

The More the Merrier Chapter 438

The More the Merrier Chapter 438 Artfully Avoiding The Bodyguards

“Excuse me, did you all see those mysterious men in black? They’re bad guys. They must be here to catch us. If they ask you guys if you’ve ever seen us, please don’t tell them! Or else my grandma and I will die in their hands!” Tears and snot streamed down Tim’s face as he said pitifully. It was a sight that could easily cause one to be sympathetic.

“Don’t be afraid. We’ll keep your presence a secret. Go find a place to hide for now.” The nurses felt their hearts ached for him and agreed to his plea readily as they ruffled his head.

“Thank you! Thank you so much!” With that, Tim darted away.

While no one noticed him, he scuttled back into the ward.

“Grandma, I’ll help you to the restroom. We’ll head to the hospital later.”

In truth, Tim had asked around and knew there would be a vehicle heading to the hospital to collect IV drips. He figured they would be able to tag along without paying any fares.

“All right.” Mary followed Tim to the restroom.

Just as they headed in, some bodyguards came over.

Holding onto a snapshot of Tim, the guard questioned, “Has anyone seen this child?”

“No,” Hearing that reply, he threw another question. “Then, have you seen this old lady?”

“No.”

Hiding in a corner, Tim felt relieved after hearing how the cooperative crowd had pretended they had never seen him before.

After the bodyguards left, the boy ran out and bowed politely. “Thank you, everyone. Thank you so much!”

“You’re welcome. Tim, do you need our help to call the police for you?” Various family members of the patients in the ward kindly offered their help.

“No, that won’t be necessary.” He waved his hand dismissively. “Those people look too troublesome to handle, so we will avoid them ourselves. Even if you call the police, they’ll be released soon after getting arrested. My grandma and I will lead an even more difficult life if that’s the case. You guys have helped us out so much earlier, and that’s more than enough. I’m very grateful for that!”

Tim’s words made perfect sense to the crowd. “You two have to be extra cautious then.”

“Sure thing.” Tim nodded his head and ran to the entrance to observe the situation.

Only upon making sure that those bodyguards had left did he run back and pick Mary up to get onto the vehicle heading to the hospital.

About half an hour later, Benjamin gave another order since the search was still fruitless.

“Call Jack and the others to come over and help with the search here.”

At that, Ethen relayed his instructions at once. “Mr. Graham, we’ve almost combed the entire area. Perhaps the kid has already left the village?”

Otherwise, how is it possible that we can’t find him?

Ethen was utterly baffled.

“As you mentioned, we ‘almost’ searched everywhere in the village. That means there are still places we have yet to search,” Benjamin chided.

He then pulled out his laptop and accessed the village’s surveillance cameras to check if there were any leads.

“Have you allocated people to every entrance of this village?”

“I did. As long as Tim is still in the village, we’ll definitely be able to find him.” Ethen spoke in a convincing tone.

Hearing that, Benjamin carried on looking through the surveillance cameras.

Back at Yaleview, the five little ones had woken up and ran to find Arissa.

Seeing her sitting right before the computer, Zachary was shocked. “Mommy, did you not sleep for the whole night?”

Gavin threw a glance at his brother. “How do you know that Mommy didn’t sleep?”

“Mommy was still wide awake when I woke up in the middle of the night to get some water,” Zachary explained, his gaze still locked on Arissa.

Upon noticing the signs of fatigue on her face, the boy furrowed his brows.

I’m sure Mommy didn’t sleep.

“I was so busy I forgot about the time.” Arissa hurriedly tried to explain to the kids.

“Mommy, why didn’t you sleep?” Oliver turned to look at her concernedly.

Just then, the observant Jasper spotted the content on the computer screen and remarked, “Mommy is trying to find our missing brother!”

Hearing that, the five little ones exchanged glances with one another.

Jesse walked over, appearing distressed. “Mommy, why did you not sleep? We’ll be upset if you’re tired out because of that!”

Arissa caressed her daughter’s head. “I’m fine. You guys should go and wash up now.”

“Mommy, you can’t do that. You’ll get sick if you don’t sleep!” Gavin persuaded anxiously.

