

The More the Merrier Chapter 791

Chapter 791 Who Am I Marrying

Arissa's brows knitted together. She stared at him and questioned, "Are you going to fight for their custody?"

"Aren't they my children too?" Benjamin snorted. When he saw her pursing her lips and becoming annoyed, he added, "You can be with them all the time as long as you stay here."

Arissa cast a look at him. "How long can I stay here, Graham?" Instead of getting an ambiguous answer, she needed clarification. "For as long as you wish. As for the children, they'll live here forever."

He put both his hands in his pockets and stared at her intently. "Can I make this place my forever home too?"

"What do you think?" Benjamin swept his gaze over her. Arissa blushed instantly as her heart skipped a beat. "What if you get hitched? Am I still allowed to stay here?"

Benjamin's eyes narrowed a fraction. "Who am I marrying?"

"I don't know! Ask yourself." With that, she turned and went to the dining area. By then, the children had returned from the bathroom. She ushered them to their seats.

Moments later, Benjamin joined them. As he took his seat at the head of the table, Edwin handed him a hot towel to wipe his hands.

Arissa side-eyed him. Why is he acting as if he's eating at a restaurant?

"Wipe your hands." Benjamin passed him a towel. "No, thanks. I prefer to wash mine." Arissa cast him a contemptuous glance before heading off to use the kitchen sink. When she returned, Benjamin asked, "Isn't it faster to wipe them?"

"Why should I do that when we're at home?"

Edwin looked at them, all smiles. "Enjoy your meal, Mr. and Mrs. Graham."

Nodding, Arissa sat down and started serving the children. "Let's eat."

Benjamin requested, "Pass me the mushroom dish in front of you."

Arissa's gaze fell on the dish and then at Benjamin.

“Can’t you get it yourself?”

Edwin caught the hint and urged, “Mrs. Graham, I think Mr. Graham would love for you to serve him some.”

Arissa’s face reddened almost instantly while the six children burst into giggles.

“Mommy, hurry up and give it to Daddy! He’s waiting.”

Gavin hummed with his mouth full, and it sounded as though he was prompting Arissa to give Benjamin a wedding.

When she heard that, her face turned crimson red.

“Here you go.”

She took a few pieces of mushrooms and put it on his plate.

“Lovely! You’ve granted my only desire.” Benjamin’s gaze was intense when he said that in an ambiguous tone.

Arissa turned and glanced at him but felt shy when her gaze met his.

“Dig in!”

Afterward, they all started eating.

“Don’t keep eating the pasta. Try the other dishes too.” Benjamin acted like a gentleman and served her more food.

Arissa shot him a look and responded, “I know. I prefer starting with the main course.”

Benjamin chuckled lowly, and utter embarrassment swamped Arissa.

Seeing how bashful she was, the six children promptly burst into laughter.

Flustered, Arissa gave them a death stare. “What’s so funny? Pay attention when you eat.”

However, her response made the kids chuckle even more.

Not knowing what to do next, Arissa lowered her head and continued eating.

Benjamin was absolutely delighted when he stole a glance at her flushed cheeks.

Then, he turned to the children and said solemnly, "All right, that's enough. Go on and eat your food."

The kids obliged quickly at his command.

They also served their mother some food.

"Try this, Mommy!"

"And this too, Ms. York."

"Thank you, Sweethearts!" Arissa was over the moon.

After dinner, Benjamin sent all the kids into his study to coach them on their homework.

At that moment, Arissa's heart was full.

"Mrs. Graham, why don't you bring them some drinks?"

Edwin had prepared coffee and milkshakes for Benjamin and the children.

"Sure!"

Arissa received the tray and headed to the study.

When she got there, she saw Benjamin tutoring Tim patiently.

Gavin, Zachary, Oliver, Jasper, and Jesse joined in and listened attentively to their father's explanation. They did not act proud despite having understood it already.

Arissa smiled as she put the tray down discreetly and sat by the side.

