

You More than Anything in the World

Chapter 101-130

Chapter 101 The Second DNA Test Results

“All right. I’ll go and take a look at some cars now. Boss, please be careful.”

“Yes, I will.”

After hanging up the phone, Arissa began busying herself in the kitchen.

Meanwhile, at the hospital, Shaun was kept busy as well.

After taking care of the problematic people, the results just so happened to be out. Shaun printed out a copy and took a look at it. His eyes almost popped out of their sockets.

“How is it?”

Benjamin was anxious. He had been staring at the machine the whole time, waiting for the results.

Shaun, still in shock, handed the copy of the results to him.

Benjamin took the paper and glanced through the results. He completely ignored all the data analyses written on it and skipped straight to the final conclusive result.

The DNA results showed a 99.99% match. This means they are related by blood!

Benjamin’s eyes narrowed, a cold glint flashing through them.

Arissa was really Gavin’s biological mother.

An unfamiliar feeling rose in his heart. No wonder she had that sweet scent on her.

With the report in hand, Benjamin turned around and strode out.

“Huh? What... Who’s the woman?”

Shaun hurriedly chased after him.

“Gavin’s biological mother!” Benjamin replied bluntly.

Shaun’s lips twitched. I know she’s his biological mother, but that’s not what I’m asking!

He wanted to know who that woman was.

“What’s her name? Have you found her? How did you come to realize it?”

The inquisitive Shaun interrogated while following closely behind him.

Benjamin gave him an annoyed side-eye. “Stop following me. How could you mess up such important data!”

Shaun was dumbstruck.

How am I to know that someone would mess with the results? I was innocent!

“Benjamin, you’re killing me here. I was the one who authenticated the results!”

Ignoring the doctor’s words, Benjamin got in his car and rushed towards the company.

He thought that Gavin would be there, but the bodyguard informed him that he was at Arissa’s instead.

He quickly hopped back in the car. Just as he was about to leave, he received a text from Gavin.

Daddy, Mommy almost got kidnapped just now. You have to find out who did it. The person is at the police station now.

Benjamin was livid that someone actually dared to touch her.

His handsome face turned dark.

He replied to Gavin: Okay, I got it. Be good over there. I’ll come over later.

Then, he phoned Ethen, asking him to come down.

“Mr. Graham!”

Ethen had no idea why Benjamin had summoned him.

“Get in the car!”

Ethen was astounded by the dark clouds seemingly looming over Benjamin’s head.

He turned to walk over to the passenger’s seat.

“Hurry up!” Benjamin’s voice went up a few octaves as he called out.

Ethen scurried into the car.

It was a rare occurrence for him to be sitting in the passenger's seat. Usually, if it were the two of them, Ethen would always be the driver.

Now that the roles were reversed, Ethen felt a little out of place.

As soon as he got in, the car sped off.

"Mr. Graham, where are we going?"

Ethen noticed that something was off about Benjamin's mood, so he treaded lightly with his inquiry.

"The police station!"

Benjamin's eyes were glued on the road ahead.

"Someone tried to kidnap Arissa. He's already been caught. Make some calls. I want to meet this bastard!"

Ethen took in a sharp breath. "Ms. York was kidnapped? By who?"

Benjamin glared at the man through the rearview mirror. In a gloomy tone, he yelled, "Make the call!"

"Yes. Yes, Sir!" Ethen retracted his gaze and quickly made the arrangements.

Benjamin's vehicle was zooming at lightning speed.

In less than ten minutes, he arrived at the police station.

Everything had been arranged for him.

The chief of the police station hurriedly went over to greet Benjamin. "Mr. Graham, this way please!"

Benjamin and Ethen made their way into the interrogation room where the culprit sat.

The chief asked all the people inside the room to leave. "Mr. Graham, he's inside here."

Benjamin nodded slightly. His charming face was shrouded with icy-cold hostility.

"Chief Lambert, we'll take it from here," Ethen said with a smile.

"Uh... You guys..."

Todd Lambert was a little worried seeing the look on Benjamin's face.

"Don't worry. We'll hand him back to you. We won't hurt him," Ethen replied jauntily.

Todd's doubtful eyes darted back and forth between the two men before he finally closed the door behind him.

Sensing Benjamin's hostility, the man trembled in fear.

This guy is definitely not here to help me. The frightened man gulped.

"Who are you?"

Chapter 102 How Dare You Touch My Girl

A hint of murderous intent flashed across Benjamin's eyes. He sent the man flying with a kick.

The thrust was so strong that the man hit the wall. Several ribs were instantly crushed upon impact.

Soon after that, Benjamin brutally stomped on the man's face.

"How dare you touch my girl! You've got some nerve!"

The deep and bloodthirsty voice coming over the man's head sent chills down his spine.

"I-I don't know you! Who the h*ll are you?"

Benjamin applied more pressure on his foot upon hearing that.

The man under his foot, whose facial expression was quite distorted at this point, could not help but wail, "Please spare my life!"

Sensing Benjamin's hostility, the man trembled in fear.

Benjamin then exchanged a meaningful glance with Ethen and stepped aside.

The latter walked over knowingly, squatted down, and patted the subdued on his face with the blunt end of a knife.

"Now, tell me. Who sent you?"

"Who are you guys? I don't even know! I haven't got any business to do with you-"

Painful screeches echoed as the man's finger got cut off.

He curled up in the corner as he held his wounded hand in his other one. Terror washed over his features as he looked at Ethen who had a smirk on his face.

After a brief deliberation, he asked sheepishly, "Is that woman part of your gang?"

Ethen sneered, "I've never seen such an idiot kidnapper. It's true that you have no business with us, and she has no business with you. So, why did you make a move on her?"

He smiled as he fidgeted with the knife.

Ethen might appear friendly and easy-going, but he knew what needed to be done and when.

"Tell me. Why did you try to kidnap her?"

"I don't know what you are talking about. You're taking the law into your own hands. I'll sue you!" the man snapped as he floundered about.

"Pfft!" Ethen kept his weapon and rose to his feet.

The man breathed a sigh of relief upon seeing that.

Next thing he knew, he received an all-out kick from Ethen.

Shrieks of pain immediately sounded from inside the interrogation room.

Those standing outside were startled to hear that, but they quickly ignored the commotion inside.

"Hey! Stop! Stop... I'll talk," the man pleaded, wrapping his hands around his head. "We were tasked to kidnap her!"

"By whom?"

The man shook his head. "I've never met him in person. He secured a deal with us online. That's all I know."

Ethen pummeled the man a few more times, but the latter had nothing else to offer.

"Come on, spill it! Why did you try to kidnap her?"

"T-That person wants her dead!"

When Benjamin heard that, he instantly cast a menacing glare at the man.

Ethen lowered his body and grabbed the man by his collar. "How many of you are there? You better talk!"

Petrified, the man refused to go on as he vigorously shook his head.

A few minutes passed before Ethen finally stopped beating up the man. He smoothed out the creases on his shirt. The battered man was left sprawling on the ground, unconscious. Nonetheless, his life was not in danger. Ethen had avoided all fatal points when he delivered every single blow.

Ethen approached Benjamin and reported, "Mr. Graham, he's a stubborn one."

"Wake him up and get him to talk," Benjamin ordered, his eyes charging with terrifying malice.

"Yes!"

Ethen did as he was told. The interrogation continued.

From time to time, bellows would sound from inside the interrogation room.

Half an hour later, Benjamin exited the room with Ethen in tow.

Walking away just like that, he exuded a cold aura from head to toe. No one dared to approach him.

The chief turned toward them with a look of worry on his face.

"He's all yours," Ethen told the chief.

It was then that the chief breathed a sigh of relief. He quickly ordered his staff to get the man to the hospital.

Ethen had a few lines with the chief before leaving.

Benjamin was already in the car when Ethen got there. Ethen opened the door to the driver's seat and got in.

"Mr. Graham, where next?"

Benjamin lowered his gaze and replied in a low tone, "Arissa's place."

Ethen's eyes lit up.

"Okay!"

With that, he started the engine and headed toward Arissa's residence.

"I want to know everything about that man," Benjamin said.

Peeking at Benjamin through the rearview mirror, Ethen responded, "Got it!"

No matter how hard we forced him to talk, he would not reveal anything about his organization. This is definitely not going to be easy.

Chapter 103 Benjamin Came Knocking

"Sweethearts! It's time for dinner."

Arissa called out to her five children so that they could wash their hands before they eat.

"Wow! Mommy has prepared us a feast!"

Standing on tiptoe, Jesse scanned the dishes on the table as she savored the aroma.

Arissa chuckled at the sight. "Go on. Wash your hands."

"Hehe." With that, Jesse hurriedly did as she was told.

Arissa went into the kitchen and brought out the last item on the menu, which happened to be the soup. She served her kids one bowl of soup each.

The children got to the table.

Zachary, Oliver, Jasper, and Jesse took their seats.

"Mommy, can I sit with you?" Gavin asked, looking at Arissa in eager anticipation.

She smiled. "Okay. Come here."

As Arissa placed the fifth bowl of soup in front of Gavin, she reminded all five of them, "Be careful. It's hot."

The five kids remained in their seats obediently as they waited for their mother to serve her own portion.

After that, Arissa sat down and said, "Bon Appetit!"

The five kids smiled happily and repeated the phrase, "Bon Appetit!"

Arissa beamed as she looked at her children.

“Mommy, you’ve made a lot of delicious food. Is it for him?”

Jasper took a sip of the soup and cast a curious look at Arissa before shifting his sight toward Gavin.

Running her fingers over Gavin’s hair, Arissa smiled at her three sons sitting opposite her. “It’s for everyone. Well, seeing that it’s Gavin’s first time here, of course I have to make more.”

Zachary and Oliver chuckled. “Mommy, Gavin isn’t-”

Realizing that they had slipped up, the two immediately covered their mouths with both hands at the same time.

“Isn’t... what?”

Arissa narrowed her eyes as she scrutinized the secretive trio.

She turned to innocent little Jesse beside her. She seemed to know nothing as she drank the soup without a care in the world.

Gavin snickered.

“Mommy, the soup tastes good!”

“I’m glad you like it. You can have more.”

Taking his empty bowl, Arissa got him a second serving.

“Take it slowly. It’s still hot.”

“Okay. Thanks, Mommy.”

Gavin nodded as he dug in with delight. Mommy’s cooking is wonderful!

Arissa caressed his head and filled his plate with more food.

“Have some of these. Which one is your favorite? I can make more for you next time.”

“Mommy, your cooking is the best! I like all of them!”

The trio sitting opposite smirked upon witnessing Gavin buttering their mother up.

Well, well. Look at that. Gavin’s usually acts cool, yet he becomes so affectionate in front of Mommy.

Arissa grinned, gave Gavin a hug, and kissed him on the cheek.

“Thank you, Sweetheart.”

Gavin blushed. When he locked eyes with the trio, he quickly lowered his head as he ate.

“Come on. All of you, dig in.”

With that, Arissa served the other four kids with food.

“Thank you, Mommy.”

The four children expressed their gratitude. They loved to be spoiled.

“This one is nice. I like it!”

“Mommy, the steak tastes great!”

“Mommy, the chicken is delicious!”

“I like everything you cook, Mommy.”

As the five children devoured the food, Arissa’s smile broadened.

“Help yourself to the food, then. Go on. Eat them all up.”

“Sure!” The children nodded.

Amid the excitement, the doorbell rang.

“I’ll get it.”

Arissa walked over to the door. Bradley must have come to visit.

When she opened it, the visitor was not who she expected. Panicked, she slammed the door as her heart raced.

Oh my gosh! Why is Benjamin here?

Her mouth twitched as she gazed at the children sitting at the dining table.

Oh! How could I forget that Gavin’s here?

“Open the door!” Benjamin’s loud voice sounded from outside the door, sending a chill down Arissa’s spine.

Chapter 104 Nightgown

Irritation surged within Benjamin as he glared at the closed door.

Does she not welcome me here? How dare she shut me out!

Ethen, who was standing behind Benjamin, did not anticipate that Arissa would close the door just like that.

He suppressed his laughter as he stood outside with Benjamin.

“Open the door this instant!” Benjamin shouted again, his face darkened.

Leaning on her back against the door, Arissa patted her chest in an attempt to calm down.

“Mr. Graham, I’m sorry to keep you waiting. I’m wearing a nightgown. Please wait while I get changed.”

With that, she dashed toward the dining table.

The children turned to look at her at the same time.

Out of curiosity, Zachary asked, “Mommy, who’s here? Why didn’t you open the door?”

At a loss, Arissa said to them, “Shh! It’s Benjamin. I need you all to hide. Quickly!”

The five kids were rendered speechless.

Oliver’s eyes lit up. Daddy’s here?

“Mommy, is it Daddy? Let him in and join us.”

Arissa’s lips twitched. As if I don’t know what you are thinking about!

“Everyone, go hide. Gavin, you may continue eating.”

She admitted she didn’t really know what she was doing.

I don’t want to let him in, but he’s already at the door. The kids are here too. It would have been fine if they had eaten their fill and I was just sending them off, but the problem is they haven’t finished their food. I can’t just send Gavin out because the kids will be upset.

She hurriedly hugged Jesse and told the others, “Quick. Go back to your room and wait. I’ll tell you when he’s gone, then you can come out and eat.”

Zachary was dumbfounded.

Jasper complained, "Why is he here?"

"Daddy's here to pick me up," Gavin said as he cast an apologetic look at the other kids.

"Hurry up!" Arissa urged.

At the same time, she quickly retrieved the children's bowls and stashed them in the room.

The other four kids obeyed her instructions and entered the room.

They looked at the randomly placed bowls. Some were half-finished, while some were empty.

"This is mine."

Jesse recognized her own bowl and took it. Then, she sat on the bed and began to eat.

Meanwhile, Zachary, Oliver, and Jasper exchanged glances with one another. They proceeded to take their own bowls as well.

"Gavin is lucky. He can have all the food he wants."

Jasper merely shoved pasta into his mouth, as he had no other food left in his bowl.

Oliver smiled. "Here, have some of mine."

"Shh! Don't talk! Keep your voices down," Zachary reminded them as he tried to make out the movement outside.

Arissa hurriedly cleaned up all traces that the children might have been living here.

Gavin saw her fretting and walked over to her.

"Mommy, don't panic. It's okay. I'm here."

Deeply touched, Arissa pulled him into her embrace.

Right. I've once told Benjamin that I have kids. Why am I so nervous? I didn't actually have to clean up the mess, did I?

After regaining her composure, she managed to calm down a bit.

"Okay. Back to dinner."

She rubbed Gavin's forehead, and went to open the door.

In the meantime, Benjamin's frown grew deeper.

Just as he was about to lose his temper, the door opened.

Arissa greeted him with a smile. "Mr. Graham, please come in!"

