The More the Merrier Chapter 571

Chapter 571 No Hugging

Seeing as he wouldn't be able to help out, Benjamin turned around and went back to his sons instead. To his chagrin, the five kids too, locked their bathroom door from the inside.

What's the meaning of this? Why are they all guarding against me like I'm some sort of criminal?

He thought to himself with a frown.

Arissa soon finished bathing her daughter and was helping her get dressed.

'Mommy, do you think Mr. Graham is still mad at us?"

Arissa gave her a little pinch on the cheek.

"Are you afraid of him being mad?"

Jesse looked her in the eye as she whispered, "He looks really scary when he's mad. It's like his entire face just turns all dark and gloomy! Even my brothers don't look that scary when they're mad!"

Arissa chuckled. "That's just how your daddy is like, Sweetheart. He rarely smiles since he's been uptight for too long. It's only natural for someone who's always strict and stern to look scarier when they're angry. Even so, he really loves you all. I'm sure you've felt his love, right?"

Even Arissa herself would get scared of Benjamin whenever he was angry, so she could see why the kids would fear him too.

She affectionately ran her hands through Jesse's hair as she combed her hair into a cool-looking hairstyle, all while chuckling at how boyish she looked.

Jesse tilted her head as she said, "Mr. Graham loves my brothers."

Arissa froze upon hearing that. Hmm? Is she still upset that Benjamin was cold to her before?

"That's because he didn't know you were his child at the time. Now that he knows, he's been showering you with love and affection too, hasn't he?" Jesse nodded after giving it some thought. "Mr. Graham is indeed treating me a lot better now, but he sometimes looks at me really weird! It's almost like I did something wrong again!"

Children were particularly sensitive toward such things, so Jesse could definitely feel it if someone didn't like her.

Arissa let out a chuckle as she knew exactly why Benjamin had behaved that way.

"That's because he still thinks you're a boy, so he expects you to act like your brothers. For example, he believes boys shouldn't be liking the color pink. That's why he gave you strange looks when he found out you like pink," she explained.

The look of sadness in Jesse's eyes had disappeared after she heard that. "Oh... How long do we have to keep this secret from him, Mommy? What if Mr. Graham thinks I'm weird?"

Arissa gave her an affectionate tap on the nose as she said, "He won't. He probably just won't like it very much, that's all. We'll tell him when I feel like it, okay? Now, go on and play with your brothers! I'm going to take a shower!"

"Okay!" Jesse nodded and ran off.

Arissa waited till she had left her line of sight before returning to the bathroom.

Since her brothers weren't in the bedroom, Jesse decided to go look for them in the bathroom outside. However, she had only taken a few steps down the corridor when she saw Benjamin working in the living room.

Still feeling a little afraid of him, Jesse tried to sneak past him on her tiptoes.

Of course, Benjamin noticed her creeping figure through the corner of his eye.

He furrowed his brows when he looked up and saw her cautiously trying to sneak past him, but quickly eased his frown when he realized it would scare the kids.

"Jesse!" he called out to her in a gentle voice.

Jesse jumped in shock upon hearing that. She then glanced at him nervously as she asked, "Am I disturbing you, Mr. Graham?"

"Nope!" Benjamin replied with a smile while motioning at her to come over.

Unsure of what to do, Jesse simply stood rooted to the spot and stared blankly at him.

"Come here, let me give you a hug!" Benjamin tried to coax her again.

What? Daddy wants to hug me?

Jesse's eyes went wide at the thought of that, and her face burned bright red on the spot. "No! No hugging!"

While Benjamin was still stunned by her response, Jesse ran off to the bathroom and hammered on the door.

'Gavin! Zachary! Oliver! Jasper! Come out now!"

The five boys had finished showering and were getting dressed at the time. Upon hearing her call out to them, they quickly made a dash for the bathroom door.

Gavin, being the first one to come rushing out, asked, "What happened?"

Tim, Zachary, Oliver, and Jasper then came out one after another with their clothes all in a mess.

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Chapter 572 They Want To Sleep With Her

All five of the boys surrounded her and asked anxiously, "What's wrong, Jesse?"

Jesse shot Benjamin a glance, prompting Gavin, Zachary, Oliver, and Jasper to glare fiercely at him.

Even Tim was staring at Benjamin with a curious look on his face.

"Did you do something to scare Jesse?" Gavin asked.

Benjamin let out a helpless sigh as he looked at all six of his kids. He noticed that Tim was the only one not hostile toward him. If anything, Tim looked like he was confused instead.

"It's not my fault he's such a scaredy-cat!" Benjamin snapped back at him.

Gavin snorted defiantly. "Hmph! Of course it's your fault! What, do you feel proud of yourself for making Jesse afraid of you?"

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Benjamin's eyelids twitched slightly. "I just wanted to give her a hug!"