Arissa knew the kids were worried for her, so she nodded and promised, “I’ll pay more attention from now on, okay? Now, go ahead and wash up. You guys still have to go to school later.”

Finishing her words, she stood up and prepared to take them back to their room to wash up.

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The More the Merrier Chapter 439 Revealing The Truth

“Mommy, we’ll wash our faces on our own. You should wash yours too and have breakfast with us! And you can take some rest after that!” Zachary urged.

“That sounds great!” Arissa replied with a smile.

After the kids headed out, she trotted to the bathroom to wash up.

Returning to their room, the kids closed the door tight and started their discussion.

"Mommy stayed up all night because she was searching for clues about our missing brother," Zachary commented.

A frown formed between Gavin's brows. "Why don't we tell Mommy the truth?"

Oliver bit his lip and nodded in agreement. "I think we have to tell Mommy. If not, Mommy's body won't be able to take it if she continues to skip on sleeping."

"But I'm sure she won't be able to handle the truth if we tell her now." An insurmountable worry surged within Jasper.

Jesse's eyes were brimming with tears. "Our brother is such a poor thing. Mommy will be hurt if she finds out about it."

The five kids were shrouded with worry as they mulled over the problem.

"Well, it's better to reveal it now than dragging it. After all, Mommy will have to find out the truth someday. She could endure it for one day. But what about today?"

Gavin could not bear to see Arissa that way. He had wanted to continue hiding the truth from her, but learning that she had been staying up to look for clues overnight, he felt his heart sink to the bottom of his stomach.

"I'm all for it! Let's tell Mommy about it!" Zachary raised his hand.

Gavin is right. Revealing the truth now will hurt less than in the long run. Mommy will find out one day anyway. The later she knows, the longer she has to be worried. Mommy's body won't be able to take it sooner or later.

Likewise, Oliver raised his hand in full support. "Me too!"

Jesse and Jasper were the only ones who had yet to voice their opinions.

Jesse turned to look at Jasper.

The latter turned to his three other brothers, who all had the same views, and sighed. "Let's tell Mommy then."

Since Jesse had always been obedient and would follow her brothers, she had no objections to it either.

"Let's go tell Mommy now." Jasper had his eyes on the others.

"Not now. Let's do it later. We'll tell her after breakfast." Oliver was afraid Arissa would lose her appetite after learning about the truth.

Gavin and Zachary thought the same way too.

"If that's so, why don't we tell Mommy after she gets some sleep?" Jasper proposed another idea he reckoned was better.

"If we don't say it later, Mommy will surely continue to rack her brains over this matter. There's no saying when she'll take time to rest." Zachary wrinkled his nose.

Jasper sighed dejectedly.

"Let's go wash up first. Otherwise, Mommy will come looking for us soon," Jesse reminded her brothers.

"All right. Let's go." Oliver gestured and headed into the bathroom with Jesse first, while Gavin, Zachary, and Jasper followed behind.

As the kids brushed their teeth, an idea flashed across Jasper's mind. "Why don't we tell Mr. Graham, then get him to tell Mommy about it?"

Gavin and Zachary frowned upon hearing that.

The former was the first to raise his objection. "It's no use telling him. I doubt he knows how to comfort Mommy."

Zachary seconded those words. He believed that Benjamin did not seem to shower Arissa with much care.

"I'm sure Mommy's heart will break after we tell her the truth later. When that happens, we'll have to console her. Jesse, if we can't do that well, you'll have to use your skills to cheer her up."

Jesse bobbed her head vehemently. "Don't worry, Zachary. I'll make sure Mommy won't be sad."

They continued with their discussion while washing up and only ran to open the door when Arissa came over to knock on their door.

"Mommy, we're done!"

Arissa patted the kids' heads and locked her warm and gentle gaze on them as she said, "Come on, let's head downstairs for breakfast."

Jesse gripped her mother's finger and said sweetly, "Mommy, later after breakfast, you must have a good rest. Or else, we will be worried."

"All right," Arissa answered in a gentle tone.

Gavin, Zachary, Oliver, and Jasper stole glances at each other and followed her down the stairs.

