

# The More the Merrier Chapter 19

"Sweethearts, it's time to stop playing on the computer and go wash your hands. Ansa cooked the dishes, come over, and ordered the children to wash their hands, unaware that someone had ill intentions toward her,

"Morniny, were coming!" Hastly, they turned off the computer, and Zachary looked at Gavin "Why did he call me? He didn't suspect us, did he?" asked Zachary The boy then hastily removed the SIM card, so as not to be tracked down by Benjamin

He didn't expect Benjamin to be so perceptive and grew too careless. He won't blame it on Morniny, will he?

"That's highly possible!" Gavin had not expected Zachary to go ahead and hack Benjamin's computer

He thought the latter had only hacked into the electrical circuit system

That just texted Daddy before hacking into his computer. He's definitely going to be suspicious

"What are you guys talking about? Can you tell me?" Oliver looked at the two, frustration evident on his face They had been talking without letting him in on their conversation.

"Sweethearts, come out!" shouted Arissa again.

Zachary patted his restless younger brother on the shoulder. "I'll tell you about it after dinner. Let us go outside. Mommy's rushing us!"

"Let's go eat first!" Gavin followed behind and walked out of the room.

When Oliver heard this, he twitched his lips. They have a secret, and they're even hiding it from me! Hmph!

He also hurriedly ran out of the room.

The three of them washed their hands and went to the dining room, where Jesse had already taken a seat and was drinking the soup.

"You guys are so slow! I've almost finished a bowl!" Jesse smiled.

Gavin sat down next to her and caressed her head, "Then drink more if you like it, and we will drink less!"

Jesse smiled, looked at him, then turned to focus on eating.

Gavin stared at Jesse for a while. He really smiles like a girl. Worried about hurting the child, Gavin hid that thought in his heart and did not tell anyone.

"Hurry up and eat!" Arissa served the soup to the children. She also served herself a bowl, sat down, and began to eat.

Meanwhile, at the Graham residence.

Benjamin narrowed his eyes. He checked his computer and found that no files on the computer had been touched. Hacking his computer seemed to be just a way to show

displeasure. Surprisingly, this number couldn't track her position. Is she really cautious, or is the person who hacked my computer not her? The timing was too much of a coincidence though. This woman has some nerve, doesn't she? How dare she try me? Isn't she afraid that I'll pursue the matter?

Without conclusive evidence, he could not determine that the person who had just hacked the computer was definitely Arissa, but she was the prime suspect.

Just then, Ethen came over to report Benjamin's schedule. As he approached the latter, his eyes met the man's intense glare, and it frightened him.

"Mr. Graham?" He sized up Benjamin and gingerly greeted him. Did I do something to offend him?

Benjamin tinned in response. "Did you give my private number to someone else?"

Ethen widened his eyes and hastily shook his head. "No, I didn't! I don't have the guts to give someone else your private number. I still have to live. He continued, "What's wrong?" is a woman causing him trouble?

Benjamin's gaze was cold and stern as he looked at Ethen. "You didn't give Arissa either?"

"No, I didn't give her your contact number, not even your business card! I swear to God!"

Ethen raised his hand and swore

Benjamin frowned. He didn't give Arissa my number, so how would she have my number?

"Mr. Graham, did she call you?" asked Ethen softly.

Benjamin gave him a sharp look and asked in a low voice, "Do you know where she is now?"

Ethen froze for a while, not understanding his intention. "Mr. Graham, may I ask why you're looking for her?"

"Doesn't she want to work at Graham Group? Tell her to come to my office tomorrow!"

He would like to see this woman, to find out what kind of person she was. If she really hacked into his computer, he would get his revenge. No one could play him and still be safe.

Ethen was surprised and patted his thigh. "I'm going to inform her now!"

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Benjamin's cold gaze pierced him instantly. Ethen controlled his expression and moved aside to call Arissa.

Arissa received a call from Ethen informing her that she was to go to Graham Group tomorrow for another interview. She was stunned, as she had originally intended to resubmit her resume after dinner.

"Mr. Frank, are you sure it was Mr. Graham who told me to go there?" She didn't want to be humiliated again like she had been that morning.

"Affirmative. He just asked me to inform you to come back. I'm really sorry about what

happened today. It was all a misunderstanding." Then, he continued, "Don't worry about it, Ms. York. Mr. Graham loves people who have talent, and you can tell him directly what you need. You're free tomorrow, aren't you?"

"Yes!" Arissa thought for a moment and decided to head over there. "I'll be there on time!" I have to see him this time, even if that woman tries to stop me. If I fail the interview again, I'll have no choice but to accept the outcome. Graham Group's salary and benefits are among the best in the industry. It would be a waste if I just gave up like that.

"We will be waiting for you!" replied Ethen with a smile without further ado, he hung up the phone and relayed to Benjamin, "Ms. York will be in the office tomorrow."

Benjamin was not surprised. He suddenly asked, "You have seen this woman. What do you think of her?"

"She is a beautiful and very intellectual person. It's a pleasure to see her!" Ethen replied with a flattering expression on his face. Man, she's a beauty. If we work together in the future, my mood can be much better during work. I'll be close to her when we work together, and maybe I'll have a chance to pursue her.

Benjamin stared at him coldly and snorted. "Such a high evaluation!"

"Mr. Graham, that's because you haven't seen her yet! When you see her tomorrow, you'll know what I'm talking about!" Ethen patted his chest in affirmation. Suddenly remembering something, he asked, "Mr. Graham, why have you suddenly changed your mind?"

Benjamin's face immediately darkened. "My computer had been hacked!"

Ethen was stunned to hear that. Who would so dare to hack Grim Reaper's computer? That person must be tired of living.

## Chapter 19

"You suspect that Ms. York hacked your computer?" The man was quick on the uptake. Benjamin handed his phone over to show the relevant text messages, and Ethen was shocked after reading them.

"No way. That's not her number!" I don't believe she'd do something like that. We are all adults, and no one is going to be stupid enough to provoke Mr. Graham like that. He showed Benjamin her phone number to prove her innocence. "Mr. Graham, look, a different number!"

Benjamin frowned deeply. It's not her. Who is it then?

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He looked at Ethen, and Ethen immediately understood what he meant. "I'll check it immediately!"

He tried to locate the IP address but was unsuccessful. However, he did find the registration information.

"Mr. Graham, the owner of this number is Zachary York!"

Zachary York? His last name is York too!

The tip of Benjamin's tongue topped the inside of his cheek, and his eyes deepened as he pondered.

## The More the Merrier Chapter20

Zachary was eating his meal, and his eyes Rashed when he heard the alarm on his phone.

"Mornm, 1 leave 10: second!\*

With thet, he left his chair and ran to his phone.

When he saw someone checking his data, he narrowed his eyes, used his hacking technique, and attacked directly

In the blink of an eye, all the information about him was erased

"Sweetheart, what's going on?" Arissa turned around and looked at her son. She wondered what he was doing, not coming to dinner.

"Mommy, give me a second!" After making sure the other party could not find any information on him, he then only walked over to Arissa.

When she saw Zachary being mysterious, she laughed. "What are you doing?"

"Nothing. A friend was looking for me to play a game, and I replied him!" replied Zachary calmly.

Gavin looked at Zachary and immediately knew something was wrong.

Arissa also looked at him and smiled. Without questioning him any further, she gave each of the four children chicken wings before giving herself one.

"Hurry up and eat! Eat up before you play!"

"Mommy, your cooking is so delicious!" Gavin ate happily. He liked the food very much, Arissa was in high spirits from her son's praises. With a loving smile, she said, "Eat more if it's good!"

Seeing the children enjoying their food, she put on a satisfied expression.

Meanwhile, over at Yaleview, Ethen saw that the information screen was suddenly blank. He furrowed his brows, searched again, and found that the information had become garbled.

What's going on? D\*mn! This person has some skills.

It ended up a fruitless search, and his phone was dead too. Ethen was astonished and reported to Benjamin.

"Mr. Graham, this person's techniques are definitely better than mine. The information I just found out is all messed up."

Benjamin narrowed his eyes and was even more puzzled. Who is this person? What is he trying to do?

"Keep tracking that guy!"

"Yes!" Ethen did not dare to be sloppy.

"Daddy..."

Suddenly, a soft voice sounded from the doorway, and Benjamin's cold, stern face softened as he stood up and walked out.

Jasper stood outside the study, rubbing his eyes. He had just woken, and his sleepy look was too adorable.

Ethen liked Jasper a lot. He waved and greeted him, "Jasper!"

Jasper lifted his head and looked at him. His little face showed a smile. "Mr. Frank!"

Chapter 20

Ethen smiled dotingly at him.

Benjamin lifted Jasper up and touched his face. "Do you still want to sleep?"

"I don't want to sleep. I'm hungry!" Jasper glanced at Benjamin and answered languidly

Deep in his heart, he was very nervous. I just came downstairs and heard that Benjamin was going to investigate Zachary. That's very strange. Why does Daddy want to check on him? Does he already know that Mommy gave birth to them?

Benjamin met Jasper's eyes as he eyed him. He raised an eyebrow and carried him over to the dining room.

"Why are you staring at me like that?" he asked.

Jasper lowered his head and leaned against his shoulder. That action was like proof of his shyness, and it made Benjamin feel his heart soften.

He rarely does that. That's pretty cute.

When they reached the dining room, Benjamin sat Jasper down on a chair, got a towel, and cleaned his face.

Then, he wiped his little hands.

Jasper stared at Benjamin and rejoiced in his heart. Daddy is so good to me.

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Edwin served the soup to the father and son.

"Let's eat. Be careful. It's hot!" reminded Benjamin before digging in as well.

Jasper looked over to the study and whispered, "Won't Mr. Frank be eating with us?"

Benjamin frowned when he heard that. This boy is pretty good to Ethen. He glanced at Edwin and ordered, "Get Ethen over here!"

"Yes, Mr. Graham!" Whereupon, the butler went over and called Ethen.

Delighted to learn that he was invited to dinner, Ethen hurriedly came out of the study.

He said joyfully, "Mr. Graham, how do you know I haven't eaten yet?"

Benjamin gave the talkative assistant a cold look and said in a light voice, "It's my son who

sent for you!"

Ethen's eyes lit up. He walked over, hugged Jasper, and chirped cheerfully, "Thank you, Jasper."

The delighted assistant then sat down next to Jasper and put some food on the child's plate.

"Jasper, you slept for quite long, didn't you?"

"Well, someone scolded me. I felt terrible, so I slept more," answered Jasper piteously.

Ethen was shocked and angrily retorted, "Who scolded you? Tell me, and I'll teach that bully a lesson!"

Jasper pouted and glanced at him. He treats me so well, and it's genuine kindness toward me, unlike that woman. She always mistreats me behind their back.

"That woman!" Jasper huffed.

Benjamin looked at his son. He does not even call her Mommy.

