, he had only thanked him because his mother had told him to. Looking back on it now, he felt a little guilty.

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Barack Obama Has Changed A Lot After His Presidency

Although he did not like his father, he thought he should thank him properly for doing their mother such a big favor.

Archie smiled at his brother, who still looked dejected. “Mommy will thank him for you.” He glanced toward the two adults. “Besides, Mr. Farwell would probably want Mommy to thank him.”

Deep in thoughts, the two boys gazed at their parents.

Estella, on the other hand, was busy amusing herself.

Roxanne did not know what the children were thinking. Seeing that it was getting late, she called out to the children, "Are you done playing? It's getting late, and we should head back. We'll come back tomorrow!"

The children ran toward them, while Benny ran straight toward Roxanne, who noticed that the child's expression was odd.

"What's the matter?" she asked as she leaned over to pull him into her arms.

"I'm sorry, Mommy," the boy answered glumly. "I will remember to stay by your side next time and not wander off."

Roxanne was confused.

They were doing fine when they were out playing earlier. Why is he mentioning this all of a sudden?

Roxanne caressed the boy's head lovingly upon noticing his solemn expression. "I know," she said tenderly. "Thank you, Darling. I will do a better job protecting you as well."

"I will protect Benny, too!" Archie chirped.

Roxanne pulled the two boys in for a hug.

Meanwhile, Estella, who was standing forlornly on her own, looked a little crestfallen as she watched the two boys in Roxanne's arms.

The scene did not go unnoticed by Lucian.

He watched as his daughter stood pitifully at the side, and a strange feeling welled up within him

Although he understood that Roxanne was comforting the boys because she had been shaken by the events earlier, he nevertheless wondered how Roxanne would feel if she knew that Estella was also her child and that she had neglected the girl on more than one occasion.

Lucian scowled at the irony of that thought and reached out to Estella.

Gazing enviously at the two boys, the girl took her father's hand.

"It's getting late," Lucian said in a low voice. "We should head back."

His words roused Roxanne from her reverie, She slowly let go of the two boys, stood up, and led them to follow Lucian.

Chapter 550

Roxanne was about to bring the two boys up upon arriving back at the hotel when she felt a pair of resentful eyes on her back.

Frowning, Roxanne glanced behind her and saw Estella hesitantly shuffling after her three paces behind

The child stopped in her tracks when she noticed her quarry had turned her head. Her little face was alight with anticipation.

Not far away, Lucian pretended not to see them as he busied himself with pouring a glass of water from the bar.

Roxanne walked toward the child. "Do you want to sleep with me, Essie?"

The child nodded vigorously before asking cautiously, "Is that okay?"

Roxanne's heart softened at the child's tentativeness. "Go ask your Daddy," she said softly as she gazed at the man in the vicinity. "If he says yes, I'll take you upstairs."

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The child's eyes brightened. She strode to Lucian's side with her stubby legs, but the man ignored the child's approach.

Knowing that her father would agree, Estella tugged the hem of his shirt fearlessly. "Can I sleep with Ms. Jarvis, Daddy?"

It was only then that Lucian lowered his gaze to look at his daughter before looking at Roxanne, who was standing nearby. "Okay," he said with a slight frown, "but don't give Ms. Jarvis any trouble."

The child nodded obediently before sprinting back to Roxanne with a wide grin. "Daddy said yes!"

Roxanne returned the smile as she caressed the child's head, then said to Lucian, "I'll take Essie upstairs, then."

The man nodded casually. "If she's beginning to feel like a handful, Ms. Jarvis, you can send her back to me any time."

Roxanne was taken aback. She wondered why the man was acting so distant all of a sudden.

Upon regaining her composure, she said, "Don't worry, Mr. Farwell. Essie will be in good hands."

Lucian did not respond further. Instead, he turned to open a bottle of wine and poured himself a glass. Roxanne gazed at the man's back, confused. "We'll be heading up, then. Good night. Mr. Farwell."

Lucian grunted in response.

Roxanne said nothing as she took the children upstairs.

After an entire day's worth of excitement and running on the beach for hours, the children were so sweaty that Roxanne bathed them all.

"Ms. Jarvis, will you still be picking the boys up in the future?" asked Estella suddenly during her bath.

Roxanne's hands froze. She could almost guess the child's intentions and was, at the moment, at a loss for words.

After a long silence, Roxanne answered evasively, "I will go if work permits."

Estella pursed her lips and gave Roxanne a piercing gaze as though she could see through the deception. The corners of her eyes drooped sadly.

Roxanne's heart ached when she took in the child's disappointed look, but she was determined to stand by her word.

Fortunately, Estella said no more throughout the rest of her bath, and Roxanne heaved a sigh of relief.

Roxanne was tucking the children in after their baths when Estella spoke. "I want to hear a bedtime story, Ms. Jarvis."

Roxanne agreed without hesitation, as she felt guilty. "All right, I'll tell you one."

"I want to hear the story of Sleeping Beauty."

Chapter 551

Roxanne was stunned as she instinctively recalled the sudden kiss on the stage at the mention of Sleeping Beauty.

