Mistaking a Magnate for a Male Escort chapter 516

The kids used to call him old man, and that infuriated him. They had since changed and started calling him Uncle Zack, but that made him a little uncomfortable as well. He wanted them to call him dad, but he didn't know how to make that request.

Maybe I should build a better rapport with them first...

"Come dig in," said Charlotte. She placed a cup of freshly made coffee in front of Zachary.

"Thank you," said Zachary before he sipped some coffee. He shifted his gaze to the kids and tested the water by asking, "How about I drive you guys to the kindergarten today?"

"Really?" asked Ellie, who was pleasantly surprised. A cheerful smile lit up on her beautiful face as she added, "That'd be awesome!"

"I think so too," agreed Jamie excitedly, while having his tiny arm up to cast his vote, "Mommy is usually busy and can't drop us off at the kindergarten. I'm always so jealous when I see how the other kids have their parents at the kindergarten with them."

Hearing those words got Charlotte to feel guilty. He's right. I rarely drop the kids off at school, and I thought that they are okay with it. I never realized that they are envious of the other kids...

"Uncle Zack, won't that make you late for work?" asked Robbie, who was more considerate.

"Not at all," replied Zachary before he turned to Ben and ordered, "Go set everything up."

"Huh?" blurted Ben. He was stunned because he didn't know what was there to set up. He's just dropping the kids off at the kindergarten, right? All he has to do is to tell the driver where to go. There's nothing to set up.

"How many kids are there in your kindergarten?" asked Zachary as he sipped his coffee.

"Huh? That is such a tough question."

Ellie had a cute ponytail on her head, and her tiny lips pouted as she thought about it. Unfortunately, she still couldn't figure the answer out.

"All I know is that there are nineteen students in our class," answered Jamie after he swallowed one of the hot cross bunnies. His tiny lips were oily, and his cheeks were bulging a little when he added, "There used to be twenty students, but Timothy went to another school, so now there's only nineteen."

"Oh," murmured Zachary while nodding.

"I know the answer to that," replied Robbie. He sipped some juice before counting with his fingers and answering, "The kindergarten divides its students into four age groups, and each age group makes seven classes. With each classroom comprising twenty students, there are five hundred and sixty students in total."

Robbie paused for a moment before adding, "Also, there are five teachers in each class, and that makes it a total of one hundred and forty teachers."

"You are brilliant!"

Zachary was astonished. In addition to having high EQ, the kid's logical thinking and mathematics are on point as well. He's not even four, but he can analyze situations and make deductions quickly. He's such an adorable genius! As expected of my son!

"Thank you," replied Robbie. He was already used to receiving compliments like that, so he asked calmly, "Why do you want to know, Uncle Zack?"

"Because the idiot standing behind me doesn't know what to do," replied Zachary, before shooting a frosty glare at Ben.

"I got it," said Ben, who quickly nodded. He finally understood what Zachary meant by setting everything up. "I'll go work on it right away."

Ben later bowed politely to everyone before rushing out of there.

"What's going on?" asked Charlotte in a confused tone.

"You don't need to worry about anything," promised Zachary as he got some hot cross bunnies for her, "All you have to do is rest up at home. I'll take everyone out for a stroll after you've recovered."

"Okay," murmured Charlotte. She nodded with a smile. She never knew that Zachary had a softer side, and seeing how he interacted with the kids and planned to send the kids to school...

I don't need to worry about anything at all.

"What else do you like aside from logical thinking and mathematics?" asked Zachary while looking at Robbie.

"Anything to do with technology," replied Robbie as he stirred the vegetable broth in his bowl, "I like gadgets, so Mr. Henry got me a computer. He also hired someone to teach me foreign language as well as some basic technical know-how."

"Basic?" repeated Zachary with his brows raised.

"Yeah. At first, I thought that everything he taught was interesting, but I later found the content to be too simple. I kept dozing off during his class..." shared Robbie before yawning. He looked like he was bored and frustrated.

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"Here," offered Zachary, who turned on an app on his tablet and handed it to Robbie, "See if you can understand everything here."

"Okay," replied Robbie. The second he saw the content, his eyes glowed, and he informed, "This is a VR proposal and design for an electronic gadget! Where did you get it?"

"You actually understand it?" blurted Zachary in amazement, "This is my company's design for our new product. It is meant to be an educational device for kids, but we have encountered a few problems that we still can't solve..."

"What are the issues you faced?" asked Robbie as he played on the tablet.

"The R&D department hit a blind spot," lied Zachary to lead the boy to think, "I haven't pinpointed the exact issue. Try identifying it. If you can pinpoint the issue, I will grant you one wish."

"Really?" asked Robbie. He had always kept his cool, but at that moment, his little face lit up with a level of excitement that no one had ever seen before. His eyes glowed with a bizarre light when he asked, "Can I ask for anything?"