Gavin paused and turned around to look at Jesse. "Daddy wanted to hug you?"

Jesse nodded at him in response, much to everyone's relief.

Jasper gave her a light smack on the forehead. "And here I thought he was going to hit you!"

As Jesse held her head low in shame, Tim patted her on the forehead and said, "No hitting!"

Jesse flashed Tim a bright smile and said, "You're such a nice brother, Tim!"

Jasper simply shot her a warning glare in response and kept quiet after that.

"What are you freaking out about, Jesse? It's just a hug! Besides, this isn't the first time Daddy has hugged you! Quit being such a drama queen!" Zachary teased her with a chuckle.

"Yeah! Daddy's just trying to be nice to you, so why are you running from him?" Oliver chimed in as well.

Jesse simply stuck her tongue out in response while Zachary patted her on the head.

Jesse pointed at his clothes and said, "Zachary, you didn't button up your clothes..."

"We got worried when we heard you screaming, so we came rushing out before we could get dressed!" Zachary mumbled as he and the other boys continued buttoning up their clothes.

"Is Mommy still showering?" Gavin asked.

"Yeah, she only started showering after she was done bathing me!"

"Come on, let's go to her room!"

Jasper then grabbed Tim by the hand and ran off toward the bedroom.

"Hey, kids! Come here and drink your milk!" Benjamin called out to them.

The six of them stared at him for a bit before making their way over.

"Be careful, it's hot!"

Benjamin said as he poured the milk from the jug into separate glasses.

Seeing as there was still some milk left in the jug, Gavin suggested, "You should pour Mommy a glass too!"

Benjamin shot him a glance as he replied, "I will when she comes out."

Hmm... This kid sure knows how to care for his mommy these days...

Gavin handed Tim a glass of milk before getting one for himself.

"Tim, we'll go to bed after we finish our milk!"

Tim nodded and started drinking his milk when he saw them all chugging theirs down.

Benjamin waited till they had finished their milk before bringing them to their bedroom.

Jesse tugged at Jasper's sleeve and whispered, "Jasper, I want to sleep with Mommy!"

Jasper stole a glance at Benjamin before whispering into Gavin's ear, "Hey, Gavin, how about we sleep with Mommy tonight?"

Noticing the look in his brother's eyes, Gavin took the hint and nodded in agreement. "Sure, let's head over to Mommy's room!"

Not only will we get to spend time with Mommy, but it'll also help Tim bond with her better!

Gavin then started leading the kids toward the master bedroom.

Naturally, Benjamin didn't like that very much.

"You kids are sleeping in your own room!" he said with a frown.

"Tim and I haven't really slept with Mommy before, so we want to spend a night with her!" Gavin protested.

Benjamin couldn't bring himself to say no when he saw the yearning look in his eyes.

I've only slept with Gavin a few times when he was little. His fake mother Danna had always been putting up an act, so she never truly slept with him at all. As for Tim... Well, he has never slept with either of us...

With that thought in mind, Benjamin found himself giving in to their request.

"I've always been sleeping with Mommy before she moved in here, Mr. Graham! I want to sleep with Mommy!"

Jesse was very stubborn when it came to this sort of thing, so she mustered up the courage to ask Benjamin too.

The More the Merrier Chapter 573

Chapter 573 Up Your Game

"I'm not sleeping unless I get to sleep with Mommy!"

Jesse raised her adorable voice even more when she saw no response from Benjamin.

He let out a sigh and gave in at last. "Fine, we'll all sleep together!"

The kids are still little, and this place is a new environment for them. I suppose having them all sleep together will make looking after them easier...

'Thank you, Mr. Graham!" Jesse said with a smile.

'Call me 'Daddy!'" Benjamin said.

Jesse's face was all red as she covered her mouth and shook her head.

Benjamin didn't know whether to laugh or cry when he saw how adorable she looked.

Being the more authoritative one of the brothers, Zachary spoke up. "You'll have to up your game if you want us to call you 'Daddy!"

Benjamin smiled and patted him on the head. "In this case, do keep a close eye on my performance and let me know if I need any improvements!"

Zachary's eyes went wide when he saw how easy-going Benjamin had become.

"For now, you need to stop following us and go take a shower! We can wait for Mommy on our own!" Gavin reminded him with a stern face.

"All right, you kids go wait for your mommy in bed. She takes rather long showers, so she won't be done so soon. I'll go take a shower myself now," Benjamin instructed.

The six kids had always felt more relaxed without him around, so they were delighted when he agreed to leave them alone.

Upon seeing the kids happily climb into bed, Benjamin shook his head with a smile and went off to take a shower in the bathroom outside.

Arissa's heart was instantly filled with joy when she came out of the shower and saw the kids lying in bed.

"You kids want to sleep with me tonight?"

"Yeah! Hurry up, Mommy! We're getting sleepy here!" Jesse replied.

