

You More than Anything in the World Chapter 21

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Chapter 21 I Am Sorry, You More than Anything in the World

Meanwhile, after they finished eating, the four children helped Arissa clean the dishes. She smiled and did not stop them from helping her. *Some habits have to be practiced at an early age.* "Be careful!" She had just barked a warning when Gavin broke a bowl. He had jerked at Arissa's loud reminder and lost grip on the bowl. "Mommy, I'm sorry!" Arissa saw how nervous Gavin was, and she burst out laughing. "It's okay as long as you're not hurt!" Hastily, she pulled Gavin away, grabbed a broom, and gathered all the shard pieces into a trash bag. "Go outside and play first.

There might still be broken pieces lying around. I'll take care of it!" "Come on, let's go out!" Zachary pulled Gavin out and comforted him, "It's all right!" Gavin still felt very sorry. Zachary knew he had not done household chores before, and hence it was absolutely normal to accidentally break a bowl. "Just be careful in the future. We have broken bowls before too!" "Yes! I broke two in the past!" Jesse laughed awkwardly, showing an adorable smile with missing teeth. "You're luckier than me. Mommy was in a good mood. She scolded me the last time I broke a bowl!" Oliver envied him, and Gavin looked at them in surprise.

I see. They have broken bowls before, too. Suddenly, he felt much better. The four of them went out into the living room. Oliver still remembered the previous matter and beckoned Zachary into the room to explain clearly. Zachary knew Oliver couldn't contain his curiosity any longer, so he headed over. In the kitchen, Arissa looked closely at the floor. She was concerned about any small splinters hidden from view, so she took the tape and pasted it on the floor repeatedly. After ascertaining there were no more splinters on the floor, she wrapped the trash bag in tape to avoid being cut by splinters poking out. She then threw it in the trash. Meanwhile, there were three of them in the room, and Gavin started the conversation.

"What was going on at dinner just now?" "Someone's investigating me!" Zachary cast him a glance. Gavin immediately guessed who that person was. *Daddy's always perceptive.* "Thank goodness I stopped it, so they can't find out anything about me!" Zachary was a little smug. "Explain it to me!" Oliver was still at a loss and urged them to let the cat out of the bag. *So mysterious. Can't they give me the full context before continuing their conversation?* Zachary glanced outside before whispering to him, "We're talking about Daddy!" "What?" Oliver was shocked and looked at them in disbelief.

"You guys figured out who he is?" *When did that happen? They didn't even tell me!* Jesse heard Oliver's loud voice, ran over, and asked, "What are you talking about?" "Nothing important. Go take a bath first!" Zachary was not going to tell Jesse yet, because he knew Jesse couldn't keep a secret. The child would surely tell Arissa about it. *We don't know what Daddy's thinking yet. I should keep this a secret from Mommy. Anyway, Mommy will see him tomorrow when she goes to Graham Group, so it's better to let her find out herself.* Jesse pouted and said, "I just finished eating. I don't want to take a bath yet!" The child then looked at

three of them and asked with a smile, "You are talking about some secret, aren't you?"

"No, it's not a secret. Zachary asked me for money!" Oliver thought of an excuse. Jesse's eyes snapped open. *No wonder he was so loud. It was because Zachary asked for money.* The cheery child smiled. "I have money. How much do you want? I'll give it to you!" Zachary was delighted when he noticed how generous Jesse was. He patted the latter's head affectionately. "I don't want your money. I want his. Now, go out and watch television!" "Okay..." With that, Jesse looked at them and then ran out. It was not long before the sound of television was heard.

At this moment, Gavin admired Zachary because he effortlessly got Jesse to listen. Oliver closed the door and continued excitedly, "Do you know who Daddy is?" Both Zachary and Gavin nodded. "We know!" "Who is he? What's he like? Is he handsome? Is he rich?" Looking at Oliver's sparkling eyes, Zachary sighed. *Thankfully, he wasn't the one who had switched. Otherwise, he certainly would keep clinging to Daddy and ruin our plans.* "It's Benjamin Graham!" replied Gavin. "Huh?" Oliver was stunned, then happy. He exclaimed, "Great! I'm going to tell Mommy!"