Ethen, not knowing who it was, looked at them. "What woman had the guts to scold you? Tell me, Jasper. I'll teach her some manners."

Chapter 20

Benjamin glanced at Ethen before looking at Jasper. The sight of Jasper's sad expression made his heart clench.

Ethen noticed that as well. His eyes widened, and he asked again, "Who is that woman?"

Seeing Ethen's indignant look, Edwin glanced at Benjamin and reminded him, "It's Ms. Adams!"

Hearing that, Ethen's gaze moved from Jasper to Benjamin's face. He then gasped a little and swallowed his saliva.

Hearing the unexpected name, Ethen backed away a little and asked, "Why?" She's so strict with him. We can't even bear to scold him.

Despite being furious, Ethen did not dare to speak out of line as he noticed Benjamin's gloomy expression.

Jasper noticed the assistant's meekness and continued, "Mr. Frank, you think she's inconsiderate too, don't you? I know she doesn't like me. Maybe it's because I didn't help her that she pinched me."

Ethen's heart ached upon seeing Jasper's sad face. "What does she want you to help her with?"

Jasper looked at Benjamin. "To help ask Daddy to marry her quickly!"

Ethen despised her in his heart. She is so shameless. She even uses a little kid like Jasper to achieve her goals! She is not worthy of Mr. Graham.

However, he didn't dare to speak out these thoughts. Benjamin's face was clearly still frosty, so he sat back down in his seat,

"Eat first!" Benjamin tousled Jasper's head, sounding concerned.

Jasper realized his father had not promised not to marry Danna and kept silent. Does Daddy like that woman that much? If Daddy stays with that woman, what will happen to Mommy? What about us? After the marriage, Gavin will be even worse off at home. Daddy should never marry that woman.

He then uttered, seemingly disappointed, "Okay..."

Several adults on the scene felt sympathetic looking at his pained expression.

Benjamin's face grew grim, and there was anger in his eyes directed at Danna.

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### Chapter 21

Meanwhile, after they finished eating, the four children helped Arissa clean the dishes. She smiled and did not stop them from helping her.

Some habits have to be practiced at an early age.

"Be careful!" She had just barked a warning when Gavin broke a bowl.

He had jerked at Arissa's loud reminder and lost grip on the bowl. "Mommy, I'm sorry!"

Arissa saw how nervous Gavin was, and she burst out laughing. "It's okay as long as you're not hurt." Hastily, she pulled Gavin away, grabbed a broom, and gathered all the shard pieces into a trash bag. "Go outside and play first. There might still be broken pieces lying around. I'll take care of it!"

"Come on, let's go out!" Zachary pulled Gavin out and comforted him, "It's all right!"

Gavin still felt very sorry.

Zachary knew he had not done household chores before, and hence it was absolutely normal to accidentally break a bowl.

"Just be careful in the future. We have broken bowls before too!"

"Yes! I broke two in the past!" Jesse laughed awkwardly, showing an adorable smile with missing teeth.

"You're luckier than me. Mommy was in a good mood. She scolded me the last time I broke a bowl!" Oliver envied him, and Gavin looked at them in surprise.

I see. They have broken bowls before, too. Suddenly, he felt much better.

The four of them went out into the living room. Oliver still remembered the previous matter and beckoned Zachary into the room to explain clearly.

Zachary knew Oliver couldn't contain his curiosity any longer, so he headed over.

In the kitchen, Arissa looked closely at the floor. She was concerned about any small splinters hidden from view, so she took the tape and pasted it on the floor repeatedly.

After ascertaining there were no more splinters on the floor, she wrapped the trash bag in

tape to avoid being cut by splinters poking out.

She then threw it in the trash.

Meanwhile, there were three of them in the room, and Gavin started the conversation.

"What was going on at dinner just now?"

"Someone's investigating me!"

Zachary cast him a glance. Gavin immediately guessed who that person was. Daddy's always perceptive.

"Thank goodness I stopped it, so they can't find out anything about me!" Zachary was a little smug.

"Explain it to me!" Oliver was still at a loss and urged them to let the cat out of the bag. So mysterious. Can't they give me the full context before continuing their conversation?

Zachary glanced outside before whispering to him, "We're talking about Daddy!"

"What?" Oliver was shocked and looked at them in disbelief. "You guys figured out who he is?" When did that happen? They didn't even tell me!

Jesse heard Oliver's loud voice, ran over, and asked, "What are you talking about?"

Chapter 21

"Nothing important. Go take a bath first!" Zachary was not going to tell Jesse yet, because he knew Jesse couldn't keep a secret. The child would surely tell Arissa about it.

We don't know what Daddy's thinking yet. I should keep this a secret from Mommy.

Anyway, Mommy will see him tomorrow when she goes to Graham Group, so it's better to let her find out herself.

Jesse pouted and said, "I just finished eating. I don't want to take a bath yet!" The child then looked at three of them and asked with a smile, "You are talking about some secret, aren't you?"

"No, it's not a secret. Zachary asked me for money!" Oliver thought of an excuse.

Jesse's eyes snapped open. No wonder he was so loud. It was because Zachary asked for money. The cheery child smiled.

"I have money. How much do you want? I'll give it to you!"

Zachary was delighted when he noticed how generous Jesse was. He patted the latter's head affectionately.

"I don't want your money. I want his. Now, go out and watch television!"

"Okay..." With that, Jesse looked at them and then ran out.

It was not long before the sound of television was heard.

At this moment, Gavin admired Zachary because he effortlessly got Jesse to listen,

Oliver closed the door and continued excitedly, "Do you know who Daddy is?"

Both Zachary and Gavin nodded. "We know!"

"Who is he? What's he like? Is he handsome? Is he rich?"

Looking at Oliver's sparkling eyes, Zachary sighed. Thankfully, he wasn't the one who had switched. Otherwise, he certainly would keep clinging to Daddy and ruin our plans.

"It's Benjamin Graham!" replied Gavin.

"Huh?" Oliver was stunned, then happy. He exclaimed, "Great! I'm going to tell Mommy! Since she's going to Graham Group tomorrow, she'd better be mentally prepared for the encounter!" He has enormous riches, and he must be very handsome. After all, we are all good-looking. Daddy will not be any worse than us.

"Stop right there!" Seeing Oliver about to go out, Zachary hurriedly stopped him. "If you tell Mommy now, would she still be able to focus on the interview tomorrow?"

"You're right!" Oliver looked at them, then asked, "How did you know who Daddy is?"

Zachary pointed at Gavin, who was smiling.

"My name is Gavin Graham!"

Oliver was dumbfounded.

Arisa finished cleaning and noticed that Jesse was alone in the living room watching television.

"Where are your brothers?"

"They're in the room!"

Arisa frowned. How mysterious these sons are.

She walked over, knocked on the door, and opened it.

Chapter 21

The three turned their heads and looked at her. She laughed and stated, "It's time for you to take a bath and go to bed!"

"Mommy, you wash Jesse first! We will take a bath later!" said Zachary.

Arisa looked around and didn't see them playing any computer games, but she reminded them anyway, "Don't play computer games for too long. It will hurt your eyes!"

"All right!" The three nodded their heads.

Arisa then took Jesse for a bath. After which, she took a shower.

Zachary received a text message from Jasper, saying that Benjamin had people investigate the former.

In response, he told Jasper what had happened, and the latter was surprised.

Fortunately, he let Mommy go for the interview. Will Mommy be surprised when she sees him? Mommy is so beautiful, and Daddy will like her very much. Jasper grew excited.

Arisa didn't know their secret. After she took a shower, she slowly arranged her thoughts. It's a little hard to find out what happened then especially with Danna acting all prickly, but

it's not untraceable. The pieces of the puzzle will come together once I find that woman. She made a phone call. "Have you found out anything about that woman yet?"

"I checked with the village this afternoon, but they told me the couple has long moved away!"

Arissa frowned deeply. They have done terrible things. Of course, they would go into hiding. "Come back and help me check out Danna Adams first. I suspect she's the mastermind. We met today, and if it was her, she'll feel guilty and will surely look for that couple. Check her out secretly!"

"Danna Adams? Is she the actress from the Adams family?"

"That's right. Do you know her?"

"I've heard some rumors about her. Why didn't I think of her in the first place? She seems to be very close to Benjamin. We'll investigate her, but it might not go so smoothly. Boss, by the way, did you meet Benjamin at Graham Group today?"

"No. Things happened." Arissa's eyelids flickered. "Anyhow, I'm going to meet with him tomorrow. He suddenly changed his mind and wants to interview me again. I think that woman may not be that important. Come back first!"

After talking for a while, she hung up the phone and went out to check on the children. The four of them were sound asleep.

She tucked them in before going back to her room to sleep.

She couldn't stop thinking about Benjamin. What kind of person is he?

## The More the Merrier Chapter22

### Chapter 22

The next day, Arissa arrived at Graham Group as expected and was received by Ethen. He did not dare to leave and waited together with her in Benjamin's office.

"Ms. York, I'm so sorry about yesterday. I hope you don't take it to heart. Ms. Adams' decision does not represent Mr. Graham's!" Ethen poured a cup of tea and placed it in front of her.

"It's all right. I didn't think it through and left without saying anything. I didn't expect Mr. Graham to be willing to give me another chance, and I'm quite surprised," Arissa said with a chuckle.

Ethen himself was surprised that Benjamin would go back on his decision since he was the one who gave him orders never to bring up Arissa's name ever again.

"Ms. York, have some tea!"

Arissa nodded slightly and started sipping on the tea. "Mr. Frank, you can leave if you're busy. I'll wait for Mr. Graham myself. This time, I'll definitely wait until he's here."

Ethen laughed and turned to leave after settling her down. He made sure to tell the secretary to be alert and report to him if anyone were to come up, Danna especially, just in case she messes things up once again.

Arisa sized up the office and sipped on tea while waiting for Benjamin.

An hour later, there were still no signs of him. She looked at the time. Does the CEO of such a huge corporation not have a sense of punctuality?

Ethen got someone to prepare fruits and snacks, coming in apologetically.

"Ms. York, Mr. Graham was caught up with some issues at home and left later than usual. I hope you can be patient and wait a little longer."

"It's all right. I have nothing else to do anyway. I'll wait for Mr. Graham to arrive," Arissa replied.

Ethen spoke a few more words to her before leaving and called Benjamin's number. He did not pick up his phone.

What's Mr. Graham doing making her wait?

Ethen called the Graham residence, and the butler told him that Benjamin had left for the company early on.

Benjamin had indeed arrived at the company, but he was in his car at the underground parking, staring at his phone. The screen showed his office's surveillance footage.

His eyes were fixed on the woman in the guest area. He could not see her face, only her back.

Benjamin wanted to see how long she could wait. As time went by, Arissa had not shown a hint of impatience. She sat on the couch while flipping through a magazine, which came as a surprise to him.

Benjamin's eyes flashed. It's about time. He got out of the car and headed upstairs.