Scrutinizing her grin and glancing at her work clothes, Benjamin sneered, "Didn't you say you were in a nightgown?"

Arissa gulped. "Well, I was. Then I changed out of it."

Yes! Perfect explanation... right?

Ethen felt an urge to laugh.

"Oh. Hello, Mr. Frank. You're here too. Quick, come in!"

Her warm welcome toward Ethen was in great contrast to her attitude toward Benjamin.

The disparity did not escape the latter. His face fell.

Benjamin looked at Ethen and said, "You may go now."

Ethen was dumbstruck.

Glancing at Benjamin, Arissa was taken aback when she met his deep gaze.

"Yes, Mr. Graham." Ethen nodded. "Ms. York, I shall take my leave."

"Wait..." Arissa called out to him, but then she realized Benjamin was staring at her.

"Close the door."

Benjamin walked in and surveyed the entire house.

The place was spotlessly clean and neatly arranged. There was a faint fragrance in the air. It was rather homely.

Chapter 105 Let Us Eat Together

"Daddy!" Gavin ran over to his father excitedly.

Benjamin embraced him and stroked his head. "Are you having fun here?"

"Yes! Mommy... Ms. York has made me a lot of delicious food. I like all of them!"

The four children hiding inside the room smirked when they heard Gavin say that.

Zachary murmured under his breath, "How shameless!"

Benjamin's eyes lit up. He turned to face the woman standing idly at the door.

"Aren't you going to close the door?"

Arissa sighed and did just that before joining them.

"Mr. Graham, have a seat. Gavin's having his dinner. Let him finish his meal first. Then, you may bring him home."

Benjamin narrowed his eyes. Can't she read the room and invite me to dinner? After all, I'm her boss.

"Well, I haven't eaten yet. Let me join you."

With that, he carried Gavin in his arms and walked toward the dining table.

Arissa was bewildered. Never had she imagined that Benjamin would invite himself just like that.

"Why? I invited you for dinner at my house last night. Won't you at least allow me stay for dinner tonight?"

Benjamin glanced at Arissa.

Arissa smiled awkwardly at him.

"Of course I will. I'm just not sure if you like my cooking."

She was actually scared that he would discover the four children hiding in the other room.

Benjamin let out a light snort as he cast a glance at the food on the table.

A lavish dinner indeed. Hmm... isn't this a little too much for just two people?

"Where are your kids?" he asked as he put Gavin down and sat down on the master's seat.

Arissa tucked her hair behind her ear. "My friend took them to his house. They're staying there for a few days."

Without uttering a word, Benjamin fixed his stare on her.

As she met his deep eyes, her heart beat like a drum.

"I'll get you the silverware." With that, she turned and walked away.

Benjamin looked in her direction and then shifted his gaze toward Gavin.

"Daddy, loosen up. You'll scare Mommy," Gavin muttered as he looked at Benjamin.

Benjamin's frown only grew deeper.

That rendered Gavin speechless.

Benjamin noticed something amiss when he looked at the other seats at the table.

The chairs are untidy and there are traces of food on the table, as though someone was there a minute ago. Hmm...

"Mr. Graham, what would you like to have? Soup, or pasta?" Arissa asked as she came back with a set of clean silverware.

"I'm fine with either." Benjamin stared at her.

Avoiding eye contact, Arissa served him some pasta.

Hurry up. Finish your food and leave.

She smiled as she placed the bowl in front of him. "Enjoy your meal, Mr. Graham."

Benjamin grabbed a fork and dug in.

Sitting down beside Gavin, Arissa filled his plate with some food.

"Let's eat."

"Okay." Gavin's eyes narrowed in delight.

Daddy and Mommy are here. It'll be nice if my brothers are here too.

Benjamin's brows loosened when he saw the smile on his son's face.

"You made all these just for the two of you?" he asked casually.

Stunned, Arissa grinned. "Believe it or not, I was expecting you. So, I made a little more than usual."

Benjamin chuckled.

She sure knows how to butter someone up! She seemed reluctant to have me stay for dinner just now. She might have hoped I could wait in the living room.

Pointing at a fish, Gavin went on, "Daddy, Mommy made this for you."

Arisa's mouth twitched. Sweetheart, that's for you.

As a matter of fact, Benjamin and Gavin shared the same tastes.

Benjamin knew that she had not prepared the dish for him, but he was happy to hear that coming from his son.

"Let me have a taste." He peered at her, and then took a bite of the fish. "Not bad. You make a wonderful cook, Ms. York."

Arisa smiled awkwardly upon hearing his compliment. "I'm glad that you like it, Mr. Graham. Help yourself."

His liking toward the fish was so strong that he barely touched the other dishes.

In no time at all, he consumed the entire fish.

Arisa gaped.

He's really making himself at home, isn't he? The kids have barely eaten anything.

Chapter 106 Pressing On Her Wound

It had been ages since Benjamin last had such a scrumptious home-cooked meal. He devoured the dishes with gusto.

When Arissa saw him gobbling up the food, the corner of her mouth slightly twitched in dissatisfaction as she thought of her kids who were yet to be fed.

She could not help stealing glances at the man.

Benjamin had impeccable table manners and extremely graceful movement.

Noticing Arissa's gaze on him, he glanced back at her.

"What are you looking at?"

At his question, Arissa smiled sheepishly. "Mr. Graham, what do you think of the food?"

"They're okay," Benjamin replied curtly.

Arissa's lips twitched again. Just okay? You look like you'd die for them.

"Mommy, the food is great!" Gavin complimented with a huge grin.

Flashing him a gratified smile, Arissa dotingly tousled his hair.

She proceeded to put more food on his plate. "I'm glad you like them. You can have as much as you like!"

"Thanks, Mommy!" Gavin thanked Arissa happily and ate some more.

Benjamin did not like that Arissa was looking at Gavin with a tender gaze.

"Do you have more pasta?"

Arissa turned to him and replied, "Yes."

"I want another serving!" Benjamin ordered.

Twitching the corner of her lips, Arissa said, "They're in the pot. You may help yourself, Mr. Graham."

Sensing the impatience in her tone, Benjamin let out a snort and complained, "Is this how you treat your boss?"

Amused by his question, Arissa responded, "Mr. Graham, we're off the clock now. I can do whatever I want when I'm not at work!"

"Aren't you afraid that I'd fire you?" Benjamin glared at her.

Arissa shot him a glance. As she met his intense gaze, she quickly averted her eyes.

"Do as you wish. You're the boss anyway."

At her reply, Benjamin knitted his brow.

Is she really not afraid of being fired?

Gavin looked between the both of them. He opened his mouth and said to Benjamin, "Daddy, Mommy was almost kidnapped, and she even had to prepare dinner after she came home. She must be tired. Can't you get it on your own?"

Surprised that Gavin was taking Arissa's side, Benjamin hummed. "Are you hurt?"

Arissa's heart skipped a beat when Benjamin actually expressed concern for her.

Suppressing her excitement, she put on a calm façade and said, "I'm fine."

However, Benjamin noticed the bruise on her forehead right away. His handsome face darkened at that sight.

He did not notice it earlier as the bruise had been concealed by her hair.

Now that he saw it, he believed he had been too lenient toward the offender.

Not knowing the reason behind the sudden change of his expression, Arissa dissed him in her thoughts. What a moody man!

Nevertheless, she took his bowl and refilled it for him.

"Where else did you get hurt?"

Arissa looked at him. "Nowhere."

"What's this, then?"

Suddenly, Benjamin reached out a hand and pressed on the wound on her forehead.

Arissa instantly felt a stab of pain. She drew in a sharp breath and shrank away from his touch at once.

Glowering at him, she complained, "What are you doing?"

A hint of a smile flashed across Benjamin's eyes as he teased, "I thought you said you're not hurt."

Arissa groaned.

On the other hand, Gavin giggled inwardly before putting on a straight face and reprimanded Benjamin, "Daddy, you shouldn't do that. It's painful!"

"She said it herself that she wasn't hurt, so I'm testing her out!" Benjamin retorted.

Arissa's mouth twitched slightly at his words.

"Mr. Graham, why don't you finish up your food and bring Gavin home? It's late already."

The kids are still waiting for dinner inside the room.

"Are you chasing me out?"

Benjamin shot Arissa a glance. She seems nervous. The kids can't be home, can they?

Arissa grinned sheepishly as she replied, "Of course not. I'm just saying that it won't look good if you stay too long in a subordinate's home."

"I'm fine with it, though. Thanks for your concern," Benjamin snapped.

Curling her lips, Arissa turned to her food without uttering another word.

For a long while, nobody spoke as they ingested the food.

Chapter 107 I Heard Children

Meanwhile, the kids inside the room exchanged glances, their bowls long empty.

"I need to pee now!"

Jesse, who couldn't bear it any longer, declared to her brothers.

"Hold it in for a little more while, okay?" Jasper patted her head in a pacifying manner.

Pouting in annoyance, Jesse complained, "Why is Daddy taking so long? When is he going to leave?"

As they were not supposed to meet their father, Jesse's only hope now was for him to leave as soon as possible so that she could go relieve herself.

"He should be going soon!" Oliver tried to soothe Jesse as well.

Clasping her belly, Jesse paced back and forth in the room uneasily.

Seeing that she was at her wit's end, Zachary whispered, "Go pee at the balcony, then."

"Huh?"

Jesse was taken aback by his suggestion. She looked hesitant.

"Right. Just go pee at the balcony. We'll clean that up later."

Then, Jasper leaped off the bed and led her to the balcony.

"Hurry up!" Jasper urged her as he stood guard at the entrance of the balcony, his back against her.

Despite being afraid of darkness, Jesse steeled herself as she hastily peed at the drain hole in a corner of the balcony.

After she was done, she hurriedly pulled up her pants as she looked around the space, afraid that someone might see her. Her face was blushing from embarrassment.

“Jasper, I’m done!”

“All right. Come on in!” Jasper whispered.

After Jesse re-entered the room, Jasper and Oliver took turns to relieve themselves. They had too much soup earlier and had been resisting the urge for quite some time too.

After that, the four children sat on the bed idly and waited some more.

Holding onto the laptop, they silently monitored the surveillance footage of the trio having dinner outside.

“Wow, it’s Daddy!” Jesse exclaimed in surprise as she saw Benjamin, who bore an uncanny resemblance to her brothers.

Oliver covered her mouth immediately. “Shh!”

Meanwhile, at the dining table, Benjamin looked sideways at the room with the closed door.

Arissa heard Jesse as well. Her heart racing, she attempted to divert Benjamin’s attention with a question. “Mr. Graham, are you done with your meal?”

Benjamin turned to look at her.

Arissa was somewhat diffident as she met Benjamin’s deep gaze.

Not intending to let her slide, Benjamin countered with another question, “Is there anyone else in your house?”

“Not at all. Why do you ask, Mr. Graham?”

Arissa looked straight into his eyes, grinning.

Benjamin narrowed his eyes. “I could have sworn I heard a child’s voice just now!”

Arissa gulped nervously. Nevertheless, she forced a smile and said, “My children are not home, Mr. Graham. Perhaps it was one of the neighbor’s kids. My place is not exactly soundproof, so sometimes you can hear them quite clearly.”

Benjamin shot her a glance and turned to his son, who was still enjoying dinner. Then, he wiped the corner of his mouth and voiced, "Take your time. I'll be waiting in the living room."

Then, Benjamin got to his feet and made his way to the living room. At the same time, Arissa breathed a sigh of relief.

"Mommy, you don't have to be scared of Daddy!" Gavin uttered jokingly when he saw Arissa's change in demeanor.

Arissa pinched Gavin's nose. "I'm not scared!"

She was just worried that Benjamin might find out about the kids.

"Here, have another one of these."

Arissa placed another piece of steak on Gavin's plate.

"Mommy, I'm full. You can save this for the others."

Gavin had already eaten a fair bit. At the thought of his starving siblings, he could not help feeling guilty.

"That's all right. Eat up. I'll make some more for them later!" Arissa whispered.

At her words, Gavin flashed a smile before gulping down some more food.

Meanwhile, Benjamin sat in the living room, gazing at the two rooms that were tightly shut. He shifted his gaze toward the duo who were having a great time at the dining table.

Suddenly, an indescribable warm feeling arose in his heart, as if he was watching his wife and son having a meal together.

While Arissa was not paying attention, Benjamin got to his feet, crossed the living room and promptly opened the door to the first room.

It turned out to be Arissa's bedroom. He was instantly hit by the woman's familiar fragrance. He could not hold himself back from taking a few deep breaths of that sweet scent.

Benjamin looked around and noticed that the room was decorated in pink hues and filled with a feminine charm. It seemed rather warm and cozy.

I didn't expect her to be so girly at heart.

Chapter 108 This Is My House

Over at the dining table, Arissa, who was still eating with Gavin, turned around to check on Benjamin, only to find him standing in front of her bedroom.

Her cheeks flushed crimson at once.

How could he enter my bedroom without my permission?

“Mr. Graham!” Arissa called out to him. She could not let him invade her privacy.

Benjamin turned to her, looking as composed as ever. He did not show a single shred of unease despite being caught red-handed.

His handsome face remained calm as he explained, “I heard some noises coming from inside. I was just checking to see if there are any rats!”

Arissa was rendered speechless by the sensible excuse.

“So, did you find any rats, Mr. Graham?”

“No. Perhaps it’s in the other room. Let me go check.”

As he said that, he turned around and headed toward the other room.

Arissa’s heart almost leaped out of her chest. Hastily, she stormed over and blocked his way.

“Mr. Graham, there are certainly no rats in my house. You must be hearing things.”

Benjamin did not expect her to do that. Unable to halt his tracks, he bumped straight into her.

As a result, Arissa found herself pressed against the door. Flushing crimson, Arissa stretched out a hand in an attempt to push him away.

Yet, Benjamin remained where he was.

With a hand on the door, he boxed her in his embrace.

Gavin turned around to sneak a glance and burst into a furtive giggle before resuming his dinner.

“Are you afraid to let me in?”

Benjamin lowered his gaze at her, looking unabashed as if he was the owner of this house.

“Very funny. That’s not it. It’s rather messy in here, and I don’t want you to see it!”

Arissa tried her hardest to suppress her nerves. It was difficult to keep a straight face, especially when she was in his arms.

“Now that you mentioned it, I really think we should have a look in case of rats! They can be quite dangerous as they carry a variety of viruses. I don’t think a woman like you can deal with them on your own. It’ll be best if you let me check,” Benjamin said sternly.

“Thanks for your offer, Mr. Graham, but I can handle it on my own!”

The corner of her mouth twitched nervously at the thought of Benjamin discovering the four children hiding inside.

“Mr. Graham, this is my house!”

Raising her voice, Arissa reminded him that he was the guest here.

Sensing the distress in her eyes, Benjamin’s gaze flickered as he bent down and drew closer to her.

