

The More the Merrier Chapter 181

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Chapter 181 Quintuplets Instead Of Triplets

"We just wanted to make sure if the four of them belonged to Mr. Graham. I swear, that's all we w--"

Ethen did not let him finish. He stomped forcefully on the man's wound, causing the captive to wince as tears rolled down his cheeks. "Keep telling yourself that, you bastard! That's all you wanted, is that right? Then why did you kidnap them?"

Benjamin bellowed, his fingers slightly clenched.

Arissa has four children? Are they mine? Not three, but five of them?

"W-We are sorry! It's all Danna's idea! She's the one behind all this! She wants Arissa dead. She wants to kill you children too. She forced us to do her bidding. Please believe us, Mr. Graham. We told you everything we know!"

The man struggled as he begged for forgiveness. He would have gotten down on all fours and pleaded if he had not been tied up.

Bloodlust flashed across Benjamin's eyes.

"Break their legs."

"We're sorry! Ah!" The woman fainted as soon as her husband's legs were snapped in half.

Just because she blacked out did not mean she was spared. Benjamin's men made sure the pain they inflicted on her was enough to keep her awake.

"M-Mr. Graham... please have mercy on us. I beg you..."

She finally learned that Benjamin was not someone to be messed with.

Benjamin wanted them dead.

"I'll give you a chance to come clean. If you dare to hide anything from us..." Ethen flashed the woman a devilish smile that scared her out of their wits.

The woman told them what she had just told Arissa.

Benjamin's face darkened, sending goosebumps to everyone near him.

The woman wanted to pass out so badly. That might have been preferable to meeting his gaze.

However, she did not tell him why he only had one child with him, instead of two. Deep down, she was convinced that the other child was dead, and Benjamin would definitely take revenge on them if he found out.

Benjamin's heart broke when he learned about Arissa's mistreatment prior to giving birth, and how she had been abandoned in the wild after the delivery.

She is telling the truth. He recalled how calm Arissa had been when she told her story. Benjamin's heart ached some more. It must have taken a lot out of her to contain her fury.

"We don't know what happened next. Ms. Adams, or Danna, summoned for us a few days ago and ordered us to kidnap Arissa again. We didn't have the chance to do it. Then, we found that her children are still alive, so..." the woman went on, her eyes filled with fear.

A dozen bodyguards surrounded them. They might not get out of this alive.

"D-Danna has my daughter. She's threatening us with our child's life on the line. We have no choice but to do what she says!"

"Heh! You care about your child, but what about mine? Admit it. You are just a vicious hypocrite! You couldn't kill them five years ago, and you wanted to do it again now!"

Rage surged through Ethen's veins. He kicked them hard as vented his anger.

How dare they lay their hands on Mr. Graham's children! No, Danna is the most detestable person here. Don't judge a book by its cover. I didn't think she'd be so vicious when she looks so innocent!

"Mr. Graham, what do we do now?" Ethen asked Benjamin for further instructions. The latter had a stern look on his face.

"Take them to the police! I want them alive!"

Benjamin spoke in a cold manner.

"Understood!" Ethen waved his hands at the bodyguards, gesturing them to take the couple out.

"Hand in all the evidence. I want that woman to suffer too!" Benjamin did not mention who, but Ethen could tell that he was referring to Danna.

They did not expect to receive such breaking news that day as they had yet to investigate the incident five years ago.

If the couple had not gone out of their way to harm Benjamin's children, they might not have found out the truth so quickly.

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Chapter 182 Arresting Danna

“What about Ms. York and Gavin?” Ethen glanced at Benjamin. They had yet to track them down.

Benjamin’s eyes flickered at the mention of their names. “I will look for them personally.”

He then turned and got into the car. Ethen assigned one bodyguard as his driver.

Benjamin tried to locate Gavin but to no avail. His eyebrows furrowed in frustration.

Arissa and the other two children could not be found.

Is she avoiding me? Are the kids with her? Even Gavin?

Benjamin rubbed his temples.

Meanwhile, Ethen and his men had arrived at the police station with the two culprits. They filed a police report pertaining to their crimes five years ago as well as the attempted kidnapping earlier that day.

All evidence pointed to Danna, the true mastermind behind everything. The police swiftly sprang into action.

Danna had been expecting for Benjamin. Her call eventually got through to him.

“Benjamin, my head hurts! When are you coming over?”

“I’ll be there soon!” he said coldly, and hung up soon after.

Danna did not notice the wrath in his voice. Clutching to her phone, her lips tugged into a sweet smile as a blissful sensation washed over her.

I know it! Benjamin loves me.

Unfortunately, the police had come for her.

When the door opened, Danna hopped off her bed. She intended to greet her lover with a smile.

“Benjamin-”

She jolted when she realized that it was not him at the door.

