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## The More the Merrier Chapter 295 - 298

Chapter 295 Why Not Call Him Daddy

"Yeah! You were in there for quite a long time too!" Oliver chimed in.

"It wasn't that long! I came running out the moment your daddy gave me the glare of death!" Kingsley protested.

Arissa chuckled in amusement. She then grabbed a plate of fruits and snacks before heading over to the study.

"Mommy is going to see Mr. Graham!" Jesse exclaimed.

Arissa turned around and corrected her, "You should call him 'Daddy'!"

Jesse simply stuck her tongue out in response.

Kingsley looked at them and asked out of curiosity, "Why aren't you kids calling him 'Daddy'?"

"Because we're still trying to determine if he's worthy of being our daddy!" Jasper replied while leaning against the back of his chair.

Kingsley walked up to him and gave him a light pinch on the cheek. "And how would he be considered worthy?"

Let's see if I can help Boss find out more information to help him out!

"What do you think?" Zachary and Oliver said in unison.

"I think he's your daddy, to begin with. Refusing to call him 'Daddy' won't change that fact at all," Kingsley replied with a chuckle.

The kids pouted upon hearing that.

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"You're right, Mr. Watts. But we still have the right to choose whether we call him 'Daddy' or not!" Oliver said with a mischievous grin.

"It's true that he's our daddy, but we can also choose not to treat him as such if he doesn't do his job well!" Zachary added with a defiant snort.

"Yeah! I'm with Zachary on this one!" Jasper expressed his support for Zachary.

Jesse raised her hand. "Me too!"

"I agree with Oliver and Zachary. Daddy will need to earn their respect if he wants them to call him 'Daddy!'" Gavin stated.

"So, how would your daddy prove himself?" Kingsley asked curiously.

"By treating our mommy well, duh! We won't forgive him if he bullies Mommy!" Zachary declared defiantly.

The other kids all nodded in agreement.

I see... Even Gavin is on Arissa's side, huh? Man, I feel bad for Benjamin already! Kingsley thought to himself.

Arissa was unaware of that conversation as she was bringing the food to Benjamin in the study.

"You should take a break and have some snacks, Mr. Graham!"

Benjamin simply shot her a quick glance before shifting his gaze back to his documents.

Arissa was about to leave when he called out to her all of a sudden, "Come here!"

His deep voice was so attractive that she found herself pausing in her tracks.

"Yes?" she responded while turning around.

Benjamin pointed at the files scattered on the desk and said, "Rearrange these documents."

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Seeing as he was busy, Arissa stepped forward and did as told without saying anything.

Benjamin then handed her another folder and ordered, "Check if this one has any issues."

Arissa was a little confused, but she examined the document anyway.

A smile formed on Benjamin's face as he admired her serious expression. "Well?"

Arissa looked at him and said, "The contract looks fine overall, but our company wouldn't profit much out of this collaboration. In fact, the other party would stand to gain a lot more than us. Why are we working with them, Mr. Graham?"

Benjamin felt genuinely impressed that she figured it out so quickly.

"That's a question for the project manager," he replied while tossing that contract aside.

Arissa poured him a glass of water. "You should take a break. Aren't you feeling drowsy from your medication?"

Benjamin had been busy working since he returned from lunch.

He arched an eyebrow in surprise when he heard the concern in her voice.

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Chapter 296 What Do You Dislike

Arissa's heart skipped a beat when they accidentally made eye contact.

Despite averting her gaze, her heart pounded even faster.

"Are you worried about me?"

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As Benjamin's magnetic voice rang out, it rumbled through her ears with a tingling sensation.

Giggling, Arissa stared at him. "I am."

Benjamin's smile widened while the look in his eyes grew more intense.

After sneaking a couple of glances at him, Arissa blushed. "You should relax and continue once you have recovered."

Raising his brows, Benjamin took a sip of water.

Arissa served him some snacks. "What would you like for dinner?"

Having finished the snack, Benjamin replied, "Cook something delicious for me!"

Arissa stared at him. What kind of answer is that?

"In that case, is there anything you can't eat?"

Benjamin shot her a glance. "Just ask Edwin."

Arissa was speechless.

"Why are you telling me to ask someone else about your preference? I might as well cook Edwin's favorite dishes."

Benjamin's gaze darkened. "Anything is fine as long as it isn't spicy."

When Arissa saw his grumpy expression, she beamed. "Didn't you eat spicy food previously?"

He had consumed a lot of spicy food at the holiday home.

Having been reminded of it, Benjamin's expression darkened.

After returning from the trip, his stomach felt terrible until this very day.

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When she saw how Benjamin was glaring at her, she promised, "Fine. I won't make it spicy. Nevertheless, you still have to tell me what your favorite food is."

"Mushroom chicken and poached fish." Benjamin gave her a look.

Arissa nodded in acknowledgment. "I'll check with Edwin if there's any fish available."

When she turned and left, Benjamin watched her go.

Smiling subconsciously, he continued consuming his snacks.