The distance between them gradually diminished. Soon, they got so close that they could even see the pores on the other person’s face.

Benjamin’s warm breath sprayed onto her face, giving rise to a suggestive atmosphere.

Arissa picked up on the man’s intense pheromones. Her heart raced uncontrollably as her ears flushed.

She swallowed instinctively. “Mr. Graham…”

“Are you hiding something from me?”

Just as Benjamin’s lips almost touched hers, he came to a halt before questioning in a deep voice.

With her back pressed against the door, Arissa smiled sheepishly. She lifted her eyes only to meet the man’s entrancing gaze. She quickly looked away.

“What could I be possibly hiding from you?”

Benjamin’s gaze remained fixed on her.

At that moment, Arissa felt that her heart could almost leaped out of her chest.

She pushed Benjamin again, but he did not even budge.

The pair stayed rooted to the spot in a somewhat amorous position.

Arissa swallowed nervously and asked, "Mr. Graham, will you get off me, please?"

Benjamin stared at her flushed ears as his gaze darkened.

Her sweet scent kept creeping into his nose, teasing the desire rising from the depth of his heart.

Arissa could not read his thoughts at all. Whenever Benjamin was quiet, he always exuded a profound aura that managed to induce a sense of apprehension.

Suddenly, Benjamin loosened his grip on her and said in a deep voice, "Get back to dinner."

He turned around and headed toward the living room. In a bid to conceal his feelings, he sat with his back facing Arissa.

Benjamin's eyes slightly narrowed as a hint of a flush washed over his face.

Arissa glanced at Benjamin and his broad shoulders. It was some time later when she rejoined Gavin at the dining table.

"Sweetheart, you go back with Daddy first, okay?"

Bending over, Arissa gently coaxed the boy as she placed her hands on his shoulders.

Gavin nodded. "Sure. Can I still visit tomorrow, Mommy?"

"Of course. You can come over whenever you please, Gavin."

Arissa held Gavin in her arms and kissed his delicate face.

Chapter 109 Stay Over

Even though she was reluctant to part with Gavin, she felt guilty of making the other four kids starve if she were to let Benjamin and Gavin stay any longer.

"Yes, Mommy. I like it here. I like you. I like my brothers," Gavin said. He muttered the last part rather softly.

"Mommy likes you too!"

Arissa was overjoyed to hear him say that. She kissed him over and over again.

As Benjamin watched them exchange goodbye kisses, he felt a pang of jealousy.

Arissa ushered Gavin to the living room. She said to Benjamin, "Mr. Graham, Gavin's done with his meal!"

In other words, it was time for them to leave.

Benjamin shot her and Gavin a glance before beckoning the latter over.

"Come over here, Gavin!"

Gavin obediently complied.

Arissa's gaze remained on her son as he approached Benjamin.

Noticing her relentless gaze, Benjamin snorted inwardly at her doting attitude toward Gavin.

"Do you like it here?" Benjamin asked Gavin.

The boy's eyes lit up. He nodded fervently. "Yes!"

"Then we shall stay for a little while longer!" Benjamin patted Gavin's head and suggested.

Arissa was taken aback. Benjamin's suggestion had put her in a tight spot, as it would seem impolite if she forced them to leave.

"Gavin, have some fruits!"

Arissa had no choice but to sit next to Benjamin. She scooped Gavin up and had him sit on her lap as she offered him fruits.

"Mommy, I want to stay here!"

Gavin clung to Arissa and pleaded. Holding him tightly in her arms, Arissa, more than anything, would love for him to stay longer too.

Yet, she figured Benjamin would most probably not allow that.

"Daddy, can I stay over? I don't want to go home. I want to spend a little bit longer with Mommy!" Gavin pleaded.

Benjamin looked at Gavin, then at Arissa.

His handsome face was apathetic. When he spoke, it was in an authoritative tone.

“Gavin, I can let you stay for a little bit longer, but you ought not cause trouble.”

Gavin pursed his lips at Benjamin’s words.

Sensing Gavin’s disappointment, Arissa frowned slightly.

“Mr. Graham, I’m glad Gavin likes it here. I don’t mind if he stays over for the night. I can send him to school tomorrow.”

Benjamin gazed at her intently. “Why do you want him to stay over?”

Arissa was stumped by his question.

Benjamin did not know that Gavin was her son as well. As far as he knew, Gavin was his son, not hers.

“Because I like him!” Arissa promptly replied.

“Do you just let anyone you like stay over?”

Benjamin let out an unnoticeable snort. There was a hint of annoyance in his tone.

Puzzled by Benjamin’s reaction, Arissa opened her mouth in an attempt to refute, “Why not? Should I rather have people I hate stay over?”

Arissa shot him a glance, only to notice that his expression was as gloomy as the night. He was glaring at her.

How dare you!

Gavin observed the two and let out a sigh. “Mommy, I think it’s better for me to go home. I’ll come over again tomorrow!”

“All right!” Arissa gave him another hug and kiss him dotingly.

Benjamin knitted his brows. He was upset by the fact that Arissa treated his son in such a tender manner but acted so disagreeably toward him as if he was her enemy.

With that, he was no longer in the mood to discuss the matter regarding the kids with her.

“Gavin, let’s go!”

Getting to his feet, Benjamin beckoned his son over.

Gavin was reluctant to part. Arissa tousled his hair gently. She carried him in her arms and approached Benjamin.

“Don’t forget to call me when you get home!”

“All right, Mommy!”

Arissa smiled as she bent down with Gavin still in her arms.

She seated Gavin on her lap and helped him put his shoes on.

Benjamin could tell that her patience and affection toward Gavin were genuine, unlike Danna, who behaved quite pretentiously toward the boy.

Arissa genuinely wanted the best for him. He was her son by blood, after all.

“Gavin, stand up!” Benjamin chided.

After putting on Gavin’s shoes, Arissa finally set him down.

“Bye, Mommy.”

“Bye, Sweetheart!”

Arissa leaned down and kissed Gavin goodbye for one last time.

Gavin’s cheeks reddened from both embarrassment and joy.

Benjamin shot Gavin a glance before taking the boy’s hand. “We’re leaving now,” he said to Arissa.

“Drive safe, Mr. Graham.”

Arissa finally heaved a sigh of relief as she sent him off with a huge grin.

Benjamin was rendered speechless by her eagerness to do so.

Chapter 110 Treating Her Wound

Benjamin noticed the cut on her forehead and stared at it for a moment.

Then, he grabbed his son’s hand and walked over.

Arissa watched him in confusion and asked, “Mr. Graham, what’s the matter?”

In response, Benjamin grabbed her hand and led her into the room. "Go get the medical kit."

Hearing that, Arissa felt puzzled and didn't know what Benjamin was up to.

She glanced at him, then at Gavin. Meanwhile, Gavin also had no clue why Benjamin was staring at Arissa.

"Are you hurt?" Arissa asked.

Benjamin's face darkened, and he instructed, "Just go and get it!"

The corner of Arissa's lips twitched, but she quickly went to grab the medical kit.

Unsmilingly, Benjamin opened it, pulled out the antiseptic, and soaked a cotton ball with it.

Then, he stood in front of Arissa and tucked her hair behind her ear.

Arissa froze.

Is he going to treat my wound?

The faint smell of mint on Benjamin's body made her heart race.

"Ouch..."

The sudden pain made her gasp.

"Don't move!" Benjamin ordered as he held her head still with one hand and roughly cleaned her wound with the other.

His strength was much stronger than Gavin's. It hurt so much that Arissa started to tear up.

Benjamin noticed the tears in her eyes from the corner of his eye, and he grinned devilishly.

"Rubbing it will increase blood circulation and make it heal faster."

"Don't be so rough. Stop! I'll do it myself!"

At that moment, Arissa felt like her skin was about to get peeled off.

If he continues to rub so hard, I'll get bruised.

"You got hurt on the way home, so it is considered a work injury. I have to make sure that you are taken care of," Benjamin said coldly.

Upon hearing that, Arissa sneered. What a smart-mouth.

"It's none of your business. Let go of me! My skin is about to fall off!"

"Stop being so dramatic!" Benjamin scoffed.

The corner of Arissa's lips twitched again, and she cursed him under her breath.

When Gavin saw Benjamin personally tend to Arissa's wound, he smiled from ear to ear.

Then, he held Arissa's hand and comforted, "Mommy, just bear with it for a while. It'll be over soon."

"Your daddy is being very rough."

It was so painful that Arissa started crying.

Benjamin continued to rub her wound a dozen more times before he stopped.

"All done! However, you will have to rub your wound again after you take your shower," Benjamin ordered before he left with Gavin.

"Bye, Mommy!" Gavin yelled as he smiled and waved at her.

"Bye, Sweetheart!"

Arissa sniffled in embarrassment as she said goodbye to Gavin.

She accidentally met Benjamin's mocking gaze and was dumbfounded by his expression.

"Such a crybaby," Benjamin murmured as he led Gavin into the elevator.

Arissa glared at him furiously, slammed the door, and locked it from the inside.

Then, she sniffled, wiped away her tears, and walked to the children's room.

"Hey kids, you can come out now."

The four children in the room immediately rushed to open the door.

"Mommy, is Daddy gone?"

The four children looked up at her with innocent eyes as they waited for her answer.

Arissa hurriedly looked away in embarrassment and replied, "You didn't even see who the visitor was. Don't simply call anyone Daddy."

It was obvious that she was still mad at Benjamin for what he did.

She softly caressed her forehead, but it hurt so much that her lips twitched.

"Haha!" The four children chuckled and said, "Of course it's Daddy! Otherwise, why won't you let us meet him?"

Arissa looked at the four smart children and felt speechless.

"Are you hungry?"

"Yes!" The four children answered simultaneously. "We are famished because we didn't eat much just now."

Arissa hugged them for a moment before she said, "They finished the food. I'll go cook something up for you. Wait for a moment."

With that, she went to the kitchen and started cooking. Meanwhile, the four children ran to the restroom to grab water to wash away the urine on the balcony.

When they went to the dining room and saw the empty plates, they were shocked.

Shortly after, they noticed that there was some leftover soup.

Zachary instantly turned to face the kitchen and yelled, "Mommy, can we drink the soup?"

"Of course!" Arissa replied.

Then, she washed some pasta and threw them in the pot.

Chapter 111 Gavin Tricks Daddy

Gavin and Benjamin went downstairs and got into the car.

The little one stared out the window and seemed unwilling to leave.

Benjamin noticed the look on his face and asked, "You don't want to go home?"

Hearing that, Gavin turned to him and chuckled.

"I like spending time with Mommy!"

Benjamin couldn't help but snort. It has only been a few days since they met each other, but Gavin is already obsessed with Arissa.

Gavin glimpsed at Benjamin and whispered, "Daddy, did you ask your men to redo the DNA test?"

My instincts tell me that I'm Arissa's son!

"You haven't seen the results yet, but you are already calling her your mommy. Why are you so sure?" Benjamin asked as he stared at Gavin.

Gavin blinked innocently and pouted. "I have a gut feeling that she is definitely my mommy!"

"Tell me the truth," Benjamin ordered coldly.

Upon hearing that, Gavin glanced at him and met his dark gaze. His heart trembled slightly.

Is it possible that Daddy already knows about my other siblings?

Benjamin saw that Gavin's lips were tightly pursed and knew that he was holding back, so he grabbed his arm and asked, "Has your hand always been like this?"

Gavin stared at his smooth arm and suddenly came back to his senses.

Crap, I forgot about the fake mole!

"Haha!"

He chuckled awkwardly and carefully peeped at Benjamin.

"Daddy, when did you find out?"

"What do you think?" Benjamin asked as he stared right into his eyes.

Afraid, Gavin hurriedly searched his thoughts and soon recalled that Benjamin came to meet him at the school.

He probably found out during that encounter. It's my fault for forgetting to put on the fake mole.

"What's the name of the child you switched places with?"

It was obvious that Benjamin was getting impatient.

“His name is Jasper York.”

Jasper York?

A glint appeared in his eyes. The hacker’s name is Zachary York...

“What about Zachary York?”

Surprised, Gavin’s eyes widened. “Daddy, you’ve heard of Zachary?”

After hearing that, Benjamin’s heart started racing. I have four children?

“Who else have you met at her house?”

Gavin blinked, glimpsed at Benjamin, then shook his head. “Nobody else!”

He didn’t want to expose Oliver and Jesse, because he wanted Benjamin to figure it out himself.

“Wasn’t there a little girl as well?”

Benjamin narrowed his eyes. It seems that girl is my daughter.

His heart raced at the thought of the adorable girl.

Gavin looked at him and said, “That wasn’t a girl.”

“Daddy, the person you saw was Zachary. He likes to wear dresses!” Gavin tried to fool him.

Hearing that, Benjamin frowned. One of my sons has a weird fetish?

“Were they in the room?”

Gavin met Benjamin’s interrogating gaze and shook his head.

“Nope! They went to Mommy’s friend’s house to play.”

“Gavin,” Benjamin said, lowering his voice, “since when did you learn to lie?”

Gavin immediately lowered his head and whispered, “Daddy, do you finally believe that Arissa is my mommy?”

Benjamin glanced at him and handed him a report. “Look at it yourself!”

Then, he ordered the driver to start the engine.

Before they left, Benjamin took a quick glance at the apartment.

Meanwhile, Gavin realized that he was holding a DNA report, and his eyes lit up with excitement. He carefully read the report line by line.

“Just skip to the conclusion,” Benjamin reminded.

Gavin obediently looked at the last line and yelled in excitement, “I knew it! Mommy and I are blood-related!”

The corners of Benjamin’s lips curled into a slight grin, and he rubbed Gavin’s head gently.

Gavin looked up joyfully and asked, “Daddy, why didn’t you tell Mommy?”

Hearing that, Benjamin snorted. “I was in a bad mood!”

Gavin was speechless.

He blinked in confusion, glanced at his arrogant father, and snickered.

“Are you mad that Mommy forced you out of the house?”

Benjamin paused and knitted his brow.

Can he read minds?

“Haha! Mommy is just worried that you will discover my brothers.”

Gavin was thrilled. He held the report tightly in his arms, moved over to Benjamin’s side, and hugged his arm.

Chapter 112 Keep It A Secret

“Daddy, let’s bring Mommy and my brothers home!”

Hearing that, Benjamin’s gaze flickered. That woman seems to have her guard up against me. She knows that the children are mine, but she continues to hide them from me. Hmph! Besides that, she has a mouth full of lies. That wicked woman.

“Daddy, don’t you want to meet the others?”

“Didn’t you notice that your mommy is very wary of me?” Benjamin sneered.

Gavin pursed his lips and muttered, "Mommy is afraid that you'll steal her children away from her. Furthermore, you still have unfinished business with that evil woman."

