

The More the Merrier Chapter 346

Chapter 346 Do You Have A Poor Memory

Although Oliver and Arissa were overjoyed, the other four kids felt gloomy since they did not get the flavors that they liked.

Zachary took a dig at Benjamin, "Mr. Graham, do you have a poor memory?"

Benjamin glanced at him.

Kingsley burst into laughter. "He did it on purpose!"

"Aren't you too being too biased, Benjamin? You should've bought us milk tea, but you bought us plain water instead," teased Shaun with a wide grin.

"He's right. I wanted milk tea, not water."

Darius chided Benjamin, "Are you trying to piss me off or something?"

Benjamin shot a glance at his father. "Milk tea is too sweet, so you can't drink it."

Darius was rendered speechless. Since he had a high blood sugar level, he had to keep to a diet.

Kingsley rebuked, "But we can drink it. So why didn't you buy some for us?"

"I didn't want Dad to yearn for milk tea if he sees both of you drinking it. That's why I got plain water for the two of you too," replied Benjamin calmly.

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The two of them were at a loss for words.

Gazing at them curiously, Arissa asked, "Mr. Graham, why can't you drink milk tea?"

Darius laughed. "I have a high blood sugar level."

Arissa understood now. "In that case, you should drink less sweet drinks."

Darius nodded. Looking at his five grandchildren drinking the milk tea happily, he swallowed hard.

"Here, Grandpa, you can have some barbeque!" offered Gavin.

"Okay."

Darius tousled his grandson's hair affectionately,

When Benjamin saw how quickly Arissa had finished her drink, he raised his brows. "Would you like to have more?"

Arissa glanced at him.

"No."

Looking at her earnestly, Benjamin wiped the sauce from her lips.

Stunned, Arissa felt her cheeks burning.

"Are you blushing, Mommy?"

Jasper stared at her intently.

When he said that, Gavin, Zachary, Oliver, and Jesse turned their heads around at the same time.

Even Darius and the other adults looked over curiously.

When Arissa felt everyone's stares on her, her face turned even redder.

"No, I'm not! You're mistaken!"

Arissa pinched her son's cheek.

Jasper laughed so hard that his shoulders shook.

"Mommy's blushing!" He dashed away while chuckling.

Everyone looked at Arissa as they laughed joyfully, making her feel extremely embarrassed.

When she noticed Benjamin staring at her with a smile, she glared at him furiously.

He raised his eyebrows domineeringly and moved closer to her.

"Why are you glaring at me?"

When Arissa felt his charismatic aura envelop her, her heart skipped a beat.

She took a step back. "Y-You're wrong. I wasn't glaring at you."

Benjamin scoffed.

"Hurry up and eat your barbeque."

He passed the food over. When Arissa took it, she returned to her senses. "Isn't this yours?"

"I'm not eating."

Arissa pouted before distributing the food to everyone else.

After they were done with their meals, Kingsley and the other adults brought the kids in front to play, while Benjamin and Arissa trailed behind them.

All the while, Benjamin kept receiving calls about work.

Arissa looked at him. "Why don't you go and settle work first? I'll go back after accompanying them."

Benjamin glanced at her. "Let's go together."

Staring at him for a while, Arissa fell silent and continued admiring the scenery with the rest.

After walking for more than an hour, Darius finally felt like going back.

He prepared to leave for the Old Manor. Since the five kids were not going to follow him back, they bade farewell to him.

“Goodbye, Grandpa!”

“Goodbye, Sweethearts!”

Grinning, Darius waved at them. He then reminded Arissa, “You should go back earlier and rest. You’ve been busy for the entire day, after all.”

“Got it. Have a safe trip home, Mr. Graham!”

Arissa waved at him with a smile.

Darius nodded before instructing the chauffeur to drive him back.

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Chapter 347 That Seat Belongs To His Woman

Benjamin's eyes ranged over Shaun and Kingsley. "We are going home now. You guys should head back as well!"

Kingsley asked teasingly, "Benjamin, aren't you going to invite us over for a drink?"

Benjamin shot him a glare as he gestured for Arissa and the kids to go in the car.

"Goodbye, Uncle Shaun and Uncle Kingsley!" The five kids waved their hands and bid the two men goodbye.

Their voices were so cute that Shaun and Kingsley could not help but pick them up and peck them on their cheeks.

"Go home with me, okay?" they asked the kids in chorus.

Swiveling his eyes around, Zachary smiled before replying, "No, thank you!"

"Why not?" Kingsley pretended to be sad as he gazed at the kids.

"We don't want to separate with Mommy!" Jesse chimed in swiftly.

Kingsley planted a gentle peck on her soft cheek dotingly. "I have a lot of nice foods and nice toys in my house."