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Chapter 792 Do Not Make Trouble Here Benjamin glanced at her and said, "Go get some rest. I'll tutor them for a while longer." Arissa nodded gratefully. "Okay, I'll go sit down."

Benjamin gave her a look before turning back to the children and continuing to explain to them. Arissa sat down by the side and quietly watched the father and children talk. Her heart melted at the sight.

"Do you all understand?" Benjamin asked, looking at the six children. "Yes, I understand, Mr. Graham!" Tim answered. He was the first of the boys to speak up. "Me too!" Gavin said with a big smile.

Zachary, Oliver, and Jasper nodded in unison and replied, "I understand, too." The last to answer, Jesse glanced at her brothers and Benjamin before lowering her head shyly and mumbling, "I still don't understand!"

Benjamin was surprised. He had thought that it would be Tim who would not understand, but it turned out that it was Jesse. Benjamin pulled Jesse into his lap and asked, "Tell me which part you don't understand."

Jesse's cheeks turned bright red. She looked away from Benjamin and confessed, "You talk too fast!" Arissa could not help laughing at her answer. She didn't understand a single word at all!

Benjamin looked straight into Jesse's eyes and said, "Okay, I'll speak slowly. I'll start again from the beginning, okay?"

Jesse's blush deepened when her brothers all started laughing at her. "Okay!" Arissa could not help giggling at the sight of her blushing daughter.

"Mommy, you're not allowed to laugh at me!" Jesse pouted. Her big eyes were welling up with tears.

"Okay, okay! I'll stop laughing. Don't worry, Sweetheart. Just listen to your daddy. You can do this. I believe in you," Arissa said, trying to cheer on her youngest daughter.

"Okay!" Jesse flashed her mother a bright smile, revealing her tiny teeth and pink gums. "Now, don't you make trouble here!" Benjamin warned Arissa with a look.

Arissa shook her head and said nothing in reply to his threat.

Gavin, Tim, Zachary, Oliver, and Jasper burst out laughing.

Embarrassed, Arissa stood up and said, "Well, you continue tutoring them. I'm going to take a bath!"

Benjamin watched her walk away for a moment before turning his attention back to Jesse.

He explained again carefully and slowly to her.

Tim also sat nearby and listened while Gavin, Zachary, Oliver, and Jasper carried on with their own learning.

Arissa cast one final glance at them before heading upstairs.

Ethen and Jack appeared and caught sight of Benjamin tutoring the children. It was a rare sight, and they crowded around to watch.

Benjamin glared at them over the children's heads. Seeing that look from Benjamin, the two men did not dare to further disrupt the children's learning and left to grab some food.

"Ethen, the sight of Mr. Graham tutoring the children is so strange!" Jack commented.

Ethen rolled his eyes and said, "What's so strange about it? Wasn't Gavin also tutored by Mr. Graham back then?"

Jack glanced at Ethen and admitted, "You've seen that before because you've always been with Mr. Graham. I've never had the chance to see something like that!"

The corners of Ethen's lips twitched. He sighed and complained, "Ugh, Mr. Graham has deducted my bonus this year!"

Jack's eyes lit up, and he asked in an excited voice, "Really?"

Ethen rolled his eyes at him. "Don't gloat over my bad luck, less your bonus is deducted as well!"

Jack grinned. "Suddenly, I feel so much better about my job!"

Ethen groaned, "Oh, shut up!" He glanced upstairs. "I wonder when the two of them will make up! Otherwise, it will be hard on us!"

Edwin was amused when he heard the two men's conversation. "Haven't you guys heard? They have reconciled!"

Ethen and Jack turned to look at Edwin excitedly and asked, "Really? When did that happen?"

"They arrived home together, and I saw Mr. Graham holding hands with Mrs. Graham. Would they be so intimate if they hadn't reconciled?" Edwin said with a happy smile.

There would be no more tension in that house.

Ethen's and Jack's eyes widened in surprise. "Really? They held hands?"

"Yes, it's true!" Edwin nodded.

Arissa cleared her throat delicately as she descended the staircase.

