

# The More the Merrier Chapter 336

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## The More the Merrier Chapter 336 A Handsome Man Asked Me Out

When it was time for dinner, Arissa snuck a glance at Benjamin and saw him on the phone with his back facing her.

She could faintly hear him speaking in a foreign language.

Seizing the opportunity, she packed her things and snuck out of the office.

When she hurried into the elevator and turned around, she was stunned to see Benjamin enter.

He gave her a look as if to warn her.

Nevertheless, he continued talking on the phone with a stern expression.

After the elevator doors closed, Arissa glimpsed at him awkwardly before pressing the button for the first floor.

When they arrived, Benjamin was still on the phone.

After taking another glance at him, she walked out of the elevator.

When she noticed that he was following her, she turned around and remarked, "I'm going out for dinner.

"

Giving her the side-eye, he continued to follow her.

Subsequently, Arissa glared at him when he entered the car her son had sent to pick her up.

Raising his brow, Benjamin reciprocated with a piercing gaze of his own.

With her lips pursed, Arissa asked softly, "Are you joining me for dinner?"

”

After ending the call, Benjamin gave her a look of displeasure.

“Are you leaving me to fend for myself by sneaking out?

”

Arissa’s lips twitched at the accusation.

“Well, it’s just that when I saw how busy you were, I didn’t want to disturb you.

”

“Then why don’t I feel welcomed when I followed you down?

” Benjamin scoffed as he leaned closer to her.

Arissa blinked before her eyes darted around shiftily.

After that, she answered with an awkward smile, “You must have felt wrong, Mr.

Graham.

”

Benjamin let out a cold snort.

She really is a feisty one.

Despite trying to sneak out, she is adamant about finding excuses.

“Where are you going for dinner?

” He stared at her.

Racking her brains, she teased, “I got asked out by a handsome guy!

”

Benjamin furrowed his brows.

“Who?

”

Arissa was amused by his response.

“I doubt you’d know him even if I told you.

”

At that moment, tension filled the air.

Arissa felt goosebumps appear all over her body when she was enveloped by the pressure he emitted.

Consequently, she rubbed both her arms.

Benjamin looked at her from the corner of his eye.

“Are you cold?

”

Arissa gave him a look but didn’t respond.

Benjamin then ordered the driver, “Turn up the heater.

”

“Yes, Mr.

Graham,” the driver grunted in acknowledgment and did as he was instructed.

“Mr.

Graham, is this temperature all right?

”

Benjamin asked Arissa, “Are you still cold?

”

Arissa returned his gaze.

“I’m fine now.

”

Benjamin grunted in response.

Nonetheless, Arissa continued to look ahead and ignored the suffocating aura that Benjamin was releasing.

When Gavin called again, she hastily answered the phone.

“Mommy, are you in the car yet?

”

Arissa replied softly, “I am.

I just left the office.

”

“Did Daddy notice you?

” Gavin’s wary voice rang out which was clearly heard by Benjamin.

Is Gavin the handsome man she mentioned just now?

He snorted, “Gavin, what are you trying to do?

Why do you need to hide the fact that you’re having dinner from me?

”

Benjamin felt exasperated at how ungrateful his son was.

Upon hearing Benjamin’s voice, Gavin fell silent.

A short while later, he added, “Mommy, come over quickly.

We’re waiting for you to start dinner!

”

“All right.

” Arissa replied.

I'm already in the car.

It's not like I can travel any faster.

"Mommy, Grandpa has ordered a lot of delicious food for us.

"

"Mmm-hmm.

"

Arissa continued, "Sweetheart, where did all of you go today?

"

"We went to the playground.

Zachary and the others had a lot of fun!

"

Upon hearing Gavin's reply, Arissa cracked a vibrant smile.

"Is that so?

How about you then, did you enjoy yourself?

"

Her mind was filled with images of the children having fun.

"I did!

" Gavin laughed gleefully, warming Arissa's heart.

"Sweetheart, I will take all of you there the next time.

"

"That's wonderful!

" Gavin was filled with anticipation.

He then said, "We'll see you in a while, Mommy."

"

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The More the Merrier Chapter 337 Benjamin Was Not Invited To Dinner

"Okay.

See you later, Sweetheart!

"

After Arissa hung up, she could feel Benjamin staring at her.

She turned around and stared back at him, asking, "Why are you looking at me?"

"

Benjamin felt slightly frustrated when he saw that the smile that Arissa had on her face earlier on had completely disappeared.

He could not understand why the woman was so gentle when she interacted with the kids but was stingy with her affection when she was facing him.

"Is Dad treating you to dinner?"

" Benjamin asked, cocking his brows.

Arissa nodded and replied, "That's what Gavin said."

"

Benjamin's eyes gleamed when he heard that, wondering why he was not invited to dinner as well.