Jesse cast him a sidelong glance with her bright and clear eyes. "Gavin said you're a liar!"

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Kingsley was nonplussed by her response.

Gavin cast a glance at him. "Uncle Kingsley, stop lying to them. Your house isn't fun at all!"

"Go to my house then! We can do experiments together!" Shaun tried to entice the kids.

Shaking his head, Gavin rejected without hesitation. "We are not going!"

Shaun smiled at Zachary and Oliver. "I guarantee it will be fun. You won't regret it if you follow me home tonight!"

Zachary shifted his gaze toward Shaun. "Uncle Shaun, we won't go if Mommy doesn't!"

Oliver nodded in agreement. "We will be wherever Mommy is!"

Shaun shot Arissa an amused look, teasing, "They cling to you a lot!"

Naturally, he did not have the courage to invite her over to his house for fear of incurring someone's wrath.

Smiling, she replied, "They won't be able to fall asleep in the beds at your house either, so you two should stop coaxing them. Even if they go with you, they might complain and fuss about going home, so you might need to send them home in the end!"

Kingsley and Shaun chuckled. None of them were able to persuade the kids at all.

Benjamin's gaze landed on his children in the two men's embrace, and he reached out to carry them over before urging, "Let's get in the car and go home!"

Gavin and Jasper sneaked a glance at Benjamin, then got into the car obediently.

Arissa, too, reached out to carry Jesse over. "You guys should head home too!"

Benjamin turned around, took over the little girl, and placed her inside the car.

Lastly, he took Zachary and Oliver from Shaun's arms and put the two boys in the back seat.

"Buckle your seatbelts!" he commanded before shutting the car door.

Then, he opened the door to the front passenger's seat for Arissa.

"I will sit with them at the back!"

With his sharp gaze fastened on her, he said, "There's no more space in the back!"

Kingsley had his hands stuffed in his pockets as he regarded them with a smile. "Mrs. Graham, Benjamin wants you to sit in the front. That seat belongs to his woman!"

Arissa was taken aback upon hearing that.

Benjamin shot his friend a warning look before pushing Arissa into the car and swiftly closing the door.

"Bye!" he said to the two men.

Shaun and Kingsley smiled and waved their hands.

They also waved at the five children in the back seat.

"Sweethearts, remember to think about me!" Kingsley shouted.

Zachary rolled down the window and shouted, "Goodbye, Uncle Kingsley! Goodbye, Uncle Shaun!"

The other children also leaned toward the window and said goodbye to them smilingly.

"Goodbye, Sweethearts! Let's play together again next time!" Shaun responded, waving his hand.

Benjamin sat in the car and glanced at the kids. "Sit back down properly!"

Arissa also turned around and instructed, "Buckle your seatbelts! We are leaving now!"

The five children immediately complied, sitting down and fastening their seatbelts.

Their mother chuckled, finding the sight of them sitting side by side obediently adorable.

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Chapter 348 You Should Have It

Tenderness flashed across Benjamin's eyes as he tilted his head to check on Arissa's seatbelt.

Seeing that she had not buckled it, he voiced, "You kept worrying about the kids. How about yourself?"

Upon saying that, he leaned toward her and reached for the seatbelt.

The woman pressed her back close to the chair, not daring to look at him.

Her heart raced as she whiffed his scent that wafted to her nose.

When his hand brushed across her chest, she shuddered a little.

Thinking that he had touched her on purpose, she glared at him, only to see him focusing on buckling her seatbelt.

Oh, he didn't do it deliberately.

The moment Benjamin raised his gaze, he was met by the sight of her crimson face.

A hint of delight flickered briefly in his eyes as he asked, "What's wrong?"

"Nothing!" Arissa avoided making eye contact with him.

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Benjamin pinched her face gently before straightening his back and returning to his seat.

"Thanks!" Arissa gave him a sidelong glance.

"No problem!" Benjamin started the car and looked over his shoulder to check on the kids again.

"Sit tight!" he exhorted.

"Got it," the five children responded without making any fuss.

They were exhausted after playing for the whole day.

With that, Benjamin drove toward the Graham residence.

Along the road, the kids started dozing off.

When Arissa noticed it, she turned around to look at them and let out a chuckle.

"Hey, hey! Don't fall asleep! Do you hear me?" she shouted.

The five children opened their eyes.

Jesse rubbed her eyes for a while, but her eyelids soon drooped.

"Sweethearts, wake up! If you sleep now, I won't bathe you after we get home!" Arissa warned.

Hearing that, Zachary lifted his small hands and rubbed his face. Instantly, his drowsiness faded a little.

Gavin also pinched himself to keep himself awake.

As for Oliver, he leaned against the seat sleepily and pouted. "Mommy, it's still a long way before we reach home. Can't we sleep for a while?"

