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The More the Merrier Chapter 281 - 284

Chapter 281 Do Not Keep Me Waiting For Too Long

Benjamin's eyes darkened. "Are you going to retaliate?"

Arissa responded with a smile. "Of course not."

He's the boss. Of course, I'm not that stupid to step on his toes.

Instead of offending him, Arissa wanted to take this opportunity to cling to him.

Looking at the changes in her facial expression, Benjamin smirked. "Go and prepare a meal for me then!"

Arissa looked around and realized they had reached home.

She put on a smile and opened the car door while carrying things in her hands.

She then ran over to Benjamin's side and opened the door for him. "Watch your step, Mr. Graham."

After taking a glance at her smiling face, Benjamin tidied his shirt, stepped out of the car, and entered the house.

Arissa puckered her lips. This man must have gotten used to people serving him.

"Don't keep me waiting for too long!"

Upon hearing that, Arissa who was deep in thought then caught up with him. "The butler has prepared lunch for you, hasn't he? I can cook dinner for you later!"

Benjamin narrowed his eyes and tilted his head aside. "I thought you said you'd do what I want? I want you to cook something for me right now!"

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Arissa pressed her lips and responded, "Okay!"

He's just gonna ignore the lunch the butler prepared for him? What a waste.

"Mr. Graham, Ms. York, welcome home!"

"Carry these for me, will you?" Arissa handed the documents and luggage over to Edwin.

She then turned around and ran toward the kitchen.

"Are you feeling better, Mr. Graham?" Edwin studied Benjamin from head to toe and thought he looked all right.

"Yes, I'm fine!" After taking a glance at the butler, he walked toward the living hall.

"Lunch is ready. Shall I invite Ms. York over?"

"Don't worry. We're not in a hurry." Benjamin sat down on the couch.

Edwin then looked in Arissa's direction. What is Mr. Graham doing here when Ms. York is heading to the dining hall?

Edwin did not know Arissa was actually running to the kitchen.

After putting the things in one corner, Edwin went to the kitchen.

He got confused when he saw Arissa busy cooking. "What are you preparing? Lunch's ready."

"Mr. Graham wants me to cook something for him!" Arissa looked at Edwin and answered him with a grin.

Edwin finally understood what was going on between the two. He smirked and said, "Let me help you, Ms. York!"

"It's all right. I can handle it myself. I'll whip up something simple. Go and take a rest." Arissa smiled.

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“And please stop calling me Ms. York anymore. Call me Arissa or Issa!”

Edwin narrowed his eyes and teased, “I wish I could call you Mrs. Graham!”

His remark rendered Arissa speechless. “Please watch your words. Mr. Graham might blame you for uttering nonsense.”

I don’t want people to assume that I made him call me Mrs. Graham.

“Mr. Graham wouldn’t mind. You’re the mother to the children, so technically speaking, it’s not wrong for me to call you Mrs. Graham!” Edwin had grown fond of Arissa.

Arissa had given Mr. Graham five sons. No one else deserves the title more than her.

“Please, just call me Issa!”

Arissa responded with an awkward smile while continuing to prepare food for that bossy pants.

Since Benjamin had just recovered from an allergic reaction, Arissa avoided ingredients that were high in protein. Instead, she made baked beef strips and mushroom soup.

Edwin, who was lending her a hand in the kitchen, was pleased to witness her culinary skills. “They smell great. Do you cook all the time?”

Arissa looked at Edwin and nodded. “I’ll try to cook dinner if I get home early. Take-outs are not healthy for the kids.”

Edwin grinned and nodded. “You must have taken good care of the kids.”

Edwin then brought the food to the dining table and removed the thermos covers from the other dishes.

Arissa too brought the soup out of the kitchen after turning off the stove.

“Careful, Ms. York. Put it down. I’ll carry the soup for you.”

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"It's fine. I'll do it." Arissa then placed the soup on the table.