"Since when do I have unfinished business with her?" Benjamin scoffed and said with an extremely cold expression.

Danna came to me with a child and told me that it was hers. However, Gavin's biological mother is Arissa. I still don't know the full truth. I must continue to investigate.

"Daddy, do you think Danna is behind Mommy's kidnapping?"

Benjamin had the same doubts, but he didn't have evidence, so he couldn't confront her.

"Mommy loves me dearly, so she definitely didn't abandon me. That evil woman must've kidnapped me and brought me to you to force you to marry her," Gavin said with a deep frown.

He looked exactly like Benjamin.

"Did your mommy tell you that she didn't abandon you?"

Benjamin looked into Gavin's eyes as he waited for his answer.

Gavin took a glimpse at him and shook his head. "Mommy still doesn't know that I know her true identity."

Benjamin raised an eyebrow and asked, "She has no idea that the two of you switched places?"

Gavin grinned devilishly and shook his head. "Mommy is totally clueless!"

Upon hearing that, Benjamin felt much better. It turns out that I'm not the only one who was clueless.

He pinched Gavin's cheek and asked, "You've known about your brothers since a long time ago. Why didn't you tell me?"

This cheeky boy is really good at hiding secrets. No wonder I had a weird feeling that the boy who had been living in my house for the past few days was not Gavin. I was right. He switched places with another boy.

At that moment, Benjamin suddenly recalled Jasper's tearful face, and he couldn't help but smile.

"That's because you still believed in that evil woman at that time. Furthermore, I didn't know whether Mommy lost me by accident or abandoned me."

Benjamin noticed Gavin's sad expression, so he wrapped his hands around him and rubbed his head softly.

"But now you know?"

"Yes!" Gavin replied with a bright smile.

"Mommy came to our house to look for me. She had always been searching for me, so it showed that she loves me. That meant I was taken away."

The corners of Gavin lips were curled upward.

That evil woman is not my mommy! My mommy is Arissa. She's kind and gentle. I'm a child who is loved by my mommy.

After hearing that, Benjamin felt bad for him, and his gaze darkened.

Danna has brought him a lot of pain. She is wicked and cunning, and I was dumb enough to fall for her tricks. There was one point in time when I almost forgave her and marry her for the sake of Gavin's healthy upbringing. Fortunately, I didn't. Danna knows that I hate it when people try to fool me. Yet, she lied to me again and again.

"Your mommy treats you well," Benjamin whispered softly.

It's clear that Arissa loves her children deeply. The treatment that the other children receive is completely different from mine.

Benjamin felt annoyed by the thought.

Is she planning to keep the children a secret and hide them from me forever?

"Hehe! Mommy is really nice!" Gavin said proudly.

Looking at Gavin's delightful smile, Benjamin couldn't help but grin.

"Don't tell anyone that I know about the other kids," Benjamin reminded.

Gavin's eyes widened in surprise. "Why, Daddy?"

Benjamin pinched his chubby cheeks playfully and replied, "No reason."

Gavin furrowed his brows.

Chapter 113 Congratulations To You

“Daddy, do you dislike the others?”

Benjamin raised his eyebrows and said, “Of course not.”

They are all my children. Besides, I’ve met Jasper. He is adorable, but he’s a crybaby.

Gavin let out a sigh of relief.

“Is it because you hate Mommy?”

There was a glint in Benjamin’s eyes, but he calmly said, “I don’t hate her. It’s just that I don’t know her very well.”

“Mommy is a kind person. Daddy, can you stop being so mean to her? She’ll feel scared!”

When Benjamin heard Gavin speak on Arissa’s behalf, he scoffed.

“She doesn’t look scared at all.” Instead, she is even more bad-tempered than I am.

“She is scared of you. Didn’t you notice that she is afraid to speak up in front of you?”

The corner of Benjamin’s lips twitched. That’s because she felt guilty. When she saw that I was going to open the door, she glared at me and warned me to stay away. Hmph! I’ll get my revenge. How dare she take away my children?

“Okay,” he then replied softly.

Seeing that Benjamin had agreed to his request, Gavin smiled from ear to ear.

Benjamin also noticed Gavin’s beaming smile, and he felt delighted.

The pair were in a good mood after having a deep conversation.

After they arrived home, they washed up and got ready to sleep. Naturally, Gavin fell asleep first. As for Benjamin, he went to the study and ordered Ethen, “Find out everything Arissa did five years ago, including the people she talked to!”

“Mr. Graham, why are you suddenly investigating her?” Ethen asked in confusion.

“She is Gavin’s mom!” Benjamin replied bluntly.

Ethen was so shocked that he started to stutter, “R-Really? She’s...”

Benjamin frowned. "I asked Shaun to submit a DNA test. They are blood-related."

"That's great, Mr. Graham! Gavin must be excited!"

Ethen was happy for Gavin.

Benjamin hummed in response. Gavin is indeed excited.

"Ms. York has a daughter. Is she your child too?"

"Yes," Benjamin replied. Then, he added, "But that's a boy!"

A boy?

Ethen was confused. I'm positive that the child I saw was an adorable and lovable little girl.

"Congratulations on finding another child, Mr. Graham!"

With a proud smile, Benjamin said, "I didn't just find one child, I found three!"

"What?" Ethen gasped in surprise. "Quadruplets?"

"Triplets!" Benjamin said with a slight grin. "Zachary is my child too!"

"Congratulations, Mr. Graham!"

He didn't know what else he could say.

"Hurry up and do what I told you," Benjamin commanded before hanging up the phone.

He was in a good mood.

I never thought that I fathered three children that night.

Thinking that it was very possible that Zachary had hacked his computer, he felt a surge of joy.

That boy is smart. He is indeed my son.

At the same moment, after Arissa had cooked up another meal for the four children, she started to clean up the house.

"Mommy, aren't you going to join us?" Zachary asked.

Arissa shook her head and replied, "I have already eaten a lot just now. You can finish it up."

Then, she returned to her bedroom and noticed the pile of clothes and underwear that were thrown onto the bed a while ago.

At that moment, Arissa remembered that Benjamin had seen the mess too, and she couldn't help but feel embarrassed.

Oh my goodness! This is embarrassing! He is my boss! I can't believe my boss saw my underwear...

Arissa covered her face.

Jeez. Why is Benjamin so rude? He didn't even ask my permission and just opened the room doors as he pleased. Where is my privacy?

She hurriedly cleaned up the mess as she cursed Benjamin under her breath.

It will be awkward meeting him in the office tomorrow. I think it's better if I don't wear this set of underwear.

Chapter 114 She Finally Realized The Switch

After Arissa finished cleaning up the room, she went to the dining room and saw that the four children were almost done with their meal.

The three boys had finished their food. Jesse was the only one who was still eating.

"Go take a shower. I'll wash the dishes," Arissa said dotingly as she watched her three sons wash the dishes in the kitchen.

"Go have your shower, Mommy. We can clean up after ourselves. Besides, we just finished eating. It wouldn't be good for us to head straight into the bath," Zachary turned to her and said.

"He's right, Mommy. We just ate. It would be bad for us to bathe right after a meal."

"Mommy, go have your shower. Leave the dishes to us!"

Arissa looked at them and smiled. "Okay. I'll go take a shower now."

Then, she glanced at Jesse and urged, "Jesse, hurry up. Your brothers have already finished their meal."

"Okay, Mommy!"

Jesse nodded.

Arissa noticed her oily lips, so she went over and wiped them off before she grabbed her clothes and stepped into the bathroom.

Just when she finished her shower, her phone rang.

“Mommy, your phone is ringing!”

Oliver ran over to fetch her phone.

When he saw that the caller was Bradley, he yelled, “Mommy, it’s Mr. Hinton!”

Arissa took the phone and ordered the children to go shower before she answered the call.

Bradley was at the car dealership looking at cars for Arissa.

After a few minutes of discussion, they made a decision on a car model and ended the call.

Later, Arissa went to the bathroom and saw that her three sons were still in the bathtub.

“Aren’t you going to wash your hair?” she asked as she walked over.

The three boys’ hair were wet, and they looked adorable.

Arissa pumped a handful of shampoo and started to gently wash their hair.

“Mommy, we can handle it ourselves!”

Zachary was blushing.

Seeing that, Jasper and Oliver’s faces turned slightly red too.

“Mommy, we can handle it ourselves. Please go out!”

“Mommy, we’ve already washed our hair yesterday!”

Arissa was amused by their embarrassed expressions, so she teased, “I haven’t given you all a bath in a long time. Can’t you let me wash your hair tonight?”

The three boys glanced at each other speechlessly.

We have always bathed on our own. Why is Mommy suddenly in the mood to give us a bath?

Arisa ignored the awkward atmosphere and quickly washed their hair.

She washed their hair one by one smoothly as if she was a machine.

After that was done, she washed their bodies.

When Arissa was wiping them dry, she suddenly noticed the bruise on Jasper's arm, and she frowned.

Why does this bruise look so familiar? This looks like... the bruise on Gavin's arm!

Jasper noticed the look on Arissa's face, so he raised his arm and waved it in front of her.

"Mommy?"

Arisa instantly came back to her senses and asked, "Jasper, where did this bruise come from?"

Jasper blinked innocently and said, "I accidentally hit something!"

The corner of Arissa's lips twitched, and she pinched his nose.

"Are you the boy that I met the other day?" she asked as she stared at the bruise.

This is definitely the same bruise I saw the last time. That means that the boy I met at Castlemore Manor was Jasper!

Jasper giggled and decided not to hide it from her anymore.

"Mommy, it took you such a long time to realize. Hahaha..."

Upon hearing that, Arissa exclaimed in surprise, "It really was you!"

Jasper burst into laughter.

Meanwhile, Zachary and Oliver were both infected by his laughter and started snickering.

"Mommy, Gavin has been pretending to be Jasper since we came back here, and Jasper had been staying with Daddy," Zachary explained.

Arisa was shocked.

She didn't expect the two boys had switched places.

Furthermore, they had switched places since day one.

Yet, she was totally clueless.

No wonder I have a feeling that Jasper has been acting weird, and sometimes, Gavin reminds me of Jasper. It turns out that “Gavin” was Jasper and “Jasper” was Gavin all along.

Chapter 115 Mommy Is Really Dumb

“Why didn’t you tell me?”

Arisa was furious, and she glared at the three children in anger.

They are really good at keeping secrets.

“Mommy, it’s your fault for not telling us we have other siblings!” Jasper countered innocently.

Arisa knocked his head lightly and said, “That’s because I wasn’t certain whether he was alive or...”

I wasn’t sure if he was alive or dead, and I didn’t want to break your hearts.

“Mommy, to be honest, we have also been keeping secrets from you. We know what happened. Danna is the one behind all of this, isn’t she?” Zachary asked.

They wanted to know more about the evil woman.

“It’s too dangerous for you to know so much!” Arissa exclaimed and reminded them.

“You should leave it all to the adults. If Danna finds out about you, all of you will be in great danger.”

“Mommy, we are not afraid!” Oliver patted his chest and said.

Arisa sighed and felt relieved.

The children are desperate to find out the truth of the whole incident.

She patted their heads and realized that their hair was still wet, and they were still naked.

Arisa hurriedly got them dressed and grabbed the hairdryer.

"You little brats made me doubt myself countless times over the past few days. I kept seeing glimpses of you in Gavin and glimpses of Gavin in you. From now on, you are forbidden from keeping secrets from me!"

The three boys snickered.

"Mommy, it's your fault for not being smart enough to recognize us," Jasper teased.

Arissa tapped his head and said, "Stop gloating! It's a miracle that I haven't lost my mind."

How could I even imagine that the two of them switched places? They had just returned to the country. It would be too much of a coincidence.

Arissa recalled the time when she found Jasper back at the airport. He acted weird, and he stood stiffly when she hugged him.

However, she was so overwhelmed with the joy of finding him that she didn't realize it.

"Who was the first who found out that Jasper and Gavin switched places?"

Zachary immediately pointed at Jasper and said, "Of course it was Jasper!"

Jasper didn't even tell them that he had switched places.

"Zachary, weren't you the first to find out?" Jasper asked with a smile.

"How is it possible? Of course, you and Gavin are the first two to know. I'm the third one who found out about it!" Zachary rebuked.

Oliver grinned and joined in. "I was the fourth!"

Just then, Jesse ran into the room and looked at them in confusion.

"Mommy, what are you talking about?"

Arissa looked at Jesse, who could never hide secrets. She patted her head and asked, "Jesse, did you know that Gavin and Jasper switched places?"

Upon hearing that, Jesse's eyes widened in shock.

Then, she glanced at Arissa, then at Jasper, and scratched her head.

"Switched places?"

Based on the look of confusion on her face, Arissa knew that she was clueless too, and she instantly felt better.

At least I'm not the last person to find out.

"Mommy, Jesse had no idea. We knew that she would report it to you, so we didn't tell her," Zachary said with a devious smile.

Arissa knocked on his head again and said, "Go and dry your hair! Your head is filled with bad ideas!"

Zachary laughed in response.

Then, he led Jasper and Oliver to blow dry their hair.

"Jesse, let's go take a bath."

With that, Arissa brought Jesse into the bathroom.

"Mommy, are you saying that Gavin and Jasper switched places?"

At that moment, Jesse finally started to understand what they were talking about.

"Yes!"

Arissa chuckled when she saw Jesse's shocked expression. "Are you the only one who didn't realize?"

Jesse blinked adorably and said, "I only wondered why Jasper suddenly treated me so well!"

Arissa was bemused. "Jesse, do you like Gavin?"

"Yes!" Jesse smiled so widely that Arissa could see her missing front teeth.

After hearing that, Arissa patted Jesse's head and said, "Gavin likes you too!"

Chapter 116 How Dare She Ignore Me

"Hehe!" Jesse giggled happily. "Don't worry, Mommy. All of us likes Gavin a lot. We already met him in school... Ah! I remember now! It was actually Gavin who was at our house, not Jasper. The two of them lied to me!"

Jesse frowned when she realized that.

She had been very puzzled when she saw Jasper carrying a schoolbag, but he had told her that it was actually Gavin's.

What a liar!

Arisa smiled as she removed Jesse's clothes and gave her a bath.

"Mommy, Gavin is calling!" Oliver shouted from outside the door.

"Answer it quickly," Arisa urged as she turned to the door.

Oliver opened the door and put the phone on loudspeaker.

Gavin's voice was heard from the other end of the phone.

"Mommy, Daddy and I have reached home," Gavin's adorable voice said.

Arisa smiled dotingly. "That's good, Sweetheart. Take a shower and go to bed early. See you tomorrow."

"See you tomorrow, Mommy. Good night." Gavin was very happy.

Arisa's lips curved into a smile. "Good night, Sweetheart."

She waited for Gavin to hang up before putting the phone away.

"Mommy, why did Gavin call?" Oliver asked with a frown.