Jasper also tried his best to keep his eyes open. "Mommy, I feel so sleepy!"

"We will reach home soon. Don't sleep now." Arissa signaled Gavin to wake up the rest by wiping their faces.

"Sweetheart, wake up. Sing along with Gavin. It's been so long since I last heard you sing!" she cooed.

Leaning against Jasper's shoulder, Jesse would have fallen asleep again if Arissa did not call her.

Gavin took over the small handkerchief in the car and moistened it before letting his younger brothers wipe their faces with it.

"You guys first!" Zachary had drunk some water, so he felt a little more awake then.

After Oliver finished wiping his face, he handed the handkerchief to Jasper.

Jasper wiped his face and helped Jesse with it before returning the handkerchief to Gavin.

Gavin put some more water on the handkerchief and said to Zachary, "I'll wipe your face!"

The delighted Zachary stretched his neck out.

Gavin helped him wipe his face and then wiped his own face.

"Let's drink some water and then sing!" Arissa was determined to have them stay awake.

"It's okay for them to sleep awhile," Benjamin said as he glanced at the rearview mirror.

They look really sleepy.

Arissa took a look at him. "If they fall asleep now, I will have a hard time bathing them later!"

"If they fall asleep, I will bathe them!"

The five kids became energetic upon hearing Benjamin's words.

"We will take a bath on our own! We don't need Mr. Graham's help!" Zachary snorted.

"Let's not sleep then." Gavin turned to face his siblings and took out some candies from his pocket. "I have some candies here. One for each! Mommy, one for you too!"

Jasper, who was sitting nearer to Arissa, took the candy and handed it to her.

She received it with a smile and asked Benjamin, "Do you want it?"

"Gavin gave it to you, so you should have it!" he replied.

His response delighted her as she had only asked him out of courtesy.

Turning around, she looked at Gavin and inquired, "Sweetheart, where did you get these candies?"

I have never seen him eat them before.

Gavin took a peep at his mother as he unwrapped the candy. "Grandpa bought them for us this morning. I haven't finished eating mine!"

Arissa chuckled and looked at the other four children. "Have you finished eating yours?"

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Chapter 349 Looks Of Disapproval

Zachary, Oliver, Jasper, and Jesse nodded simultaneously. "We've finished ours!"

Suppressing a chuckle, Arissa asked curiously, "Gavin, why haven't you finished yours? Did you not eat them?"

"No, Mommy. I was eating fruits at that time, so I didn't eat the candies. If I ate them, the fruits wouldn't taste sweet anymore!" Gavin explained.

Zachary tittered and whispered in his mother's ear, "Mommy, it's because he ate so slowly. We had all finished our fruits, but he was still eating his one small bite at a time!"

Arissa could not help but smile.

Gavin was the slowest eater among the five kids, even slower than Jesse.

She cast a glance at Benjamin, who was driving. Gavin must have picked it up from him. He's also a slow eater.

Gavin blushed as he lowered his head and explained, "I wasn't that slow. You guys were too fast."

His siblings laughed, making his face turn even redder.

Arissa chuckled, thinking that her son looked adorable.

After clearing her throat, she said to the other four kids, "All right. Cut it out. There's nothing funny about it. Everyone has their own pace in eating!"

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"Mommy, you were laughing too!" Oliver's eyes crinkled from smiling as he exposed her.

"Yes, I saw Mommy laughing too. She laughed like this!" Jesse imitated the way Arissa was laughing, tugging the corner of her lips upward.

That evoked a peal of laughter from Zachary and Jasper, whose eyes flickered between Gavin and Arissa.

"Gavin, Mommy was laughing at you!"

Gavin looked at them, blushing. "Laugh as much as you want!"

I do eat slowly, after all.

"All right. Sit properly now!" Arissa cut them off to spare Gavin's blushes.

The kids stop laughing immediately, pursing their lips together. By then, their drowsiness had disappeared.

At that moment, Benjamin took a peep at the back seat through the rearview mirror, and a smile hovered on his lips.

Jesse leaned against the window and gazed at the neon lights outside. "Wow! It's so beautiful out there!"

The little girl pointed at the light show outside, overwhelmed with excitement. "Look! Isn't it prettier than overseas? There are even animals here!"

Zachary, Oliver, and Jasper leaned against the window, marveling at the scenery. "It's so breathtaking!"

Gavin looked outside too. "That's a cow. Don't you guys have them overseas?"

"No. It's so quiet during the night overseas. There's nothing fun!" Jesse pouted.

"Mm-hmm! I also think it is more fun over here during the night!" Jasper grinned from ear to ear.

"I wonder what that place is. Gavin, have you been there?" Zachary asked curiously.

"No!" Gavin was curious too.