Arisa waited for another half an hour before hearing some sounds. The sound of leather shoes on the ground ensued, and she turned to look.

Benjamin's handsome face greeted her. His face was perfectly flawless and all too familiar. Upon scrutinizing him closely, Arissa's eyes widened in shock.

Why does this man look like the four kids back home?

Arisa was dumbfounded and jolted up in surprise. She looked at Benjamin with a look of wonder, heart beating faster.

Chapter 22

The man had a strong presence and an icy aura, especially when he raised his eyebrows and looked toward her. His gaze was so intense that Arissa could not bring herself to look him in the eye.

Benjamin saw the surprise on her face and sneered secretly, thinking she was love-struck.

"Arisa York?"

His voice was cold, devoid of any warmth, and had a tinge of arrogance.

Arisa snapped out of her trance and quickly retracted her gaze. "Yes, I'm Arissa. You... Must be Benjamin Graham? Mr. Graham?"

She could guess from the man's imposing manner. Aside from that, no one else would be able to take the elevator in the room up there.

Benjamin walked to the side of the couch and sat across from her. "Sit!"

Arisa glanced at the man with the icy aura and took a seat. She could not help but become nervous.

Pleased to meet you, Mr. Graham. This is my resume. She handed the resume she had prepared earlier to him with both hands,

Benjamin glanced at her. He took the piece of paper and placed it on the table. "I already went through your resume."

There was a moment of silence, and Arissa gulped, intimidated by the man's imposing aura, She watched him carefully, secretly still surprised.

In fact, her mind was in such a disarray that she had completely forgotten the self-introductory pitch she had prepared

So, he's Benjamin. Could he be the man from five years ago?

Arisa thought of Danna and was even more astonished.

It would make sense that Danna took her kids if Benjamin was their father.

She did not know anyone with the surname Adams and could not get her head around why that woman would snatch her kids away.

Her mind was a mess.

At the same time, Benjamin was also scrutinizing her with his sharp gaze. Arissa was a beauty with delicate features and charisma. It was no wonder Ethen only had good things to say about her.

"You know me?"

Benjamin crossed his legs and leaned back, watching her.

His gaze was imposing, sharp, and carried a hint of mockery.

Arisa sorted out her thoughts and smiled softly. "No, don't!"

I would not be so surprised if I did.

Benjamin raised his eyebrows and looked directly at her. She says she doesn't know me, but she's been staring at me with surprise written all over her face.

"Unfortunately, I don't fancy love-struck women."

Arisa froze. Her face flushed red from anger when she realized what he meant.

Isn't he too egotistical? He actually thought that I was love-struck? I only looked at him that

way because of his resemblance to the kids.

"Mr. Graham, you may be handsome, but I was only staring at you because I thought you resembled someone I know. Not because I'm love-struck!" she retorted. There was no hint of admiration on her face.

Arissa realized that her words were slightly flirty immediately after saying them. Her brows furrowed in frustration as she mulled over the things she said.

Benjamin's face darkened, and he squinted his eyes. "Are you always this headstrong?"

"Hah! That would depend on the person I'm speaking to. I'm here for an interview. If you're hiring, then we should talk about work and nothing else. If you're not sincere, then I shall take my leave!"

Arissa picked up her bag and got up. She stared squarely at Benjamin with an upset expression on her face.

### Chapter 23

He's hot. So what if I take a few looks? How dare he say that I'm love-struck! I'm already immune after watching over the four kids back home.

Benjamin sat on the couch. His gaze darkened and swept over her..

He was seated, but he had an aura of a majestic king and his presence overshadowed hers.

"How impatient. This is not a quality that professional programmers should have!"

Benjamin sneered and lifted his hand, gesturing her to sit back down.

Arissa looked at him and frowned. He was watching her with an unfathomable expression. In the end, she sat back down.

"I'm sincere in interviewing for Graham Group, and I came back in search of a stable job. Your fiancée chased me away when I came yesterday, but I won't take it to heart. However, I think that you misunderstood my intentions. I feel that it's best if you clear them as I don't like to beat around the bush. I'm absolutely serious when it comes to working. The company won't extend an offer to me otherwise," Arissa fearlessly voiced out.

### Chapter 24

Benjamin was surprised, and his gaze fixed on the woman seated in front of him. She was not servile nor relenting. Instead, there was a hint of stubbornness in her eyes.

"I'll gauge your capabilities from your contributions to the company!"

Benjamin was a man who judged people based on their capabilities. Those who were not capable would not even survive the company's probation period as Graham Group was no place for useless people.

Arissa was shocked, shooting an uncertain glance at the man. Does this mean that he's hiring me? "You mean..."

He stared straight at her and said, "I have something to ask."

"Please go on." Arissa gestured for him to continue.

Benjamin watched her and asked, "Why did you speak to me like that last night? Aren't you

afraid that I'll get you back for that?"

Arissa froze and watched him in puzzlement. "What did I say last night? I don't know you! No, I do know you. However, I haven't met you before. Moreover, I don't have your contact details. When would I have the opportunity to say something to you? I think you may have gotten the wrong person as this is our first time meeting."

Arissa was dumbfounded, and her intuition told her that Benjamin mistook her for someone. Could this be the reason why he's so hostile toward me? No, this will be our second time meeting if he's the guy that time.

However, she ran away before seeing that man clearly, so it did not count as a meeting. Benjamin's piercing gaze darkened as he continued to stare at Arissa. Undoubtedly, the text was from her. Even if it wasn't, it's got to be from someone close to her.

The tip of Benjamin's tongue topped the inside of his cheek, adding a seductive flair to his handsome face.

Arissa watched him. Her heart thudded in her chest, beating fast and hard.

"Mr. Graham?"

His eyes flickered, and he recalled the message the night before.

"You sent me a text message yesterday, introducing yourself and stating you were chased away by my fiancée. In the message, you told me to consider hiring you if I've not found a suitable candidate. You even said you're confident that you're competent enough for the job."

Arissa was shocked as she was sure she did no such thing.

However, she suddenly recalled how sneaky and mysterious the kids were acting yesterday, and it dawned on her that they must have sent the text message.

"After I rejected you, you even threatened me to not regret my decision." The corners of Benjamin's mouth lifted into a cold smirk.

Arissa gazed into his eyes and gulped. "Can I have a look at the sender's phone number?"

Benjamin told her the number and scrutinized her expression closely. He narrowed his eyes and glanced at her sharply. "That's you, right?"

"No, it's not!"

Arissa was frustrated. I'll have to lecture Zachary when I get home. How could he not tell me about this?

## Chapter 24

"It's my family!" She nervously looked at him and said apologetically, "Sorry, I didn't know he texted you. I'm so incredibly sorry!"

Benjamin stared at her imposingly and asked in a low voice, "How is Zachary related to you?"

She does not have my contact details, but her family does. This woman should at least draft out her lies before saying them. Could it actually be her all along?

"My brother!" Arissa blurted.

Silence ensued.

She looked at Benjamin nervously. It'll be all right if I directly say that he's my son, right? After all, he has never met the kids and is a stranger to me as I don't think we've met before. There can only be two scenarios. Either we've never met before, or he isn't the man from that night.

However, his resemblance to the children was uncanny. It was as if they were made from the same mold, and

Arissa was taken aback when she saw him.

She never thought that the father to her kids would be such a distinguished person. Chapter 25

Benjamin tapped on his thigh and lowered his gaze, making Arissa even more nervous as she watched me.

"Why would your brother have my number?"

Arissa's heart skipped a beat. She did not know how to elaborate the lie, and even if she were to tell him the truth now, there would be no guarantee he would believe her.

Furthermore, Benjamin seemed to suspect that she did it.

"Perhaps it was a coincidence?"

Benjamin scoffed.

Arissa was at a loss for words. "It really isn't me who sent that, but I'll apologize to you since I'm responsible for his misdemeanor. I sincerely apologize for all of the inconvenience we've caused you."

Arissa was Zachary's mother, and hence, she was obliged to apologize on his behalf.

"How about I give him a call to ask? I'll lecture him about this when I get home. I'm terribly sorry for the inconvenience."

How brave of him to send a text to Benjamin. I was wondering why he would think of calling me here, and this is why!

"There's no need."

Benjamin no longer wanted to know, and the call would not change a thing.

If she did it, she would have it all planned out. The call will be just for show.

Arissa watched his expression of distrust and was speechless. She no longer wished to explain herself. She, too, would not believe what she had said if the roles were reversed.

"Mr. Graham, if you called me here today because of this, you can go ahead and reject me. However, I hope that you could give me a chance. I believe that you won't be disappointed with my capabilities should you hire me!"

I should at least fight for it since I'm already here.

Benjamin watched as Arissa pitched herself, and the corners of his mouth curved into a

smirk. She's finally revealing her intentions?

"So confident?"

Arissa listened to his arrogant tone and suppressed her dissatisfaction. "I have the right to be confident. Mr. Graham, what do you say? Let's be direct and not waste each other's time."

Benjamin's eyes darkened. No one had ever spoken to him that way, and she was the first. "Ethen!" he shouted.

A short while later, Ethen ran into the room.

He looked at them in curiosity. "Mr. Graham, you called?"

"Bring the computer over here and test her. If she passes, hire her. If not, show her the door!"

Benjamin ultimately decided to give her a shot since she had gone through a lot of trouble for the opportunity

Arissa was surprised as she assumed the man would not even consider giving her a chance. He agreed?

Ethen smiled and quickly grabbed the computer. "Ms. York, this way, please!"

Arissa walked over and sat in front of the office desk. She opened the portal and started maneuvering.

She designed two programs to attack one another.

Ethen was impressed when he saw that. "Ms. York, how did you think about coming up with this?"

Arissa was fully absorbed in her task, going against her own system.

Benjamin's eyes flashed when he saw Ethen's amazement and approached them.

He scanned through it, and his eyes immediately lit up. I have to admit it. This woman does have the skills.

As Benjamin continued staring at Arissa, he fell deep into thought. Could she be the one who hacked my computer last night?

His handsome face darkened at the thought.

Ethen was enjoying himself and did not notice Benjamin's expression.

He excitedly said to him, "Mr. Graham, don't you agree that Ms. York's skills are extraordinary!?"

Jackpot. With her, the company's Engineering Department will definitely level up and become indestructible.

Benjamin glared daggers at his assistant, and his face darkened further when he saw that Ethen's face was full of admiration.

He was oddly unhappy.

Arissa's fingers flew across the keyboard. She managed to beat the complicated system not long after.

Turning to look at Benjamin, she asked quietly, "Mr. Graham, what do you think?"

The man said nothing in response and merely stared at her intently. Chapter 26

Benjamin cast a meaningful glance at Arissa and ordered, "Ethen, set up her office!"

His expression was unreadable, puzzling Arissa further. Why does he keep looking at me that way? It's as if he's harboring doubt toward me.