"Ms. Jarvis?" Jerking out of her reverie, Roxanne forced a smile at Estella before telling her the tale of Sleeping Beauty.

The child paid close attention and fell asleep shortly after Roxanne finished.

Covering the child with the quilt, Roxanne lay down beside her.

Although she felt physically tired after running around an entire day, her mind was still in restless turmoil when she closed her eyes.

She couldn't help blaming herself despite having found Benny.

Aside from that, Estella's mention of Sleeping Beauty kept reminding her of the kiss during the play, and she couldn't seem to shake it off her mind.

Despite lying in bed for an indeterminate amount of time, Roxanne could not fall asleep.

Looking at the time and seeing that it was almost midnight, Roxanne promptly got out of bed and went downstairs.

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If I'm right, there are a few red wine bottles at the bar. Maybe I'll sleep better after having some red wine.

Emerging from her room, she frowned slightly when she saw that it was brightly lit downstairs.

Lucian is alone downstairs. Could he be awake as well?

Roxanne slowed down.

She did not want to go down and face the man alone at that hour.

As she was debating with herself whether or not to return to her room, Lucian's voice sounded. "Can't sleep, Ms. Jarvis?"

Roxanne paused in her steps. After a long hesitation, she decided to go down.

"How did you know it was me?"

Lucian was seated on the couch, dealing with some work. He glanced up upon hearing her words. "I heard the door open, and the kids should be asleep now. You are the only one left."

Roxanne nodded in comprehension. "Are you not done with work?" she asked with polite concern.

"Yeah. What about you? Why can't you sleep?"

Roxanne frowned, wondering how she should broach the subject.

Aside from losing Benny, the other reason was more difficult for her to discuss.

Lucian's voice sounded again before she could speak. "Are you still not over the incident of losing Benny?"

The man's eyes remained fixated in her direction.

Roxanne hesitated for a moment before nodding in silent admittance.

Lucian's eyes grew slightly dim.

He had expected it. The woman did not look good when the child had gone missing. He reckoned she would not recover from it that easily.

He had also anticipated that the woman might not be able to fall asleep that night.

The living room plunged into silence.

Roxanne felt awkward. She cleared her throat to speak, but the man's voice sounded again.

"It wasn't your fault that Benny went missing. It was my fault for not keeping a closer eye on all of you, as I was by your side," Lucian said in a low voice. "You don't have to blame yourself. Rest assured that something like this will never happen again."

His speech surprised Roxanne.

He sounded as though they would be living together in the future and that he would help to care for the two boys.

Such a thought had only flashed across her mind once.

Roxanne quickly regained her composure and said, "I appreciate your gesture, Mr. Farwell, but there is no need to take all the responsibility upon yourself. I will take better care of my children."

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Chapter 552 Lucian's face fell slightly.

"I'll leave you to your work, Mr. Farwell. I'm just here for a drink. Don't feel the need to entertain me."

Roxanne inclined her head at him before turning to head to the bar.

The bar was filled with expensive wine, as they were in a presidential suite worthy of the name. Some bottles were even vintage.

Roxanne did not know much about wine other than red wine was a sleeping aid. After perusing the selection, she opened a bottle at random.

When Lucian heard the sound of a bottle opening, he turned around to glance at Roxanne's back. Although he could not see which bottle she had opened, he reminded her, "Red wine will cause a massive hangover. Don't drink too much."

Roxanne grunted nonchalantly in response.

The sound of Roxanne pouring herself wine was the only thing audible in the ensuing silence of the suite.

Lucian's attention was so focused on her that the contents of his email did not register to him.

Roxanne quickly finished a glass of wine, but she did not feel any drowsiness during a pause for a few seconds to reflect upon her sobriety.

Exasperated, she poured herself another glass. Before she knew it, she had had five drinks.

Roxanne was beginning to feel drowsy when she came back to her senses.

Dimly aware that she could not drink anymore, Roxanne got up to return to her room after tidying up the bar. However, she found her legs giving way when she stood up.

She gave a low moan as she staggered to her feet.

Just when she thought she was going to fall, a large hand wrapped around her waist. Lucian's scent wafted into her nose the next second.

"I told you to go easy on the red wine." Lucian sounded upset.

The woman would have made a fool of herself if he hadn't been paying attention.

Roxanne could not bring herself to answer although she had heard him. Upon noticing how warm his embrace was, she snuggled against him.

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Lucian's eyes flashed when he noticed her movements. His grip around her waist grew tighter.

"How are you feeling? Can you walk?"

Roxanne nodded and attempted to take a step forward, but she could not muster up the energy. Her legs felt like jelly, and she almost fell out of Lucian's arms merely from lifting a foot.

Frowning at the state of her intoxication, Lucian swept her into his arms.

Roxanne felt herself being swept off her feet before she could process what was going on.

“I can manage...”

Lucian gazed down at her. “Let me send you back. Quiet. Don’t wake Essie up.”

Essie...

Only then did Roxanne remember the little girl, her roommate for the night. She obediently fell silent at Lucian’s words.

With the woman in his arms, Lucian took two steps forward before sensing she had turned and was leaning her head on his shoulder.

