

The More the Merrier Chapter 831

Chapter 831 Locked The Marriage Certificates In The Safe

The smile in Benjamin's eyes deepened. Placing his lips beside Arissa's ear, he queried softly in a suggestive tone, "How did I seduce you?"

Arissa felt her ear going numb. Gah! His voice is lethally dulcet! Shifting away slightly, she retorted with a low harrumph, "Do you really not know the answer to that, Mr. Graham?"

Benjamin's gaze darkened. At the sight of her huffy expression, the curve of his lips became increasingly distinct. "Haha! We now know why you both got married!" Jasper's voice rang out all of a sudden.

He was staring up at them, having eavesdropped for an indeterminate time. The other five children likewise wore enlightened expressions on their faces.

Embarrassment inundated Arissa, and she glared at the man beside her. He did it on purpose, didn't he, causing me to forget that the kids were right next to us?

Benjamin quirked an eyebrow. He remained as calm as ever. "How did you seduce Mommy, Daddy?"

Gavin stared at the man solemnly as he demanded an answer. "I was just wondering why Mommy suddenly married you, Mr. Graham. It turned out that you seduced her!"

Curling his lips, Zachary teased Benjamin. Benjamin's lips twitched imperceptibly. "We seduced each other."

"Hehe! Why didn't you say that you love each other?" Oliver quipped as well. "You're right! We love each other!" Benjamin echoed his son's words solemnly.

All six children gaped at him incredulously. How could he utter such a remark calmly? He must have truly fallen for Mommy!

They were all over the moon.

Taken aback, Arissa goggled at the man.

"Mommy, Mr. Graham said that the two of you love each other!"

Jesse pinned her eyes on Arissa, beaming from ear to ear.

In turn, Arissa flashed her a smile.

“Shouldn’t you all be addressing me as ‘Daddy’ starting today?”

Benjamin’s eyes were fixated on the six children; his voice threaded with a hint of negotiation.

Tim, Zachary, Oliver, Jasper, and the rest looked at each other.

Tim wasn’t addressing him as “Daddy” because he wasn’t accustomed to it yet, but Zachary and the others were testing him.

“Although you’ve married Mommy and are our daddy, your subsequent performance will decide whether you pass!”

Zachary regarded the man shrewdly, not easily duped at all.

Benjamin eyed his arrogant son in chagrin.

I’ve got to have a good chat with them. Otherwise, if they instigate Arissa one day, they might all take off on me again.

At the sight of his dejected look, Arissa chortled.

“Let’s go and have breakfast, Sweethearts!”

She urged the children to go into the house, for she had to rush to the hospital later after dropping them off at school.

“Okay!” the children answered.

“Give them to me,” Benjamin prompted.

Gavin and Zachary quickly returned the marriage certificates to their father.

Benjamin put them away in his pocket, treasuring them greatly.

Arissa cast a glance at him. “Let’s go and have breakfast!”

Benjamin nodded. “Take them to the dining room first. I’ll join you all in a while.”

Then, he headed toward the study.

Arissa watched him for a bit before leading the children to the dining room.

“Congratulations on your marriage, Mrs. Graham!”

Grinning widely, Edwin offered his felicitations to Arissa.

Arissa nodded with a smile. "Thank you!"

"Hurry up and have breakfast, Mrs. Graham. Otherwise, it won't taste as good anymore when it's cold later," Edwin urged.

He went over, carrying the children and placing them onto the chairs.

Arissa did the same before she took a seat herself.

When she saw that Benjamin was still not there yet, her curiosity was piqued.

Why did he go to the study? Don't tell me it was to store the marriage certificates?

Indeed, she hit the nail on the head.

Verily, Benjamin went to the study to store the marriage certificates. To top it off, he kept them in the most hidden spot in the safe.

Only after locking them up did he leave the study.