"Mr. Graham gave us permission to sleep with you tonight!" Jasper added.

"Mr. Graham was going to have us sleep in our room at first, but Jesse took care of the problem with her charm!" Oliver said.

Zachary chuckled. "Pfft! Jesse didn't use her charm! She was just trying to sound fierce, that's all! I bet Mr. Graham gave in to her cuteness instead!"

"We're sleeping with Mommy regardless of whether Daddy allows it!" Gavin chimed in as well.

Tim snickered silently from the side.

"Now, now… Time for bed, kids! Have you all drank your milk?" Arissa asked with a smile.

"Yes, Mommy! Yours is outside!" Jasper replied.

"I'll go get it for you, Ms. York!"

Tim then hopped off the bed and ran outside to fetch it.

Arissa had a huge smile on her face as she sat down beside the bed.

"We've already explained the situation to Tim, Mommy! He doesn't blame you for what happened!" Oliver told her.

Arissa's eyes lit up when she heard that. "Really?"

Jasper nodded profusely as he crawled over. "Yeah! Tim said it himself that he doesn't blame you at all!"

Would be nice if Tim could call me "Mommy" too... Arissa thought to herself with a chuckle.

"Tim may not call you 'Mommy,' but I think he has already accepted you as his mommy!" Zachary comforted her.

"Just give him some more time, Mommy! I'm sure he'll call you 'Mommy' soon!" Gavin added.

He too, used to think Arissa didn't want him at first.

It wasn't until after he found out the truth about what happened to her that he stopped blaming her.

Jesse was about to say something as well, but Arissa quickly stopped her with a shushing motion as she heard footsteps outside.

"Stop talking, kids! Hurry up and lie down!"

Gavin and Zachary exchanged glances before quickly lying down in their respective corners of the bed.

Oliver, Jasper, and Jesse too, snuggled up beside them.

"Take off your glasses, Oliver!" Arissa reminded him.

"Okay, Mommy!"

Oliver then sat up straight and placed his glasses on the nightstand.

Tim soon came into the room with a glass of milk in hand. Arissa swiftly made her way over and took the glass from him before leading him toward the bed.

"Come on, Sweetheart. It's time for bed!"

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Chapter 574 Tim Gives Her A Kiss

"Okay! You should get some sleep too after you finish your milk, Ms. York!" Tim replied while taking his shoes off beside the bed.

"I will!"

Arissa ruffled his hair affectionately. "Have you drank your milk?"

"Yeah, I have! I drank it together with Gavin and the others!" Tim said as he crawled over toward Gavin.

"Tim, would you like to sleep next to Mommy tonight?" Gavin asked softly.

Tim bit down on his lip as he felt a little shy about it.

Gavin then moved himself toward Oliver as he said, "You go sleep next to Mommy!"

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The siblings even made sure to have Zachary sleep near the edge so that Jesse wouldn't accidentally fall off the bed.

Arissa simply smiled as she sipped on her milk while watching their interactions from the side.

"Will Mommy be sleeping in the middle?"

"Yeah!"

Jasper let out a mischievous snicker as he placed his leg over Oliver's tummy.

"Hey! Get your heavy legs off me!" Oliver protested and gave him a kick.

"I'll sleep in the middle, so three of you will sleep on one side while the other three will sleep on the other!" Arissa said.

Oliver and Jasper glared at each other upon hearing that.

"You go!"

"No, you go!"

Oliver gave him a little shove. "You sleep on Zachary's side!"

"Hmph! You're always bullying me!" Jasper protested defiantly.

"You'll be far away from Mommy if you choose to stay on this side!" Oliver reminded him.

Jasper paused as he thought about it and realized Oliver was right.

"Fine! I'll go sleep on Zachary's side!" Jasper then made his way over to the other side of the bed.

Having finished her milk, Arissa put the glass down and shut the bedroom door.

"Hurry up, Mommy!" they called out to her in unison.

"Okay!" Arissa responded as she climbed into bed and lay down with three kids on each side.

With Tim and Jesse closest to her, she gave them all a hug and a kiss on the forehead.

"Good night, Sweethearts!"

'Good night, Mommy!"

Gavin, Zachary, Jesse, Oliver, and Jasper all took turns kissing her on the cheek as well.

Noticing that Tim hadn't done so, Gavin urged him, "Go on, Tim! Give Mommy a kiss!"

Arissa looked at Tim with an expectant look in her eyes, but Tim simply blushed without doing anything.

"All right, go to sleep now!" Arissa brushed it off as she didn't want to force him.

Tim could tell that she was a little disappointed, so he leaned in and gave her a quick peck on the cheek. "Good night, Ms. York!"

Feeling overjoyed, Arissa replied with a smile, "Good night, Sweetheart!"

She then switched off the light and hugged her kids to sleep.

Benjamin received a phone call after coming out of the shower, so it was really late at night when he ended the call.