He looked down and saw that she was already unconscious. Her cheeks were still flushed because of the alcohol.

Lucian’s heart softened, and he slowed down.

“Benny...” Roxanne muttered in her sleep as they were ascending the stairs. She sounded distraught.

Lucian felt something pricking his heart. He knew that she must be dreaming about losing the boy.

Although he knew that the ordeal had scarred Roxanne, the true extent of it was a revelation to him.

Lucian’s arm tensed when the muttering became incessant. “Benny is back,” he assured her softly. “He’s fine now.”

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Chapter 552 Lucian’s face fell slightly.

“I’ll leave you to your work, Mr. Farwell. I’m just here for a drink. Don’t feel the need to entertain me.”

Roxanne inclined her head at him before turning to head to the bar.

The bar was filled with expensive wine, as they were in a presidential suite worthy of the name. Some bottles were even vintage.

Roxanne did not know much about wine other than red wine was a sleeping aid. After perusing the selection, she opened a bottle at random.

When Lucian heard the sound of a bottle opening, he turned around to glance at Roxanne's back. Although he could not see which bottle she had opened, he reminded her, "Red wine will cause a massive hangover. Don't drink too much."

Roxanne grunted nonchalantly in response.

The sound of Roxanne pouring herself wine was the only thing audible in the ensuing silence of the suite.

Lucian's attention was so focused on her that the contents of his email did not register to him.

Roxanne quickly finished a glass of wine, but she did not feel any drowsiness during a pause for a few seconds to reflect upon her sobriety.

Exasperated, she poured herself another glass. Before she knew it, she had had five drinks.

Roxanne was beginning to feel drowsy when she came back to her senses.

Dimly aware that she could not drink anymore, Roxanne got up to return to her room after tidying up the bar. However, she found her legs giving way when she stood up.

She gave a low moan as she staggered to her feet.

Just when she thought she was going to fall, a large hand wrapped around her waist. Lucian's scent wafted into her nose the next second.

"I told you to go easy on the red wine." Lucian sounded upset.

The woman would have made a fool of herself if he hadn't been paying attention.

Roxanne could not bring herself to answer although she had heard him. Upon noticing how warm his embrace was, she snuggled against him.

Lucian's eyes flashed when he noticed her movements. His grip around her waist grew tighter.

"How are you feeling? Can you walk?"

Roxanne nodded and attempted to take a step forward, but she could not muster up the energy. Her legs felt like jelly, and she almost fell out of Lucian's arms merely from lifting a foot.

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Chapter 553

Lucian carried Roxanne all the way to the room. Once he entered, his eyes darkened when he saw that Estella had rolled over to the edge of the big bed and was still sleeping soundly

That was not how she was at home. She would sleep in the same position through the night, almost without moving an inch.

Is she moving so much because she's in a new environment? Or is it because she feels more at home around Roxanne?

Holding that thought, Lucian gently put Roxanne down before walking over to the other side to carry Estella to the middle of the bed.

"Daddy..." Estella muttered, half awake, thinking she was dreaming.

Lucian caressed her cheek as he watched her go back to sleep.

When she was quiet again, Lucian glanced over at Roxanne and went to pour her a glass of water.

Feeling someone pulling her up, Roxanne opened her eyes in a daze, only to see Lucian staring at her with a frown.

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"Drink some water. It'll help with the hangover." His voice rang out lowly beside her ear.

At that moment, Roxanne felt everything was so surreal.

Am I dreaming? What hangover? Did I drink?

"Lucian?" she called out hesitantly.

"Yes?"

It's really him. Roxanne narrowed her eyes, and a pitiful look slowly crept over her face.

Lucian frowned at the change in her expression.

To his surprise, Roxanne suddenly leaned into his embrace and even rubbed her face against his chest endearingly.

Lucian froze where he was with his gaze locked on the woman in his arms. He did not dare to move a muscle.

He had never once expected her to behave so intimately toward him ever since they met one another again.

Although he was fully aware that he should keep a distance because she was only acting like that because she was drunk, he still wanted to keep her close.

In fact, if it were not for the fear of disturbing her sleep, he would have hugged her tighter.

This is ridiculous. Lucian could not believe he just caught himself wanting more.

Over the years, he had never treated anyone that way, not until he met Roxanne.

"Lucian..." the woman mumbled sadly in her sleep beside his ear.

His arms tensed up when her voice called him back to reality. He wanted to tell her that he was right beside her.

Feeling his embrace, Roxanne looked up at him in a stupor and murmured, "Why are you so cruel? Am I still not good enough for you? I love you so much, but you've never liked me the slightest bit."

Her words pierced his heart like a knife over and over again.

It pained him beyond words when he thought of what she had said, but that was not the end of her questioning.

"Why? What else should I do to make you love me? Tell me. I'll change. Why are you so quiet?" Roxanne reached for his face frantically when she did not get a response. "Come on! What should I do to make you love me?"

A frown surfaced on Lucian's remorse-stricken face as he grabbed her hands. "You're drunk, Roxanne."

When she heard him calling her name, a satisfied smile broke out on her face.