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The More the Merrier Chapter 440 I Am Not Thinking Of Him

Edwin had finished preparing breakfast for the family. At the sight of Arissa and the little ones coming down, he warmly ushered them over to have breakfast.

“Good morning, Edwin.”

“Good morning, Mr. Whitley!” The five little ones followed and greeted Edwin.

“Good morning, children!” He rubbed their heads adoringly and carried them onto their seats.

During breakfast, Arissa had only eaten a few mouthfuls when she noticed that the five little ones did not have much of an appetite. Even Jesse, who could usually eat a lot of food, took small bites and even picked on her food.

Puzzlement overwhelmed Arissa. “Is there something wrong with you guys?”

Had it only been one of the children who had behaved that way, she would have thought he was ill. But since they all acted the same way, she figured something was off.

The five kids turned to look at each other, then shifted their gazes back to Arissa.

“Nope!”

Arissa knitted her brows together. Nothing’s wrong, yet they’re behaving like this?

“Are you all feeling unwell?”

With that said, she stood up and reached out to touch their foreheads.

“No,” Zachary quickly denied.

Finding that their body temperature was normal, Arissa stared at them, who were, by now, all shaking their heads in denial.

“Mommy, we aren’t unwell!”

Hmm, if they’re not unwell, then they must be keeping something to themselves.

Intending to query them later, Arissa changed the subject. “Hurry and have your breakfast. I’ll send you guys to school after this.”

Only then did the five kids begin to dig into their breakfast.

“Mommy, you should eat more!”

They were busy picking some food and offering them to Arissa.

“All right, all right. My sweethearts, you should eat more too!”

She then passed each of them an egg.

“Mr. Whitley, is Daddy not home?” Gavin knitted his brows when he noticed that Benjamin was nowhere to be found.

“Well, something cropped up, so Mr. Graham went out last night. He isn’t back yet.”

The pucker between Gavin’s eyebrows deepened. “Where did he go?”

He didn’t come home the entire night?

Zachary and his other siblings also seemed slightly surprised that Benjamin did not return home last night.

“I’m not sure about that.”

It was evident that Gavin grew angry, and upon sensing that, Edwin immediately reassured, “There might be something urgent. Mr. Graham seemed like he was in a rush when he left the house.”

Arissa’s eyes darted between Edwin and Gavin before she clarified, “Sweetheart, your daddy has gone on a business trip. If you miss him, you can give him a call.”

“I don’t miss him at all!” Gavin snorted arrogantly.

Arissa could not help but heave a deep sigh.

Zachary turned to Gavin and threw him a look, seemingly attempting to ask if they should tell Arissa about the truth since Benjamin was not at home.

Arissa waited till the kids finally ate their fills before trying to probe them regarding the situation earlier. “So, what’s going on just now? Is there something on your mind?”

Conflicted, the kids snuck a glance at her and bit their lips.

Arissa arched her brow and softened her tone. “Come on then. Share with me what happened.”

“Mommy, we’re afraid it’ll break your heart,” Zachary explained nervously.

Arissa could not wrap her head around the situation. “Well, what is it? You all have to tell me first!”

At this point, the five kids exchanged knowing looks with each other.

Then, Gavin softly replied, "Mommy, we... actually, we..."

"It's a good thing that you guys are still around! I thought you'd left for school by now!"

Darius' sudden appearance interrupted the kids' confession.

"Old Mr. Graham." Arissa stood up to welcome Darius. "Have you had breakfast?"

"Not yet. I'm actually here to bring you guys breakfast. I decided to make more at the last minute, that's why I'm late."

Seeing that they had all eaten breakfast, he was relieved that he had prepared food items that were convenient to carry around.

He took some out and passed it to Arissa. "Issa, you should try some too. The kids can bring the rest to eat at school."

"Edwin always prepares breakfast for us over here. Isn't it too troublesome for you to prepare for us too?" Arissa felt an overwhelming sense of gratitude.

"Not at all. All that matters is that you guys enjoy the food. Hurry up and try some!"

Met with Darius' warm hospitality, Arissa could only take a bite of it.

On the other hand, the five little ones shared a look before looking back at Darius, who showed up unannounced. Without any other choice, they ultimately swallowed those words they had wanted to tell their mother.