"Yes," answered Zachary while nodding.

"Okay, I'll try," said Robbie. He had lost all interest in his breakfast and focused on the tablet immediately.

"Robbie, finish your breakfast first," reminded Charlotte sweetly, "You can play with it after you've eaten."

"Mommy, I'm full," replied Robbie.

He never looked up, and his tiny finger kept swiping on the tablet as he examined the blueprint of the new product.

"You had one hot cross bunny and didn't even drink a drop of milk. You haven't eaten your oatmeal either. How can you be full?" said Charlotte in an annoyed tone, "Finish your breakfast now, or I'll confiscate the tablet."

After that, she scolded Zachary, "Look at what you did. Getting the kid all excited during breakfast. You made it so that he won't even eat properly."

"Uhm..." That was the first time Zachary got scolded in front of everyone else, but he didn't dare to object to anything. He could only remind Robbie sternly, "Come now. You can play with it later. Finish your breakfast first, or your mommy will lose her cool."

"Okay," murmured Robbie. He had no choice but to put the tablet aside and focused on his breakfast.

"Uncle Zack, I want a wish too," requested Jamie. He was jealous of Robbie, but he didn't sound too confident when he admitted, "I am not as smart as Robbie, and I cannot understand complicated electronic components, but I am a good fighter. I can do martial arts!"

"Really?" asked Zachary with his brows raised, "You know martial arts despite being so young?"

Kids at the time would, at most, go for a few low-level taekwondo lessons. Martial arts was not popular, and it was rare for anyone to practice it.

"It's true! I can do it. I'll prove it to you."

Jamie got a little agitated. He swung his tiny fist to prove his words, but his legs hadn't recovered yet, and he was on a high chair, so his moves were restricted.

"Now, now, you still haven't finished your breakfast," reminded Charlotte as she got some more food for Jamie. She later smiled at Zachary and informed him, "He actually knows martial arts. An elderly master lives in Mrs. Berry's village, and he taught the boy martial arts."

"Ah, no wonder," said Zachary with a grin, "Then you gotta heal up soon. We'll compete with one another after you've recovered."

"You know it too?" asked Jamie excitedly.

"My training was specialized, and I've never learned martial arts before," replied Zachary. He sipped some coffee before adding, "Still, every fighting technique in the world is founded on the same basis. There is plenty I can teach you."

"Really? That'd be amazing," cheered Jamie, but he soon said in a worried tone, "But I am not as smart as Robbie. Will you be frustrated with how stupid I am?"

"Every genius has his journey. Everyone has their own strengths and weaknesses, so there is no need to compare yourself against others. Robbie has his strengths, but so do you. All everyone has to do is to work on their own strengths," advised Zachary. He handed some fruit to Jamie.

"Thank you, Uncle Zack!"

Jamie was so touched that tears welled in his eyes. He looked exactly like Robbie, but the latter was much smarter, so he never really got compliments from others.

As time passed by, Jamie's confidence took a hit.

It was a sudden revelation, but he finally realized that he had qualities that others admired as well.

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"What about me?"

Ellie had been eating her breakfast the entire time, so her lips were all dirty. Seeing Robbie and Jamie receiving compliments from Zachary inspired her to voice up, too. She raised her tiny, plump hand and was eager to brag.

"I-I can dance, sing, and paint..."

"That..." said Zachary in a troubled tone, "I honestly can't help with."

He could teach the boys some technical knowledge and combat skills, but he knew nothing about Ellie's hobbies.

Ellie pouted her tiny lips. Her cute, round face crumpled together as her eyes shone with sorrow while staring at Zachary.

"I-I can play the piano. I'll teach you that," coaxed Zachary immediately.

"Mommy can teach me how to play the piano," said Ellie in a disappointed tone. Her tiny hand held the hot cross bunny but she had lost her appetite. "Uncle Zack only likes Robbie and Jamie. You don't like me," murmured Ellie.

"That is not true," insisted Zachary. He didn't know how to comfort the kid, so he nervously nudged Charlotte to ask for help.

Charlotte suppressed her laughter and explained sweetly, "Uncle Zack is a boy, Ellie, so naturally, he can only teach the boys their hobbies. Mommy is a girl, and I can teach you whatever you like."

"But there are boys in our class who can dance, sing, and paint," refuted Ellie, whose logic was flawless. She pouted her tiny lips and stared unhappily at Zachary, "Is Uncle Zack a lesser man than the boys in our class?"

"Uh..." blurted Zachary. He couldn't actually refute any of that.

"Lesser! Lesser!"

Fifi flapped its wings and danced. It even raised its voice and acted like it'd enjoy the show even more if things escalated.