"He's your older brother." Arisa pinched Oliver's cheek.

Oliver's frown deepened. "Mommy, how do you know that he's older?"

Arisa was amused. "The one who was taken away was definitely the one who was born earlier. I remember that he had already been taken away when I gave birth to all of you."

As Arisa recalled the past, she blamed herself for being useless and getting set up.

Her child had been abducted, but she was too weak to get them back.

Oliver noticed that Arisa was caught up in her memories. "I understand now, Mommy. Go and give Jesse a bath."

Arisa looked at him. "What did you understand?"

"Gavin is older than me!" Oliver giggled.

It would be nice to have an older brother.

Having another younger brother would just be another source of frustration.

Jasper caused trouble everywhere he went and would not listen to them, making them worry about him all the time.

Arissa smiled. She quickly finished Jesse's bath and brought her four children to bed.

The four of them were ecstatic as they rarely got to sleep with her.

After playing for a while more, they finally went to sleep.

Benjamin was overwhelmed by emotions. He sat in the study for a long while before finally heading upstairs.

He went to Gavin's room and saw that Gavin was asleep, nestled cutely under the blanket.

Benjamin sat on the edge of the bed and caressed Gavin's face.

After a while, he tucked Gavin in properly and returned to his own bedroom.

Benjamin frowned. It's been a while since we returned home. Why hasn't she called to ask if we got home safely?

Then, he realized that Gavin could have already called her. Benjamin was frustrated. Should I give her a call?

Benjamin stood in the room with knitted brows. It looked as though he was troubled about a business deal worth billions.

It was just a phone call, but he struggled for a long time.

He finally made the decision to call her, but no one answered.

After confirming that he was dialing the correct number, he tried again.

Once again, no one answered the phone.

Benjamin's face darkened. How dare this woman ignore my call?

Anger surged in his chest.

He could not help but send her a message: Call me once you see this!

He waited for half an hour, but Arissa did not return his call.

Benjamin's aura grew colder. This woman actually ignored me? Why is she so nice to Gavin but so cold to me?

That night, Benjamin was so angry that he only fell asleep late at night.

Chapter 117 Jesse Refuses To Get Up

In the end, Benjamin only fell asleep after squeezing into Gavin's bed.

Gavin rubbed his eyes in surprise when he woke up in the middle of the night and saw Benjamin beside him.

Why is Daddy sleeping here? Gavin was puzzled.

Thinking that he was dreaming, he reached out and poked Benjamin's cheek.

Benjamin woke up the moment Gavin touched his cheek.

He opened his eyes and asked sleepily, "Why are you awake?"

"Daddy, why are you in my room?" Gavin asked after confirming that he was not dreaming.

"I'm accompanying you." There was no change in Benjamin's handsome face.

Gavin pursed his lips. He came to accompany me when I was already asleep?

Gavin turned around and got off the bed.

"Where are you going?" Benjamin's brows furrowed.

"I need to pee." Gavin glanced at him then headed to the bathroom.

Benjamin waited for Gavin to return before also making a trip to the bathroom. When he returned, Gavin was still awake.

"Daddy, are you having trouble sleeping?" Gavin asked sleepily.

Benjamin simply answered, "Go to sleep."

Gavin glanced at Benjamin, yawned and adjusted the blanket before closing his eyes and falling asleep.

Benjamin laid down beside him and hugged him as he listened to his deep and regular breathing.

Gavin's milky scent reminded him of her.

She had the same scent on her body.

Benjamin fell asleep unknowingly as he listened to Gavin's even breathing.

The next day, Arissa woke up early.

She left some oatmeal porridge to simmer before going back to sleep.

At the Graham residence, Benjamin woke up naturally.

He washed up and went for a run.

When he returned, Gavin was already dressed and carrying his schoolbag, prepared to leave.

Benjamin frowned. "You're going to school so early?"

"I promised Mommy that I would go to her place to have breakfast," Gavin said with his head tilted back as he looked at Benjamin.

Benjamin's eyes flashed as he said, "I'll send you there."

With that, Benjamin headed upstairs.

Gavin turned to look at Benjamin heading up the stairs. Does Daddy want to go to Mommy's place with me?

Gavin giggled as he headed back into the house. He sat in the living room and waited for Benjamin.

In less than five minutes, Benjamin returned and dressed in a suit.

His hair was slicked back, making him look particularly handsome.

Every gesture gave off an air of nobility.

Gavin could not help but admire him.

"Gavin, let's go," Benjamin called out to Gavin.

Gavin smiled and went to him.

"Mr. Graham, aren't you and Gavin having breakfast?" Edwin hurried over and asked when he saw that they were neatly dressed and about to leave.

"No, we're not. We'll have our breakfast somewhere else," Benjamin answered and left with Gavin.

Edwin thought that Benjamin was bringing Gavin to have breakfast at a restaurant and smiled.

The amount of time they spent together had increased quite a fair bit recently.

Arisa had set an alarm. When the alarm rang, she immediately got up and went to the kitchen to check on the oatmeal porridge. Then, she started preparing more food for breakfast.

As the children were all growing, she did not make breakfast a simple affair. She prepared a large amount of food with balanced nutritional value.

Once breakfast was done, she woke the children up.

Jesse was not a morning person. Even after all of her brothers were up, she still refused to get up.

"Sweetheart, wake up." Arissa patted Jesse's butt gently.

"Mommy, I don't want to go to school. I want to sleep!" Jesse whined, refusing to get up.

Chapter 118 I Do Not Want To Stay At Home Alone

"Don't you have lots of fun at school? Are you going to stay at home alone while your brothers go to school?" Arissa coaxed Jesse exasperatedly.

"No. They don't have to go to school too. We'll stay at home and play!" Jesse shook her head as she answered, her eyes still closed.

Arisa sighed and patted Jesse's head.

The three boys had already gotten up.

They realized that Jesse was not with them as they brushed their teeth together.

"Mommy, is Jesse awake?"

"No. She's still asleep." Arissa started brushing her teeth.

"I'll wake her up." Jasper ran to the room with his toothbrush in hand.

"Jesse, wake up. Everyone will be leaving soon and you'll be the only one left at home. What if someone comes and takes you away?" Jasper said as he pulled at the blanket.

"No!" Jesse cried sleepily.

She just wanted to go back to sleep.

"Wake up! If you don't get up now, I'll tell the teacher!"

"Jasper, you're so mean!" Jesse sniffled pitifully.

"Get up quickly. Mommy got up early to make delicious food for us. We'll eat everything and not leave any for you!"

When Jesse heard that, she got up in a hurry, but her eyes were still drooping sleepily.

Arisa entered the room after brushing her teeth and smiled when she saw Jesse's sleepy look.

She picked Jesse up and exited the room.

"Are you still sleepy?" Arisa pinched Jesse's nose, as she laid on her shoulder.

"Mommy!" Her adorable voice would make anyone's heart melt.

Arisa caressed Jesse's hair, which looked like a bird's nest.

"Mommy, Jasper said that he would not leave anything for me to eat!"

Arisa was nonplussed as she looked at Jesse, who still had her eyes closed.

Only food would make her get up so quickly.

"If you wash your face and brush your teeth now, I'll let you eat more later."

"But, Mommy, I want to sleep!" Jesse whined and hugged her neck.

Arisa turned her head and kissed Jesse's face. "Jesse, if you continue to sleep, we'll finish our breakfast and leave. Do you want to stay at home alone?"

Jesse shook her head and rubbed her eyes. "No, I don't want to be alone!"

"Then go wash your face and brush your teeth. I'll send all of you to school," Arisa coaxed as she passed Jesse her toothbrush with some toothpaste already on it.

"Jesse, come and brush your teeth. Mommy still needs to wash her face and put on makeup," Zachary said to Jesse with a frown.

"Mommy, I'll brush my teeth myself," Jesse said softly.

"Okay." Arissa patted Jesse's head and let her down.

"Jesse, why are you so lazy today? Mommy has been up for quite a while. We need to take more initiative," Oliver nagged Jesse.

Jesse brushed her teeth sleepily and answered, "I know, Oliver. I slept late last night."

Arissa urged her children to hurry up as she squeezed out some facial cleanser on her palm and washed her face.

Zachary, Oliver, and Jasper grabbed their own towels.

They stood on small stools and wet their towels to wipe their faces.

Once done, they obediently placed their towels back neatly.

Zachary took Jesse's towel and helped her wipe her face after she finished brushing her teeth.

Oliver and Jasper waited for Jesse to be done before all of them went to change their clothes.

"Hurry up, Mommy!" Jesse became very energetic and urged Arissa.

"All right!" Arissa answered with a smile and sped up.

"Go and have your breakfast first, Sweethearts! I'll be right over!"

Chapter 119 Is There A Man

The children were self-reliant. Getting a bowl of oatmeal porridge was nothing difficult for them.

A few minutes later, Arissa headed to the bedroom for a change of clothes and exited with her makeup done.

Just as she was heading to the dining area, the doorbell rang.

Arissa was surprised. Is Bradley here to pick me up already?

She walked over and opened the door.

She was very surprised by who she saw.

Benjamin stood there with Gavin in his arms. When he saw that she was about to close the door, he stepped forward and entered the house.

Arisa blinked. "Mr. Graham, you... Good morning."

"Good morning, Mommy!" Gavin greeted happily.

Arisa smiled at him brightly.

Benjamin glanced at her then walked into the house with Gavin in his arms. "Gavin wanted to have breakfast here, so I brought him over."

Arisa's lips twitched as she looked at the man who treated her house like his own.

Her heart dropped when she thought of the four children.

She closed the door and quickly followed them.

"Daddy, you should change your shoes. They're dirty," Gavin reminded Benjamin.

Benjamin paused and glanced at Gavin, then turned around and happened to see Arisa's flustered expression.

Arisa hurriedly suppressed the panic in her heart and smiled sheepishly. "It's alright, Mr. Graham. No need to change your shoes."

Benjamin shot her a glance but still went to the door to change his shoes.

His brows furrowed when he saw the men's shoes on her shoe cabinet.

Benjamin did not wear the shoes but simply walked into the house in his socks.

Arisa hurriedly placed the shoes in front of him. "Mr. Graham, please wear these shoes. My house is a little dirty."

Benjamin did not move, his gaze fixed solely on her. "Is there a man in your family?"

There was an inexplicable feeling of unhappiness in Benjamin's heart.

Arisa looked at him and shook her head. "No, there isn't. I just prepared it for when my friend comes over."

"Friend?"

Benjamin's brows furrowed. He knew that she was talking about a male friend.

His face darkened.

Arissa glanced at him and answered warily, "Yes, a friend like you, Mr. Graham. You have these shoes to change into even though you suddenly came over."

"Am I not welcomed here?" Benjamin sneered and carried Gavin into the kitchen.

"Of course you are. You're always welcomed here." Arissa laughed awkwardly and followed closely behind.

The kitchen was empty. The four children had vanished.

Arissa's nervousness dissipated immediately.

Benjamin's eyebrows rose when he noticed that there were only two dishes. Is she having breakfast alone?

He glanced at her and said, "I haven't eaten either. Go and prepare some more food."

Benjamin placed Gavin onto a chair and sat down as well.

Arissa smiled at him half-heartedly and went to get them utensils.

"Thank you, Mommy," Gavin thanked her.

Arissa ruffled his hair dotingly and said softly, "You're welcome. I'll go and prepare more food. Eat this first. Have some of these first, Mr. Graham."

She quickly went to get them a bowl of oatmeal porridge each, then went to fry some eggs.

The four children had taken food with them when they went to hide.

Arissa would not need to worry about them going hungry then.

However, she struggled to think of a way to make the man, who had suddenly appeared in her kitchen, leave.

Then, she could send the children to school.

She accidentally burnt the eggs as she was deep in thought.

Benjamin raised his brows as he looked at the busy woman in the kitchen.

His expression darkened.

Gavin looked around and suddenly realized that the four other children were all hiding on the balcony.

He quickly looked away and looked at Benjamin, who only had eyes for Arissa.

Chapter 120 Thank You For The Hearty Meal

Gavin was amused.

“Daddy, don’t you think Mommy’s made a wonderful breakfast?”

A sharp look fled across Benjamin’s eyes as he met his son’s bright gaze.

With a faint nod, he answered, “It’s not bad.”

“What do you even mean by that?”

Arissa glowered at Benjamin, for she took pride in her culinary skills.

“I know it’s delicious! Could it be that you just can’t stomach peasant food, Mr. Graham?”

Benjamin studied her broodingly.

“Can you seriously call this fried egg delicious?” he quipped, glancing at the burnt egg on his plate.

For a moment, Arissa seemed stunned.

“I got lost in thought, so I wasn’t paying attention. This is a mishap. It doesn’t mean I don’t know how to fry an egg. You will know I speak the truth after tasting it!”

She picked up her fork and reached for a fried egg, which she offered to Benjamin. Then, she placed another two onto Gavin’s plate, leaving the burnt one for herself.

Benjamin glared at her, still frowning. “Why would you even want to eat the burnt one?”

Arissa looked at him before picking out the burnt part of the egg with her fork.

“It’s still edible.”

With that, she took a bite, enjoying her egg along with the oatmeal porridge she made.

“You can have mine, Mommy!”

Gavin offered Arissa one of the eggs on his plate.

"You can have it. I will get something else to eat."

Arissa smiled at Gavin before putting more food onto his plate.

"Eat up, Sweetheart!"

When she sensed Benjamin gazing at her, she turned her head to meet his dark eyes. Her heart sank.

"You sure know how to put up an act," Benjamin commented impassively.

Arissa, who quickly caught on to his implication, was momentarily stunned.

I'm not pretending to be Gavin's mother. I am his mother.

"I'm only trying to cheer him up. Isn't that the most important thing? Am I wrong, Mr. Graham?"

Benjamin's eyes darkened when he gazed into her twinkling eyes.

"You have a silver tongue, Ms. York."

Arissa pulled her lips into a thin line, putting an end to their conversation. Instead, she glanced at Gavin lovingly.

"Sweetheart, how is breakfast?"

I would have prepared more if I had known Gavin's coming over. I worried that he wouldn't like my cooking, since he's used to delicacies.

In the end, Arissa was still slightly unnerved.

"It's all right. Mommy, your cooking is amazing! I like it!"

Gavin relished his food.

Arissa was grateful that he wasn't giving an empty compliment. He actually liked the food.

"Eat as much as you want, then. Watch out. Don't burn yourself."

Benjamin did not like the Arissa was paying so much attention to Gavin.

Narrowing his eyes, he swept a glance at her.

Arisa took note of the man's penetrating gaze. Yet, she chose to ignore him. She ate her food in silence.

All the while, the four children observed what was happening in the dining room from their hiding place on the balcony.

None of them touched their oatmeal porridge, for they did not want to cause a commotion. They munched on other food instead.