The dishes filled the entire dining table. Arissa wondered if the two of them could finish them all.

"Lunch is ready!"

The More the Merrier Chapter 282

Chapter 282 I Will Just Eat What She Cooked

"Lunch is ready, Mr. Graham!" Arissa tried to get the man's attention by calling him out loud.

She then filled two empty bowls with mushroom soup.

The mushroom soup tasted great because she managed to use all the available fresh ingredients.

Upon noticing Benjamin was on a call, Edwin turned to Arissa and said, "I'll get him!"

"He must have heard me."

When Arissa was trying to see where Benjamin was in the living hall, the man walked right into the dining area.

"Wash your hands and join me." Benjamin glanced at her.

He then looked at the dishes on the table and questioned her, "How did you manage to cook all these in just a short time?"

Arissa could not help but frown upon hearing that.

Edwin stepped in and smiled. "She prepared the baked beef strips and mushroom soup!"

Benjamin took a closer at the set. Ehm. They look kind of delectable.

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After washing his hands at the sink, he walked back to the dining table.

Arissa quickly went up and drew out the chair for him to sit.

“Here, have some soup first!”

Benjamin tried the mushroom soup. It’s delicious, but I don’t think she made it.

Arissa then sat down and took a sip of the soup. “It’s good!”

She even licked the corner of her lips to express her satisfaction.

A cold glint flashed across Benjamin’s eyes. He sneered, “You didn’t make this, did you?”

Did she really whip up these two dishes in less than ten minutes? I don’t think so.

Arissa gave him a smile. “Edwin made the soup, but I added some special ingredients to enhance the flavor.”

Benjamin responded with a snort.

“Try the baked beef strips. I made them. Edwin was the one who prepared the rest of the dishes. There’s so much food on the table. We can’t finish them by ourselves anyway.”

She added, “I’ll prepare dinner tonight. I’ll cook anything you want!”

She took a slice of baked beef strips and placed it next to the man’s mouth.

Edwin’s eyes widened upon noticing their interaction.

The butler became even more flabbergasted when Benjamin opened his mouth and ate the bread.

How did they become this intimate in just one night? In the past, a hygiene freak like Mr. Graham would never eat food like this!

But he seems to enjoy being fed by Ms. York!

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"How is it? Nice?"

Arissa looked at him with anticipation.

Benjamin ran his tongue over his teeth to savor every last bit of garlic bits in his mouth.

He responded with a grunt to express his satisfaction.

Arissa was pleased with his reaction. "Eat more then!"

Baked beef strips had become one of her signature dishes ever since she had learned it from an experienced hotel chef.

Benjamin glanced at her and asked, "Where did you learn this from?"

While she was stuffing food into her mouth, she explained, "At first, I tried to improve the recipe by experimenting with various ingredients. When I was working in a hotel, I learned it from an experienced chef and eventually mastered the skills of preparing this dish."

"The kids are a big fan of this dish!" Arissa was proud of her achievement.

"Ah, that's why Ms. York is such a good cook!" Edwin smiled.

How he wished he could also get a taste of the beef strips. Too bad the dish is made specifically for Mr. Graham only.

Arissa chuckled. "I love the dishes you made too, Edwin!"

That remark instantly put him on cloud nine.

"Do you want more soup?" Arissa asked after noticing Benjamin had finished it.

"I want more beef!" Benjamin exclaimed. Clearly, he was a big fan of this dish too.

Arissa put down her cutlery and added more beef strips to his plate.

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Benjamin kept eating the beef strips with potato salad. He did not bother to touch the other dishes.

“Are you not going to try the other dishes?” Arissa asked, even though she was delighted to see how much she enjoyed her food.

In the blink of an eye, the man had almost finished the baked beef strips.

“You eat some too!” Benjamin ordered. He then put his cutlery down.