Since she's going to Graham Group tomorrow, she'd better be mentally prepared for the encounter!" *He has enormous riches, and he must be very handsome. After all, we are all good-looking. Daddy will not be any worse than us.* "Stop right there!" Seeing Oliver about to go out, Zachary hurriedly stopped him. "If you tell Mommy now, would she still be able to focus on the interview tomorrow?" "You're right!" Oliver looked at them, then asked, "How did you know who Daddy is?" Zachary pointed at Gavin, who was smiling. "My name is Gavin Graham!" Oliver was dumbfounded.

Arisa finished cleaning and noticed that Jesse was alone in the living room watching television. "Where are your brothers?" "They're in the room!" Arissa frowned. *How mysterious these sons are.* She walked over, knocked on the door, and opened it. The three turned their heads and looked at her. She laughed and stated, "It's time for you to take a bath and go to bed!" "Mommy, you wash Jesse first! We will take a bath later!" said Zachary. Arissa looked around and didn't see them playing any computer games, but she reminded them anyway, "Don't play computer games for too long. It will hurt your eyes!" "All right!" The three nodded their heads. Arissa then took Jesse for a bath. After which, she took a shower.

Zachary received a text message from Jasper, saying that Benjamin had people investigate the former. In response, he told Jasper what had happened, and the latter was surprised. *Fortunately, he let Mommy go for the interview. Will Mommy be surprised when she sees him? Mommy is so beautiful, and Daddy will like her very much.* Jasper grew excited.

Arisa didn't know their secret. After she took a shower, she slowly arranged her thoughts. *It's a little hard to find out what happened then especially with Danna acting all prickly, but it's not untraceable. The pieces of the puzzle will come together once I find that woman.* She made a phone call. "Have you found out anything about that woman yet?" "I checked with the village this afternoon, but they told me the couple has long moved away!" Arissa frowned deeply.

They have done terrible things. Of course, they would go into hiding. "Come back and help me check out Danna Adams first. I suspect she's the mastermind. We met today, and if it was her, she'll feel guilty and will surely look for that couple. Check her out secretly!" "Danna Adams? Is she the actress from the Adams family?" "That's right. Do you know her?" "I've heard some rumors about her. Why didn't I think of her in the first place? She seems to be very close to Benjamin. We'll investigate her, but it might not go so smoothly. Boss, by the way, did you meet Benjamin at Graham Group today?"

"No. Things happened." Arissa's eyelids flickered. "Anyhow, I'm going to meet with him tomorrow. He suddenly changed his mind and wants to interview me again. I think that woman may not be that important. Come back first!" After talking for a while, she hung up the phone and went out to check on the children. The four of them were sound asleep. She tucked them in before going back to her room to sleep. She couldn't stop thinking about Benjamin. *What kind of person is he?*

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Chapter 22 Resemblance, You More than Anything in the World

The next day, Arissa arrived at Graham Group as expected and was received by Ethen. He did not dare to leave and waited together with her in Benjamin's office. "Ms. York, I'm so sorry about yesterday. I hope you don't take it to heart. Ms. Adams' decision does not represent Mr. Graham's!" Ethen poured a cup of tea and placed it in front of her. "It's all right. I didn't think it through and left without saying anything. I didn't expect Mr. Graham to be willing to give me another chance, and I'm quite surprised," Arissa said with a chuckle. Ethen himself was surprised that Benjamin would go back on his decision since he was the one who gave him orders never to bring up Arissa's name ever again. "Ms. York, have some tea!" Arissa nodded slightly and started sipping on the tea. "Mr. Frank, you can leave if you're busy. I'll wait for Mr. Graham myself. This time, I'll definitely wait until he's here." Ethen laughed and turned to leave after settling her down.

He made sure to tell the secretary to be alert and report to him if anyone were to come up, Danna especially, just in case she messes things up once again. Arissa sized up the office and sipped on tea while waiting for Benjamin. An hour later, there were still no signs of him. She looked at the time. *Does the CEO of such a huge corporation not have a sense of punctuality?* Ethen got someone to prepare fruits and snacks, coming in apologetically. "Ms. York, Mr. Graham was caught up with some issues at home and left later than usual. I hope you can be patient and wait a little longer."