She got up and said with a smile, "Thank you for the approval."

Benjamin glanced at her and returned to his seat behind the office desk, his sharp gaze remaining fixed on Arissa.

"Go ahead and tell me your conditions, expected salary, and benefits."

She did not expect him to agree so easily, and the corners of her mouth lifted.

"The terms that were discussed earlier are fine. You can decide if I deserve more!" Arissa would not raise her asking price.

Benjamin raised his brows at her agreeable manner and glanced at Ethen, then back at Arissa.

"You're under a probation period of one month, and your salary will be based on your previous one during this time. I need to see results within a month to decide if you'll be converted into a permanent employee and get a raise."

Arissa nodded and said, "All right!"

There was not much to discuss.

Benjamin shot a meaningful glance at Ethen, who immediately caught on.

He bowed and said to her, "Ms. York, would you like me to take you to your office now or..."

"Let's go and meet everyone else first. However, I need some time to tend to my personal matters today. I'll officially start tomorrow. Is that okay?" Arissa looked at both of them and asked.

"No problem! Come this way. I'll show you around!" Ethen immediately agreed and brought her out.

Arissa bid Benjamin goodbye before following Ethen out.

She secretly breathed a sigh of relief when she was outside, having escaped from the man's imposing gaze.

Benjamin's dark eyes followed her retreating figure, and an unfathomable expression hung on his face.

"Ms. York, this way!" Ethen was delighted that they finally managed to recruit Arissa.

She liked his easy-going manner, too. Arissa laughed and said, "We're going to be colleagues now. You don't need to address me as Ms. York. Just call me by my name!"

"How could I? You're my idol!" Ethen was filled with excitement.

"Oh?"

Arissa was taken aback and said with a smile, "It's such an honor, but it's better for you to call me by name as we'll be working together henceforth."

Ethen laughed and said, "I'll call you Ms. York and tell the Engineering Department that it's your turf

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now!"

Arissa nodded. "All right!"

It does not matter how he addresses her.

Ethen brought her to the department, explaining the organizational structure and the different levels while she listened attentively.

Soon, they arrived at the IT department, which was under the Engineering Department.

Ethen clapped his hands, but no one noticed as they were all wearing earphones.

"They're all too absorbed in their tasks," Ethen said apologetically.

"It's okay. That's normal!"

Arissa did not take it to heart, knowing people in her field often had to be absolutely focused when working. Programming, in particular, had no room for interruptions.

Ethen took her to the office and said, "See if there's anything else you need and let me know."

Arissa looked around the office and was satisfied. "It looks fine. I'll let you know if I need anything else."

"Okay!" Ethen said while nodding.

She turned to leave but found that everyone had gathered by the door, taking her by surprise.

"Welcome, Ms. York!"

Everyone was applauding as welcome, and there were flower baskets too.

Arissa was taken aback. She did not expect them to be so welcoming and rubbed her nose.

"Thank you!"

"Ms. York, we have been looking forward to your arrival for a long time. You're finally here!"

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"That's right. Ever since Mr. Frank told us you'd join us, we've been looking forward to it. At long last!"

"Ms. York, I'm your fan. Please remember me!"

"Ms. York, I'm from the same school as you, but I'm your junior. Remember me too! I'm Six!"

"Go away, Six. Ms. York, notice me! I'm Three."

There were more than ten of them, and they were all talented IT people with their own unique skills. Arissa could not tell who was who in such a short time, so she merely smiled adoringly at her colleagues.

Ethen explained, "They like to use code names to address one another. It's according to the order of which they joined the team."

After hearing his explanation, Arissa nodded understandingly and introduced herself, "Hello, everyone. I'm Arissa York."

"Welcome, welcome!"

Everyone was very friendly. "Haha! Our department has a beauty now. Ms. York's beauty is for sure able to make the others pale in comparison. The other departments will be green with envy!"

"Ms. York, do you have a boyfriend?"

"Ms. York, you can consider me if you don't!"

"Get lost, loser. Ms. York should consider me first!"

Arissa watched their antics and was amused by them. "Sorry, but I already have children!" I don't even have a boyfriend, but I do have kids.

Everyone's eyes widened in surprise.

"No way. Ms. York, you have kids?"

"Ms. York, you're so young. I can't tell."

Arissa laughed and said, "I gave birth when I was young."

Ethen, too, was taken aback. He did not expect her to have children as her resume stated that she was single. Could it be that she gave birth before marriage?

At that thought, Ethen secretly felt sorry for her. I wonder which jerk took advantage of her.

"That's enough. Look at the lot of you, getting all riled up. Get back to work. Don't scare her away!" Ethen gestured for the crowd to disperse.

"Ms. York, we'll treat you to a meal later!" they all said to her.

"I'm afraid I can't make it today. I still have things to attend to, and I need to leave in a bit.

I'll officially start tomorrow, so I'll treat you all to a meal then!"

She was their superior, and it would not be appropriate for her to let them pay.

"Okay!"

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Everyone laughed and did not have any objections. The atmosphere was lively. They slowly dispersed after greeting her and got back to their tasks.

Arissa was initially worried that the environment there would be solemn. Unexpectedly, she was wrong. It was very upbeat and casual. Thus, she was already looking forward to starting her new job.

"I still need to go over the procedures, right? I'll do it now and officially start work tomorrow."

Arissa wanted to get everything settled on the day itself.

"No rush. The contract isn't done yet, so you can leave first."

Ethen saw that she was busy, so he was in no rush to run over the procedures with her.

"Okay. In that case, I'll sign the contract once it's done. I'll be taking my leave then!" She shook his hand and continued, "I'll treat you some other day!"

She would not have thought about going back there if it was not for him.

"I should be the one treating you since your arrival will lighten my burden."

Arissa's addition to the company meant that he no longer had to worry about recruitment as she was a perfect fit. "I'll send you off, Ms. York."

She laughed and said goodbye to the rest, "I'll be leaving first!"

No one responded as they were all working with their earphones on. She would have felt awkward if it was not for the warm welcome she received just now.

Noticing her awkwardness, Ethen chuckled.

"They're always like that. I hope that you'll get used to it soon. If you need anything, you can let them know or you can just text them in the group!"

## Chapter 28

Arissa nodded. She agreed to let Ethen add her to the chat group.

Besides, they exchanged their WhatsApp IDs.

After they walked into the elevator, Ethen carefully asked, "Ms. York, I didn't know you were married. All this while I thought you were single."

Arissa was stunned for a moment. Then, she smiled faintly. "I'm not technically married. Is there a problem?"

"Nope!" Laughing, Ethen replied, "I never expected you had children already. How old are they?"

"They're five years old, and the reason I wanted to leave is so that I can settle their school enrollment procedures by today."

Since I brought the kids back, I need to send them to preschool. I feel worried if I leave them at home all the time.

"Do you need any help?" Ethen asked with concern.

"It's okay. I had already contacted the school before I came back. I'm going to settle the paperwork today. But, thanks for the offer anyway," Arissa replied politely.

Ethen nodded.

Before they walked out of the elevator, Arissa wondered if she should ask about Benjamin's personal information from Ethen.

Then, some people greeted Ethen and curiously inquired who she was. Ethen patiently introduced her to everyone, and she responded with a polite smile.

"Ms. York, what do you think of our company?" Ethen asked as he sent her out of the door.

Arissa answered, "Not bad. I love the lively working environment here."

Ethen was nonplussed. "That's because you haven't really started working here yet. Once you start working, you'll know. Mr. Graham is very strict with his workers, and I sincerely hope he will not scare you away."

Arissa raised an eyebrow. "Yes, I noticed that when I had a short conversation with him earlier. But it's all right. I'll get used to it!"

around data and figures, it was cut and dry. She had nothing to worry about, especially her boss' mood. No one could deny her work if she did it decently.

Ethen was impressed by her positive attitude. "Just contact me anytime if you need my help."

Arissa nodded. After some thought, she said, "You don't have to follow me to the car. But, Mr. Frank, may I ask you something?"

"Sure! Please ask away." Ethen was taken aback as he saw her hesitation.

"Does Mr. Graham have a child?" Arissa inquired carefully in a low voice. She was afraid that someone would get the wrong idea about her if they overheard her asking Benjamin in person.

Benjamin did not trust her that much in the first place. If she asked about his private life, he would

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think she was interested in him.

Ethen was stunned for a moment as he was a little surprised by Arissa's question.

He answered with a smile, "Oh, didn't you know? Mr. Graham has a son."

Does Ms. York have a crush on Mr. Graham?

Ethen stared at Arissa. He noted the shock written on Arissa's face, but he could see that there was not the slightest hint of disappointment.

He was confused because Arissa looked quite excited as he broke the news.

"All right, thank you. I shall leave now then" Arissa said as she came back to her senses.

Then, she turned away and left.

Ethen glanced at her and left after a moment.

Arissa crossed the road and sat on a bench beside the road. Her heart was racing.

Benjamin has a son. Is that my son? How is he? Is Benjamin treating him well?

But when she thought about Danna and Benjamin's relationship, and then the child, her mind was in a mess.

She quickly gave Bradley a call.

Her voice was trembling as she spoke. "Bradley, help me to look up Benjamin Graham. And try to get a picture of his son."

"Boss, don't you think it's too risky to investigate Benjamin Graham?" Bradley asked hesitantly. "Unless... You suspect Benjamin's son is the child that someone took away from you?" He was shocked by this realization.

"I'm not sure. I've met Benjamin, and he looks a lot like my children." Arissa lowered her voice as she thought it was inappropriate to talk about it openly near the main road.

"Anyway, help me check up on Benjamin Graham," she repeated her words.

"All right!"

She hung up and rested for a while before she took a taxi back.

## Chapter 29

Benjamin stood beside the window on the top floor of Graham Group and looked out from it. His gaze focused on the woman sitting on the bench at the roadside, and he was slightly confused.

Why is she still here? And why is she sitting there?

Benjamin frowned as he realized his attention was all focused on a woman he had just met. Ethen entered through the door and saw Benjamin standing there with his hands shoved into his pocket. It looked like he was enjoying the scenery. He seemed domineering even from his back, and Ethen's respect toward him grew even more.

Ethen greeted, "Mr. Graham!"

Benjamin turned his head to him and asked in a low tone, "Did Arissa request for anything?"

"No, she didn't. Ms. York said she was satisfied with the working environment, and everyone was excited for her to join the team." Ethen could not hold his joy when he reported to Benjamin.

Benjamin narrowed his eyes.

Everyone liked her?

Benjamin let out a light snort and continued, "Don't judge a book by its cover. Wait until she proves herself worthy."

When he turned to the window again, Arissa had disappeared from his sight. His eyebrows furrowed deeper.

"Yes, Sir!"

Ethen stared at Benjamin for a moment. He felt that Benjamin did not know Arissa well and may have misunderstood her. Thus, he felt the need to explain to him.