The More the Merrier Chapter 283

Chapter 283 Did You Call Me Weak

“You’re done eating?” Arissa, who had just had a bowl of soup, looked at him and asked.

“I’m full!” Benjamin had eaten quite a lot.

“How about another bowl of mushroom soup? It’s good for you since you are weak.”

All of a sudden, the man shot a sullen glare at Arissa.

She wondered why he gave her that look. “What’s with that look? Come, another bowl of soup for you. Eat more! Be a man!”

She took over his bowl and filled it with soup.

Edwin, who was still observing them from a distance, turned around and giggled.

“Be a man? Do you mean I’m not a man?” Benjamin’s expression turned grim. “And did you just call me weak?”

What a humiliating way to doubt a man.

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Arissa finally realized why he got mad. She immediately opened her mouth to defend herself. "Come on, don't be so sensitive. It was just a casual remark. Don't take it to heart."

She continued, "I didn't mean to say you're weak. You were admitted to the hospital and given an injection, weren't you? I only want you to drink more soup so that you can boost your system with nutrients, that's all. It's up to you if you still want another bowl."

Arissa noticed the man still had a grim expression on his face. Instead of clarifying what she said earlier, she swallowed the fluid lodged in her throat, lowered her head, and continued with her lunch.

Yum! Edwin is such a good cook. I'll not let these dishes go to waste!

Benjamin looked away and continued drinking the mushroom soup.

Arissa peeked at him and could not help but chuckle in her heart.

Didn't he say he is full?

After finishing the bowl of soup, Benjamin said, "Enjoy your lunch!"

He then stood up, left the dining area, and went upstairs.

"Mr. Graham has never eaten so much in his life! He usually eats a small portion, and that's it," Edwin said with a grin.

Arissa was surprised to learn that. "Just a small plate?"

He seems to eat more than a plate in front of me though.

"Yeah. Maybe your presence here had whetted his appetite?"

Upon hearing that, Arissa instantly blushed. "Stop teasing me, Edwin."

"Gavin also eats a lot when he's with you, right?" Edwin smiled.

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“Have you taken your lunch? If not, come and join me. I can’t finish these all by myself.”
Arissa tried to divert his attention.

“Don’t worry about me. I ate something just now.” Edwin then went to the kitchen to clean things up.

Arissa grinned. I wonder if the kids had had their lunch.

She gave Gavin a video call, but he did not answer.

Is he having his afternoon nap?

She immediately ended the call.

Arissa then continued with her lunch while scrolling her phone.

Meanwhile, Benjamin, who had just taken his bath, came downstairs and noticed she was still eating.

He called, “Arissa!”

Arissa turned around and froze for a moment when their gaze met.

“Stop playing with your phone. Finish your food, quick!” Benjamin reprimanded her before entering the study.

At first, she wanted to defend herself but eventually gave in. She put down her phone and focused on finishing the food on her plate.

What’s wrong with me playing with my phone? There’s no one around me to talk to anyway!

What a domineering man!

Edwin chuckled from a distance. It looks like Mr. Graham had started behaving like an ordinary man now.

It took Arissa another thirty minutes to settle her lunch.

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She had finished a big portion of the dishes on the dining table. "Thanks for the meal! It's delicious!"

Edwin smiled at her and said, "Go and take a rest. I'll clean these up later."

"Let me help you!"

When she was about to pick up one of the plates from the table, Edwin went up to stop her. "Don't worry about it. You still have to cook for Mr. Graham tonight. Go and get some rest!"

Edwin cleaned up the table as quickly as possible, as he did not want Arissa to help him.

"Thanks, Edwin."

Edwin responded, "You're welcome, Ms. York."

Arissa then left the dining area. As she was walking by the study, she peeped into the room and asked, "Aren't you gonna take a break?"

Benjamin lifted his head to look at her. "I'm still busy!"

Arissa nodded. "Have you taken your medicine?"

The More the Merrier Chapter 284

Chapter 284 Wait For One More Day

Benjamin glanced at her before lowering his head and continuing with his work.