"It's all right. I have nothing else to do anyway. I'll wait for Mr. Graham to arrive," Arissa replied. Ethen spoke a few more words to her before leaving and called Benjamin's number. He did not pick up his phone. *What's Mr. Graham doing making her wait?* Ethen called the Graham residence, and the butler told him that Benjamin had left for the company early on. Benjamin had indeed arrived at the company, but he was in his car at the underground parking, staring at his phone.

The screen showed his office's surveillance footage. His eyes were fixed on the woman in the guest area. He could not see her face, only her back. Benjamin wanted to see how long she could wait. As time went by, Arissa had not shown a hint of impatience. She sat on the couch while flipping through a magazine, which came as a surprise to him. Benjamin's eyes flashed. *It's about time.* He got out of the car and headed upstairs. Arissa waited for another half an hour before hearing some sounds. The sound of leather shoes on the ground ensued, and she turned to look.

Benjamin's handsome face greeted her. His face was perfectly flawless and all too familiar. Upon scrutinizing him closely, Arissa's eyes widened in shock. *Why does this man look like the four kids back home?* Arissa was dumbfounded and jolted up in surprise. She looked at Benjamin with a look of wonder, heart beating faster.

The man had a strong presence and an icy aura, especially when he raised his eyebrows and looked toward her. His gaze was so intense that Arissa could not bring herself to look him in the eye. Benjamin saw the surprise on her face and sneered secretly, thinking she was love-struck. "Arissa York?"

His voice was cold, devoid of any warmth, and had a tinge of arrogance. Arissa snapped out of her trance and quickly retracted her gaze. "Yes, I'm Arissa.

You... Must be Benjamin Graham? Mr. Graham?" She could guess from the man's imposing manner. Aside from that, no one else would be able to take the elevator in the room up there. Benjamin walked to the side of the couch and sat across from her. "Sit!"

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Chapter 23 Arissa glanced at the man with the icy aura and took a seat. She could not help but become nervous.

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

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

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

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

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

Arissa thought of Danna and was even more astonished.

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

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

Her mind was a mess.

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

"You know me?"

Benjamin crossed his legs and leaned back, watching her.

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

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

I would not be so surprised if I did.

Benjamin raised his eyebrows and looked directly at her. She says she doesn't know me,

but she's been staring at me with surprise written all over her face.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Arissa looked at him and frowned. He was watching her with an unfathomable expression.

In the end, she sat back down.

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

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Chapter 24 Related To Zachary, You More than Anything in the World

Benjamin was surprised, and his gaze fixed on the woman seated in front of him. She was not servile nor relenting. Instead, there was a hint of stubbornness in her eyes. "I'll gauge your capabilities from your contributions to the company!"

Benjamin was a man who judged people based on their capabilities. Those who were not capable would not even survive the company's probation period as Graham Group was no place for useless people. Arissa was shocked, shooting an uncertain glance at the man. *Does this mean that he's hiring me?*

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

"Please go on." Arissa gestured for him to continue. Benjamin watched her and asked, "Why did you speak to me like that last night? Aren't you afraid that I'll get you back for that?" Arissa froze and watched him in puzzlement. "What did I say last night? I don't know you! No, I do know you. However, I haven't met you before.

Moreover, I don't have your contact details. When would I have the opportunity to say something to you? I think you may have gotten the wrong person as this is our first time meeting." Arissa was dumbfounded, and her intuition told her that Benjamin mistook her for someone. *Could this be the reason why he's so hostile toward me? No, this will be our second time meeting if he's the guy that*

time. However, she ran away before seeing that man clearly, so it did not count as a meeting.

Benjamin's piercing gaze darkened as he continued to stare at Arissa. *Undoubtedly, the text was from her. Even if it wasn't, it's got to be from someone close to her.* The tip of Benjamin's tongue topped the inside of his cheek, adding a seductive flair to his handsome face. Arissa watched him. Her heart thudded in her chest, beating fast and hard. "Mr. Graham?" His eyes flickered, and he recalled the message the night before. "You sent me a text message yesterday, introducing yourself and stating you were chased away by my fiancée. In the message, you told me to consider hiring you if I've not found a suitable candidate.

You even said you're confident that you're competent enough for the job." Arissa was shocked as she was sure she did no such thing. However, she suddenly recalled how sneaky and mysterious the kids were acting yesterday, and it dawned on her that they must have sent the text message. "After I rejected you, you even threatened me to not regret my decision." The corners of Benjamin's mouth lifted into a cold smirk. Arissa gazed into his eyes and gulped.