Arissa and all six of the kids had already fallen fast asleep by the time he entered the bedroom.

Not wanting to wake any of them, Benjamin stealthily crept toward the bed and lay down next to Gavin.

With only the moonlight illuminating the room, he leaned over to give them all a kiss on the forehead.

Of course, he made sure to give Arissa one as well.

"Leave me alone! Go to bed!" Arissa opened her eyes all of a sudden, only to close them again after saying that and went back to sleep.

Benjamin breathed a sigh of relief when he saw that she didn't realize it was him.

Did she actually mistake me for one of her sons again?

He thought to himself as he closed the blinds with the remote control before going to sleep.

Benjamin was the first to wake up the next morning.

Seeing as Arissa and the kids were still asleep, he gently climbed out of bed, got changed, and left for his morning run.

Arissa broke into a sweet smile when she woke up later on and saw her kids all still sleeping soundly beside her.

She took a moment to get a good, long look at them before getting out of bed to wash up and make breakfast.

Suddenly, she thought of Benjamin and checked the living room to see if he was sleeping on the couch.

Where did Benjamin sleep last night?

She then decided to check the study, but didn't see him in there either.

Did he end up sleeping in the kids' room?

With that in mind, she opened the door to the kids' bedroom, but still saw no sign of him.

"What are you looking for?"

A familiar voice came from behind Arissa all of a sudden, causing her to jump in shock.

Arissa then turned around and saw Benjamin standing there in sports attire. He had clearly just returned from his morning run.

The More the Merrier Chapter 575

Chapter 575 I Slept With You Last Night

"N-Nothing at all!" she replied awkwardly while patting herself on the chest.

D*mn, how is this guy able to move so quietly? I didn't even hear him coming! He nearly gave me a heart attack!

Benjamin grinned when he saw her blushing.

"Were you looking for me?"

Arissa got a little flustered when she heard that, but cleared her throat and tried to sound normal as she asked, "Did you sleep in the kids' room last night?"

Benjamin asked with a chuckle, "You don't know where I slept last night?"

Of course I don't! Duh! Why would I even be asking this if I knew? The only reason he caught me snooping around was because I wanted to find out! Arissa thought to herself.

Benjamin flashed her a devilish smile as he grabbed her arm and led her toward the living room.

Because the palm of his hand was burning hot, Arissa instinctively tried to curl her fingers.

The look in Benjamin's eyes changed when he felt her finger scraping against his palm.

Sensing a hint of sexual tension in the air, Arissa stole a glance at him, only to meet his eyes the moment she did.

"Why are you looking at me like that?"

Benjamin's lips curled into a faint grin as he pinned her against the wall of the corridor and savored her blushing face.

This is all it takes to get her as red as a tomato? Man, she sure is cute!

Arissa's heart was racing like crazy as she pressed her back against the wall, but she tried to play it cool and asked, "Oh? What's with this move? Did you learn this from some cheesy romance flick, Graham?"

With an eyebrow playfully arched, Benjamin leaned in close and breathed down her face. His breath felt really warm on her skin, and Arissa found herself getting even more flustered as a result.

"What, you like it when I pin you against a wall?"

Benjamin's insanely handsome face coupled with his casual tone made him all the more charming.

Unable to handle his charm, Arissa looked the other way as she mumbled, "N-No, I don't!"

"Hmph, how stubborn!"

Benjamin's grin widened as he slowly traced a finger across her cheek.

He was pushing all of her buttons in the right way and sending ripples through her heart.

"I don't like it when you blush!" he whispered into her ear with a seductive voice, causing her to blush even harder in response.

What? Blushing is a natural physical response! It's not like I can control whether I blush or not! I tried to remain calm, but my face just turns red on its own!

Benjamin felt incredibly satisfied when he saw her response.

"What do you want?" Arissa asked angrily when she heard him laughing.

Benjamin responded by caressing her face affectionately as he said, "I slept with you last night!"

The next thing she knew, he planted a quick kiss on her cheek and returned to the room.

Arissa buried her bright red face in her palms as she thought to herself.

What a jerk! He did that on purpose, didn't he? No, this won't do... I need to stay calm! I can't be the first to freak out! Wait, I thought he was rumored to be uninterested in women? Why is he flirting with me now? Are all men like this? Also, what does he mean he slept with me? It's obviously the kids that he slept with! Good thing there's no one else around here, or they might really get the wrong idea!

She then smacked herself on the cheeks in an attempt to clear her head before entering the kitchen.

However, she froze in shock when she saw that the kitchen was completely empty.

Apart from milk, everything else was gone. It looked as if burglars had raided the entire kitchen overnight.

Even the refrigerator had been emptied, so there was nothing she could cook at all.

What's going on here?

Her mind went blank for quite a while before she snapped out of it and decided to question Benjamin.