"Mr. Graham, I may not have known Ms. York for a very long time, but I feel she's not a scheming woman."

She is a graceful and open-minded person. It must be someone else who hacked Mr. Graham's computer last night.

"Mr. Graham, what do you think?" Ethen asked carefully.

"Ethen, I think you have preconceived ideas about her already. Some people hide their intentions very well because they plotted the plan in detail." Benjamin shot a burning gaze at Ethen.

"Yes!" Ethen blurted, taken aback. He lowered his head and dared not talk back.

Mr. Graham already had the idea that Arissa came here for a reason. I might worsen her impression in his heart if I explained too much.

"Oh, yes. Before Ms. York left, she asked me a question about you."

Benjamin raised his brow and stared at him. He asked in an icy tone, "What did she ask?"

Ethen replied softly, "She asked whether you have a son."

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A sharp look fled across Benjamin's eyes. He was confused why Arissa would inquire about his

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son.

He continued, "What else did she ask?"

"Nothing else. I told Ms. York you have a son, and then she left the scene. She looked shocked" Ethen carefully answered as he observed the expression on Benjamin's face. He could not tell how Benjamin felt, but he was eager to know about his thoughts on the matter.

"Mr. Graham, could it be possible that Ms. York has a crush on you?"

Benjamin shot him a sharp glare. At that moment, a series of footsteps sounded outside the door.

Danna entered the room and shouted, "Benjamin!"

Benjamin's face darkened. His cold glare swept over Ethen.

Ethen was speechless.

Why is Mr. Graham glaring at me? It wasn't me who let her in.

"Benjamin!"

Danna greeted Ethen with a smile when she realized he was in the room as well. "Hello, Ethen. I'm not interrupting something, right?"

Smiling politely, Ethen replied, "No. We're done."

He nodded at Benjamin and turned to leave.

Luckily Ms. York is gone. What a fuss it would be if they met each other.

"Benjamin, I brought you some desserts."

Benjamin stared at her intently and icily. "What do you want?"

Danna was stunned. Recently, she felt that Benjamin was more distant from her, which made her heart ache.

"Benjamin, I'm sorry. It's my fault, and I won't do it again. Please forgive me." She walked forward and tugged on Benjamin's shirt.

Benjamin moved away and had a mildly irritated look on his face. He growled, "You should not apologize to me. You should apologize to my son."

Danna started to panic as she saw Benjamin in rage. She stammered as she explained herself. "I-1 went there once, but the butler won't let me in. I didn't get to meet Gavin!"

Benjamin's stern look froze on his face. He uttered with a fierce tone, "Don't hurt him even if you can't bring yourself to love him. From now on, leave him alone. Please leave if you have no other business with me. I'm busy with my work."

### Chapter 30

"Benjamin!" Feeling devastated, Danna ran up to him and hugged him from behind.

"I was wrong, Benjamin. After all these years, you're still cold and hostile toward me. My heart hurts so much just from thinking about it. Can't you just forgive me? I'm really sorry. I-1 shouldn't have set you up. But I really like you, and I want to be with you! Why aren't you able to forgive what I did? It's not that I don't love Gavin. I'm just worried that I was pampering him too much!"

Mustering up her courage, Danna continued with a quivered voice, "Does this mean that you're not going to be with me anymore, Benjamin?"

She only wanted to stay beside him. After all, they were in a romantic relationship. Danna wondered whether she was in the wrong all along.

Benjamin felt uncomfortable by Danna's sudden action. Immediately, he freed himself and turned around to see Danna's eyes filled with tears. He frowned heavily and shouted, "You knew I hate being set up!"

Danna shivered uncontrollably as her eyes met with Benjamin's cold glare.

He walked toward the window and looked outside.

In a cold and chilling voice, Benjamin went on, "You were aware of the consequences, and you knew what you were doing. Are you that desperate to be a part of the Graham family?"

Danna was embarrassed upon hearing Benjamin's words. Clenching her fists tightly, she whimpered, "love you. I want to be with you, and I want to get married to you. Am I wrong for thinking that way?"

Benjamin turned on his heel and looked at her with distant, cold eyes. "But I don't love you at all!"

"Impossible!" Danna staggered, unable to accept what Benjamin had said to her. She stepped forward and tried to wrap her arms around his neck. Just as she was about to lean forward and kiss him, Benjamin caught a whiff of the pungent perfume smell on her. Instantly, he felt dizzy and nauseous.

Benjamin pushed Danna away and glared sharply at her.

"Stop doing all the things that I despise!"

Danna felt intensely frustrated. After all these years, Benjamin never forgave her for what she did. Not only that, he became even more hostile toward her.

It's normal for couples to kiss, isn't it? Why is he rejecting my kiss? He even said it's something that he despises?

Danna scoffed quietly.

Benjamin had always indulged her wishes when they were together in the past.

"Why?" As tears brimmed in her eyes, Danna could not help but question him. "Are you in love with someone else?"

Having heard what Ethen had said a while ago, Danna panicked upon seeing how Benjamin behaved toward her.

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"You know I'm not in the mood for this. Just leave."

Benjamin gave her a cold glance before returning to his desk.

"Don't come looking for Gavin. Even if you do, you won't be able to see him at all!"

Danna was infuriated. I've done so much for him, and yet I get nothing in return?

"Benjamin... The elders want us home for dinner."

Benjamin froze. Without lifting his head, he answered, "All right."

As she looked at his cold demeanor, Danna's heart ached badly. Unfortunately, she was madly in love with his handsome face.

As she regained her composure, Danna placed the food next to Benjamin and said, "I'll take my leave, then."

Benjamin remained silent in return.

Upon seeing his muted response, tears welled up in Danna's eyes. She covered her mouth and darted out of the room.

Benjamin cast a glance at the door before returning his gaze to the lunch box Danna had left on the desk. A darkened expression appeared on his face as he was reminded of how Danna had tried to harm his son. .

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Gavin had woken up in the middle of the night from a terrible nightmare. It was only at dawn that he was able to fall asleep again.

I wonder if that kid's awake now?

Meanwhile, Jasper, who was still mistaken for Gavin, was busy stuffing his mouth with food in the dining area, accompanied by the butler.

"Is there any more food left, Mr. Whitley?"

Edwin was shocked to see his enormous appetite.

"You don't eat that much normally, Gavin. Why are you eating so much all of a sudden?"

Jasper blinked and said, "It's because I'm hungry!" Chapter 31

Upon hearing his words, Edwin relented as he patted Jasper's head.

"In that case, just wait for a little while. I'll make some more food for you."

"Thanks, Mr. Whitley!" Jasper grinned.

Having been melted by Jasper's cute smile, Edwin hurried into the kitchen to prepare more food for the little one.

As he sat at the table waiting for more food to be served, Jasper took some pictures and sent them to Zachary.

The food here is so delicious! The best part about staying here is I get to have all the tasty food!"

Zachary could not think of anything to reply to his brother.

Meanwhile, Danna arrived at the lobby after leaving Benjamin's office. Just when she was about to leave, Danna turned around and asked the receptionist, "Is there a Ms. York in the company?"

"I don't think so."

"Just tell me the truth. Is there someone by that name working in the office?"

Danna narrowed her eyes as she glared at the receptionist.

The receptionist, who had received quite a lot of favors from Danna, was startled by her sharp glare.

She tried to recall for a while before replying, "I think Mr. Frank sent a woman off this morning. If I'm not mistaken, her name was Ms. York. Was that the person you were referring to, Ms. Adams? That woman came over for a job interview yesterday too. Just give me some time to check."

The receptionist flipped through the visitor logbook. "Her name is Arissa York!"

Danna's face turned pale.

That bitch again! Why won't she go away?

"Ms. Adams?" The receptionist felt afraid upon seeing Danna's pale face.

Danna cast another glare at her before leaving with her bag.

How dare you try to lay your hands on Benjamin, Arissa York? You'll pay for this! I need to get rid of that woman.

Once she got in the car, she made a phone call immediately. Her eyes were filled with malice and anger.

"I'm sending you a photo later. Just get rid of her for me!"

When Arissa finally came home, she was still in a state of shock. Nevertheless, the kids rushed forward and hugged her as soon as they saw her return.

"How did your interview go, Mommy?"

"Did you get the job, Mommy?"

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"Mommy! Why did you come home so early? Did they decide not to hire you?"

"Tell us, Mommy! Did you get the job?"

Their soft and cute voices made Arissa feel incredibly happy and content.

She bent down and hugged them while planting a kiss on each of their cheeks. "Mommy got the job!"

"Wow, that's awesome!"

Jesse cheered happily. "You don't have to hunt for another job anymore, Mommy!"

Arissa pulled Jesse into her arms and showered the child with kisses.

Her sons were also grinning happily at the good news.

"I knew Mommy's the best! If he doesn't value Mommy's talent, that Benjamin Graham is definitely blind and dumb!" Oliver chuckled.

Looking at the kids in front of her, Arissa thought they were practically mini-versions of Benjamin. Her heart raced at the thought of him.

Was it him back then?

"Congratulations, Mommy!" Gavin smiled brightly as he congratulated Arissa.

Arissa ruffled their hairs as she felt elated.

"Mommy, how much will he pay you?" Zachary asked curiously.

Zachary swore to get back at Benjamin if he didn't hire Arissa for the job.

Arissa led them over to the couch and said, "The amount is what we've negotiated previously. Once I've become a full-time employee a month later, they're going to increase my pay as well."

Graham Group was famously known for having incredible and extensive perks and salaries in the industry. That was also the reason everyone wanted to join the company.

Zachary was happy upon hearing Arissa's answer. He decided to cut Benjamin some slack for the time being.

"Go get ready now, my sweethearts! I'm going to bring you guys to the school to apply for admission!"

"Is it necessary to be this anxious about school, Mommy?" Zachary asked as he exchanged glances with Gavin and Oliver.

They only wanted to stay at home and not attend kindergarten at all.

"I'm going to work tomorrow. I don't have time to take care of you guys. It doesn't feel safe to leave you guys home unattended."

"We'll take good care of ourselves, Mommy!"

Jesse leaned on Arissa's lap and acted coquettishly toward her.

"I don't want to go to school, Mommy!"

## Chapter 32

Arissa smiled and pinched Jesse's nose lovingly.

"There are a lot of little kids your age in school. I'm sure it'll be fun. You should go to school with your brothers. I'll pick you up after school, okay? That way, I don't have to worry much, and you guys won't miss me all day long, right? I'll be worried sick if no one takes care of you at home."

Jesse pouted as she turned to look at her brothers. The young child knew she could not persuade her mother at all.

Finally, Zachary spoke up. "Could we just postpone the plan for a few days? We're still jet-lagged!"

Arissa looked at the energetic and rowdy kids in front of her.

"What difference does it make? I know you're all mature and sensible kids, but you have to go to school someday!"

She could not comprehend why her children were so reluctant to attend school.