After confirming with Edwin that all the ingredients she needed were available, Arissa's mind was put at ease.

Subsequently, she went to the living room and asked the children, "Kids, what would you like for dinner? I'll be cooking tonight."

"Wow! Mommy, can you steam some eggs?"

Jesse ran up to her and hugged her thigh.

Tousling her hair, Arissa replied, "Of course!"

After all, steaming eggs were easy.

"Mommy, I want to have fish!" Jasper raised his hand.

Arissa chuckled. "It's already on the menu."

Zachary's eye lit up. "Mommy, tell us what else are you making, and we can add on to it!"

"Mushroom chicken, fish, and steam eggs!"

Beaming at Gavin, Zachary, and Oliver, Arissa asked, "What would the three of you like to have?"

"We enjoy anything you cook. Therefore, you can decide," Gavin answered with a smile.

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Touched by his response, Arissa asked her son again, "Is there anything special that you like? Since it's still early, I have time to prepare them."

Gavin pondered a moment. "I would like some hot lasagna."

Although it was a spicy dish, Arissa decided to make it for the children still. As for Benjamin, he would just have to avoid it.

Zachary added, "Mommy, I would like to have some steak!"

Oliver chimed in, "Mommy, I want some roast chicken!"

After Gavin placed his order, the brothers didn't want to be left out.

Arissa nodded. "Together with one vegetable, we'll have a total of seven dishes."

She turned to look at Kingsley. "Mr. Watts, what would you like to have?"

"All the dishes sound tantalizing. There's no need for me to add to them. I'll just have what everyone is having."

Kingsley didn't dare order anything for fear that Benjamin wouldn't allow him to come over for food anymore.

"All right then, I'll cook all these for dinner. You guys can go on out to play."

Arissa sent Edwin out to buy some roast chicken before retrieving all the ingredients she needed.

After playing with Kingsley for a while, the five children skipped over to help her.

"Mommy, we're here to assist you."

Arissa grinned at the children. "There's no need for you to help. You guys should just go play."

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After all, the children didn't know how to clean the fish and chicken. As for the vegetables and mushrooms, those didn't take much work.

## The More the Merrier Chapter 297

Chapter 297 Gavin Learns To Cook

"We can help you wash the steak and vegetables. In fact, we even know how to prepare the eggs!"

Just as Zachary spoke, he began to get his hands dirty.

As for the other four children, they too joined in to help.

Arissa was amused. "Be careful. Don't cut yourself on the bone."

After the steak was sliced, she proceeded to wash the chicken and cut it into small pieces.

"Mommy, isn't it exhausting for you to prepare so many dishes alone?"

Watching Arissa, Gavin was astounded by her knife skills.

Arissa glanced at her son. "Not at all, they're not difficult dishes to prepare anyway."

"Mommy, if it's too much for you, you can get Mr. Whitley to help," Gavin suggested attentively.

"Hmm, but I have sent out him to buy roast chicken. Anyway, it'll just take me an hour to do all this."

"Mommy, do you want to cook the pasta now?" Oliver asked.

When Zachary was being squeezed by Jasper and Jesse, he decided to back away and let the three of them do it.

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"Hmm. Yes we can."

Looking around the kitchen, Arissa pointed her son to a pot.

"I'll get it!" Gavin seized upon the opportunity.

Breaking into a smile, Oliver teased Gavin, "Do you even know how to do it?"

"I can always learn!" Gavin blushed.

Arissa looked at them in amusement. Given that Gavin was raised by Benjamin, he had probably never done any chores in his life.

"Oliver, stop making fun of Gavin! Have you forgotten about the time you burned the pasta?" Arissa reminded him of his embarrassing history.

Gavin's eyes lit up. "So, you have never done it before either!"

Oliver felt awkward. "But I know how to do it now."

"In that case, teach me!" Gavin had stopped teasing him.

Oliver nodded.

"All right then. Mommy, how many cups of water do we need to boil the pasta?" Oliver asked as he let Gavin handle the pasta.

Arissa turned to look. "Let me see how big the cup is."

When Gavin raised the measuring cup in his hand, Arissa's lips twitched.

The cup is so much bigger than what I have at home!

Meeting the children's gazes, Arissa made a rough estimate. "Three cups I suppose, and make sure they're full!"

After all, too much water would spoil the pasta's consistency.

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With that, Gavin carefully filled the pot with water.

“Remember to hold it with both your hands!” Oliver was supervising him.

Gavin then did as he was told.

“Is this all right?” Gavin ask humbly.

“Just a little more will do.”

“Remember to add more water, or else it will dry out,” Arissa reminded both of them.

Once Gavin filled the pot, he measured the water level before letting Oliver check.

Nonetheless, he felt it better to confirm with Arissa. “Mommy, is this enough?”

“Yes, it is. You’re amazing!” Arissa praised her son, filling him with a sense of achievement.

When he turned around, he saw Oliver drying the surrounding area with a cloth.