"Would you guys mind keeping your voice down when you're gossiping? You're putting me in a very difficult position!"

She had to remind them as they were getting out of hand with their gossip. Besides, she did not want their salaries and bonuses to be deducted any further.

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Chapter 793 May I Take Them Away Now

Ethen and Jack smiled sheepishly. "I don't think you're in any difficult position, Mrs. Graham!" Ethen joked. Arissa threw Ethen a sharp glance and reminded him, "You'd better be careful before Mr. Graham deducts all your bonuses!"

Ethen pursed his lips and kept silent. Jack, too, kept quiet. None of them dared to gossip anymore. Edwin chuckled. "Mrs. Graham, come and help yourself to some fruits!"

Arissa walked over to Edwin and asked, "Edwin, do we have any picture frames at home? The kind with a glass window!" Edwin racked his mind, frowning as he did so. "Well, yes, but how big must the frames be?"

"Big enough to display a certificate!" Arissa was not sure if Benjamin had already mentioned the matter to Edwin. However, the children only had several pieces of certificates. There was not quite enough to decorate the walls yet.

Nonetheless, she had nothing better to do. So, she thought she would frame up the children's certificates and awards anyway. "I'll try and find some!" Edwin said. Then he turned and hurried off to look for the frames.

Jack followed him. "I'll go with Edwin and help him!"

Ethen glanced at Arissa shyly. "Mrs. Graham, have you made up with Mr. Graham?"

Arissa was speechless for a moment. "Why are you calling me Mrs. Graham too?"

"I'm just practicing for the future!" Ethen replied with a smile. "So, have you two really reconciled?"

Arissa's face burned red. "Almost."

Ethen was happy to hear her reply. Mr. Graham must be in a good mood! No wonder he's helping the kids with their homework.

"Well, I'm gonna go help Edwin, too!"

Ethen quickly ran off to join Edwin and Jack to find frames.

Arisa was amused by their eagerness. She popped a piece of fruit into her mouth before walking into the study.

Benjamin was still explaining earnestly to their youngest daughter, but the girl's eyelids were already drooping. She rubbed her eyes in a way that almost made Arissa laugh.

"Benjamin, you've been tutoring them for almost an hour! It's about time for a break!"

"Let me finish teaching Jesse!"

When Benjamin noticed Jesse's sleepy eyes, he sighed to himself and said sternly, "Jesse!"

Jesse immediately flew upright in her chair.

She sat primly with her hands on her knees. Benjamin's heart melted, and he softened his tone when he said, "Listen carefully!"

"Okay!" Jesse replied with a firm nod.

However, once Benjamin resumed his lecture, she began to nod off again.

Benjamin was speechless.

Arisa was amused by the scene. Now he understands how I feel when I tutor her!

"Jesse only takes it a little seriously when Zachary and the others are the ones teaching. You don't have to waste your effort anymore!"

Benjamin looked at Jesse's little face, helpless against her charms.

He tussled her hair encouragingly. "Okay, let's stop for today. We'll continue tomorrow!"

"Okay!" Jesse nodded happily, suddenly becoming energetic again.

Zachary smiled, shaking his head. "Mr. Graham, just give up! Your words will never make it through to her little head!"

Benjamin turned to look at Zachary. "Why do you say so?"

Zachary shrugged. "Children who don't like studying will always feel sleepy."

Benjamin, who was an avid scholar, could not understand that at all.

"Daddy, we'll teach Jesse next time! If you want to tutor anyone, you should just tutor Tim," Gavin said to Benjamin.

“All of you should be studying together,” Benjamin said.

Gavin pouted. “Fine, we’ll study together with Tim.”

Arissa brought a glass of water and set it down in front of Benjamin. “You’re working hard, Graham!”

Benjamin threw her a glance.

Arissa looked amused. “Jesse has always been a little slow. You can’t rush it!”

Tutoring her youngest daughter had agitated her as well, but over time, she had learned to be patient.

Then she realized that Zachary, Oliver, and Jasper were much better at teaching their sister.

So, she had given the task to the three brothers while she merely supervised.