"The kids in school are a bunch of whiny babies!" Oliver said with a tone of disdain.

Oliver's words amused Arissa. "You're saying that you're not a kid?"

She pinched his nose affectionately.

Oliver chuckled. "But I won't cry and make a fuss like them!"

"All right. We'll go to school, Mommy." Seeing how worried Arissa was, Gavin was the first to agree to her wishes.

Zachary gave him the side-eye and bargained with Arissa hurriedly, "I don't mind going to school, but can we skip kindergarten instead?"

Arissa looked at him, fully aware of his intentions.

"No, all of you are still too young for elementary school! You'll have to attend kindergarten first!"

Zachary finally gave in, "Fine."

Arissa smiled while she caressed their heads. "Get changed now, kids. We're heading there soon."

"Mommy, it's almost time for them to get off work. Can't we just go in the afternoon?"

Zachary reminded her.

Arissa turned to look at the time. It was indeed almost noon.

She laughed and said, "You're right. I almost forgot about that. We'll go there in the afternoon, then."

After using the bathroom, Arissa started to prepare lunch for them. All four of her children surrounded her and chattered away while she made lunch for them.

After eating, Arissa cleaned up the kitchen and sent the children to take a nap.

Just when she was about to call Bradley, the phone rang. It was from him.

"Have you found out about it, Bradley?"

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"No, I couldn't find much. Benjamin does have a son, but his identity is tightly guarded. He doesn't have any personal photos leaked out either."

is that so?

Arissa frowned. What should I do if I can't see him at all?

However, now that she was working in Graham Group, there would be plenty of chances to get close to Benjamin.

In that case, it was possible for her to try to obtain his DNA so that she could run a paternity test.

She only wanted to know if the child was hers.

I have to think of a way to do so.

"Okay. You can start checking on the other thing for now."

Bradley agreed before he was reminded of something else. "Boss, someone's been looking into your identity."

"Do you know who it is?" Arissa frowned.

Could it be Benjamin or Danna?

"It's the Rogers family!"

"The Rogers family?" Arissa was confused. She had never crossed paths nor interacted with them at all.

"Did you find out their name?"

"I couldn't check who the exact person was, but the signal came from their side. My hunch is that they were hired to do the job," Bradley explained.

After all, the Rogers family was notorious for their shady business in Dellmoor's Durbaine. Almost all the nightclubs and entertainment establishments in the town were owned by them.

"Be careful, Boss," Bradley reminded her.

"I got it. Let me know if you find anything!"

After she hung up the phone, Arissa sat by her bed, deep in thought. Who are the people that want to harm me? There is a good chance that Danna might be the one digging into my past. After all, she is the prime suspect for the woman back then.

Arissa thought for a while and decided to investigate Benjamin's son's real identity. Gavin entered the room just as she was looking at Benjamin's home address on her computer.

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"Mommy!"

Arissa was shocked at his sudden appearance. She smiled at him and asked, "Why aren't you asleep yet?"

"I can't sleep, Mommy! Can I be with you for a while?"

As Gavin glanced at the screen, he saw Arissa searching for his home address.

He froze for a moment before asking her, "Mommy, why are you looking for Benjamin's home address?"

She ruffled his hair and replied, "Something came up, and Mommy has to do some investigating for a bit."

"What's wrong?" Gavin looked at her.

Arissa did not know how to explain it to her son.

"I'll tell you once I get to the bottom of this, okay?"

She caressed his tiny face.

"Okay. I won't disturb you now."

Gavin sat next to her while she busied herself with her computer. Mommy smells really nice. Seeing how affectionate his son was with her, she smiled and allowed him to stay beside her.

After she found Benjamin's home address, Arissa entered a software. Within a few minutes, she was able to tap into Benjamin's home surveillance camera system.

Gavin was extremely impressed to see her incredible hacking skills.

Mommy seems to be a powerful and amazing person.

Carefully, Arissa monitored each surveillance point in the house, especially the dining area.

This was a place where everyone in the house would normally appear every day.

At that moment, the dining area was empty. Therefore, Arissa quickly scrolled backward to view the previous timeline.

Just as she saw a little child's figure, a warning notification popped up on her screen.

Hurriedly, Arissa exited the software, cutting off the tracking.

Dimn it. Had I been a second too late, my location would've been exposed! Benjamin's too cunning. He's really alert and cautious.

Little did she know Zachary had actually hacked into Benjamin's computer last night. Hence, Benjamin was already in full vigilant mode when she hacked into the house's surveillance cameras.

Meanwhile, at the CEO's office in Graham Group, Benjamin was about to close in on the hacker's IP

address when it disappeared abruptly in a housing district nearby. He narrowed his eyes in frustration.

This person is quite persistent. How dare they infiltrate my house? What is their motive?

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"Ethen, I want you to investigate this housing district, including those who frequent or stay in this area!"

"Got it!"

After giving some thought, Arissa felt uneasy and quickly tapped into the surveillance cameras around their housing district.

Even before Ethen began his investigation, all surveillance footage with Arissa and the kids had already been deleted by her.

"Mommy, why did you hack into Benjamin's house surveillance cameras? What are you looking for?"

Gavin was slightly excited when he noticed Arissa becoming emotional at the sight of Jasper's appearance in the surveillance footage.

Was Mommy trying to look for me?

Arissa picked him up and placed her chin on Gavin's back, slowly inhaling the warm and calm scent on him.

Her tense and nervous feelings dissipated almost immediately.

"Mommy heard that there's a little boy who's just about your age in Benjamin's home. I got curious, so I wanted to see how he looks like!"

"Why?" Gavin's voice quivered as he asked Arissa.

Just then, Zachary entered the room and looked at them. "Why are you both still awake!"

Arissa looked at Zachary and felt his stern behavior was very similar to Benjamin's.

"I was preoccupied with something just now. Why are you still awake as well? Have Oliver and Jesse fallen asleep?"

"They're already fast asleep. I couldn't find Jasper, so I went looking for him. So he's really here with you, Mommy!"

Zachary stared at Gavin, making the latter feel guilty. "I just wanted to take a nap with

Mommy!"

Zachary was left speechless upon hearing his answer.

"Okay. You can sleep with Mommy."

Arissa hugged Gavin and teased Zachary, "Do you want to sleep next to me too?"

Zachary exclaimed, "I'm scared that you might kick me when you're asleep!"

Arissa was rendered speechless.

"Don't bother about him. Let's go take a nap, Jasper."

Arissa climbed into her bed and held Gavin in her arms, gently inhaling her son's comforting scent. She felt blissful and contented.

Even though Zachary rejected Arissa's request to sleep together at first, eventually, he climbed onto

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the bed and lay next to Arissa.

She looked at him amusingly. "Aren't you afraid of me kicking you in bed?"

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"Shut up and go to sleep!"

Arissa was bemused when Zachary spoke with a firm tone of voice as he ordered Arissa to go to sleep.

She turned around to hug him and place a kiss on his cheek. "So you're all grown up and eager to bark orders at your mother now, aren't you?"

"Hehe! That tickles, Mommy!" Zachary squirmed as he tried to avoid Arissa's tickling.

"All right, go to sleep!"

Arissa held both of them in her arms as she patted them gently to sleep.

Gavin inched closer and wrapped his arms around her, feeling the warmth emanating from his mother's body.

Upon seeing Gavin's antics, Zachary hugged Arissa while glancing at Gavin.

Her lips curled into a smile as she looked at their identical faces. She patted their heads and closed her eyes.

After an hour of sleep, Arissa woke up abruptly, as she felt Jesse lying on top of her.

"I want to sleep with Mommy too!" Jesse exclaimed. Arissa hugged the petite child and kissed her on the cheek.

Oliver came into the room as well.

"Are you still sleeping, Mommy? I want to sleep next to you too!"

"What time is it now?"

As she held Jesse in her arms, Arissa sat up and looked at the time.

"No more sleeping!"

Zachary and Gavin woke up.

She hugged Jesse and said to the boys, "Go freshen up and get dressed, sweethearts! We're going to school soon!"

Clinging onto Arissa's neck, Jesse planted kisses on her mother's face. Soon, Arissa's face was covered with saliva.

Even so, Arissa was delighted and turned to kiss Jesse's soft cheeks.

She asked Jesse gently, "Do you want to wear a dress to school, Jesse?"

"Yeah!" Jesse clapped happily.

The three boys followed behind Arissa.

Gavin was perplexed. He looked at Zachary and Oliver in confusion.

Jesse's a boy, isn't he? Why is Mommy letting him wear a dress?

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Zachary grinned mysteriously and whispered next to him, "Mommy has always wanted a daughter, so she would occasionally dress Jesse in girl's outfits."

"That's right! Jesse looks really pretty in a dress!" Oliver chimed in.

Arissa turned around to look at the boys and smiled. "Stop muttering and come over here!

You need to wash your faces!"

"Coming!" Zachary ran over to her.

Oliver followed suit. "I'm coming too!"

Gavin rushed toward her as well. "Me too, Mommy!"

Arissa beamed and put Jesse down before handing the kids their toothbrushes.

"We can handle it ourselves, Mommy!"

Zachary grabbed the toothpaste and helped his siblings by squeezing toothpaste on their toothbrushes before squeezing it on his own. Then, all of them started brushing their teeth.

Arissa smiled as she watched the kids brush their teeth in an orderly manner. After that, she proceeded to brush her teeth as well.

All of them could not help but grin as they looked into the bathroom mirror and noticed they were doing the same action simultaneously.

After washing up, Arissa gave them their outfits before helping Jesse with her dress.

Not only that, she even tied Jesse's short hair.

In her pastel pink dress and neat hair, Jesse looked like a beautiful angel.

"Jesse looks really pretty!"

Gavin was dumbfounded. After dressing up as a girl, Jesse looks lovelier than girls!

Even Arissa thought Jesse looked charming and lovely. Feeling contented, she kissed Jesse's forehead affectionately.

"Our little Jesse looks super gorgeous!"

Jesse giggled happily and replied, "Mommy looks pretty too! And my brothers are super handsome as well!"

"You're so sweet!"

Arisa pinched Jesse's cheek playfully and said to them, "Mommy's going to get changed. Wait for me, okay?"

"Take your time, Mommy. We're not in a hurry right now," Zachary replied with a smile.

Arisa glanced at him and teased, "Well, aren't you smart? Trying to buy time so we'll be late for admissions?"

Zachary giggled and pursed his lips almost immediately.

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Arisa ruffled the boy's hair and went to her room to get changed.

After putting on some makeup quickly, she tied her hair into a ponytail.

As Arissa donned her sunglasses, she grabbed her bag and prepared to leave with the children.

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The kids were shocked when they saw how elegant and stunning she looked.

"Wow! You're so beautiful, Mommy!"

Oliver had a look of admiration on his face. I can just stare at Mommy's pretty face all day long!