Arisa wondered where they had gone off to. The doors to both bedrooms were wide open.

After checking on Benjamin, who was having his breakfast as he sat on the master's seat, she stole a glance at her surroundings.

She didn't find the children. Instead, she happened to meet Benjamin's questioning gaze.

With a smile, she lowered her head and went back to eating.

Benjamin eventually looked away when he failed to notice anything amiss.

After breakfast, Arisa held Gavin in her arms for a while and gave him a kiss on his cheek.

"Sweetheart, have you had enough to eat?"

"Yes. Thank you for breakfast, Mommy. Both Daddy and I are full. I hope we're not intruding."

Gavin was quite mature and considerate for his age.

"Of course not!"

Arisa pinched his nose affectionately.

"I will gladly cook for you whenever you visit. You can always call me before you drop in."

Chapter 121 Is This Guy Her Friend

"Sure!"

Gavin smiled, his eyes narrowing into slits. Blushing, he kissed Arisa on her cheek.

Absolutely charmed by his cuteness, Arissa couldn't help but kiss him again before putting him down.

"Sweetheart, go to school with your father. I have to get to work soon."

She stroked the boy's head lovingly.

I have another four kids in the house. I have to take them to school later, so I can't have Benjamin sticking around.

"Let's send Gavin off to school together before you head to work," Benjamin said, extending an invitation.

Tucking her hair away, Arissa declined politely, "I appreciate your kindness, Mr. Graham. I will be driving to the company. You don't have to go out of your way to do this."

Upon noticing her somewhat distant attitude, Benjamin frowned.

"Go on, Gav. You need to get to school."

Arissa pulled Gavin into her arms to lead him to the doorway.

Aware of Arissa's predicament, Gavin showed his cooperation by dissuading Benjamin from the idea, "Come on, Daddy. Mommy isn't used to sitting in your car yet. We'll do this some other time."

After checking on his son, Benjamin put on his shoes at the door.

Then, he held Gavin's hand before reminding Arissa, "Don't be late for work."

Arissa's lips quivered for a moment before she waved him goodbye.

"Drive safe, Mr. Graham. Bye-bye, Gavin!"

"Bye, Mommy!"

Gavin turned around to wave at Arissa, whose eyes narrowed as she smiled.

Before the father-son duo even got into the elevator, she shut the door.

The moment Benjamin heard that, he glanced back at the door with a frown on his face.

"Let's go down, Daddy!" Seeing the morose expression on his father's face, Gavin tugged on his hand as a reminder to get moving.

Benjamin retracted his gaze and led Gavin downstairs.

Incidentally, they bumped into Bradley, who had brought the car over. Bradley was about to go up the stairs just when the pair were about to exit the apartment complex.

“Hey-”

Although Bradley was delighted to see Gavin, he cut his greeting short when he got a close look of Benjamin’s face.

As Bradley studied Gavin, he realized he couldn’t tell him apart from his siblings.

He surmised that the grown man was Benjamin, whereas the young boy was Gavin.

It was his first time meeting Benjamin in person, and it turned out to be a terrifying experience.

After all, the man was born with an air of nobility.

His chilly aura was especially menacing to the point that Bradley couldn’t look him in the eye.

“Hello, Mr. Hinton!” Gavin took the initiative to greet Bradley.

He recognizes me?

Bradley’s eyes lit up as he waved at Gavin. “Hello!”

Gavin smiled demurely.

After nodding at Benjamin, Bradley entered the apartment complex.

With a frown, Benjamin lowered his gaze at Gavin. “Who is that man, Gavin?”

“He’s Mr. Hinton. He’s Mommy’s friend!”

Gavin looked at Benjamin. That was all the information the boy had.

Benjamin’s face fell.

Is that the friend Arissa’s talking about?

His frown deepened when he did a double-take on Bradley, who had an unconventional taste in fashion.

Is this effeminate guy her friend?

Benjamin jibed internally.

With a solemn look on his face, he led Gavin into the car before driving away.

At the same time, Arissa called out to her children in her apartment unit, "Sweethearts, you can come out now!"

Within a few seconds, the four children came in from the balcony with empty bowls and plates in their hands.

Astonished, Arissa exclaimed, "So that's where you've been hiding!"

"Mommy, why did Daddy drop by?" Jessica pouted.

If her brothers hadn't dragged her into hiding, she would've liked to meet her father.

"He came with Gavin."

Arissa paused for a moment before pinching on Jessica's nose smilingly.

"Why are you referring to him as your father? You haven't even met him."

Jessica narrowed her eyes as she chuckled. "I know he's our father!"

Next, Arissa checked on her three sons. Her lips quivered at the look of determination on their faces.

Chapter 122 An Evil Glare

"Finish your breakfast quickly. We need to leave soon. I've called Bradley, but he isn't here yet. Did he oversleep?"

Just as Arissa picked up her phone, the doorbell rang.

The four children looked at each other, wondering if they needed to hide themselves again.

Arissa let them continue eating.

She rushed to the door and looked through the peephole. Seeing it was just Bradley, she heaved a sigh of relief.

"It's Mr. Hinton, everyone. Finish your breakfast quickly!" She opened the door and let Bradley in.

The corner of her lips quirked into a smile. "I thought you overslept."

Bradley grinned good-naturedly. "I stayed up all night at an Internet café playing video games, so I never slept. It just slipped my mind."

Arissa shook her head, smiling inwardly. She extended her hand to accept her new car keys from him.

"I already placed all the documents you need in the car, so don't worry about it," said Bradley. "I'll come over later to help register your license plate number."

"Oh, thank you!" Arissa placed a hand on Bradley's shoulder. "Have you had breakfast yet?"

Bradley laughed and made a beeline for the dining room. "Nope!"

Arissa checked the time. They were cutting it close.

She saw that there were still two servings of oatmeal left, so she let Bradley have one bowl for himself. "Eat up and rest. I'll be leaving soon, so just make yourself at home."

"Alright, Boss."

Bradley leaned toward the children. "I suppose the four of you ate everything?" he teased.

"No, it was Daddy!" Jesse replied.

Zachary, Oliver and Jasper nodded fervently.

"Yeah! Daddy and Gavin came here to eat."

Hearing this surprised Bradley. "Did you meet them?"

The children both shook and nodded their heads.

Bradley laughed. "What are you trying to say?"

"We didn't meet them here. But we saw Daddy through the surveillance cameras!" Zachary explained brightly.

Bradley saw that Arissa was approaching and hastily told them to get back to their breakfast.

"I saw Gavin and Benjamin downstairs while I was coming up, Boss," Bradley informed her while he ate.

Arissa smiled. It was as she had guessed. "They came over for breakfast."

"Gavin even waved to me. He recognized me!" Bradley smiled. "But that Benjamin gave me such a cold shoulder."

Arissa was bemused.

Benjamin certainly gave most people a frightening first impression.

He appeared cold, intimidating, and expressionless.

"Is everyone ready?" Arissa looked to her children.

Zachary, Jasper, Oliver, and Jesse wiped their mouths and said in unison, "Ready!"

She nodded, "Get your schoolbags, then. We need to leave now, or Mommy's going to be late to work."

The four children said their goodbyes to Bradley and rushed off to get their bags.

"How about you go straight to work while I send them to school?" Bradley suggested.

"We can all go together. It's along the way, anyway. Just eat and rest up. The circles under your eyes are so dark!" Arissa pointed them out, smiling.

Bradley chuckled.

"Enough video games!" she admonished.

Seeing that the children were ready, she led them to the door.

"Bye, Mr. Hinton!"

"Bye, kids!" Bradley waved to them, beaming.

Arissa opened the door. "Come on!"

They hurried outside.

Arissa brought them down the stairs, bundled them into the car, and started driving to their school.

The four children were excited to be in the new car and chattered all the way there.

Arissa dropped them off at the school with a smile on her lips.

She arrived at the office with only twenty seconds to spare.

Arissa sighed with relief, knowing that she wasn't late.

Unbeknownst to her, someone was shooting her an evil glare with dark and murderous intent.

Chapter 123 Look Your Fill

Danna seethed from her car as she watched Arissa enter the Graham Group's building.

Didn't I get rid of this woman? What is she still doing here?

No wonder Benjamin had been so surly with her lately. It was all Arissa's fault.

It had never crossed Danna's mind that Arissa might work here.

She was gripped with mad jealousy, and a sense of unease settled in her gut.

Danna clenched her palm into a fist and glared daggers in Arissa's direction.

Arissa had to be out of the picture. If Benjamin ever realized that Gavin wasn't really her son, she would lose her place in the Graham family.

Even worse, it was likely that Benjamin's instincts would compel him to probe further into the sordid events of the past.

Danna trembled as she thought about the other child.

She drove away at once.

Arissa had just stepped inside when Ethen instructed her to go to Benjamin's office.

As she stood before the door of her CEO's office, she straightened her clothing and knocked once.

"Come in!" A low, deep voice intoned, carrying a tinge of indifference.

Arissa gulped and opened the door.

Benjamin was reading documents behind his desk. He hadn't even looked up.

Noticing that he appeared busy, Arissa stepped forward and waited in silence.

Her gaze lingered on him unconsciously.

He was extremely handsome in a way that would turn heads and attract attention in a crowd.

With dark brows, a straight nose, and eyes so deep one could lose herself in, it was as if his every feature had been perfectly sculpted. Here was a man who had been blessed by the heavens.

His intimidating expression made Arissa turn away, but he commanded a rich and compelling presence that drew her back in.

Arissa's cheeks reddened, and her heart skipped a beat.

This man was the father of her children.

He was so wealthy and high-ranking to be practically unreachable.

If I told Benjamin the truth, would he help me?

Feeling her gaze, Benjamin finally looked up and faced her directly.

Arissa's dazed expression gave him an odd sense of delight.

"Looked your fill yet?" His eyes flashed with a hint of derision.

Arissa had returned his gaze and looked away sheepishly. "My sincerest apologies, Mr. Graham!"

Her heart beat faster and she could feel her cheeks reddening.

Being caught in the act of openly staring at someone was plainly embarrassing.

"What are you apologizing for?" His piercing gaze compelled her to speak.

She gaped momentarily, then explained in a small voice, "I shouldn't be daydreaming in your office, Mr. Graham."

He stared at her intently. "What were you thinking about?"

Arissa raised her head, then flinched away from the intensity of his gaze.

There was no way she could admit to what she had really been doing back there.

"What did you call me up for, Mr. Graham?" Arissa asked, avoiding the question.

"You're late!" Benjamin said suddenly.

Arissa's jaw dropped.

"I wasn't!" she protested weakly.

She had been cutting it close by a few seconds, but Arissa didn't see how it meant she was late.

"Don't you know that managers need to come in ten minutes earlier?" His eyes flashed sternly. "As a manager, being almost late to work doesn't set a good precedent either."

She was speechless.

Was this really all he had called her up for?

"I won't do it again."

Even though he had just come to her house to eat breakfast, it was as though he no longer recognized her.

It was said that the way to a man's heart was through his stomach, but clearly, this statement didn't apply to Benjamin.

Benjamin eyed her up and down, noting her lack of response. He raised an eyebrow. "Do you feel I am being unfair?"

Arissa stared blankly. "I'd never!"

Benjamin huffed. "Come here!"

She froze, not knowing what he wanted to do.

Is this even appropriate?

Chapter 124 Dine With Me

Benjamin tapped the table. "Well?"

Arissa couldn't make sense of the man in front of her. His expression was completely impassive.

Her imagination was running wild, and she tried her best to tamp it down. Surely there was a proper explanation for all of this.

She walked forward.

Now, Arissa stood just a few steps away from him.

Benjamin's gaze swept over her clothing and settled on her bare calves. He furrowed his brows.

Arissa shrank in on herself as she noticed his dark expression. Her heart thudded.

“Is this what you wear to work?” Benjamin’s gaze was sharp.

His expression grew darker as he remembered that there were mostly men in the IT department.

Puzzled, she looked down at her attire.

She wore a proper knee-length A-line skirt.

It wasn’t revealing in the least. Does the company really have such a strict dress code?

“This is how I dressed overseas, Mr. Graham. Is something wrong?”

Most white-collar women she knew dressed as she did. Arissa couldn’t find any fault with what she wore.

“I don’t care what you did overseas. Do not come to work like this again!” Benjamin commanded in a low voice.

The corner of her mouth twitched downwards, but she made herself reply, “I understand.”

Seeing that this man was still glaring at her legs, Arissa’s felt her face heat up. “Mr. Graham, does the company have a code of conduct?”

Benjamin’s gaze finally met her face. He raised a brow. “It does.”

“I’ll ask Mr. Frank for a copy and follow it exactly. Is there anything else, Mr. Graham?” Arissa couldn’t think of any other flaws, but clearly it was all up to him.

She couldn’t help but scoff inwardly. How could this man have so many rules?

Benjamin’s gaze swept over her a final time. “No, you can get back to work. Be early next time!”

“I will.” Arissa nodded and turned, leaving Benjamin’s office. She breathed a sigh of relief.

The first thing Arissa did was get a copy of the company’s code of conduct from Ethen’s office.

Now she could finally head back to her own office and start working through the main tasks of the day.

Afterward, she flipped to the section of the code of conduct outlining the company's dress code. It clearly stated that a knee-length skirt was proper office attire.

Arissa grimaced, feeling dejected.

It appeared that Benjamin had just done that on purpose to make her squirm.

By noon, she and her colleagues went to the cafeteria for lunch.

Arissa had just sat down when her phone rang.

Seeing that it was a stranger's number, she rejected the call immediately.

She had just picked up her fork when it started ringing again.

She answered reluctantly, "Hello?"

"Where are you?" A low, commanding voice was on the other end of the phone.

Arissa froze, realizing that it was none other than Benjamin Graham himself.

"Mr. Graham?"

"Where are you now?"

Arissa looked at her colleagues, all having their lunches. "I'm having lunch in the cafeteria. Is something the matter, Mr. Graham?"

"Come to my office at once!" Just like that, he hung up.

Arissa looked wistfully at her uneaten lunch.

She addressed her colleagues. "Enjoy your food, everyone. Mr. Graham is calling me up. Could someone help to bring my lunch back to my office when you leave?"

A few of her colleagues were nodding. "Go on ahead, Ms. York. You can leave it to us."

Arissa rushed to Benjamin's office and saw Ethen emerging with his own lunch.

As he saw her, he exclaimed, "Mr. Graham is waiting for you, Ms. York! Go on!"

"Yes, all right!" Arissa had the feeling Ethen was addressing her more respectfully than usual, which she couldn't quite understand.

She stepped inside and saw Benjamin seated in the guest area. "Mr. Graham!"

Benjamin turned toward her. "Come and eat. We'll talk later."

Arissa was taken aback.