"Fifi!" growled Robbie while deliberately putting a stern face on before criticizing strictly, "Don't add fuel to the fire."

Fifi made a face at Robbie for that.

"Hmph," pouted Ellie. She put her cutlery down and harrumphed angrily, "Uncle Zack is playing favorites, and you only like boys."

"N-no, that is not true. I honestly don't know how to do any of that," denied Zachary nervously.

"You can learn," insisted Ellie with her head tilted up, "Mommy said that everything is possible if we put our minds to it. You can master it if you are willing to learn, and you are too smart to not master it in time!"

Zachary was utterly speechless.

He had been put on a pedestal and felt like it was virtually impossible to get off of it.

He was troubled, but he had no choice, so he steeled himself up and agreed, "Okay, I'll learn!"

"Hooray!" cheered Ellie happily, with her tiny, plump arms in the air. She then added, "Starting today, I will be your teacher. I will give you singing, dancing, and painting lessons every day. You don't need to pay for these classes, but you must work hard and learn well, okay? If you don't, I will hit you."

"Uhm..."

Zachary was stunned. Did that tiny little thing just trick me? And have me cornered?

He quickly covered his face and turned to Charlotte. "Help!" mouthed Zachary.

Charlotte shrugged with a grin on. She looked like she couldn't help him, even if she wanted to.

"Mommy, please buy me some colored pencils, some paper, a piano music note today. Oh, and please get me a teacher's pointer as well. I will be giving Uncle Zack lessons today," requested Ellie with a smile. Her big, round eyes shone with glee and anticipation.

"Okay," replied Charlotte with a smile and a nod.

"It's fine for you to give lessons, Ellie, but you're not allowed to get in the way of Uncle Zack giving me fighting pointers," said Jamie quickly. He was worried about Ellie monopolizing Zachary's time, so he reminded, "Uncle Zack doesn't just belong to you. He's mine and Robbie's too!"

"Okay," agreed Ellie with a straight face on while nodding, "Good things are meant to be shared, anyway. How should we divide his time?"

Zachary couldn't speak.

Good things are meant to be shared? Seriously?

Zachary raised his brows in exasperation. When did I become an object that was supposed to be shared among the three siblings?

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"We'll let Robbie decide," suggested Jamie, who was smart to hand the task to Robbie.

"How about this? From now on, we will each get one hour of his time at night. Is that okay, Uncle Zack?" asked Robbie, after considering the matter. He was being serious when he divided the time equally among them.

Zachary could feel cold sweat running down his back. He felt like his entire life had just been taken over.

He thought about how he had to work with the nerds at the office during the day and now he had to rush home after that to accompany his wife and kids.

Is this how my life is going to be from now on?

"No, that won't do," interrupted Charlotte immediately to help Zachary out, "Uncle Zack is busy with work, and he doesn't have that much time to spend with you guys."

"Then, can we have half an hour each?" asked Robbie while staring eagerly at Zachary, "Can we, Uncle Zack?"

"Robbie..."

"Yeah, that's fine," said Zachary suddenly while nodding, "We'll set it for every night from eight to nine-thirty. Everyone gets half an hour."

"Yay!"

The three kids cheered together and high-fived each other. It was as if they had just gotten an especially precious item and could share it among themselves.

After that, they talked about who would get the first shift, the second shift, and the third shift.

In the end, they decided to go in accordance with their age. Robbie would go first, then Jamie, then Ellie.

The three of them were talking away when Fifi suddenly flew over and flapped its wings. It called out excitedly, "Fifi goes fourth."

Yep, even the bird wanted to share Zachary.

Charlotte had been watching from the side, and she couldn't help laughing aloud. Her crisp laughter filled the entire living room.

"You're so mean for laughing. You actually left me for dead," complained Zachary before reaching out to pinch her cheek. He was tempted to bite her for that.

"This is just the beginning," warned Charlotte while smiling, "It's not easy taking care of kids, and you really should prepare yourself."

"Don't worry. I can topple an army, so dealing with three kids is nothing," bragged Zachary, "I will definitely do a great job taking care of the kids. Just you watch."

"Okay, then. Thank you," replied Charlotte before inching forward and kissing his forehead.

She was thanking him from the bottom of her heart.

She never realized that Zachary could be that patient with the kids and that considerate toward them.

He took their pride into consideration and protected their desire for learning. First, he pretended to be testing Robbie when he was actually training the boy's mind.

When Jamie eagerly shared that he was a good fighter, Zachary immediately recognized that talent. The latter was observant and saw the lack of confidence in Jamie, so he encouraged the kid in the most delicate manner.

Lastly, he set his pride aside and agreed to learn singing, dancing, and painting from Ellie just to gain the tiny thing's approval.