Gavin, too, was stunned by Arissa's beauty. He could not tear his eyes away from her face.

"Mommy, your fiery red lipstick suits you really well! You look really dashing!" Zachary complimented with a proud look on his face.

"How can I be dashing, Zachary? The correct word should be beautiful."

Arisa raised her eyebrows haughtily.

Meanwhile, Jesse went up to Arissa and hugged her leg. "As soon as you step outside, there will be plenty of men looking at you, Mommy!"

"Haha!"

However, the reason she had to doll herself up was not to attract male attention, but to appear domineering, as she would be enrolling the children in a prestigious school. If Arissa were to wear something shabby, she could not possibly command presence in front of the elites.

"Let's go, children! We're heading to the school now."

The four children fetched her handbag, keys and high heels.

Finally, the family of five were dressed nicely, ready to head downstairs.

Just when they arrived downstairs, everyone was staring at them, admiring their exceptional appearance and style.

Nevertheless, Arissa was used to the ogles and stares from onlookers. She called to the kids hurriedly, "Stop wasting time! Hurry up!"

I'm walking faster than them in my heels! Why are they lagging so far behind me?

Zachary smiled and pulled his siblings quickly ahead.

"We're doing it for your image, Mommy! If some handsome guy appears and shows interest in you, it'll be better for us to keep a distance away from you."

Arisa pinched Zachary's nose playfully and said, "What nonsense are you talking about? Stop overthinking things!"

How could they possibly think of setting me up with someone else?

Gavin smiled at her. "This buffoon's just joking with you, Mommy!"

Arisa was confused when she heard Gavin's sudden name-calling toward Zachary.

"How could you insult your older brother? Did you guys fight?"

"No, we didn't!" Gavin shook his head.

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Upon seeing Zachary's smug expression, Gavin pursed his lips.

"You should address me by my name!"

Gavin froze after Zachary tapped him on his head.

Who knows, maybe I was born earlier than all of them! It should be me who is the eldest child.

Gavin stared at Zachary.

After seeing them not arguing among themselves, Arissa stopped dwelling on the matter and instructed them to hurry up.

However, just as they were about to step out from the main gate, Arissa spotted Ethen nearby.

In a moment of panic, she turned around and pulled the four children aside to hide.

Oh, my gosh! Why is Ethen here?

Arisa stole a glance toward the entrance and saw the car window behind Ethen was slightly open. She could somehow see a figure sitting inside the car.

Benjamin? Why is he here? Did he come here on purpose, or was it just a coincidence? Have we been exposed?

Arisa's mind went blank almost instantly. She was in a mess as she did not know how to deal with the situation.

"What's wrong, Mommy?"

All four kids looked at her with a puzzled face.

It seemed as if they were hiding from crooks.

"Shh!"

Arisa peeked out to monitor the situation and added, "It's my boss!"

Zachary, Oliver, and Gavin instantly knew she was talking about Benjamin.

Why is Daddy here? Is he looking for Mommy, or did he just happen to come here?

"Mommy, look! Is that Benjamin?"

As Jesse peered out, she saw Ethen instead and mistook him for Benjamin.

Hurriedly, Arissa pulled Jesse back and said in a hushed voice, "That's not him!"

If they were to walk out of the entrance, Benjamin would definitely notice the children.

Arisa panicked. She had been caught off guard by his sudden appearance.

However, Ethen noticed Arissa from afar and recognized her almost immediately.

"That looks like Ms. York, Mr. Graham!"

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Unfortunately for Arissa, Benjamin spotted her as well.

Arissa lives here?

"Did you miss out on any minor details?"

Ethen knew what Benjamin meant with his words. He explained, "Ms. York filled in a different home address in her application form. I've checked, and it's definitely not here."

Benjamin's eyes flickered and ordered, "Bring her to me now!"

How dare she fake her home address?

"Yes, Mr. Graham!"

With that, Ethen hurried over and waved at Arissa. "Ms. York!"

Arissa grew frustrated as she saw Ethen walking toward her. She had no choice but to let the kids hide in a corner.

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Flustered, Zachary quickly went into hiding in a corner with his siblings. However, Jesse tripped and fell on the way.

They wanted to help her up instinctively, but Ethen's approaching footstep forced them back inside.

Seeing Jesse falling over, Arissa hurried to help her up while dusting off the dirt on her dress.

"Did you get hurt?"

"Nope!" Jesse replied nervously while stealing glances at Ethen.

Did I just ruin Mommy's job, by any chance? What if her boss resents the fact that she has a child and fires her?

Arissa pinched her daughter's little face.

"Hello there, Ms. York!"

"Oh, hello, Mr. Frank! What brings you here?" Arissa got up to her feet and greeted back casually. She acted as she had just seen him coming by.

"We just happened to pass by and see you here. Mr. Graham hopes to have a talk with you."

Jesse batted her eyelashes while staring at Ethen. Phew! Luckily he is not Mommy's boss.

Ethen noticed that the adorable little girl standing beside Arissa had such exquisite features that she looked like a pretty doll.

"Is this your daughter, Ms. York?" asked Ethen with a smile.

"Ah, yes! She's my daughter," Arissa replied. Ethen knows that I have a child. It does not harm to admit it.

"Hello, sir!" Jesse greeted with a smiley face. Her bright eyes and dimples resembled Arissa. Instantly, Ethen was charmed by the little girl's cuteness.

"Oh, what an adorable girl!" He could not help but reach out to ruffle her hair.

The sight made Arissa break into a smile. She noticed that Benjamin had opened the door and was about to get out of the car.

Thus, she left Jesse to Ethen and went to greet Benjamin.

"Hello, little girl. I'm Ethen. What's your name?" Ethen kneeled and teased Jesse.

"I'm Jesse!" replied Jesse with a broad smile. As she grinned, she revealed the empty space in her mouth that her front teeth used to stay.

The sight was too much cuteness for Ethen to handle. Once again, he patted her head lovingly.

"Jesse, are you living with your Mommy here?"

"Yup!" Jesse nodded with sparkling eyes.

"Is your Daddy here with you too?" Ethen questioned heartlessly. The very next moment, he realized that he had asked an inappropriate question as Arissa was considered a single mom. He started

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casting guilty looks at Jesse as he knew his mistake.

However, Jesse did not seem to be troubled at his question at all. "I don't have a Daddy."

"I'm sorry. I didn't mean it!" Feeling sorry, he patted her on the head.

Glancing at his guilty look, Jesse fumbled a candy from her pocket.

"This candy is for you, sir!"

Ethen was surprised as he did not expect her to be so kind to him.

"Thank you!"

"You are welcome!" Jesse beamed with her head tilted. "Mister, since you've taken my candy, you must promise me to take care of Mommy in the company and don't let anyone bully her!"

Ethen was nonplussed. How touching that she is concerned about her mother at this young age!

"Don't worry. Nobody will bully your Mommy in the company."

"Thank you, sir!" She grinned.

Meanwhile, Arissa was staring at Benjamin, who was getting out of the car. As he stood straight, he

gave out a dignifying aura and stole the crowd's attention at once.

Arissa was so nervous she felt her heart racing as she met his gaz

There is no need to be afraid of him. He could not have found out that he is the father of my child. Otherwise, he would have confronted me ages ago.

"What a coincidence, Mr. Graham! Are you here for some business?" Arissa approached and

stopped a few steps away from him.

She was observing Benjamin's charming features behind her sunglasses.

Benjamin was standing by the car door, wearing a demanding presence.

Sure enough, a born king like him was able to let anyone follow him willingly with merely a glance.

A hint of surprise flashed across his eyes as he saw her attire, which was much more casual compared to the blouse she wore on her interview.

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Arisa's heart skipped a beat as she felt his gaze scanning her from head to toe.

Benjamin lifted his chin, gesturing for her to get in the car.

Bewildered, she asked, "Is there something wrong, Mr. Graham?"

"We will talk about it in the car," said Benjamin in a deep voice while staring straight at her.

His gaze was so sharp that even the sunglasses she was wearing failed to block his aggressive stare.

Arisa cast a glance at her daughter. Seeing that Ethen was looking after her, she bent down and hopped into the car.

Benjamin furrowed his eyebrows when he saw Ethen playing with a little girl. Nevertheless, he turned around and got into the car after her, not forgetting to close the door behind him.

As he got into the car, Arisa felt the pressure instantly in the air. It was her first time to be this close to Benjamin.

She gulped nervously as his scent enveloped her in the tight area. Her heartbeat was racing wildly which did not help to alleviate her stiffness.

As she stole glances at Benjamin, the latter was pursing his lips with a cold, impassive look. She quickly retracted her gaze.

It's starting to get ambiguous in here.

After preparing herself, she decided to break the silence in the air. "Mr. Graham, is there anything wrong?"

Upon her call, Benjamin turned and stared at her. His gaze was so intense that he could have seen through her.

"Do you live here?"

Uh!

"Ah, yes!" Arisa confessed honestly. There's no point lying to him as he had seen it.

"Your profile does not suggest that you live here."

Arisa took a quick glance at him. She was not sure whether she was exposed. Hence, she decided to take the initiative.

"The address on my profile is the place where I used to live. I haven't planned to move here before return. Therefore, I used that address when I joined the company. Is this critical to my job, Mr. Graham? I think it's merely a small matter. Please be straight to the point as I have other pressing matters to handle."

The indifferent look Benjamin was wearing gave her chills. She felt stressed staying in the same space with him. He was unlike her four children, who were energetic and lively. Thinking of her children, she could not help but size him up. She wondered whether she should pluck a bit of his hair and save it for later.

At last, Benjamin said, "Someone hacked into the surveillance camera system of my house. You shall

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be in charge of installing a new system for me."

Arissa's heart skipped a beat. As she blinked nervously, she was grateful she wore sunglasses that concealed her guilty look.

"Shall I go now?"

"You may go after you finish your work."

"Sure!" She smiled.

Benjamin offered the opportunity to visit his house just when she was trying to sneak a chance to do so. Naturally, she would not refuse his request.

I'm sure to see his children when / visit his house.

"Good."

"If so, I'm leaving." Arissa proceeded to open the car door on her side. However, it would not budge.

"This way." Seeing her awkward face, Benjamin gestured her to go down on his side.

Besides, her side was facing the road. It was dangerous for her to get down from that side.

Arissa had no choice but to get down from his side.

A sweet scent caressed his nose tip as she passed by him. It was such a familiar scent to Benjamin that his eyes flickered at once.

Arissa did not notice his strange behavior and got out of the car smoothly.

She turned and inquired, "Mr. Graham, would you mind sending your home address to my phone?"

Benjamin stared coldly at her in response, which gave Arissa a shock. What's wrong with his sudden change of attitude?

Instead of replying to her question, Benjamin asked, "What perfume do you wear?"

His query that came out of the blue had rendered Arissa speechless.

What's the situation now?

Puzzled, she replied, "I'm not wearing any perfume."