"You can speak with me right away, Mr. Graham. I have my own lunch, so I can just go back..."

"There's a lot to talk about. Are you sure you'll have enough time?" Benjamin interjected and gave her a long look.

Arissa sputtered. She saw that the table was laid with delicious food, compelling her to take a seat.

"Then I'd be honored to dine with you."

Chapter 125 Father Of Your Children

Benjamin looked at her. "Gavin asked to call you up here for lunch!"

Arissa looked at him with surprise, though her eyes sparkled with delight. "Oh, Gavin!" she giggled.

Benjamin found himself furrowing his brows as he looked at Arissa's bright smile.

"He's such a good boy! Why didn't he call me?" Arissa whipped out her phone as if to call him on the spot.

"Finish your meal first!" Benjamin snapped. "You've no time to make calls. We must discuss something after this."

Startled, Arissa eyed the scowling man in front of her.

He was really impossible to figure out.

She set down her phone and started to eat rapidly.

Benjamin shot her a look. "Eat slower! I'm not forcing you to eat, after all."

Arissa was speechless. She would probably get indigestion dining with him.

"It's a bit stressful eating with you," she replied breezily.

Benjamin noticed her plastered-on smile.

It was nothing at all like the bright expression she had when he had mentioned Gavin, and he felt struck by a pang of unhappiness.

Arissa was eating at a normal rate now, at least.

It was honestly a little awkward.

Neither of them spoke to each other.

The office was completely silent except for the sound of them eating.

Arissa suddenly felt very conscious of the sounds of herself eating, so she tried her best not to make any noise.

Her chewing became strained.

Hiccup!

She swallowed, thinking she could stifle the hiccup, but all it did was make her hiccups even more obvious.

Benjamin noticed it and walked around to her back, where he patted her back firmly.

"Thanks..." Hiccup!

Benjamin poured her a glass of water.

She felt much better after drinking it.

"You ate too fast, didn't you?" It almost sounded like Benjamin was teasing her.

Arissa was fed up. "Ah, I'm not used to eating with you! I'm quite nervous!"

Benjamin shot her a look.

Arissa smiled awkwardly. "Thank you, Mr. Graham. The food is delicious."

She didn't dare to eat more in case she embarrassed herself further.

"Have some more if you like it." Benjamin sat back down and passed her some more food. "You might say I'm a terrible boss who doesn't even let his employees eat!"

Looking at his serious expression, she couldn't help but ask, "Is that really what you think of me, Mr. Graham?"

He shot her a steely gaze.

Arissa blinked.

Moments later, she looked away. "Just ignore that!"

She bowed her head and ate. The food was certainly to her liking.

Gavin really understood her.

The thought made her heart swell.

Benjamin's attention was fixated entirely on this woman who was simply enjoying her food. Her stunning makeup stood out to him first. He slowly realized that she possessed a certain beauty that stole one's breath away.

"Do you know who the father of your children is?"

Arissa froze.

Her heart sped up as she met Benjamin's gaze. "I don't really know who he is..."

Arissa cast her gaze downward. She hadn't known who their father was before she returned home.

She hadn't even known it was him before they met.

Benjamin gazed at her sharply, and his eyes flashed. "You haven't thought of finding him?"

"It's too difficult." Arissa continued eating.

The next few words tumbled out of her. "Why haven't you married Danna?"

Benjamin's brows arched sharply and he uttered, "I don't like being schemed against!"

Eh? She stared blankly at him.

Benjamin continued eating. He didn't elaborate.

Arissa looked at him carefully.

Is it possible that he knows Danna isn't Gavin's biological mother? If he does, why didn't he look into it?

It was a little suspicious.

"Is she... scheming against you?" she asked quietly.

Benjamin looked up at her. "Would you like to know?"

Arissa gulped. Who wouldn't want to know? She couldn't get her words out.

She smiled awkwardly. "It's fine not to tell me, Mr. Graham. I won't press you."

Benjamin's gaze was fixed solely on her. "I'll tell you, but only if you tell me who the father of your children is first!"

There was a deafening silence.

Chapter 126 Unloved

"Hehe!" Arissa chuckled. "I'm not interested!"

Benjamin remained silent.

"There's only one reason why you haven't married her yet, Mr. Graham. And that's because you don't love her enough!" Arissa said cheekily. "Am I right, Mr. Graham? Since you've already had kids together, yet you guys aren't married. If it's not because you don't love her enough, then what else could it be? If two people love each other enough, they'll always work their way through."

Benjamin felt exposed and with a dour look written all over his face, he blurted, "Quite an analysis there, Ms. York!"

Arissa then smiled and said, "It's just my opinion as an onlooker. I bet you have your own reasons, Mr. Graham."

Benjamin averted his gaze. "So, you know who's the father to the kids, Ms. York?"

A glint appeared in Arissa's eyes. "So what if I know?"

"Why don't you look for him?" Benjamin frowned.

"Because he likes somebody else! I don't wish to intervene," Arissa said while looking straight into Benjamin's eyes. She was hoping to see some reaction out of him.

However, Benjamin seemed unperturbed.

So Arissa retracted her gaze and continued eating.

"He told you that himself?" Benjamin sneered while eating gracefully.

"No, he didn't!"

"Then why don't you ask him?" Benjamin continued his questioning.

Arissa's lips twitched. I just did, didn't I?

"Don't you want to be with him?" Benjamin asked flatly.

Arissa froze before she rolled her eyes and asked, "Then what would you do if you were him, Mr. Graham?"

In response, Benjamin just stared at her.

Arissa sensed that she might've offended him. As her cheeks started burning up, she exclaimed, "I meant it hypothetically!"

"Cut the crap," Benjamin said coldly. "You should ask that particular person himself when it comes to this. Not me."

Arissa went speechless. Doesn't he know how to have a casual conversation?

As she felt increasingly awkward, Arissa took a glance at Benjamin nervously.

"So if this man doesn't find out about the existence of his children, are you just going to keep it from him for the rest of his life?" Benjamin asked casually as he was eating.

"Well, it depends!" Arissa said cautiously.

Benjamin's eyes flickered. "Under what circumstances would you finally tell him?"

Arissa then cast a glance at him. Must he ask so much? The man in question is him! What am I supposed to say now? I better not say anything by mistake. Otherwise, I'm doomed.

"Hehe, I don't know!" Arissa chuckled awkwardly before changing the topic. "Mr. Graham, let's eat! The food is turning cold."

Then, Arissa started devouring her food.

Benjamin furrowed as he watched her eat ravenously. "Slow down," he urged sternly.

Arissa felt pressured as she saw how Benjamin gracefully nibble on his food. "It's so stressful eating with you, Mr. Graham!"

Benjamin instantly cast a glare at her upon hearing that. "Why? Have you done something wrong and you're feeling guilty?"

"Huh? Why should I feel guilty?" Arissa snapped back and continued eating.

As she felt Benjamin's glare still glued on her, she slowed down and started eating as gently as she could.

Feeling satisfied, a hint of a smile then flashed across Benjamin's eyes.

After that, the two of them carried on with their meals without saying a word.

When Arissa was done eating, she wiped her mouth with a napkin and said, "I'm done, Mr. Graham. You carry on."

Chapter 127 Increasing Her Workload

Benjamin gazed back at her and demanded, "Finish your soup!"

"But I'm full!" Arissa exclaimed as she looked at a bowl of mushroom soup.

"But Gavin ordered this just for you!" Benjamin answered coldly.

Upon hearing that it was her son's idea, she couldn't help but feel grateful. "Oh okay! I'll have some of it and bring the rest home with me."

"Finish it!" Benjamin instructed instead as his gaze swept over her.

Arissa had no choice but to comply after she saw how grim Benjamin looked.

In the end, she was still on her soup when Benjamin was already done eating.

Benjamin's eyes were fixed on Arissa till she eventually finished the whole bowl of soup. She was stuffed.

"Mr. Graham, I'm done. What tasks do you need me to get done?" Arissa rubbed her bulging tummy discreetly.

Benjamin gave her a glance before returning to his desk. "Come over!" he ordered.

He then handed Arissa a thick stack of documents when she arrived at his desk. "Look through it. Let me know if you have any questions."

Benjamin watched on sternly as she went through the documents at his desk.

The documents were filled with extremely challenging tasks for the IT department.

Benjamin planned to expand the research and have her assemble a team of her own to execute it.

It took Arissa an hour to go through all the documents. She then lifted her head toward Benjamin.

As Benjamin was busy with his own reading materials, he asked blandly, "Is there a problem?"

Arissa's lips twitched slightly. Yes, a huge one. But challenge accepted!

"Mr. Graham, I get to set up my own team?"

"Yes, you may." Benjamin looked at her and added, "You can select your own team members from the existing workforce. If needed, you could also hire new recruits."

Arissa nodded. "I do have a person in mind in regards to recruiting. However, his involvement must be kept between us. As peculiar as it sounds, I can assure you that he's trustworthy and he'll not betray the company."

At that moment, Benjamin stared at her steadily and ordered, "Bring him to me first!"

Arissa was stunned.

"If I can't even meet him, how do I know if he can be trusted?" Benjamin continued.

Arissa nodded. "All right. I'll think about it."

Benjamin frowned. "What's there to think about? It's not a request!"

Arissa panicked and answered with an awkward smile, "I'll let him know that it's best if he agrees to meet up with you first!"

She then requested, "Can you give me more time, Mr. Graham? Because I'm caught up with the tasks in my department at the moment."

"Are you so inefficient?" Benjamin glared at her.

Oh crap, I shouldn't have asked! Seemingly without a choice, Arissa assured, "Don't worry, Mr. Graham. I'll complete this mission within the timeframe!"

"Good, I'm looking forward to it. In the meantime, please liaise with Ethen." Benjamin nodded.

"Noted with thanks, Mr. Graham!" Arissa answered with a smile.

Why did he suddenly dump all this work on me? Is he putting my ability to the test? Or is he just testing my patience? "I'll get back to work now, Mr. Graham!" Arissa said.

“Off you go!” Benjamin answered before Arissa left his office.

Upon arriving in her office, Arissa relayed Benjamin’s orders with her co-workers in a departmental meeting and announced, “Anyone who’s interested, or if you think you can contribute, you’re welcome to join the team!”

Rounds of discussions could be heard from all over the room as everyone at the meeting was fired up.

Arissa took a look at everyone present and said, “This project is extremely challenging. Hence, I hope that we can all work together on this.”

Everyone’s eyes lit up and one of them voiced, “We can all participate in it, Ms. York?”

Everyone in the room had unique talents of their own and they all jumped at the opportunity to participate in the project.

“Yes!” Arissa answered. She then stood with an intimidating aura and added, “I believe everyone here is competent. However, do note that this project might become increasingly difficult as we proceed. Does anyone have a problem with that?”

Chapter 128 Surrounded In The Streets

“No problem!” Everyone in the room was raring to go.

Arissa was very happy with the response. “Christian, please note down the names of those who intend to participate. We’ll still need to recruit new talents for this mission.”

“Noted, Ms. York!”

Arissa also reminded everyone, “Anything to do with this project is to be kept private and confidential.”

“Understood!” everyone in the room agreed.

Nodding, Arissa responded, “Get back to work!”

After Arissa returned to her office, she was buried with work until after working hours. That was when she realized that the kids were still at school. She slapped her own forehead and phoned Bradley straightaway to help her fetch the children from school.

Half an hour later, Bradley called and told Arissa that the kids were already picked up. Knowing that her kids were being taken care of, she continued to work overtime till eight o’clock.

When Arissa was on her way home, two cars came out of nowhere and trapped her in between. She was forced to stop her car by the road.

She then saw a gang of thugs exiting their cars and they were heading toward her. They were all armed with bats.

Arissa instinctively took out her pepper spray from her purse.

One of the thugs came at her and broke her car window. He then opened her door forcefully.

When the thug tried to grab her by her arm, Arissa reacted swiftly and kicked him out of her way. She then got out of the car and used her pepper spray on another thug who was charging at her. While he was temporarily blinded, she snatched away his bat and smashed it into his head.

In the blink of an eye, Arissa managed to take out two of them on her own. Evidently, the thugs weren't aware of the fact that she practiced martial arts. Hence, they didn't see this coming.

Suddenly, more than ten of them charged at Arissa at once. She was surrounded.

Fortunately for Arissa, Ethen was driving Benjamin past the area and he noticed the incident. Despite the chaotic scene, he caught a glimpse of a familiar figure. Upon a closer look, he spotted Arissa and stopped the car abruptly.

"What's wrong with you?" Benjamin yelled as the abrupt stop caught him by surprise.

"Mr. Graham, isn't that Ms. York?" Benjamin blurted as he was pointing at the commotion by the street.

Benjamin glanced toward the fight and saw that Arissa was surrounded by a gang of thugs. His eyes widened and he rushed out of the car to help her.

One of the thugs swung his bat at Arissa but she managed to dodge it. After she got up swiftly, she struck her bat into him. However, another of them was coming at her from behind. She suffered a blow to her hand and nearly dropped her bat.

Arissa then fell to the ground in pain. As soon as she looked up, she saw a bat heading toward her head. Without much time to react, she held up both her arms to take cover.

Yet, in the face of imminent peril, she was dragged away to the side.

Everything happened too fast and all Arissa saw was a dark shadow flashing before her eyes. It was so fast that all of a sudden, the thug who was about to hit her a second ago, was kicked to the ground.

Arissa was then shocked to see that it was Benjamin that came to her rescue.

Her eyes then quickly spotted a man sneaking up on Benjamin from behind. She grabbed her bat and charged toward him.

“Get away from here!” Benjamin yelled at Arissa.

Ignoring Benjamin’s warning, Arissa ran toward him and knocked out the fast-approaching thug.

“Let’s do this together!” Arissa said to Benjamin.

Ethen and Benjamin’s bodyguards joined in and they defeated the gang of thugs within a minute.

All of the thugs were on the ground and they were howling in pain.

Benjamin gave Ethen a signal with a look and then brought Arissa into his car.

Ethen understood the signal right away and proceeded to interrogate the thugs.

Benjamin closed the car door and stared at Arissa. “Where are you hurt?”

Arissa was still in shock but she composed herself and answered, “Thanks for your help, Mr. Graham. It’s just my hand.”

Benjamin was seemingly upset by what happened to her. He then took the first aid kit in the car and started applying some ointment to her hand. “Why didn’t you call the police?”

Arissa gulped and explained, “I had no time for that! Everything happened so quickly so I had to deal with them on my own.”

Benjamin squinted at her reply. “Any idea who were those people?”

Arissa took a glance at his blackened face and shook her head. “I’m not sure.”

Benjamin continued to rub on Arissa’s injured hand.

Chapter 129 It Was The Rogers Family

The injury was so painful that Arissa withdrew her hand from Benjamin when he was applying the ointment.