Arissa's lips curled into a smile. So he hasn't eaten the medicine yet.

Without delay, she went to take his medicine and poured a glass of water.

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Then, she walked into Benjamin's study. "Here. Eat this first before you continue your work."

Benjamin furrowed his brows. "Just put it there. I'll eat it later."

Seeing that he was reluctant to eat the medicine, Arissa persuaded gently, "If you don't eat the medicine now, you won't recover fast. The kids will be worried seeing you like this."

Benjamin lifted his head and stared at Arissa. She handed the medicine and the glass of water to him.

"Will the kids worry about me?"

Maybe Gavin will, but that brat is ignoring me even now.

"Of course! If the kids find out about this, Gavin will definitely be the one who worries about you the most!"

Even though they said they didn't like him, I bet they'll be concerned if they find out that he's sick.

"Really? I doubt so." Benjamin scoffed. Regardless, he still took the medicine and ate it.

Arissa smiled and asked, "Are you picking them up tonight?"

Seeing her eagerness to see the kids, Benjamin pursed his lip slightly, "No. I'm fetching them back tomorrow."

"Why?"

Arissa could not wrap her head around it. Didn't he promise his father that he would pick up the kids tonight if possible? Why did he change his mind again? Since we're already back, we can get them anytime.

"Dad seldom has the chance to hang out with them. Let them stay there with him for a while more."

Benjamin spoke his mind before returning to look through his work.

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Arisa bit her lip and turned around to go out.

“You should rest early,” she reminded before heading back upstairs.

She changed into her pajamas, getting ready to take a nap.

Just then, Gavin’s call came in.

Arisa immediately sat upright and answered the video call.

“Sweetheart!”

Her heart melted the instant she saw her son’s face.

“Mommy, did you call me just now?”

Gavin rubbed his eyes lazily, seemingly just woken up.

“Yes. Were you sleeping?”

Arisa flashed a gentle smile. At that moment, she felt like hugging Gavin so much.

“Yes, I’ve just woken up. I was so happy when I saw that you’ve called me!”

Gavin’s lips split into a wide grin.

Right then, Zachary came over as well and exclaimed, “Mommy!”

“Hello!” Arisa beamed from ear to ear.

Oliver and Jasper had woken up too. They immediately leaned forward when they saw their brothers having a video call with Arisa.

“Mommy!”

“Are you all up?”

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They all look so cute with their messy hair.

“Yeah, only Jesse is still sleeping!” Jasper yawned.

“Mommy, when are you coming to pick us up?” Oliver stared earnestly at Arissa.

“Maybe tomorrow?”

Arissa figured she should not go fetch the kids herself.

Benjamin had said that he would pick the kids up tomorrow.

“What? We still need to wait until tomorrow? Mommy, where are you now? What are you busy with? Are you on a business trip?”

Zachary was somehow unhappy. Even though it was fun at his grandfather’s place, he missed his mother dearly.

Gavin glanced at Arissa’s background, and his eyes lit up. “Mommy, are you at home?”

Arissa did not expect Gavin to notice that. “Yes, I am.”

The four of them got overwhelmed with excitement at that.

“Mommy, we’ll go back to look for you then!”

Arissa blinked slightly. That works.

“But aren’t you guys going to accompany Grandpa anymore?”

“We can accompany him any other time. Today is the weekend. We want to be with you, Mommy!”

Upon saying that, Gavin jumped right off the bed, getting ready to freshen up.

“Mommy, wait for us! We’ll see you in a while!”

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With that, Zachary headed toward the bathroom as well.

“Mommy, we’ll go wash our faces. Bye!” Oliver followed behind his brothers.

“Mommy, please wake Jesse! I’ll go wash my face too!”

Jasper giggled as he placed the phone facing Jesse.

Arissa was amused to see Jesse’s face at such a close distance.

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