Any one of the three activities could drive the man nuts, and the fact that he would have to get lessons from Ellie only made things worse.

Perhaps many would think that the independent and cruel Mr. Nacht would never lower himself and do something like that. However, he proved them all wrong.

That was not just a show of his fatherly love. It also proved that he was a responsible man who could shoulder all sorts of burdens.

Charlotte was genuinely appreciative of Zachary. She was even ashamed of her previous concerns. She used to think that Zachary was too violent and wild to be a father...

Now I see that he is a better father than most.

He didn't drive the kids away just because he didn't have a father growing up. Instead, he took the initiative to get closer to them.

Moreover, he didn't disregard his duties, just because he was inexperienced. He went out of his way to learn how to communicate with the kids.

To top it all off, he didn't back away in the face of hardship. He faced it head-on and was willing to set his pride aside just to make the kids happy. He is willing to try assuming a new role for that.

This is the man I love and the father of my children.

Charlotte was proud of him and was truly happy for the kids.

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After having breakfast, Zachary led the kids to the car.

Ben had prepared an especially extended Rolls-Royce and a fleet of cars following behind.

Seeing all that got Charlotte to tug at Zachary's shirt nervously and ask, "You're just taking the kids to school. Is there really a need for all that?"

"Of course," insisted Zachary, "I heard about how the other kids had bullied them at school. Some even questioned whether they have a father or not. Today, I want everyone in the kindergarten to learn exactly who their father is."

"But..."

Zachary helped the kids into the car before Charlotte could finish her sentence.

Ben was directing the others from the side and said, "Get all the presents into the car. Oh, and remember to separate the teachers' gifts from the students'."

Charlotte massaged her head and was left speechless.

I should've known. This is how Zachary had always done things. He would go overboard once so that he won't need to deal with the matter the second time.

Unfortunately, Charlotte had no choice but to let him be.

Gah, never mind. At least he and the kids are happy.

That particular Rolls-Royce's interior design was similar to that of a private room, and the kids were surprised. Their eyes shone with curiosity as they looked around.

"Has Mr. Henry never driven you around in this car before?" asked Zachary, while sitting in the car. He accepted the iced drink from Ben.

"He took us for a drive in a huge and beautiful car before, but this is not the one. This car is too amazing," exclaimed Jamie. His eyes bulged and went starry as he looked around.

"You're right. It's so beautiful," said Ellie. She was looking around as well. She later kicked her tiny legs to crawl onto the seat and jumped on it to test it before claiming, "It's so comfy. I can even sleep in here."

"You actually can take a nap," informed Zachary after checking his watch, "It's a forty-minute drive to the kindergarten."

"Uncle Zack, the tablet is locked," said Robbie before handing the tablet over for Zachary to unlock.

"Aren't you going to rest a little?" asked Zachary after inputting the password and handing the tablet back to Robbie.

"Nah, I want to check it out some more," replied Robbie.

He sat obediently on the cushy seat and started examining the blueprint carefully.

"Fifi, don't act up!"

Jamie was playing with Fifi earlier, but it suddenly flapped its wings and flew around the car. It seemed excited.

Jamie couldn't even catch the bird.

"Fifi, come here!" ordered Ellie. She extended her tiny, plump arm and scolded in her baby voice, "If you don't, I won't take you to kindergarten anymore."

Fifi flew over immediately and rested on her arm.

Ellie stroked its fur with her plump hand and cooed sweetly, "That's a good bird. Be good, okay?"

"Be good. Be good."

Fifi mimicked Ellie and called out, but its eyes were stuck on Zachary's alcohol.

"Uncle Zack, what are you drinking? Can I try?"

Jamie was staring curiously at Zachary's drink. The former had seen the latter sipping that every day, so he assumed that it was tasty. I wanna try.

"You can have one sip. Don't drink too much," instructed Zachary before handing the drink over.

Jamie was surprised and ecstatic. He ran to Zachary on his stubby legs and accepted the drink with his tiny arms. After that, Jamie sipped cautiously.

"Gah, it tastes so horrible!"

Jamie frowned and closed his eyes in distaste. His plump face had crumpled up by then.

"Hahaha," laughed Zachary. Kids really are curious and want to try everything.

"Try it. Try it.."

Fifi flew over at that moment and dunked its beak into the glass before chugging the drink.

"Ah, Fifi, no!"

Jamie was furious and tried to chase the bird away, but Fifi refused to leave. Its small figure stuck to the glass, and it drank greedily.

"I'm so sorry, Uncle Zack," apologized Jamie immediately, "I got your drink all dirty."

"It's fine. I can just get another one," said Zachary. He didn't think that it was a big deal and had Ben pour another drink. Zachary even remarked, "Let it drink if it likes alcohol that much."