What are the police doing here?

“Ms. Adams, you are suspected of kidnapping. Please follow us!”

Danna’s face darkened, yet managed to pull herself together. She was a proud Adams, after all.

“I didn’t do anything. Believe it or not, I can sue you for slander!”

The police officer confronting her was not afraid of her arrogance. They had Benjamin as their backing. Between the Grahams and the Adams, it was a no-brainer when it came to deciding who they would choose to serve.

“We shall investigate, Ms. Adams. This way, please!” the police officer said firmly. If she still refused to cooperate, they would not hesitate to use force.

Danna was furious. Panic washed through her.

Who told on me? Is it those two?

“Can’t you wait till I fully recover? I’ve recently been hit by a car. My head hurts...”

“I’m afraid we have to take you away by force if you refuse to cooperate.”

The police officer waved the handcuffs in his hands, indicating his comrades to get ready.

Apparently, Danna could not afford to embarrass herself as a public figure.

“Fine. I will go with you!”

She gritted her teeth and stepped out.

She also let her hair down to conceal her face.

The police had caused quite a ruckus at the hospital. Many curious onlookers gathered at the scene. Very soon, the crowd erupted into chatter.

One of them recognized Danna.

“Hey, isn’t that Danna?”

“It looks like her. I watched her movies before.”

“Danna! Danna!”

The crowd swarmed at her.

Danna covered her face with her hands as the cameras kept flashing.

"Has she committed a crime?"

"I bet she did. Why else would the police be doing here? Pfft! Idols! Who knows how trashy they really are under all that glamor?"

"Well said! This is especially true of female celebrities. They are never as innocent as they claim to be!"

The sarcasm and mockery kept coming. Danna had no way to refute their statements, for she dared not show herself.

She quickened her pace. She hoped to get into the car as soon as possible.

Unfortunately, she knocked into a man, and exposed herself by accident.

"It really is Danna!" someone cried.

"Quick! Take her picture! This is shocking news!" The reporters and paparazzi who had blended in with the crowd shouted excitedly as they snapped one photo after another.

"No! Don't!" Danna shrieked horrifyingly, but her demand served no purpose.

The crowd was simply unstoppable.

"Back off!" The police fended off the crowd.

The crowd retreated, but their cameras never stopped.

Danna was taken into the police car.

"Danna, why are you arrested?" asked a reporter.

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Chapter 183 Gavin Abandoned The Necklace

"Hello, sir. May I know what's her crime?" the reporter asked the police officer when Danna did not respond.

"We will announce it once we finish our investigations. Keep an eye on our website for more details," the police officer replied and got into the car without further ado.

They left the scene with Danna.

Dumbfounded, Danna looked at an officer in front of her.

“Who reported me for kidnapping?”

No one answered.

At that point, she felt deeply insecure.

Benjamin told me that he would be reaching soon. Why haven't I seen him yet? No, he could not have known what had happened. Maybe he is still on his way.

“Can I make a phone call?”

“What are you up to?”

The police officer stared at her sternly.

“I want to get a lawyer.”

Of course she would say that. She came from a wealthy family, after all.

“We will inform your family. Hand in your phone!”

Danna gritted her teeth furiously. Her face was smoldered with wrath.

She had no choice but to cooperate with the police.

Panicked, she clenched her fists tightly.

Who reported me? Is it that b*tch Arissa, or Benjamin? I must remain calm before I find out who's responsible for this.

Meanwhile, Bradley and Arissa took to the road with the five children in tow.

They avoided the surveillance cameras cleverly and managed to evade Benjamin's men.

“Mommy, Benjamin is coming for us!”

Zachary was keeping track of Benjamin's whereabouts.

Scowling, he looked at Gavin suspiciously.

“Have you brought anything with you that could have given away our location?”

Gavin shook his head. “No. I've blocked all the signals.”

Suddenly, a thought struck him. He fumbled for his necklace, the one with the bullet shell.

After examining it, he found that it had been embedded with a tracker.

"We are exposed!" Zachary wailed.

The very next moment, Gavin lowered the window and threw it out of the car without hesitation.

"Sweetheart!" Arissa exclaimed.

"Mommy, we have to leave this place as fast as we can! Mr. Hinton, hit the gas! We must not let Benjamin catch up to us!"

Anguish flashed across Gavin's eyes.

Daddy doesn't care about me at all. So, that necklace shouldn't matter to me.

Arissa's heart broke as she took note of Gavin's sadness. She gave him a hug and stroked his head affectionately.

"You didn't have to throw it away, Gavin. We can hide it elsewhere."

That necklace must have meant a lot to him. He would take it everywhere he went.

"Mommy, I don't want it anymore. It hurts my neck!"

Gavin cuddled in her lap as she patted his head.