“We have to make sure the stove is dry before turning on the fire.”

“Mmm-hmm.” Gavin committed what he saw to memory.

When Zachary had cleaned the steak, Jasper was done with the mushrooms too.

As for Jesse, she had finished rinsing the vegetables.

Consequently, the three siblings put the ingredients they had washed neatly together.

Zachary asked, “Mommy, do the mushrooms need to be cut?”

“Yes, but you don’t have to do it. Go out and play. I’ll handle the rest,” Arissa urged.

“Mommy, we’ll help you to wash the plates!” Zachary didn’t want to leave.

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When she saw how much they wanted to do the chores, Arissa was nonplussed but relented in the end.

“Remember to wash the cutlery too.”

“All right!”

Gavin quickly led his younger siblings to take out the plates and cutlery for washing.

When Kingsley saw all six of them busy in the kitchen, he went over to help.

## The More the Merrier Chapter 298

Chapter 298 Wanting Some Privacy

“Kingsley!” When Benjamin’s voice rang out from the study, Kingsley turned around and walked in.

“Benjamin, what’s up?”

Kingsley grinned at Benjamin. When he noticed the empty plate on the table, his smile broadened.

Just as expected, Arissa does have an impact on him.

Benjamin sharpened his gaze at Kingsley. “Aren’t you going home?”

With a twitch of his lips, Kingsley took a seat opposite Benjamin. Leaning back, he then put his feet on a corner of the table.

When Benjamin glared at his feet, Kingsley had no choice but to take it off and cross his legs instead.

“I’ll leave after dinner. Don’t tell me you’re not allowing it, are you? Mrs. Graham has invited me to stay for dinner.”

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Even though Benjamin felt that “Mrs. Graham” had a nice ring to it, he replied, “She’s just being polite.”

“I don’t care. I’ll leave once I’ve eaten. After all, I did send the children home. Are you really going to show me no mercy by chasing me out?”

“I didn’t ask you to do it!” Benjamin snorted as he didn’t want them home.

Widening his eyes, Kingsley stared at Benjamin intently. When it finally dawned upon him, he let out a cheeky laugh.

“You’re blaming me? Looks like you were looking forward to having some privacy. Why don’t I send them back to your dad’s place?”

Benjamin rolled his eyes at him. “Anyway, just help me keep an eye on what the media has to say about them.”

Kingsley nodded. “Don’t worry, I will. What did Mr. Patterson say?”

“Life imprisonment!” Benjamin answered frostily.

Kingsley nodded. “I’m surprised that she has plotted against you for so many years. Benjamin, haven’t you suspected her before?”

Suddenly, Benjamin emitted a bloodthirsty vibe.

Previously, he had his suspicions but didn’t have any incriminating evidence.

After all, she had schemed for a long time to take advantage of him.

Sensing the change in Benjamin’s mood, Kingsley didn’t continue the topic.

Since Benjamin had left Jonathan in charge of the case, all they had to do now was wait for the verdict.

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“Benjamin, it’s not easy for Mrs. Graham to care for the four children alone. Thus, if you’re interested in her, you had better be more overt about it. Or else, she might leave with your children.”

When Benjamin rolled his eyes at him, Kingsley chuckled. “I’ll check in on Mrs. Graham and see if she needs any help.”

With that, Kingsley quickly slipped out.

After sitting for a while longer, Benjamin followed him outside too.

“Mrs. Graham, do you need any help?” Kingsley asked with a smile as he walked into the kitchen.

Arissa turned to grin at him and replied, “No, I’m fine. You should go ahead and have a seat.”

“Kids, go play with Mr. Watts!” she instructed the five children.

After all, it was dangerous for them to be in the kitchen, as they were at risk of getting splattered with hot oil if she wasn’t careful.

“Mr. Watts, you should leave. You managed to arrive only after we have done everything,” Zachary ridiculed him.

“Exactly!” Oliver and Jasper added.

Jesse narrowed her eyes, “Mr. Watts, do you know how to cook? Why don’t you help Mommy cook instead?”

Kingsley placed his hands into his pockets. “If I cook, I’m worried that all of you will get a tummy ache at night!”

“Mr. Watts, you had better leave the kitchen and not get in the way of Mommy cooking.” Gavin pushed Kingsley out.

Chuckling in response, Kingsley joked when he saw Benjamin approach, “Your kids really resent me being here.”

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Benjamin shot him a icy glare.

When they children looked at Benjamin, he pointed outside.

“Go out and play!”

With that, the children quickly ran out.

As for Kingsley, he didn't dare linger when he saw Benjamin's stern expression. Hence, he followed the children out of the kitchen.

“Wait, Mr. Watts. Why are you running so quickly? Is there a beast chasing after you?”

Meanwhile, Benjamin walked up to Arissa and looked at what she was cooking.

Arissa turned toward him. “Aren't you busy?”

“I came to check if you've made my favorite dishes.”

When Benjamin shot her a glance, Arissa's lips twitched.

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