How could my own father do that to me?

Am I really his son?

At the same time, he also thought about his own son, who no longer felt like his son, as the boy was much closer to Arissa than him currently.

Benjamin's face fell slightly at the thought of that.

Arissa took a glance at his handsome face that was visibly tensed and explained in a soft voice, "Maybe Mr.

Graham didn't ask you because he thought that you were busy.

"

Benjamin turned toward her and replied, "You don't have to comfort me.

Do you really think I'll be upset over just a meal?

"

Arissa gulped when she heard that.

If you're not upset, why are you following me then?

On the way to the restaurant, the couple did not speak to each other.

When they reached the dinner venue, the five children were in the midst of playing with Darius, Kingsley, and Shaun in the private room.

Laughter filled the entire room.

When the kids saw Arissa, they ran over to her at once.

"Mommy, you're here!

" they exclaimed, jumping into their mother's arms, hugging her.

Arissa stumbled a little when she tried to take all five of them into her embrace.

Noticing that, Benjamin quickly put his arms around her waist to steady her, preventing her from falling.

“Mommy, we’ve waited so long for you to reach!

”

Arissa smiled and tousled the children’s hair affectionately.

“Didn’t you say dinner start at six?

”

The kids nodded and replied, “Even though it’s at six, you can still come earlier!

”

Arissa replied with a chuckle, “I was worried that you guys won’t be here yet if I arrive too early!

”

“All right, that’s enough.

Go wash your hands and get ready for dinner,” Darius said to Arissa warmly.

“Mr.

Graham,” Arissa greeted Darius at once.

The older man nodded in acknowledgment before glancing at Benjamin and saying, “I’m surprised that my busy son is free to join us for dinner today!

”

Benjamin looked at his father, feeling rather speechless.

Arissa let out an amused chuckle while Kingsley and Shaun tried to suppress their smiles.

“Mommy, let’s go wash our hands and get ready for dinner!

I’m famished!

” Jasper said, wrapping his arms around his stomach.

Arisa looked at her cheeky son and asked, "Didn't you guys eat something when you were outside just now?"

"

Jasper giggled awkwardly while Zachary jumped in and said, "Mommy, he's lying!"

He ate the most out of all of us just now!

"

"Yeah!"

He was eating every food that he'd set his sights on.

Grandpa bought us a ton of food just now.

" Oliver followed his brother's lead and ratted on Jasper as well.

If not for the fact that their grandfather was paying, Jasper would not get to enjoy that much food.

He was simply interested in every single food he saw, and it was a waste of money.

Jesse was beaming from ear to ear as she chimed in, "Mommy, Jasper snatched my food to eat as well!"

"

Arisa pinched Jasper's cheeks and said, "How can you bully your sister!"

"

Jasper stuck out his tongue mischievously and replied, "Mommy, Grandpa dotes on us so much!"

He buys us everything we want!

"

Arisa did not know whether to laugh or cry at her son's antics.

"So, if Grandpa doesn't buy you anything, does it mean that he doesn't dote on you anymore?"

"

Jasper pressed his lips together and replied, "Of course not."

"

"Mommy, why is he here too?"

"Gavin shot a glance at Benjamin and asked.

Arissa gave the boy a hug before replying, "He saw me when I was trying to sneak out earlier and followed me into the elevator."

"

Zachary blinked a few times and said, "I bet he's constantly spying on Mommy!"

"

Arissa was at a loss for words after hearing the kids' comments.

Benjamin followed behind when Arissa took the children to wash their hands.

When Benjamin was washing his hands next to Arissa, Zachary and his siblings sneaked a glance at their father.

Sensing their gaze, Benjamin looked at them and asked, "Was it fun hanging out with your grandpa today?"

"

The kids nodded and replied, "Yeah!"

We had so much fun!"

"

Benjamin nodded and waited for them to finish washing their hands before bringing them back to the private room.

When they were back, Darius said to Arissa warmly, "Issa, come and take a seat!

"

"Okay!

" Arissa nodded with a smile.

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The More the Merrier Chapter 338 Peeling Prawns For Mommy

Arissa settled the kids down first before taking her seat at the dining table.

Benjamin sat down next to her.

Darius took a look at the couple and smiled.

Kingsley and Shaun looked at the two of them as well and exchanged knowing smiles.

"We're starving just because we had to wait for you guys.

"

"Do you have nothing else to do?

" Benjamin glanced at the two men expressionlessly.

Kingsley and Shaun merely smiled in response.

"Mrs.

Graham, are you feeling better now?

" Shaun glanced at Arissa and asked.

“Much better.

” Arissa nodded.

“Why?

What happened to you, Issa?

” Darius noticed something amiss and asked Arissa in concern.

Feeling somewhat embarrassed, Arissa replied, “I scalded my tongue when I was drinking coffee this morning, but I’m fine now!