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Chapter 832 Congratulations On Your Marriage

"Congratulations on your marriage, Mr. Graham!" Edwin again offered his felicitations when he saw Benjamin coming over. "Thanks!" In high spirits, Benjamin nodded and murmured an acknowledgment. Edwin smiled brightly. "Have breakfast, Mr. Graham!"

Pulling out a chair, Benjamin sat down. He sensed Arissa staring at him, so he lifted his eyes and swung his gaze in her direction. "Why aren't you eating?"

"I was waiting for you," Arissa admitted with a smile. Benjamin's gaze softened. "Hurry up and eat!" By tacit understanding, the six children congratulated them merrily upon seeing that they had started eating.

"Congratulations on your marriage!" Benjamin's eyes flickered, and he gazed at them tenderly. A smile curved his lips. "Thank you, guys!"

Arissa was also very much delighted. "Thank you, Sweethearts! Eat up, quick!"

She hugged them all. Only then did the six children started eating breakfast. "Eat more!" Benjamin took some food for Arissa before doing the same for all the children.

"Sure!" Arissa nodded and started eating breakfast in all seriousness. Seeing them eating happily, Benjamin was in a good mood as well. He ate more than usual.

After breakfast, the two of them sent the children to school.

“Are you going to pick us up and take us to our great-grandaunt after school, Mommy?” Gavin asked, clutching Arissa’s hand.

“Yup!” Arissa stroked his head with a smile.

“Ms. York, will you be going to work straight away or visiting Great-grandaunt?” Tim queried softly.

He hadn’t talked to Mary on the phone after getting up in the morning, so he was missing her then.

“I’ll be going to visit your great-grandaunt!”

Arissa caressed his petite face, coaxing, “I’ll be visiting her in a while, so don’t worry, Sweetheart. Study hard with your brothers.”

Tim peeked at her. “In that case, can you give me a call after visiting her?”

“Sure!”

Hugging him, Arissa kissed him before straightening his clothes.

Subsequently, she straightened the clothes of the five other children.

“Go on in. I’ll come and pick you up after school in the afternoon.”

“All right, Mommy!” Oliver replied joyfully.

“Bye, Mommy!” Zachary waved.

Gavin, Tim, Oliver, Jasper, and Jesse likewise bid farewell to her and Benjamin.

“Bye, Sweethearts!”

Arissa watched the children with a smile in her eyes.

His thin lips turning up slightly, Benjamin lifted his hand and waved at them.

When all the children had gone into the school, he took her hand.

“Let’s go to the hospital!”

“Yeah.” Nodding, Arissa followed after him.

At that precise moment, a woman suddenly rushed out and blocked their path.

“You’re the parents of those six children?”

Arissa studied her, startled at her frantic state.

“Yes. Is something the matter?”

Falling to her knees, the woman prostrated herself before them.

“Please have mercy on my child! We’ve already admonished him, and he’ll never make such remarks again! No school dares to take him in now. I’m sorry! We’ve really repented! Our family’s business can’t survive anymore either. Please spare us!”

Arissa was wholly stumped. I didn’t do anything. Could it have been Benjamin?

She turned her gaze to the man.

Benjamin remained indifferent, his gaze chilly. He motioned to his bodyguard a stone’s throw away.

The bodyguard immediately stepped forward and blocked the woman from sight. “Leave at once! Don’t bother Mr. Graham!”

“Mr. Graham!”

The woman gasped. She glanced at Benjamin, only to tremble violently in fright upon meeting his baleful gaze.

Only then did she know the identity of the six children’s father—Benjamin Graham of Dellmoor, otherwise known as “Mr. Graham.”

No one dared to offend him, for anyone who did so was merely courting death.

Oh my God, why was my son so blind? Worse still, we even came to school after the fact and taught those kids a lesson!

At that thought, the woman broke out in a cold sweat.

“I’m sorry, Mr. Graham! It was all our fault! Please have mercy on us. Our child’s future is of utmost importance!”

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The woman remained on the ground and continued to beg for Benjamin's mercy. As long as Benjamin was willing to let them off, she would stay on her knees for the entire day.