Feeling guilty, Zachary glanced at Gavin. He felt bad for suspecting the latter of betrayal.

"I will gift you one next time," Zachary promised.

Arissa couldn't help but smile at his kindness.

"Gavin, don't be sad! You shall have many, many more presents in the future!"

Jesse tried to cheer him up.

Gavin was stunned by their reaction. I'm not sad. What's all this about?

Jasper and Oliver nodded too.

"Next time, we will give you whatever you like!"

"I'm not sad!" Gavin pursed his lips and got back to his seat.

I'm just disappointed with Daddy for using such a dirty trick to track me down.

After ditching the tracker, they managed to lose Benjamin effortlessly.

However, they decided to take a different car anyway. They could not be too careful.

When Benjamin and his men reached the place where the necklace had been discarded, his face darkened. They were surrounded by crop fields, with no sign of the kids.

"Get me the necklace."

Gavin, that little brat! He actually threw away the necklace, huh?

The bodyguards hurriedly searched for the item despite feeling pity for Gavin.

Gavin, please stay hidden, or else you shall face Mr. Graham's wrath!

The bodyguards found the necklace in the mud some time later.

They returned it to Benjamin after giving it a wash.

Holding the necklace in his hands, Benjamin scanned the surroundings.

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Chapter 184 A Bounty

In the wilderness, a village could be seen some distance away. There were no surveillance cameras in the secluded area.

Arissa, you better hide well.

After determining the direction, Benjamin continued the chase and commanded the bodyguards to extend the search range.

He had numerous methods to find Arissa and the kids as long as they did not go abroad.

Nonetheless, there were still ways to find them even if they did, but it would be more time-consuming.

At present, Arissa, who was dozens of kilometers away from Benjamin, let out a sigh of relief.

“How long will it take for us to get to Lightspring, Bradley?”

Bradley checked the distance and replied, “Hm... About an hour, if we’re fast.”

Arissa nodded and uttered, “We can have a meal there. After that, we shall continue our journey.”

They needed to get away as far as possible. Otherwise, Benjamin could easily capture them.

After arriving at Lightspring, Arissa examined the surrounding towns and eventually picked a quaint one. They skipped the dazzling shops and chose to eat at a plain-looking restaurant.

“Mommy! The evil woman, Danna, has been captured!” Jasper spoke in excitement upon seeing the entertainment news at the restaurant.

Arissa and the kids turned to take a look at the television. Indeed, the news reporter was announcing the incident.

Arissa’s forehead creased as questions popped inside her mind. Danna has been captured? Is Benjamin behind this?

The entertainment news ended shortly, and a broadcast appeared on the screen.

“Dear audiences, please be aware that the son of the CEO of Graham Group has been abducted. If you have any information or clues, do contact the police immediately! Ten million will be awarded if the child is found!”

Then, two portraits appeared on the screen. Other than Gavin’s, Arissa’s photo was also posted.

She was completely dumbfounded. What the hell! Benjamin offered a bounty to find us! Now I’ve become a human trafficker? Am I currently wanted by the police? What a cunning man!

The kids were confused at first. Soon, they were pissed.

How sly!

As for Bradley, he was shocked by the broadcast. Then, he noticed people in the restaurant were getting into heated discussions about the situation.

He whispered to Arissa, “Boss, why don’t we leave now?”

After all, it was too eye-catching for them to be with five children. When they first came in, people were already staring.

Just then, the restaurant owner, Nina Binder, approached them to take their order. "What would you like to have today?"

She was stunned upon seeing the five kids. Their faces seemed familiar.

Suddenly, she recalled the broadcast. On the next second, her eyes lit up.

Arissa's heart skipped a beat.

"I would like to order a plate of spaghetti first. We are still deciding on the others."

Nina peered at her and nodded. She did not dare to question them. "Okay. Please wait for a moment."

As soon as she left the table, Nina contacted the police.

Realizing that, Arissa and Bradley exchanged looks. In the blink of an eye, they got up and escaped the restaurant, along with the kids.

Nina shouted, "Hey! Stop! They're the human traffickers! One of the kids appeared on the news just now!"

Immediately, the customers got up from their seats and chased after them.

Bradley hurriedly started the car engine and drove off. He continued stepping on the accelerator, going as fast as he could.

What's going on? There are still people behind us!

Everyone was persistent in capturing them. After all, ten million was a large sum of money.

Furthermore, all of them had a sense of justice due to their hatred for human trafficking.

Arissa, Bradley, and the kids were down to their nerves after getting rid of the people that were trailing behind them. It was an hour later when the police arrived at Lightspring, leaving them no choice but to head to another city.

"Bradley, we have to leave Lightspring at once! Take the shortcut!" Arissa ordered.

"Got it!"

After successfully getting out of Lightspring undetected, the group was exhausted and famished when they arrived at a new place.

