Married at First Sight [On-Going]

Chapter 4569

River had deleted the photos because the ones taken secretly showed clear, frontal shots of the two children.

He was doing it to protect them.

"Mr. York, I understand. I'm sorry," the entertainment reporter said quickly.

River warned coldly, "Don't let it happen again. If you do, I'll make sure you're blacklisted from this industry."

With that, River turned and walked away with his two bodyguards.

The reporter watched him leave, then nervously opened his phone's photo album.

To his surprise, River had only deleted the photos that showed the children's faces. All other photos—ones of River and Romina together, even ones where the kids' faces weren't visible—remained untouched.

What did that mean?

Was River okay with the public knowing he and Romina were together?

Could it be true-they were secretly married?

If that was the case, maybe Romina had been the one to insist on secrecy.

Were they really a couple with kids?

With that theory in mind, the reporter's thoughts began to spiral.

Maybe this was the Lafond family's plan all along. If they couldn't acquire Yantail outright, maybe they planted someone inside—River—who rose up through the ranks and became the second-largest shareholder. Maybe his whole rise to power was orchestrated by the Lafonds.

Maybe River York, the so-called business prodigy, was just a well-placed pawn.

The reporter was practically buzzing with excitement over his speculation, convinced he had uncovered a hidden conspiracy.

But what he overlooked was this—when River first came to Eaglioncile, Yantail was on the brink of collapse. If the Lafond Group really wanted to buy it, they could have done so easily. There was no need for a long game of infiltration.

Back at the dessert café, River rejoined Romina and the kids.

"Did you take care of it?" Romina asked casually as she fed Bethany a snack.

"I deleted all the pictures of us and the kids. It was an entertainment reporter. He recognized us and took photos while we were shopping. He thought we were a family of four—said maybe we were secretly married," River said.

Romina's expression darkened. "You idiot. Secretly married? Please. Anyway, now that you're back, take your niece and nephew. I'm heading off. I actually have things to do. I don't want to end up on tomorrow's entertainment headlines."

River didn't stop her.

But Bethany wasn't ready to say goodbye. She clung to Romina and kept calling her "Aunt."

Romina's heart melted again. Honestly, she wanted to take this sweet baby home.

"Belle," she said gently, "when Auntie has time, I'll ask your mom to bring you out to play. But I've got to work now, okay?"

Bethany gave a tiny "Oh" in response, then waved her little hand to say goodbye.

Romina kissed her soft cheek one last time before walking away.

She had originally come out just to buy clothes for River and then meet Maddox for dinner at the Eaglioncile Hotel.

After she left, River waited until the kids finished their snacks, then asked them if they wanted to keep shopping.

Both of them shook their heads.

Shopping was exhausting.

Especially for Maverick. Bethany was fine—she had Uncle River or the nanny to carry her.

But Maverick was a big boy now. It would be awkward for someone to carry him, and Uncle River hadn't brought a stroller.

When their mom took them out, she always brought one. That way, when they got tired, she or the nanny could push them around.

Uncle River was a good guy—but he just didn't think of those details.

Maverick gave his uncle a mental pass and didn't complain.