The parents of the other children started gathering around. Benjamin had a grim expression on his face as he noticed someone taking a video of the scene.

"What has your child's future got to do with me?" he asked coldly. As Arissa knew that the woman was the mother of one of those kids, she did not have any sympathy for her.

"I could have let it slide if it was just your kid making fun of my son. However, it's unforgivable that you adults had come to the school and scolded my kid without even getting the facts right. You should have expected to suffer consequences for that. How dare you ask for mercy after failing to set a good example for your child? Besides, it's common for children to bicker among themselves. You think your kid is precious, but my child is also precious. Who gave you the right to humiliate my son?" Arissa stared at the woman and exclaimed in anger such that everyone around could hear her clearly.

Benjamin felt very satisfied with the woman for defending their boy.

"Sorry, I'm so sorry. We have lost our senses and behaved inappropriately. I shouldn't have scolded your child. I'm not asking you to let our child return to study here, but none of the schools in Dellmoor are willing to accept him now. If this situation continues, my son's life would be ruined. Please let my child continue schooling in Dellmoor!" the woman continued begging.

Even though Arissa did have some pity for the woman, she did not forget how she treated Tim.

"There's nothing I can do about the schools not wanting to take your kid in. You should think of a solution yourself. It's none of our business!"

The woman's anger spiked after Arissa and Benjamin showed no signs of relenting.

Unable to contain her fury, she retorted, "If you guys hadn't instructed the schools not to accept my child, would they have done that?"

The other parents who had gathered around were talking among themselves.

"She was the one who bullied their son, and it's just karma returning to bite her. How could she have the cheek to blame them?"

"It seems like she's not repentant at all!"

"That incident was everywhere in the news. I'm sure all of the schools had seen what happened. It's unlikely that any school would accept a child raised by a parent like her."

“If you really want the best for your child, you should properly reflect on yourself. Your kid has only turned out this way because he has a mother like you.”

“Exactly! We’re living in a modern and civilized society. Does she really expect everyone to treat her son like a prince? Such uncouth behavior is unacceptable!”

“If no schools in Dellmoor are willing to accept your child, you can take him somewhere else. I’m sure some school in some part of the world would be happy to take him in.”

The woman felt as if she was about to explode with rage when she heard those comments from the other parents, but she was not in a position to retort.

She turned toward Benjamin and Arissa and begged pitifully, “Please let us off! I’m begging you!”

After witnessing the woman’s true colors, Arissa did not feel like helping her at all.

Obviously, she knew that it was all Benjamin’s doing, but she was also certain that the man couldn’t have approached every school in the city.

“It’s no use begging us. You should be pleading with the principals of those schools instead. It’s not something we can control!”

“You! Why are you hell-bent on destroying my son’s future? I’ll kill you for that!”

The woman got up and charged toward Arissa. However, before she could get anywhere near her, she was stopped by the bodyguards.

“Call the police!” Benjamin ordered in a frosty voice.

“Understood, Mr. Graham!” The bodyguard called the police at once.

Soon, the police arrived and took the woman away after recording some statements.

Many in the surrounding crowd murmured and sighed, but no one felt sympathy for the woman.

Arissa had a gloomy expression on her face after returning to the car.

She was feeling rather frustrated because her mood had been ruined early in the morning.

Benjamin pinched the woman’s cheeks affectionately and asked, “What’s on your mind?”

Arissa sighed and replied, “Did we go overboard?”

A crease appeared between the man's brows as he replied in a deep voice, "She's just reaping what she sowed. We can't show mercy to someone like her!"

Arissa looked at him and felt that even though what he had just said did make sense, she just could not help feeling bad about it.

After all, she was also a mother.

"Did you tell all those schools to not accept her child?"

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Chapter 834 Good News

"Just some of them," replied Benjamin, looking at the woman. Ethen had passed down Benjamin's orders to a few schools in Dellmoor, but not all. However, it was for sure that none of the better schools in the city would accept the kid.

