

The Secret 131

Chapter 131 Something Is Happening To Mom

Roxanne led the girl to the sofa in the living room. The two children soon brought her the first aid kit before sitting to the side, waiting to see Roxanne treat her wound.

Roxanne accepted the kit from the children and thanked them. Just as she took out the burn cream, she realized that she had injured her dominant arm, her right arm. It would be difficult for her to use her left hand.

"Mommy, let me help you!" Archie kindly volunteered as he reached out to her, hoping to help her.

It was inconvenient for Roxanne to do it herself, so she nodded in response. Just as she was about to give Archie the burn cream, a large hand intercepted them and she took the tube away.

Both Roxanne and Archie turned to the owner of the hand.

"Let me." Lucian's brows were slightly knitted as the man crouched down in front of Roxanne.

Archie pursed his lips and pushed Benny away. Then the two of them moved a bit more to the side to let Lucian sit next to his mother.

When the man gently held his hand in his, something flashed before Roxanne's eyes. She then lowered her gaze and muttered, "Sorry to bother you."

Lucian's scowl only deepened at her polite response; she didn't say anything else.

Meanwhile, Estella tightly held Roxanne's shirt while she looked at her father's hands. It was as if she was afraid that Roxanne would feel pain.

Noticing the girl's nervousness, Roxanne looked at her and gave her a reassuring smile. "It doesn't hurt at all."

Estella's eyes sparkled, but she continued to fix her gaze on the woman's hand.

Archie was sitting right next to Lucian. Although he was racked with concern for his mother, he never spoke.

On the other hand, Benny tilted his head to the side as he looked at his mother's hand. He then said: "He seems serious. Will they form blisters? Mommy is a doctor and her hands are important to her. We can't let anything happen to her."

A laugh escaped Roxanne as she heard the boy's concerns. "It will be OK. Don't you know I'm a great doctor? This cream is something that I have specially chosen. It is useful for burns. I used to apply this every time you two got burned when you were younger."

At that, Benny tilted his head in response. A few seconds of silence later, he nervously asked again: "Will it leave a scar? Mommy's arms are pretty. Please don't let me leave a scar!"

Roxanne shook her head. "She will not. Don't worry."

She was talking to the boy, but even so, he didn't dare ignore the man next to her.

It was only a few minutes, but she felt like centuries had passed.

"It should be fine now. Take a look," said the magnetic voice of the man next to his ear.

After a quick glance at his arm, she looked away and pulled him back. Everything is well now. Thank you."

Chapter 132 Let Us Take Care Of You The

Heat seeped into Roxanne's heart at the girl's response. Her eyes were red, but a smile was on her face.

Seeing the two of them, even Lucian's heart melted. She had to take a deep breath before uttering, "Let's eat first."

It was then that Roxanne released the child and blinked back tears. With a smile, she said, "Yes, let's eat first."

Then, remembering the mess in the kitchen, she stood up and walked into the kitchen to clean up.

Realizing what she was going to do, Lucian said, "I asked Catalina to come. She'll take care of all of you for the next two days, so sit down and eat first."

Roxanne stopped short before turning to thank the man, "Thank you."

She wasn't going to act like she was a stranger to Lucian because of Estella, so she wasn't going to turn down her offer.

Luciano agreed.

Roxanne turned to the boys. "Come on. You must be hungry too. Dig deep while the food is still hot."

It was true that the boys were starving. Hearing his words, they jumped off the sofa and walked to the dining room table in a single file.

Roxanne was squeezed between them. Usually, she tried to take care of them by bringing them food. However, she only remembered her injury right after raising her hand. Therefore, she had no choice but to use her left hand, but her movements were clumsy because of it.

Seeing the slowness of her mother's actions, Archie and Benny told Roxanne, "Mommy, you don't need to take care of us. Let us take care of you instead!"

With that said, they both stood up to take the food that Roxanne liked.

A tender look came into Roxanne's eyes as she watched the sensible boys work. Touched, she then said, "Thank you, my dears."

When Estella saw that the children brought food for Roxanne, she too imitated them and took some of her favorite food for Roxanne.

Once she put the food on Roxanne's plate, she looked up at Roxanne with bright eyes, eagerly waiting for the woman to eat.

At that moment, Roxanne took the food to her mouth. Smiling, she patted Estella's head and said, "Thank you, Essie. It's delicious!"

Hearing that, Estella smiled and began to feed Roxanne more food.

For a moment, the three children kept putting more and more food on Roxanne's plate like it was a contest.

Roxanne was beginning to feel too full, but when she thought of the children's kind gestures, she forced herself to slowly finish her plate.