Sometimes, it was more effective for a peer to teach one another than for an adult to teach children.

Benjamin snorted. “Don’t gloat. It’s also your fault as her parent that she can’t keep up!”

“Yes!” Arissa looked at the children. “May I take them away now?”

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Chapter 794 You Must Let Me Know

Benjamin sighed and waved his hand, dismissing all of them. Arissa turned to her children with a smile and said, “Sweethearts, go bring all your certificates and artwork. We’ll frame them up together!”

“Okay!” All of them were bouncing with excitement as they pulled out all their certificates and artwork. They followed Arissa out of the study. Benjamin watched them leave.

Then he stood up and followed them. “Mommy, where are we hanging them?” Oliver glanced at the stairs. “Here or along the stairs?”

Arissa looked at the six children, then turned to Benjamin. Benjamin was standing behind them with his hands in his pockets. “Let’s put them up along the stairs.”

“Yeah, let’s do that!” Arissa nodded in agreement. “Come on, Mommy! Let’s put them up!” Jasper was so excited that he was tip-toeing and even jumping up the wall.

“Let’s wait for Mr. Whitley to bring over the frames!” Arissa said to Jasper. Benjamin took the artwork from Tim’s hands and looked at them with raised eyebrows. He was surprised.

He glanced at Arissa. “I didn’t expect you to have quite the skills in arts.”

“Of course! I won plenty of prizes back in my days!” Arissa said proudly.

“What prize did you win?” Benjamin’s eye bore down on Arissa.

“I wasn’t good enough; I won second place!” Arissa returned his gaze.

Benjamin chuckled at her answer.

“What are you laughing at? What did you win, then?” Arissa was a little annoyed.

“I didn’t win anything, but isn’t this too simple?” Benjamin said in a soft voice, looking down at the artwork he was holding in his hands.

Arissa was speechless.

“Ms. York is amazing!” Tim said on Arissa’s behalf.

He glared at Benjamin.

Benjamin looked at his son. Then he looked at the name on the certificate. It was stated: Timothy Graham.

“You should write this name on your schoolbooks.”

Tim nodded.

“I know, Mr. Graham.”

Benjamin tousled his hair and glanced around at the other children.

“Let me see all your artwork!”

Jasper and Oliver proudly showed off their artwork to him and praised Arissa, “Isn’t our mommy amazing?”

“Yes, she is!” Benjamin agreed as he took in their art.

“Mr. Graham, look! This is mine!” Jesse shoved her artwork into Benjamin’s face.

Benjamin took it from her and looked at it carefully. It was very creative. All the children's art was different, but they were beautifully done.

"What about you two?"

Benjamin turned to Gavin and Zachary.

Gavin smiled sheepishly and handed over his artwork. Benjamin studied it for a moment, nodding thoughtfully to himself as he did so.

Zachary, too, gave his work to Benjamin. "Mommy helped us with this!"

Benjamin's eyes flashed for a moment. "Shouldn't I be the one helping you? Why didn't you ask me for help?"

"Well, you weren't home last night!" countered Arissa, who was leaning against the wall.

Benjamin huffed. "No matter where I am next time, you must let me know, at least!"

"Okay!" Arissa said when she saw his serious expression.

Edwin, Ethen, and Jack appeared with the frames.

"Mrs. Graham, are these the kind of frames you were looking for?" Edwin walked up to her and showed her the frames they had dug up from somewhere in the house.

"Yes, these are the kind of frames I was looking for!" Arissa nodded happily. "Can you place them on the coffee table?"

Then, she brought the children over.

"From now on, the children's awards and artwork will be displayed on the wall along the staircase. All the paintings will be taken down," Benjamin instructed Edwin.

"Yes, Mr. Graham," Edwin replied happily. "I'll move the paintings elsewhere."

Benjamin nodded.

He and Arissa then helped the children to frame up their awards.

The children were overjoyed to be spending time with their parents together.

Ethen and Jack had wanted to offer their help, but when they saw how happy the family was together, they held themselves back.