Arissa nodded when she heard the man's reply. If that was the case, it did not concern them whether or not the rest of the schools wanted to accept that woman's kid.

There was no need for her to feel guilty. "Is that woman going to be arrested?" she asked. Without replying, Benjamin fixed his gaze on Arissa before turning the woman's head around to face him. The next moment, he pressed his lips against hers.

Arissa could almost feel her head spinning from the man's passionate kiss and stopped fretting about other matters. When they arrived at the hospital, Benjamin planted another kiss on the corner of Arissa's lips.

Looking at the woman who was blushing, his gaze darkened as he felt waves of desire rise within him. He wouldn't have stopped if they did not have something to attend to.

"Are you able to get out of the car?" Benjamin asked teasingly while pinching the woman's cheek lovingly. Arissa was panting and her face was flushed red.

"Of course!" she replied after casting a self-conscious glance at the man. Benjamin brushed his finger against her nose and got out of the car. "Come on!"

Arissa cleared her throat before stepping out of the car. Standing next to the car door, Benjamin put his hand on the headliner to prevent the woman from bumping her head against it.

Then, the couple headed into the hospital together. "I wonder how Grand aunt is feeling today!"

Arissa had only spoken to Mary on the phone the previous day but did not visit her at the hospital. "She should be fine. If there's anything wrong, Shaun would have called me," Benjamin replied, reassuring the woman.

Arissa nodded. When both of them reached the ward, there was still about an hour left to Mary's surgery. Mary had just finished her breakfast with the help of a nurse.

When the old lady saw the couple, she greeted them with a smile on her face. "Why are you guys here? Don't you have to work?"

"Grandaunt, knowing that you're having your surgery today, how can we work in peace? Since he's the boss, it wouldn't matter what time we go to the office. Don't worry about us."

Arissa sat by Mary's bedside and held the old lady's hand while expressing her concern for her. "It's just a minor surgery. You guys didn't have to come!" Feeling extremely touched, Mary replied, "Do Tim and the other kids know about my surgery?"

"Nope, we didn't tell them about it. You should have some rest now. We'll be here with you!" Arissa said as she tucked the blanket under Mary's arm.

After greeting Mary, Benjamin left the ward to look for Shaun to ask him about Mary's condition. "Grandaunt, I have good news to tell you!"

Arissa was smiling so vibrantly that one could easily tell that something good had happened to her. "What's the good news? I can tell that you're in a very good mood today! Quick, tell me about it!"

Mary was smiling from ear to ear as she urged Arissa to share the news. "Grandaunt, Benjamin and I got married!" Arissa said softly. "What?" Mary froze for a moment when she heard that.

"We made the decision last night and registered our marriage this morning!" Arissa told Mary cheerfully. "Really?"

Mary was rather shocked to hear that. "But it's only seven o'clock in the morning. How did you manage to register your marriage? The city hall only opens after eight, right?"

"Oh, someone came to our house in the morning to officiate our marriage. We just had to take a picture and fill in a form. The entire process took less than twenty minutes!"

Arissa had a blissful expression as she spoke. Mary felt a sense of relief after noticing the look on the woman's face. She did not expect the two youngsters to get married so soon. "Do the kids know that the two of you are married already?"

Arissa nodded as she replied, "Yup, they do."

“Tim must have been thrilled!” Mary said, beaming.

“Yup! The kids were all really excited to know about it. They were pretty shocked when we told them,” Arissa replied merrily.

Mary looked at the younger woman and said smilingly, “I’m really surprised too! I didn’t expect both of you to get married so soon!”

Feeling slightly awkward, Arissa replied, “It was a sudden decision. I didn’t expect Benjamin to be serious about marrying me.”

Mary patted the back of Arissa’s hand and said gently, “Do you really not know about Benjamin’s feelings toward you?”

A blush of embarrassment spread across Arissa’s cheeks when she met Mary’s smiling gaze.