“Stop moving!” Benjamin ordered. He then grabbed her and continued treating her injury.

"Why didn't you just run away when they came after you?" Benjamin questioned.

Arissa felt a sudden wave of warmth as she noticed how much Benjamin cared for her. "I couldn't even if I wanted to! They came prepared. I took this route because it has less traffic, but who would've known they were already here waiting for me! I just wanted to get home faster, that's all."

"Who do you think might be behind this?" the stony-faced Benjamin asked.

"Except for Danna, I haven't offended anyone else," Arissa answered Benjamin cautiously while sizing him up.

Benjamin then paused and said in a deep voice, "I'll get Ethen to find out more."

"Thank you very much, Mr. Graham!" Arissa said.

Benjamin stared at her, trying to figure out what was going on.

After Benjamin was done applying the ointment, Arissa pulled her hand back. She rubbed the injured spot gently, but all she felt was pain.

Benjamin's heart softened when he saw how bruised up Arissa's hand was.

A few moments later, Ethen came to the car and he knocked on the window. "Mr. Graham, those people were sent by the Rogers family!"

Benjamin was infuriated.

Arissa was shocked, as well. So, it really was you, Danna.

She then looked at both of the men and exclaimed, "If the Rogers family was involved, then it had to be at Danna's request!"

Ethen was surprised by how confident Arissa sounded in her claim. "How would you know that, Ms. York?"

Arissa then stared at him. "That's what I've found out in my investigation before!"

Ethen immediately glanced over at Benjamin and waited for further instructions.

"Break their legs and send them back to the Rogers family personally," Benjamin ordered.

"Yes, Mr. Graham!" Ethen answered and relayed Benjamin's order to the rest of the subordinates.

One of the bodyguards then got in the car with Benjamin to send him back.

As Arissa was getting out of the car, she said, "Mr. Graham, thank you for saving me back there. I'll go now."

Just as she was about to leave, Benjamin pulled her back in and asked, "Are you sure you can drive with your injured hand?"

He then ordered the bodyguard to start driving.

Arissa blinked and said softly, "I think I'm okay to drive. Besides, my car is still..."

"I'll get someone to fetch your car and send it for repair," Benjamin interrupted.

Arissa then looked out the window and saw that her car window was severely smashed up. She couldn't have been able to drive it home.

Ethen carried out the order and broke all of the thugs' legs. Their cries of pain were so loud that chills ran down Arissa's spines.

However, Arissa was unsympathetic toward them. After all, they were trying to end her life.

"Thank you, Mr. Graham!" Arissa thanked Benjamin again.

Benjamin glimpsed at her from the corner of his eyes and blurted coldly, "That's all?"

Arissa locked eyes with his deep gaze. Her heart skipped a beat.

She was confused. "What do you mean, Mr. Graham?"

Benjamin pursed his lips and kept silent. He was always a man who carried himself with a mysterious and intimidating aura. As a result, people were often caught acting uneasily around him, including Arissa.

Still mystified by his deep gaze, she gulped and looked away anxiously. He's always so bewildering when he doesn't speak!

As Arissa was caught in her own thoughts, she looked out the car window and realized that she wasn't being brought home. "Mr. Graham, my house isn't this way."

"Who says I'm sending you home?" Benjamin scoffed.

Arissa was taken aback. First, you told me not to go home by myself. And now, you're not even sending me home? What's your game? "So where are you bringing me?"

"You were already being followed. What makes you think it's safe for you to return home now?" Benjamin swept a glance at her.

Arissa frowned as she realized that Benjamin had a point. How about the kids? But since Bradley is with them, they should be fine. They are in good hands. Besides, there's a big possibility that I'm still being followed. Yes, I wouldn't want to endanger them by going home now.

"So, where are we going then, Mr. Graham?" Arissa looked around and realized that she wasn't familiar with the surroundings.

Despite Arissa's question, Benjamin just shut his eyes and ignored her.

Arissa twitched her lips and decided not to ask further.

Chapter 130 Your Face Is Red

Half an hour later, they entered the driveway of the Graham residence.

The corner of Arissa's lips twitched as she realized where they were.

She turned to look at the man resting beside her and felt her heart thumping non-stop.

"You brought me to your house?"

Benjamin was silent.

She stared at the man's handsome features, unable to figure out what he was thinking.

Benjamin slowly opened his eyes, his gaze intense. It was like an endless vortex, effortlessly captivating you. A slight mistake, and you could fall into his trap.

Arissa met his gaze and felt her heart skip a beat.

"Mr. Graham, won't I be a bother at your house?"

Even though this was the only way she could see Gavin, she was anxious. Her other kids were still at home.

"Gavin would be happy to see you."

Benjamin's gaze on her remained intense.

She blinked once, twice, and quickly averted her gaze. "I would be happy to see him, too."

He glanced at the curvature of her lips, his expression darkening.

“Why do you like my son so much?”

He suddenly leaned towards her, his musky scent penetrating her nose.

She gulped and sank into the seat as much as she could at his sudden movement.

“Because he’s cute!”

She glanced at Benjamin, eyes twinkling at the thought of Gavin.

Their eyes met once more and she could feel her heartbeat accelerate.

The man’s intense pheromones invaded her space, and she could feel her ears turn red from how hot they were.

Her tainted pink cheeks made her look more attractive than she already was.

Benjamin’s gaze darkened as he closed the distance between them.

Arissa went stiff, not daring to make a single movement.

She could feel his warm breath on her face, and the sudden intimacy was overwhelming.

Luckily, the driver turned in his seat to inform them they had arrived.

“Mr. Graham, we have arrived...”

The driver quickly turned back to face the front when we saw the intimate scene behind him, not daring to take another look.

Benjamin silently glared at the driver and moved to get out of the car.

His expression turned bitter.

He returned to his usual arrogant self, a complete 180 from the version of him who was charming her moments ago.

Arissa was flushed red.

He opened the door and stood at the side of the car, slightly bending down to stare at her. “Aren’t you coming?”

She stole a glance at him and quickly averted her gaze, feeling awkward.

"Oh," she answered and hurried to get out of the car.

The moment her feet hit the ground, she realized just how close Benjamin was to her. From a third-person's point of view, it would seem like she was in his embrace.

She took a step back and looked up at him, stunned.

"Mr. Graham," She cautiously called out to remind him of their inappropriate proximity.

Benjamin's eyes flickered, but his face remained stoic. "Your face is red," he said and turned to enter the house.

At that comment, Arissa's face became even redder with embarrassment.

The corner of her lips twitched as she watched him calmly walk away, unfazed.

She quickly caught up with him and said, "Mr. Graham, thank you for your help, but I need to get back to my kids at home. I really can't stay here. I need to go back!"

She couldn't help but be anxious at the thought of the kids alone at home despite Bradley accompanying them.

Without looking back at her, Benjamin calmly said, "I already sent someone to bring your child here."

What an aggressive man! B-But... Bring my child h-here?

She stared at the broad back of the man and gulped. But which child is he talking about? I have four!

"Uh... there's no need. I can go back on my own. It'll be all right as long as I am careful."

Benjamin suddenly stopped in his steps, causing Arissa to knock into him.

Ouch!

She felt a sharp pain on her nose bridge as she held a hand up to nurse it.

He turned around and looked down at her. "Where are your eyes at?"

The corner of her lips twitched again as she chuckled dryly at his sneering tone, trying to refrain herself from yelling at him.

He was her boss and her source of income. He wasn't someone she should offend.

You More than Anything in the World Chapter 131 You Are Lying

"You need to be safe, not just careful," Benjamin said in a bitter tone.

Arissa smiled. She couldn't understand why Benjamin was getting angry over this matter.

Watching her rubbing her nose, his stern expression softened.

He gently pulled her hand away and examined the slightly red nose.

Frowning, he held onto her hand and led her into the living room.

"Edwin! Bring the medical box here!" He called out.

"Yes, Mr. Graham," Edwin answered and hurriedly went to get it.

Arissa glanced at Benjamin, who was gripping her wrist tightly. She could feel the warmth of his hand tingling on her skin. Her heart was racing again.

Benjamin led her to the couch and made her sit down.

Edwin was beside them in a flash with the medical box in his arms. "Here, Mr. Graham."

He opened the lid and passed it to Benjamin, his gaze falling onto Arissa. "Did you get hurt, Ms. York?"

"It's nothing," She replied, feeling awkward.

Benjamin glared at her and took out an ointment. "Put your hand away!"

She looked at the serious man in front of her and put down her hand.

He gently rubbed the ointment onto her nose and her arm.

"Get Shaun to come," Benjamin ordered.

It shocked Edwin when he saw the bruises on Arissa's arm and hurried away to call Shaun to the Graham residence.

Arissa didn't know why Benjamin was calling someone over. She scanned the room, unable to catch a glimpse of Gavin.

"Where is Gavin?"

"He has gone to a classmate's house and has not returned," Edwin said with a smile on his face.

Classmate? Don't tell me he's at my house?

She smiled as she met Benjamin's gaze. "Mr. Graham, my friend is taking care of my child. Why don't you call the person you sent to return?"

An image of Bradley immediately flashed through Benjamin's mind and he squinted his eyes at her.

His gaze was sharp, and his tone was laced with menace. "What friend?"

"A good friend of mine!" she exclaimed, suddenly feeling anxious.

He shot her a look and scoffed. "Your child will be safer here."

Edwin stared at the two of them and asked in curiosity, "Ms. York, do you have kids as well?"

Arissa smiled and nodded. "Yes, I do."

Edwin stole a glance at Benjamin. If Mr. Graham likes Ms. York, then they're a perfect match. They both have children and won't feel resentment towards one another over this matter.

"Ms. York, are you hungry?" Edwin asked. "Let me bring you some snacks."

"No, that's all right." Arissa smiled.

"Bring them here," Benjamin coldly ordered Edwin.

"Yes, Sir!" Edwin bowed and hurried to prepare some snacks, the corners of his lips curving into a smile. It's been a while since I saw Mr. Graham care for someone.

Benjamin sat himself down beside Arissa.

Suddenly, she felt immense pressure with him beside her. His aura was just too imposing.

"Mr. Graham, please don't mind me and go ahead with your business. I'll just sit here and wait." It was so awkward that she had to break the silence.

"Do you know which classmate's house my son is at?" Benjamin suddenly asked.

"H-Huh?" Arissa stuttered and shook her head. "Sorry, but I don't know."

He turned to look at her. However, she would look at anywhere but him.

He could sense that she was guilty about lying. The corner of his lips twitched into a smirk as he purposely leaned towards her.

"You're lying." He whispered into her ear.

Arissa felt her heart skip a beat as she moved to the other side of the couch, trying to escape from him.

Benjamin noticed what she was trying to do and chuckled.

"W-Who says that I'm lying? I've been doing overtime all this while and haven't been able to contact Gavin."

She denied his accusation. In fact, she had only guessed that Gavin was at her home.

Bradley is taking care of them. Who knows if they're still at home or outside?

You More than Anything in the World Chapter 132 My Son Is With Your Kid

Benjamin sent someone to pick up the kids. Does that mean he's bringing all of them here? There are four. Even if only one is being brought here, he will definitely find out.

"Really? Why do I feel that you're lying?" Benjamin's gaze was piercing as he stared at her.

Arissa was at a loss for words.

Suddenly, Edwin walked in with a tray full of food. "Ms. York, please have some snacks," he said as he placed the tray on the table. "Have you had dinner? I can prepare some delicious dishes for you."

It was hard for Arissa to decline when met with such an enthusiastic person. She nodded and said, "Please. Thank you."

"You're welcome!" Edwin bowed and turned to Benjamin. "Mr. Graham, would you like to have dinner as well?"

"Yes." Benjamin nodded.

Edwin bowed and left the living room to prepare.

Arissa stared at the exquisite snacks on the tray and stole a glance at Benjamin.

Seeing him occupied with his phone, she leaned forward, took a snack, and munched on it.

She also took out her phone and noticed that Zachary had sent her a message: Mommy, are you not done with work yet?

Arissa's lips curved into a smile as she typed in a reply.

Benjamin glanced at her. "Don't play with your phone if you're eating."

Her hand trembled, and the phone slid out of her grip, falling onto the floor.

She quickly bent down to pick it up.

Benjamin's lips curved to form a small smile as she returned to her previous posture after picking up her phone.

"Are you nervous?"

Arissa turned to look at an expressionless Benjamin, unable to figure out what he was thinking.

"N-No, I'm fine..." She smiled awkwardly.

Benjamin nodded and leaned forward to pour a glass of water before giving it to her.

"Do you think the person I sent will be able to pick up your kid?" he asked, his gaze piercing into her soul.

On the surface, she received the glass with both hands and politely muttered, "Thank you." However, in her mind, she was panicking.

"Thank you for your concern, Mr. Graham, but my child is with my friend. How about you have the person you sent bring Gavin home instead?"

She felt Benjamin was being weird, but she just couldn't put a finger as to why.

Benjamin calmly replied, "My son is with your kid."

Uh...

She pretended to be shocked. "What a coincidence! Are they classmates? I didn't know that."

He frowned at her fake expression and scoffed. What wonderful acting. Why isn't she honest with me after all that has happened?

"They go to the same school," Benjamin replied harshly as he tapped his forefinger on his thigh.

The sight of him was intimidating. Arissa couldn't help but gulp and bring the glass to her lips to take a sip.

Oh gosh, my heart is beating is so fast. He couldn't have found out, could he?

"How did you know that, Mr. Graham?"

Benjamin's eyes flickered upon that question, and he immediately glared at her. "Arissa, just how long are you going to spin your lies?"

Her heart skipped a beat.

She did not know what to answer, as she wasn't sure what he was referring to.

"Mr. Graham, I really do not know what you mean," she said carefully, not wanting to upset him further.

"Do you not have anything else to say to me?" he asked through clenched teeth, seeing that she was still playing dumb.

"E-Excuse me?"

She wasn't sure if he had found out about the kids and didn't dare to bring it up to him first.

His expression darkened, and his aura turned cold.

She was sitting at the other end of the couch, thinking of what to say or do next.

His eyebrows knitted together, rage building up in him.

He hated seeing her being like this. Without saying a word, he got up and headed toward his study.

Arissa let out a breath that she didn't know she was holding. She calmed herself down by munching on a few more snacks and proceeded to call her son.

Zachary picked up the phone quickly.

"Mommy, what time are you coming home?"

"Um..." Arissa felt guilty.

"Sorry, Sweetheart. I can't go home yet. I'm at Gavin's house. Is Gavin with you all?" She asked in a low tone.

"Yeah, we're together. Mr. Hinton is here too. Mommy, why are you at Gavin's house?"

"I can't explain it through the phone, but I got into some trouble." She sighed. "Someone is going to pick up Gavin later. Can you please do Mommy a favor and tell them that the rest of you are staying with Mr. Hinton?"