Oliver and Jasper stared at their brother and let out a sigh. "Mr. Graham has never brought you there?"

Gavin pursed his lips when he heard that. "No!"

Instantly, Zachary, Oliver, Jasper, and Jesse shot looks of disapproval at Benjamin.

Having perceived their stares, Benjamin glanced at the rearview mirror. "I can bring you guys there tomorrow if you want! There's a mountain there, which is good for a night run!"

The kids were rendered speechless by his statement. We want to go there to have fun, not to jog!

Arissa looked at Benjamin. "You've never brought Gavin out to play before?"

No wonder Gavin looked so dejected.

"Mmh." Benjamin took a glance at Gavin, and guilt welled up in his heart.

Indeed, I spent too less time with him before this.

Seeing that he did not speak further, she shifted her gaze toward the children. "Sweethearts, do you want to go there now?"

The kids' eyes lit up, but they immediately shook their heads. "Mommy, let's not go there tonight. We want to go home and sleep."

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Chapter 350 I Will Not Let You Get Hurt

The kids were still energetic after they returned home.

As soon as they got out of the car, they ran to their room to take a bath. "Mommy, we are going to take our bath now!"

"Hey!" Arissa, who had just alighted the car, chuckled when she noticed all five of the children had disappeared from her sight.

Just as she was about to enter the house, Benjamin called her, "Wait!"

She looked over her shoulder and watched the man get out of the car.

Having closed the car door, he walked toward her.

Arissa was slightly puzzled by his stern face. "What is it?"

Benjamin glanced at her before taking out his phone. "Have you seen this person before?"

She took a look at the screen and felt that the person in the photo looked familiar.

Knitting her brows, she tried to recall if she had ever seen the person.

Benjamin then scrolled to another photo and showed it to her.

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At that instant, Arissa remembered something. "Yes, I have seen him before!"

In response, he narrowed his eyes. "Did he approach you?"

The woman did not hide it from him since he looked very solemn. "I supposed so. He tried to hit on me. However, I ignored him, and I paid for my own ice cream."

The pucker between his eyebrows deepened. "What did he say to you?"

Arissa answered honestly, "Nothing much. He said he didn't bring any money and wanted me to pay for his ice cream. But afterward, he took out his money and wanted to pay for me!"

She then elaborated on the situation from that day.

Benjamin's eyes were riveted on her. "Did he say anything else?"

She pondered for a while. "Oh, right! He even wanted to have my number!"

"Did you give it to him?" His voice turned deeper.

"No. I thought he didn't look like a good guy. I am not a fool. Why would I give my number to someone like that?"

Benjamin felt relieved after hearing her affirmative reply.

"Ignore any man who asks for your number!"

His order caused Arissa to flash him a glance.

Benjamin avoided her gaze for a second before cautioning sternly, "Keep your guard up when you see this guy again and stay away from him!"

Curious, she asked, "Why? Is he your enemy?"

He stroked her head gently and praised, "You're a smart cookie!"

Arissa was startled. "So he's really your enemy?"

A second later, she swallowed hard, relieved that the person did not do anything else during that time.

Otherwise, she would have been in danger.

Did he intentionally approach me after knowing I'm related to Benjamin? If that's the case, he most probably knows about the kids too.

"Will the kids be in danger then?" she asked anxiously.

Benjamin sighed when he saw that she was more concerned about the kids than herself. "Don't you think you are in more danger than them?"

Even Justin had tried to approach her.

Arissa pursed her lips. "I am a grown woman, and I know how to protect myself. But they are still kids!"

He grabbed her hand and led her into the house. "I will ask my bodyguards to protect them secretly, so you don't have to worry. Justin might be up to something for getting close to you. You have to be careful!"

Arissa was puzzled by his nonchalant expression when he had been so grim-faced just moments ago.

"Is he really your enemy?" she asked again.

Benjamin tilted his head to look at her. "Not really. He's just an insignificant pest!"

She glanced at him and then at her wrist, which was in his grasp.

A cunning glint appeared in her eyes briefly, and she inquired, "Why don't you let your bodyguard protect me then?"

The man raised an eyebrow. "Do you want to be followed?"

Arissa blinked and did not reply to his question. "Why do I feel like I might be in danger if I stay with you? Should I live elsewhere?"

"You will be in a greater danger if you leave me now!" Benjamin responded with a snort.

She let out an amused chuckle and voiced, "Are you sure there are no other enemies targeting me?"

"Don't worry. I will never let you get hurt!" he assured, giving her a sidelong glance.

Her heart skipped a beat as she replied, "That's more like it. Otherwise, I will move elsewhere with the kids!"

That had him furrowing his brows.

Can't she stay by my side and live a peaceful life with me? Why is she still thinking about going elsewhere?