"That's enough. Kids, focus on your own food," Lucian chimed in, not knowing whether to laugh or sigh at the scene.

He didn't know if he should praise them for being sensible or chide Roxanne for being too soft.

Roxanne could barely straighten her back from having overeaten by then. Thus, when she heard her intervention, she raised her head to give him a grateful look.

Chapter 133 Estella's Mother

That night, after Roxanne asked Archie and Benny to bed, she went back into the room to take care of Estella.

Once Catalina knew that Estella had recovered, she stuck to the girl's side like glue.

In fact, the two women even bathed Estella together.

Catalina's heart ached when she saw the bruise on Estella's behind. Instantly, she couldn't help but complain: "Who did this? Mrs. Estella has always been in poor health, and Mr. Farwell dares not even be harsh with her..."

Hearing that, Estella blinked at Catalina. However, when she thought of Aubree's warning, she closed her mouth.

Suddenly, Roxanne remembered what Lucian had said in the haunted house.

The mystery of the identity of Estella's mother kept spinning in her head.

Thinking about how Catherine had been working at the Farwell residence for all those years and how she could possibly know anything, Roxanne asked in a nonchalant tone, "Catherine, why didn't Essie's mother come to visit her despite how dire things are? was it his episode? ? Did any other emergency occur?"

Hearing that, Catalina visibly stiffened before looking at Roxanne in shock.

She thought that Roxanne knew that Estella was her daughter all along. After all, she gave birth to Estella.

That's why her question startled her so much.

Mrs. Jarvis subtly asks me who Essie's birth mother is. How am I supposed to respond to that?

A moment of hesitation later, Catherine asked, "Didn't...Mr. Farwell tell you about this before?"

Roxanne thought her response was strange, but she couldn't understand why. Therefore, she replied: "He only told me that Essie's biological mother is not Aubree."

So, Mr. Farwell knows about this too, but he didn't tell Mrs. Jarvis.

Catherine came to a conclusion on that. She then smiled at Roxanne and said, "Did you think it was Mrs. Pearson the whole time? Mrs. Estella is nothing like her. I'm not sure why you thought that.

Roxane chuckled. "So can you tell me who Essie's biological mother is?"

Catherine shook her head. This is a personal matter for Mr. Farwell. He wouldn't dare tell anyone. You better wait until Mr. Farwell tells you himself.

Saying this, Catalina turned again to her work. She didn't dare pursue the topic any longer, because she was afraid of letting something slip.

When Roxanne noticed that Catalina was avoiding the subject, she stopped pressing for more information.

Still, a trace of suspicion remained in her mind.

After all, she had seen for herself how obsessed Lucian was with Aubree all those years ago.

Chapter 134 Not Being With Him

Meanwhile, at the Farwell residence, Sonya and Elias were about to rest. When they heard the sudden sound of the doorbell, they hurriedly opened the door.

Instantly, they were greeted by the apologetic faces of Samuel and Gina. Aubree was behind them, her eyes red.

"What happened?" Sonya asked in confusion as she registered the expressions of the trio.

Gina turned to look at Aubree.

Aubree's eyes were bloodshot and remorse was written all over his face. Even his voice was a bit hoarse as he said, "Mrs. Goodbye, I've come to apologize.

Sonya was even more taken aback by that answer. She then led the three of them to the sofa and had the maid serve them cups of tea before asking, "What happened? Why are you apologizing to me?"

Aubree kept her head down, not daring to look at Sonya at all. "You talked Essie into my car yesterday morning, so I figured she'd be cool while she drove her to kindergarten. However, she started to make a fuss and insisted on getting out of the car halfway. She even tried to open the door despite how dangerous it was. I tried to stop her, but she refused to listen to me. In the end, I got too anxious and hit her several times after stopping the car."

The moment Sonya and Elias heard that Sonya had laid a finger on Estella, her expressions darkened.

Aubree continued in a miserable tone, "I really didn't mean it. I know it's my fault; I shouldn't have done anything to a child. Estella is so cute, and she is your precious princess. Even now, I feel like slapping myself for doing that. If only she had been more patient at the time."

Seeing her apologetic behavior, Sonya's dark expression brightened a bit. "If you know that you have done wrong, you should know that there is no point in coming to us. You should apologize to Essie instead of her. You can no longer do this in the future."

A conflicted look crossed Aubree's face. "Mrs. Goodbye, that's what I thought too, but Lucian found out about this matter. He is angry..."

"It's normal to be angry. Have a good talk with him. A line appeared between Sonya's eyebrows. She sensed that Lucian had gone a little out of line with her response.

Just as she said that, she saw Aubree turn even paler.