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Chapter 835 Benjamin Got Married

“Yes! I feel it!” Arissa nodded and opened up to Mary. “After all, he’s not an easy man to woo. I thought he was just playing along to make me happy.”

Mary smiled. “Benjamin isn’t a sweet talker. Instead, he shows his love through his actions.” Arissa laughed and joked, “It seems like you know him very well, Grandaunt!”

Mary grinned from ear to ear and replied, “Well, it’s just what I felt. If you were to spend your life with him, your feelings for him are important. When two people stay together, conflicts are bound to happen. As long as it’s not an unforgivable mistake, neither of you should hold a grudge against the other. Instead, just have an argument and let it go!”

Arissa nodded. I’ll remember Grandaunt’s advice. Right then, Benjamin and Shaun came in. Shaun came by to check Mary’s vitals. “Everything is stable, Mdm. Mary. Don’t be afraid of the surgery, okay? We’re all here with you,” he comforted Mary.

“Okay. Thank you, Dr. Bailey!” Mary uttered gratefully. “You’re welcome. As long as you’re healthy, we’ll be happy!” Shaun then prepared an IV drip for Mary.

Benjamin and Arissa were right beside Mary, keeping her company. “Benjamin, Issa told me you guys got married. Congratulations!” Mary congratulated Benjamin. While wearing a gentle expression, Benjamin nodded and answered, “Thank you, Grandaunt!”

“From now on, you guys have to live blissfully together, okay?” Mary urged. “We will!” Benjamin nodded. Shaun was stunned when he heard Mary congratulating Benjamin. His astonished gaze fell on the couple as he asked, “You guys got married?”

Arissa looked at him and smiled. "Yes!" Benjamin, on the other hand, merely glanced at Shaun without saying a word. Shaun was so shocked that his jaw dropped. After a long while, he finally blurted, "When? Today?"

"Yes!" Arissa laughed. "Oh, my goodness! That's fast! We were just at your house last night, no? Why didn't we hear anything about it?" Shaun was looking at Benjamin in bafflement. What a shocking piece of news! Benjamin had gotten married on the spur of the moment!

Though Benjamin was in high spirits, he responded flatly, "Well, now you know, right?"

"We just suddenly decided to get married!" Arissa smiled. One shouldn't overthink and drag things out when it comes to marriage.

Shaun laughed aloud. "Congratulations, Benjamin! Congratulations! Things have developed rather quickly between you guys! We were wondering how long we would have to wait to attend your wedding dinner!"

Shaun beamed brightly as he spoke. Did Benjamin get influenced by Aaron? He was exceedingly efficient! Although Aaron had already held his wedding dinner, I don't think he has registered for his marriage yet.

"Wedding dinner? Not so soon!" Benjamin uttered in a serious tone. That's something we need time to prepare for.

Hearing that, Arissa turned toward him, looking at him with puzzlement. What does he mean by that?

Benjamin met her gaze. "Well, we need time to prepare for that!"

Arissa felt gleeful deep down upon feeling his commitment toward her.

With a nod, she said, "Yes. We do."

Benjamin pinched her cheek affectionately.

"Get a room, you guys!" Shaun teased.

Arissa's eyes gleamed, and she started blushing.

Unlike her, Benjamin wasn't at all embarrassed. He turned to glare at Shaun and said, "Get ready for the surgery!"

Shaun smiled in response. "Congratulations, Mrs. Graham!"

"Thank you!" Arissa replied with a smile.

Mary couldn't stop smiling when she saw their sweet interaction.

Meanwhile, at the Graham residence, Edwin called the Old Manor to tell them about the good news.

William was so happy that he immediately shouted, "Old Mr. Graham, Mr. Graham got married!"

Darius ran in from the courtyard excitedly and stared at William. "Say that again!"

"Old Mr. Graham, Mr. Graham just got married!"

Darius burst into laughter when he heard that. "That's marvelous! That fellow has finally come to his senses! Wait... Who is he getting married to?" he asked cautiously because he was afraid that it wouldn't be the result he wanted.