Bradley went to buy some food, whereas Arissa stayed with the kids, afraid that someone might recognize Gavin if they were to head out together.

“Where are we, Mommy?”

Arriving at a farmhouse, Gavin was amazed by the scenic view of the mountains and rivers.

“This is our home!”

Jasper remembered the house from the photo. He was the first to rush inside.

Gavin was surprised.

Arissa patted his head and said, “We are home now. Let’s head in!”

“Wow! Finally!”

Gavin followed his younger brothers and ran inside.

The kids were overjoyed yet overwhelmed with curiosity. They began running around to explore the place.

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Chapter 185 Hiding In The Countryside

Looking at the bunch of excited kids, Arissa was glad that she brought them here.

The initial destination was an old village. However, she suddenly recalled having bought a farmhouse in the past, so they came here instead.

After all, she was familiar with the area. As long as they had enough food and water, this would be a safe place for them to hide.

Hm... We need to store some grains. As for vegetables, we can plant some ourselves. I think we can avoid Benjamin for some time if we are self-sufficient.

The previous owner of the farmhouse was selling the property as they intended to migrate out of the country. Arissa came across the notice and decided to take the opportunity to purchase it.

The farmhouse was located in a relatively remote area, and there were rarely outsiders. Thus, it would not be easy for Benjamin to track them down.

Soon, the kids returned from a stroll around the farmhouse. They were beyond satisfied and could not stop complimenting it.

Jasper said, "Mommy, it's so beautiful here! There's a clear stream just behind the house!"

Oliver chimed in, "Mommy, I saw some fishes and shrimp in the stream!"

Jesse cut in, "There are snails too!"

"Mommy, the air is so fresh!" Zachary commented.

Gavin exclaimed, "I love this place so much! Is this where you grew up, Mommy?"

Arissa was relieved that the kids were satisfied with their new place.

"No. I passed by during one of my travels. I thought it was great so I bought it!"

It had been some time since she made the purchase. Five years ago, she got into trouble shortly after leaving this place. Hence, she had never returned after buying the farmhouse.

However, when she was abroad, she would often hire people to clean the place once every few months.

Arissa guided the kids into the house. It was rather neat but dusty as it had been vacant for a long time.

The last time it was cleaned was a few weeks ago.

"Let's get some rest, kids. Mr. Hinton will be back soon with some food, and we'll clean the place up once we've eaten."

"Why don't we clean now, Mommy?" suggested Zachary.

Arissa chuckled. "Aren't you all tired?"

The kids shook their heads and answered in unison, "No!"

All of them groaned about hunger in the car. Now, they were energized.

"Okay. Let's do some cleaning!"

Arissa then led the kids to clean the house while waiting for Bradley to return.

An hour later, Arissa and the kids sat on the floor inside the clean, bright house. They were all worn out after giving the house a much-needed cleanse.

By the time they were done, the sky was already pitch black.

Jesse rubbed her tummy and muttered tiringly, "Mommy, why isn't Mr. Hinton back yet? I'm so hungry!"

She had been repeating the same question since a while ago.

"Mr. Hinton must be getting us roasted chicken. It takes a longer time to cook. That's why he's late!" Jasper began drooling at the thought of scrumptious roasted chicken.

Upon hearing that, they imagined the smell of the roasted chicken, and their stomachs began growling, including Arissa.

She had been staring at the gate for some time.

Why isn't Bradley back yet? Did he get captured by Benjamin?

Still, there was nothing she could do other than wait while coaxing the kids. She dare not contact Bradley as Benjamin might discover their location.

Her energy replenished after some rest. After that, she went to the kitchen to have a look.

Unfortunately, there was nothing to be found.

"Oh no! There's absolutely nothing for me to cook!"

She sighed in disappointment. That's fine. I can still boil some water.

After boiling a kettle of water, Arissa poured each of the kids a glass of water to drink. After that, the six of them sat in the living room, staring at one another.

The kids were sweaty and dirty after cleaning the entire house, and Arissa could not help noticing. Hence, she suggested, "Why don't we take a shower?"

They're like dirty kittens after playtime. How cute!

"I'm too tired for a shower!" groaned Oliver while laying his face on the dining table.

"Do you want Mommy's help?"

Arissa could still bear the hunger. Nonetheless, she was worried about the kids. She forgot to bring food with them due to the rush. The kids must be starving...

Oliver sat up straight and responded, "No!"

Arissa put on a sad expression.

"You must be tired too, Mommy. We can shower after eating. After all, there's no need to rush now," added Oliver in an attempt to console their mother.

Arissa ruffled their hair and urged, "Drink more water, then! It will make you feel better."

The kids remained indifferent as they already had too much water. Instead, they whined, "Come back soon, Mr. Hinton..."