"I don't mind doing anything as long as Lucian forgives me, but..." the younger woman trailed off.

Gina, who was standing next to her, said, "Sonya, you have no idea how serious things are. Lucian is absolutely furious. It was as if he had lost his mind last night. She even attacked Aubree. Look."

He then lifted Aubree's hair behind her back to show Sonya the mark on Aubree's neck.

Both Sonya and Elias froze when they saw the bruise on Aubree's neck. They never thought that Lucian would be so rude to her.

Chapter 135 Not Letting Her Into The Family

At that, Sonya frowned. "Aubree, what are you talking about?" There's no way Lucian could be with Roxanne anymore. I asked him about this earlier and he told me that he is not thinking of getting back together with her so don't think about it too much."

Even so, Aubree continued to sob. "But Essie is with Roxanne all day now. In fact, she lives at Roxanne's house. Essie likes her a lot. If Lucian no longer plans to be with her, why would he make her take care of Essie?"

Even though Lucian had chastised her for it, he still sent people to spy on Roxanne.

The moment she found out that Estella was staying at Roxanne's house, Aubree panicked. That's why she told everything to her parents. After being scolded by them, she was brought to apologize to Sonya and Elias.

Later, when she heard that Sonya forgave her, she couldn't help but complain to her.

Sonya never thought that Lucian would let that woman take care of Estella. She instantly raged: "This is ridiculous! Who told her to do this?"

Then she pushed her anger aside and comforted Aubree. "Don't worry. There's no way they're ever going to get back together. Even if Lucian wants to do that, I won't let that woman come back here!"

Aubree shifted her doe eyes to Sonya to make sure Sonya was serious about her words.

Sonya uttered grimly, "That woman gave up on Essie back then. I'm not letting him take care of Essie again!

A small sliver of trust finally slipped into Aubree's heart at her promise.

The few of them then chatted for a while longer before Gina led Aubree away.

They had obtained Sonya's promise, so they had achieved what they had come for.

All it took was a few drops of Aubree's tears. Sonya not only didn't blame her for hitting the boy, but she even felt that she had hurt Aubree. On top of that, she even promised not to let Roxanne into the family.

In other words, they had hit two birds with one stone.

Sonya couldn't sleep for most of the night because of Aubree's words.

Comforting Aubree wasn't the only reason she'd told Aubree that she wasn't going to let Roxanne into her family. It was also because she really hated that ruthless woman.

That ruthless woman was able to abandon Lucian and Estella once, so Sonya was sure she would do it again.

I have no idea what my son is thinking. I can't believe I'm actually thinking about her marrying back into the family.

Chapter 136 Give Up

Roxanne watched her sit down on the sofa before turning to close the door. After taking a seat on the couch, she looked the older woman straight in the eyes and said, "Mrs. Goodbye, may I know what is the reason for your early visit?"

Sonya did not mince words at all. I've come to tell you to stay away from Lucian. Also, don't try to win over Essie. She has nothing to do with you. You were the one who chose to get divorced and walk away without telling anyone, so you have no right to come back now.

Hearing that, Roxanne almost sneered. She flatly replied, "Don't worry. I never thought of going back when I decided to leave back then."

"Is that so?" Sonya scoffed. "Then explain why you met Lucian. Also, why is Essie here with you?"

Sonya then looked at Roxanne with disdain.

She said that she is not coming back, but all she is doing is to curry favor with them. What a liar!

Roxanne's eyebrows drew together as she switched to a more aggressive demeanor. "I think you have misunderstood something. It's just a coincidence that I met Lucian. Lucian had gone to meet Old Mr. Queen when he was treating him. Plus, Essie goes to the same kindergarten as my kids. They are friends, so she often comes to play with them.

Roxanne didn't tell her that Estella had stuck to her when she was sick.

With how hostile Sonya was towards her, Roxanne was sure she would assume that Roxanne was fooling herself.

Unexpectedly though, despite Roxanne coming clean and trying her best to draw the line between herself and Lucian and her daughter, Sonya still refused to let her go.

"How can something so casual happen? It shouldn't be complicated for you to check the kindergarten with the status you have now. Why did you choose the one the Farwell family is investing in? Sonya questioned.

For a moment, Roxanne didn't know how to explain it to Sonya.

Madilyn was the one who recommended the kindergarten to him. Naturally, she would not think of looking in the kindergarten.

If she had done an investigation, she wouldn't have sent her two children there in the first place.

When Sonya didn't hear from Roxanne, she assumed that Roxanne felt too guilty to talk back. She therefore sneered and said, "Regardless of what kind of plan you have, I'm not going to let you join the family again. Abandon!"