After watching them for a while, they went over to help Edwin move the paintings.

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Chapter 795 Family Photo

“What’s wrong with this frame?” Arissa complained, frowning at the frame in her hand. She had been trying to snap it shut for the past few minutes.

“Let me see,” Benjamin said.

He took the frame from her hand and fiddled with it. The frame snapped shut with a soft click.

“Wow, Mr. Graham! You’re amazing!” Jasper cheered.

The other children turned to look at Benjamin. Their faces were bright with wonder.

Pride bloomed in Benjamin’s chest.

It is the greatest joy to be complimented by children who are known for their naïve honesty.

Arissa laughed. “Graham is amazing indeed! I couldn’t do it even after trying for so long!”

Benjamin’s eyes flickered. He leaned closer to Arissa and whispered into her ear, “I’ve got more tricks up my sleeve!”

His lips were close enough to brush her cheek, and his warm breath tickled her ear.

Arissa’s face turned pink. He’s teasing me! Oh, kill me!

She glanced sideways at him and quickly looked away again when her eyes met his fiery gaze.

Benjamin smirked.

The two of them then turned their attention back to their children and the frames.

The six children each hugged the frames, holding their certificates and artwork to their chests.

“Come on, Sweethearts! Strike a pose! Mommy wants to take a picture of all of you together!”

“Wait, Mommy! I’m not posing properly yet!”

“Mommy, should we hold the frames in front of us?”

The children were bouncing about excitedly. Arissa nodded and said, “Yes, hold the frames out in front of you!”

Once the children had all settled into a pose, she snapped a few pictures. “How handsome!”

The children beamed happily.

“Mommy, come here! Let’s take a picture with you. Daddy can help us snap the picture!” Gavin waved Arissa over to where they were standing.

Arissa hurried over to the kids. She stood behind them and wrapped her arms around them.

“Help us take a picture, Graham!”

Benjamin snapped a few pictures of Arissa and her children. He scratched his nose self-consciously and walked over to join them.

“Help me take one with the children, too!” He handed his phone to Arissa.

Arissa smiled and snapped a few pictures of Benjamin and the children.

“Mommy, let’s take a picture together with Daddy!”

Arissa saw her son’s pleading face and walked over to them.

“Ethen, come over here for a minute!” Benjamin called out.

Ethan hurried over to them. “Yes, Mr. Graham!”

“Help us take a picture!” Benjamin grabbed Arissa’s phone and handed it to Ethen.

Ethen moved back so that he could fit all of them into the frame.

Benjamin wrapped one arm around Arissa and placed the other on Jesse’s shoulder.

“Ready?” Ethen looked at the happy family posing before him.

Joy flooded his heart.

“Yes!” shouted the children in unison.

Arissa nodded. "We're ready!"

"Ready!" Benjamin said.

"I'm taking the picture now!" Ethen said, snapping a few more shots of the family.

"Show me the picture!"

Zachary ran over to Ethen and tugged at his hand.

The other children followed close behind.

Ethen knelt down. The children crowded around him as he showed them the photos that he had just taken.

"This is a bad picture! Zachary's eyes were closed!"

"We look so good here! This is a good one!"

"I look so handsome!"

Hearing the delight and pride in the children's voices, Arissa was amused.

She called out, "Okay, stop admiring yourselves! Let's go hang up these frames!"

The children quickly abandoned Ethen and ran over to Arissa with their frames.

Arissa and Benjamin led the way.

"Let me do it!"

Benjamin was a tall man. It would be easy for him to hang the frames up at a good height. Ethen hurried over to them with a hammer and nails. Arissa took the frames from the children and handed them over to Benjamin.

Edwin and Jack came over as well to lend Benjamin a hand.

Benjamin arranged and hung up the children's certificates first before hanging their artwork.

It was a beautifully arranged display.

Arissa was surprised by Benjamin's creative eye.

If she had been the one to arrange the frames, they would all have been hung in one straight row.

The children applauded with joy as the wall display began to come together.

“So beautiful!”