Her answer made Benjamin frown. It isn't a perfume? Then, why is there the same flower scent on her that I picked up that night?

"Remember to do your job. Ethen will send you the address shortly." Benjamin pinched his temples. That familiar scent seemed to linger around his nose tip, dazzling him.

What's wrong with me? How can I think of that night...

"Sure!" Arissa closed the door and left.

Benjamin did not shift his gaze away from her as she left, with his eyebrows knitted tightly.

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"So sorry to trouble you, Mr. Frank!" Arissa greeted Ethen with a smile.

"It's nothing. Jesse is so adorable!" Ethen stroked Jesse's head and nodded to Arissa before heading back to the car.

Seeing him leave, Arissa held Jesse in her arms and directed her in the opposing direction.

"Mommy, how is your boss? Is he handsome? Is he a nice person?" Jesse asked curiously.

"I haven't spent enough time with him to know him well. However, he is a handsome guy indeed!"

"Is he an old man?" Jesse blinked her clear eyes naively.

Arissa broke into a smile at her childish question. She shook her head and answered, "Nope. He is just a bit older than me."

Suddenly, she turned in the car's direction. Sensing her gaze, Ethen nodded at her. The latter nodded back too.

Once Ethen got into the car, Benjamin's voice rang behind him, "Who's that little girl?"

"Oh, that's Ms. York's daughter!" Ethen turned around to reply. He realized Benjamin was staring outside with his gaze darkened, pondering to himself.

To be honest, Benjamin was quite surprised that Arissa had a child. Is she married?

Retracting his gaze, he asked, "Isn't she single, according to her profile?"

"Ms. York is single indeed. I did not know that she has a child too until today" Ethen answered innocently.

Benjamin squinted at his reply as resentment clouded on his face.

Why is her information all fake?

"Start the car."

"Okay." Ethen rubbed his nose.

"Send me her phone number."

Ethen took out his phone hastily and read the number out to him.

Finally, he could not help but voice out his curiosity. "Mr. Graham, may I know what you chatted with her just now?"

Benjamin shot him a glare in return.

Ethen did not have the guts to pursue his question. Thus, he sat back in his seat and started the engine.

Benjamin swept one last glance at the entrance, intending to have a better look at the little girl's features, but to no avail.

On the other hand, Arissa was relieved that they had finally left the place.

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She called out to her children, "You may come out now, kids!"

Gavin, Zachary and Oliver showed themselves at once.

"Brothers!" Jesse beamed at the sight of them. "Mommy, I did not let that mister notice their presence just now!"

Arissa caressed her head lovingly. "Oh, what a good girl!"

Jesse grinned cheekily at her praise.

"Mommy, are they gone?" Zachary took a quick glance outside.

"Yes, they are gone." Arissa nodded.

"Mommy, why are they looking for you?" Gavin stared at her seriously.

Arissa shook a bit at his question. She recalled Benjamin's weird behavior just now.

"He invited me to his house to install a new surveillance camera system for him."

Just did Benjamin realize who I am? If he did, is he trying to test me by inviting me to his house? What a scary person.

Oliver's eyes lit at once. Just when he was about to voice out, Zachary managed to cover his mouth in the nick of time.

Arissa looked at them strangely. "What are you guys doing?"

"Nothing at all, Mommy!" Zachary smiled falsely. "I'm just playing with Oliver!"

Oliver cast annoyed looks at Zachary as he was about to lose his breath.

In return, Zachary shot him a nasty look, signaling him to shut up.

He only let go of Oliver once the latter nodded in reply.

"Argh! I was almost suffocated to death, Zachary!"

Gavin and Jesse were amused by their siblings.

Arissa smiled at their silly act and straightened their clothes. She then took them out to call a cab. "Alright, we need to go to school now!"

The four children followed her closely, attracting looks from the residents.

Even the security guard lost his thoughts while staring at the five of them, forgetting to give entry permits to the incoming cars. Annoyed horns rang in the air to pull the guard back to his senses.

Arissa looked around and went to school together with them by taxi.

They planned to walk themselves to school at first. However, Benjamin's sudden arrival had wasted some of their time. Hence, they could only travel to school by car to be on time.

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Arissa received a message in the car. She took her phone out and realized it was a new number. The message wrote: The Graham residence. The number was not the one Ethen used to contact her. Could this be his other number? She replied: Roger that.

Benjamin, on the other hand, raised his eyebrows at her reply. He stared at the two words longingly. "Head back to Yaleview," he ordered. Glancing at him through the rear-view mirror, Ethen reminded, "Mr. Graham, you have a must-attend meeting at half-past four later!" "Change the date!" Noticing the commanding tone in Benjamin's voice, Ethen realized that there was no point arguing with him anymore. He frowned and changed their direction at the junction, heading to Yaleview. Meanwhile, Arissa had arrived at the school with the four children. After registering at the entrance, the security guard led their way into the school while casting confused looks at the children. Why do I find them so familiar? Gavin noticed the gaze and shot him a piercing look. That intimidated the guard at once, causing him to shift his gaze away quickly.

"Does he know you?" Zachary asked in a soft voice.

"I am a student of here too."

Zachary gaped in surprise and thought of Jasper instantly. "Is Jasper here too?"

"I don't think so." Gavin swept a look at Zachary. "It's been some time since I last came to school."

His answer left Zachary dumbfounded.

Wow! So Gavin is not a fan of school either!

Oliver craned his neck and overheard their conversation. "You hate going to school too?"

His loud voice had invited their glares at once.

"Hmm? Who does not like school?" Arissa heard him and turned around to face them.

The trio reacted quickly by smiling at her. "Mommy, we love school!"

"Mommy, it's so pretty here! I like this school's environment." Oliver grinned.

Arissa laughed and held Jesse's hand.

Sure enough, the environment is beautiful here. After all, this is the best school in Dellmoor. She had a good look around and was satisfied with the surroundings.

The four kids were looking around curiously too. They were amazed by the breathtaking green scenery of the school.

"Mommy, there are so many flowers around!" The colorful flowers caught Jesse's eye.

Arissa was relieved that her children were fond of the place.

As they arrived at the principal's office, Robert William, the principal, rose and greeted them warmly.

Arissa had informed him about their arrival before.

"Nice to meet you, Mr. William. I'm Arissa York!" Arissa took off her sunglasses and greeted him with a smile.

"Welcome, welcome!"

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"I'm sure you have their profile earlier before. Feel free to test them anything if necessary!" Arissa tugged her children to the front of Robert.

"I'd gone through their profile. They are all outstanding students!" Robert smiled back at her and

glanced at the four children.

As he saw the three identical faces, not to mention another little girl who looked alike too, he jolted a bit.

"This..."

"Good morning, Mr. William!" Flustered, Gavin voiced out at once. He took a step ahead with his back facing Arissa and quelled Robert with a look, indicating him to refrain from talking too much.

Naturally, Robert was shocked when he saw Gavin mouthing him to shut up.

Arissa noticed Robert's bewildered look. She turned tense at once as she was worried that her children had frightened him.

"Mr. William, is there something wrong with them?"

Robert finally came back to his senses upon Arissa's call. Seeing Gavin's nervous look, he was confused and astounded at the same time.

I remember this little boy from the Graham family. After all, he gave me a deep impression as Mr. Graham took him here by person last time. Besides, there was no mistaking as he resembled Mr. Graham so much.

"Mr. William?" Arissa called uncertainly, afraid deep inside that he would refuse her children.

"Oh, so they are quadruplets?" Robert shifted his gaze back to her and concealed his bewilderment.

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"Yes, that's right!" Arissa replied with a smile. There is one more, actually.

"They are adorable!" Robert praised.

"Greetings, Mr. William," greeted Zachary and Oliver. Their adorable baby voice won the fondness of everyone at once, not to mention their politeness.

"Greetings, Mr. William!" Jesse followed them too. Her voice was even cuter than the rest.

"Oh, hello!" Robert was so fond of them he could not stop smiling.

"So, Mr. William, do they need to go through any tests?"

"No need, just fill in the registration form would do!" Robert realized something once he finished his words. However, Gavin's piercing stare let him swallow back his confusion.

Hence, he proceeded and handed the forms to Arissa.

"Thank you!" answered Arissa.

"You are welcome. It's our honor to have your children as our students!" He grinned.

Arisa sensed an inexplicable strange feeling, but she did not address it and proceeded to fill in the forms.

"Mommy, shall we fill in the forms ourselves?" Zachary and Oliver followed her.

"I shall do it as there is some information you don't know. Just wait obediently would do, you all!"

Honestly, there would not be any difficulties for the kids to fill in the forms. Arissa just wanted to experience the feeling of registering her children to school.

Jesse stood beside her to watch her mother fill in the forms.

Arisa smiled at her sight and started scribbling on the papers.

Meanwhile, Robert had begun giving candies to the other kids. "What's your name?"

"Mr. William, I'm Zachary York!" Zachary introduced himself politely.

"Mr. William, I'm Oliver York!"

Robert appeared to be puzzled at their self-introductions. He turned his gaze at Gavin.

"Mr. William, I'm Jasper York!"

"Mr. William, I'm Jesse York!" Jesse ran toward Robert while beaming. Her chubby face and tiny ponytail were so adorable that she charmed him instantly.

"Here, Jesse, this candy is for you!" Robert was so fond of her he gave her a few more candies.

Jesse was delighted at his offer. "Thank you!"

"You are welcome!" Robert patted her head.

While he was trying to conceal his bewilderment, his eyes kept darting between the four of them.

#### Chapter 40

Didn't Mr. Graham have a child only? Why are there four around now? No, that Jasper is sure to be Gavin.

Robert tried to express his confusion by making eye contact with Gavin.

After making sure that Arissa was too busy to notice them, Gavin tugged Robert aside.

Noticing his intentions, Zachary took Jesse to Arissa's side, afraid that she would rise suspicions at their act.

Oliver took a glance at Gavin and chose to follow Zachary.

Once he made sure that the air was clear, Gavin pulled out his phone and wrote in a text message: I'm not Gavin Graham now. My identity now is Jasper York. Please help us to keep it a secret.

Robert was amused at his message. His gaze was asking: Why?

Gavin typed: It's a secret, and I will tell you later. My Mommy and Daddy are not aware of it. Please keep this secret to yourself!

His message was mind-blowing to Robert. So they are quintuplets instead of quadruplets? He raised five fingers to Gavin to confirm his confusion.

Staring sternly at Robert, Gavin nodded.

Robert was completely nonplussed. Finally, he agreed by nodding his head.

Seeing that he was willing to cooperate, Gavin beamed at him and said, "Your candies are tasty!"

Robert stroked his head affectionately. "There are still some more here if you like it!"

"Hehe!" Gavin chuckled.

Arissa tugged her lips into a smile as she saw how her children were mixing well with the principal.

Jasper is such a sweetheart that he managed to get along with Mr. William in no time.