Roxanne agreed. "Don't worry. I have never thought of going back there."

"I hope you remember what you said," Sonya warned.

At that moment, the three children finished their breakfast. When they came out, they saw Sonya. Archie and Benny were confused, but they could sense Sonya's hostile attitude toward her mother. Therefore, they ran towards Roxanne, wanting to protect her.

Chapter 137 End Like Them

When Catalina saw that Estella was sobbing, she quickly stepped forward and said: "Mrs. Goodbye, Mrs. Estella had an episode again and Mrs. Pearson hit her. Her condition has only started to improve today and she hasn't stabilized yet. Please don't scare her.

Catalina had reflected on the incident the night before and she could almost guess who had hit Estella. To convince Sonya to stop, she had no choice but to pluck up her courage and tell the other woman about her speculations.

However, Sonya didn't seem fazed by that. "Sony has already told me about this. Essie had been the one who hadn't been obedient, and Aubree had only punished her like that in her panic. She has already apologized to me. Essie is also to blame. Aubree will be her stepmother in the future, but she keeps making riots like these."

Hearing that, Catalina realized that she couldn't say anything more. All she could do was cast a pitying look at Estella.

The girl had just come out of her own world recently. After this crying session, Catalina was afraid to return to the state of the day before.

After Archie and Benny overheard her conversation, they guessed that the unknown woman was Estella's grandmother. However, they did not hold back and rebutted: "Essie did not make a scandal. That bad woman is wrong to have hurt a child! Why would you listen to a stranger and scold Essie? She has been badly beaten, but you don't feel upset for her at all? If she wasn't for my mom's care, Essie might not have recovered by now!"

Sonya was unhappy with the way the children scolded her. "What do you know? Children shouldn't interfere in adult affairs!"

Saying that, she grabbed Estella's arm again. "Look at these. They are completely uneducated. If you keep staying here, you'll be like them. Come home with me right now!"

Estella remained rooted to the spot, but her arm ached from Sonya's tug. Tears kept rolling down her cheeks as resistance flashed in her eyes.

Roxanne had decided not to intervene in Estella's affairs after the previous conversation, but she remembered how the girl was the day before when she saw her tears. Therefore, she knitted her eyebrows together and said, "Mrs. Bye, I hear you love Essie so much, but is that how you love her? Essie is crying, but she doesn't even pay attention to what she wants?"

Sonya looked at her sideways. "Who knows how you have bewitched my granddaughter?"

Just as the two of them were standing still, someone rang the doorbell again.

Knowing that it must be her father, Archie ran to the door to open it.

Lucian froze for a second when he saw the boy. Then, he noticed the tinge of anger on the boy's face.

When he lifted his head to look ahead, he saw her mother tightly clutching Estella's arm and Estella sobbing in anguish in the living room.

At that, Lucian frowned and reached out to brush the mother's hand away from him. "What are you doing?"

Sonya's frown deepened. "If she had arrived later, my granddaughter would be someone else's granddaughter."

Chapter 138 You've Crossed The Line

Hearing his mother's words, Lucian nodded noncommittally.

Assuming he had agreed, Sonya turned and prepared to take Estella with her. However, Lucian's voice suddenly rang out.

"You may not know how Essie has been in the last two days."

His words made her stop abruptly. Although he had heard from Catalina about Estella's autistic episode in the last two days, he didn't know how bad she was.

"The Essie episode this time was more intense than the last. Even James had no solution for that. Only when he is with Roxanne does he behave like a normal girl. Plus, Roxanne even got her to talk the other day. Do you know how important this is compared to the past? Lucian questioned in a deep voice.

Essie has spoken?

Sonya was filled with shock, as she had mentally prepared for Estella to remain mute her entire life.

I can't believe that woman got me to talk!

When he saw the astonishment on Sonya's face, Lucian pursed his lips. "I was equally surprised, but there's no denying it. In fact, Essie refuses to leave Roxanne's side despite not knowing that the latter is her mother. Even if you refuse to admit it, there's no way you can erase the instinctive bond between them."

Sonya frowned in disgust. She knew Lucian was right despite his unwillingness to accept the truth.

At that moment, she couldn't find the words to refute him.

"Mom, we have spent many years trying to cure Essie without success. But now, we finally have hope. Even if Essie accepts Roxanne, I have no objection as long as she can make a full recovery."

Lucian spoke in a soft, convincing voice. "Given how much you love Essie, I'm sure you want the best for her, too. Therefore, I hope that you will not interrupt her life anymore, since Essie cannot afford to suffer another blow.