"Can I have a look at the sender's phone number?" Benjamin told her the number and scrutinized her expression closely. He narrowed his eyes and glanced at her sharply. "That's you, right?" "No, it's not!" Arissa was frustrated. *I'll have to lecture Zachary when I get home. How could he not tell me about this?* "It's my family!" She nervously looked at him and said apologetically, "Sorry, I didn't know he texted you. I'm so incredibly sorry!"

Benjamin stared at her imposingly and asked in a low voice, "How is Zachary related to you?" *She does not have my contact details, but her family does. This woman should at least draft out her lies before saying them. Could it actually be her all along?* "My brother!" Arissa blurted.

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

However, his resemblance to the children was uncanny. It was as if they were made from the same mold, and Arissa was taken aback when she saw him. She never thought that the father to her kids would be such a distinguished person.

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Chapter 25 Jealousy, You More than Anything in the World

Benjamin tapped on his thigh and lowered his gaze, making Arissa even more nervous as she watched me. "Why would your brother have my number?" Arissa's heart skipped a beat. She did not know how to elaborate the lie, and even if she were to tell him the truth now, there would be no guarantee he would believe

her. Furthermore, Benjamin seemed to suspect that she did it. "Perhaps it was a coincidence?"

Benjamin scoffed. Arissa was at a loss for words. "It really isn't me who sent that, but I'll apologize to you since I'm responsible for his misdemeanor. I sincerely apologize for all of the inconvenience we've caused you." Arissa was Zachary's mother, and hence, she was obliged to apologize on his behalf. "How about I give him a call to ask? I'll lecture him about this when I get home. I'm terribly sorry for the inconvenience." *How brave of him to send a text to Benjamin.*

I was wondering why he would think of calling me here, and this is why! "There's no need." Benjamin no longer wanted to know, and the call would not change a thing. *If she did it, she would have it all planned out. The call will be just for show.* Arissa watched his expression of distrust and was speechless. She no longer wished to explain herself. She, too, would not believe what she had said if the roles were reversed. "Mr. Graham, if you called me here today because of this, you can go ahead and reject me. However, I hope that you could give me a chance.

I believe that you won't be disappointed with my capabilities should you hire me!" *I should at least fight for it since I'm already here.* Benjamin watched as Arissa pitched herself, and the corners of his mouth curved into a smirk. *She's finally revealing her intentions?* "So confident?" Arissa listened to his arrogant tone and suppressed her dissatisfaction. "I have the right to be confident. Mr. Graham, what do you say? Let's be direct and not waste each other's time." Benjamin's eyes darkened. No one had ever spoken to him that way, and she was the first.

"Ethen!" he shouted. A short while later, Ethen ran into the room. He looked at them in curiosity. "Mr. Graham, you called?" "Bring the computer over here and test her. If she passes, hire her. If not, show her the door!" Benjamin ultimately decided to give her a shot since she had gone through a lot of trouble for the opportunity. Arissa was surprised as she assumed the man would not even consider giving her a chance. *He agreed?*

Ethen smiled and quickly grabbed the computer. "Ms. York, this way, please!" Arissa walked over and sat in front of the office desk. She opened the portal and started maneuvering. She designed two programs to attack one another. Ethen was impressed when he saw that. "Ms. York, how did you think about coming up with this?" Arissa was fully absorbed in her task, going against her own system. Benjamin's eyes flashed when he saw Ethen's amazement and approached them. He scanned through it, and his eyes immediately lit up. *I have to admit it.*

This woman does have the skills. As Benjamin continued staring at Arissa, he fell deep into thought. *Could she be the one who hacked my computer last night?* His handsome face darkened at the thought. Ethen was enjoying himself and did not notice Benjamin's expression. He excitedly said to him, "Mr. Graham, don't you agree that Ms. York's skills are extraordinary!?"

Jackpot. With her, the company's Engineering Department will definitely level up and become indestructible. Benjamin glared daggers at his assistant, and his face darkened further when he saw that Ethen's face was full of admiration. He was oddly unhappy.

Arissa's fingers flew across the keyboard. She managed to beat the complicated system not long after. Turning to look at Benjamin, she asked quietly, "Mr. Graham, what do you think?" The man said nothing in response and merely stared at her intently.

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