Married at First Sight [On-Going]

Chapter 4592

The kids gradually figured out the drill—when Mom was mad, no one in the family would save them.

So anytime they messed up, their biggest fear wasn't Grandma or Grandpa—it was Mom finding out.

If Mom caught them, even a small mistake could lead to a beating. Jasmine used a small bamboo stick. It didn't do real damage, but it stung like crazy.

That said, as long as they weren't in major trouble, Jasmine was a gentle and patient mom. She just expected them to behave.

Ring, ring, ring...

As Josh thought about his wife and son, his phone rang. He glanced at the screen—it was Jasmine.

He quickly answered. Before she could speak, he said, "Babe, I'm not coming home for lunch. Don't wait up for me. You and Milo go ahead and eat. I'll be home tonight—I'm not going out or attending any events. We'll go shopping and catch a movie together. Just the two of us. I won't bring Milo."

He added, sweetly, "Oh, and guess what? Zachary and I are planning to take a week off soon. We'll take you and our son out for a trip. Think about where you want to go. I'll book the hotel in advance."

A tiny voice chimed in from the other end.

"Dad."

It was Milo.

"Are you leaving me at home again?" the boy complained. "Sneaking off with Mom to eat yummy food and go have fun? Where are you taking us to play?"

Josh burst out laughing. "So it's you, Milo! You're at Mom's office?"

"Yeah," Milo said. "It was boring at home, so I followed Mom to work. But it's even more boring here. Mom's super busy. I got so bored I took her phone and called you."

Then came the guilt trip.

"Dad, you're bad. You always leave me at home and only take Mom to have fun."

Milo wasn't wrong. His parents *did* leave him behind, usually with a nanny or his grandparents. By the time they came home, he was already asleep.

Sometimes he'd catch on to their plans and get ready to tag along—only to find they'd snuck out without him.

He was starting to realize that grown-ups were sneaky.

"I want to go shopping and watch a movie too," Milo huffed.

Josh replied, "I was just trying to make Mom happy, buddy. I'm super busy too, you know. I've got to attend meetings, talk business, go to dinners in the evening... I barely have time to sleep, let alone take your mom to a movie."

He softened his tone. "Besides, Mom's busy too. Your Aunt Serenity isn't back yet, so all her work got passed to Aunt Eliza and your mom. They've got a lot on their plates."

"In the afternoon, I'll call Grandma and ask her to pick you up from Mom's office. You can go back home and play with your cousin. Our house is big, and you've got plenty to do."

Milo pouted. "It's boring. We just end up fighting. I'm older than him by a year or two. Even if I win, it's not a fair win."

Josh laughed. "You say that now, but remember—your cousin's parents both teach martial arts, and his whole family runs a martial arts school. He's been training since he could walk. You're older, sure, but that won't matter if you slack off."

"If you don't keep practicing, he's going to catch up—and beat you. Imagine being the older brother but still losing. That'd be embarrassing."

Milo had no comeback for that.

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