Although the thought of Estella's autism made Sonya hesitate, she still couldn't get over the past. She asked angrily, "Are you saying that you are willing to accept her even after what she has done to you?"

Lucian replied, "That's between the two of us. I will deal with it properly.

Sonya moved on. What about Essie? By allowing him to get closer to Roxanne, what will happen to her when she finds out that she was once abandoned by the latter? How will she feel? Will she be able to take it?"

Chapter 139 Will You Really Call Off The Engagement

? Sonya's intentions were clear. She still hoped that Lucian would marry Aubree.

Over the past six years, she had teased him many times about it.

Lucian arched an eyebrow in annoyance. "I know what I'm doing. There is no need for you to interfere.

Sonya was upset. "Do you know what you are doing? Are you really planning to call off the engagement?"

Before Lucian could reply, Sonya's expression changed drastically as the resolve in her voice hardened.

"No matter what, you personally accepted the commitment to the Pearson family. You can't let her down after all the time she's waited. I forbid you to go back on your word, so never mention it in front of me again!

Subsequently, Sonya gave her son a stern look before shooting a glance at the front door of the mansion. It was as if she could pierce her eyes through him and see Roxanne inside her. In the end, she regained her gaze before leaving.

After seeing the silhouette of her mother disappear, Lucian collected her emotions and returned to the mansion.

Estella had stopped crying in Roxanne's arms and she didn't seem very affected. The moment she saw him walk in, she jumped out of Roxanne's embrace and ran to hug her thigh. When she stared at him, she could see that his eyes and her nose were a little red.

After stroking her head to comfort her, Lucian shifted his gaze in Roxanne's direction. "I'm sorry that my mom caused you trouble. He didn't expect her to suddenly come here.

Having regained her composure, Roxanne nodded calmly. "Alright. I am not in the least surprised by her attitude. After all, I left the Farwell family on very bad terms. Besides, he never approved of our marriage, and time has proved him right.

Back then, Roxanne had married Lucian over Sonya's objections. Unfortunately, in the end they tormented each other.

When she returned to the country, she had considered the possibility that the Farwell family would cause her trouble. However, she never expected to be involved with Lucian again, let alone meet Sonya under such circumstances.

Lucian frowned slightly at her response, but he didn't know what to say, because Roxanne was simply stating the facts.

In fact, her mother's prejudice against her had never diminished one bit.

Suddenly, silence descended on the living room.

"Millisecond. Jarvis, Mr. Farwell," Catherine observed warily. "It is time to send the children to school."

They were both jolted back to their senses.

Chapter 140 Patience Required

On the way home from Roxanne's house, Sonya gave the matter some thought and decided to call Aubree.

Meanwhile, Aubree was stumped to receive Sonya's call so early in the morning.

"Aubree, I've already spoken to Lucian, and she's not going to talk about canceling the engagement with you again." Although Sonya had unilaterally requested it, she passed on the decision simply because her son did not object.

Aubree was delighted to hear the news. Is that true, Mrs. Farwell?

Just as she was speaking, she asked further: "But what about Roxanne? She seems to be very close to Lucian. Besides, Essie likes her too."

Sonya's tone turned somber at the mention of Roxanne. Just ignore her, as only you can be Lucian's bride-to-be. As for Essie, you have to be more patient with her, she's still a girl. I'll let the matter drop this time, but you'd better not do that again!"

Aubree readily agreed: "Mrs. Goodbye, rest assured, I will treat Essie as if she were my own daughter."

However, the thought of Estella staying with Roxanne for the past two days still haunted her. She therefore, she inquired further: "By the way, has Essie gone home yet? I want to find an opportunity to apologize to her."

Sonya replied in a mediocre tone: "Not yet. He wanted to bring her back, but her condition has not stabilized. She wants to stay with Roxanne and that is also good for her recovery. By the time she feels better, I'll bring her back."

In response, an icy glint flashed in Aubree's eyes.

That despicable boy is still with Roxanne! Before this, she's been the reason why Lucian doesn't like her and refuses to marry me. Now that she's growing closer to Roxanne, she could become the reason for him to remarry the latter!

The more Aubree thought about it, the more upset she became. Aware that her only hope still rested with Sonya, she kept her tone cordial as she spoke. "I understand, Mrs. Farwell. Essie's well-being comes first."

When Sonya heard Aubree's loving words, she advised in a solemn tone, "Aubree, you have to be patient when it comes to getting what you want. Do you know what I mean?"

"Yes, Mrs. Farwell. Don't worry," Aubree replied calmly.

Sonya nodded with satisfaction. "Soon, I will invite your parents to end your marriage. There is no need to feel anxious, as that will not help you achieve success."