”

“You should take care of yourself more,” Darius reminded before asking for the dishes to be served.

“Mommy, let me take a look at your tongue!

” Gavin said, turning toward his mother.

Arissa chuckled and patted her son’s head before answering, “I’m fine now.

”

She felt awkward acceding to her son’s request with so many people around.

While Gavin continued to fix his gaze on Arissa, Zachary, Oliver, Jasper, and Jesse looked over as well.

“Mommy, are you really okay now?

” they asked.

Arissa nodded and said, “Yes I am.

Anyway, let’s eat!

”

While the five kids were taking turns putting food onto their mother's plate, they suddenly remembered Darius and started putting food onto their grandpa's plate as well.

Darius was beaming from ear to ear as he watched his grandchildren serve him.

"Thank you, Sweethearts!

"

"You're welcome!

" the children replied in unison.

"Jesse, come over to Grandpa!

" Darius said to the little girl, who was the apple of his eye.

Jesse glanced toward Arissa and only went to Darius after receiving an encouraging nod from her mother.

"Here, Jesse, you'll sit right next to Grandpa!

"

Darius lifted the girl onto his lap and started placing food onto her plate.

"Mr.

Graham, why don't you let her sit on her own?

" Arissa said to Darius, worried that he was spoiling Jesse.

She did not want her daughter to get used to other people feeding her.

Benjamin glanced at her and said to his father, "Dad, let Jesse sit on her own.

"

Darius looked at the couple and laughed.

"I just want to spend more time with Jesse given that I only get to eat with the kids once in a blue moon.

"

Gavin, Zachary, Oliver, and Jasper were already used to the fact that their sister was getting special treatment from their grandpa since she was his favorite.

However, not only were they not jealous at all, they were glad that that was the case.

"Grandpa, I can eat myself.

Let me sit on my own!

"

Seeing that her brothers were all sitting independently, Jesse wanted to do that as well.

Darius was a little annoyed at Benjamin and said, "It's all your fault that Jesse doesn't want me to carry her now.

"

Benjamin frowned when he heard that.

Darius then instructed Kingsley to add a chair next to him for Jesse.

After placing the girl on the chair, Darius started placing food on her plate again.

"Here you go, Jesse.

You should eat more!

Tell Grandpa what you like to eat," Darius said to the girl in a gentle tone before addressing the rest in a louder voice, "Everyone, dig in!

Stop looking at us!

"

Everyone laughed before picking up their utensils and started eating.

Benjamin found it strange that Darius was only paying attention to Jesse while the boys ate on their own.

However, Shaun and Kingsley were not surprised at all.

Arissa smiled and continued eating.

Seeing that the little girl was favored by Darius, she took some food for the boys.

"Thank you, Mommy!

" the four boys said simultaneously.

Arissa smiled and replied, "Eat more, boys!

"

The four little fellas nodded.

Benjamin glanced at Arissa, and his eyes lit up, noticing that she was enjoying her food.

"Mommy, I'll peel some prawns for you!

" Gavin offered and started peeling a large prawn for his mother.

Arissa was delighted and said, "Thank you, Sweetheart!

"

"You're welcome, Mommy!

" Gavin replied with a wide grin on his face.

After peeling a prawn for Arissa, the boy peeled one more prawn for Jesse before peeling one for himself.

Zachary, Oliver, and Jasper followed their eldest brother's lead and started peeling prawns for their mother too.

Benjamin shot a glance at Arissa's plate that was piled up with love from their children.

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The More the Merrier Chapter 339 Darius Gave Benjamin An Earful

Shaun and Kingsley, who were sitting across the table from Benjamin, noticed the envious look in the man's eye and smiled.

"Benjamin, you seem to be very envious of Mrs.

Graham," Kingsley teased.

Benjamin shot a piercing gaze at his friend after hearing that.

Shaun looked at the two other men in amusement and started teasing the kids.

"Zachary, why are you boys not peeling prawns for your daddy?

"

"He's a man.

He doesn't need us to do that for him," the four little boys replied in unison.

"Haha!

"

Everyone burst out laughing when they heard that.

There was nothing wrong with what the boys said.

It was right for men to be caring toward women.

Kingsley glanced at Benjamin and said, "Benjamin, look, your sons are so gentlemanly.

Why don't you learn from them and peel some prawns for Mrs.

Graham too?

”

Benjamin glared at his friend and replied, “Since you’re so free, why don’t you peel prawns for all of us?”

”

The corners of Kingsley’s lips twitched.

Arissa chuckled and continued eating the prawns that her boys had prepared for her happily.

When Benjamin noticed that she seemed to be enjoying her prawns a lot, he peeled a prawn and placed it on her plate as well.

Suddenly noticing the extra prawn on her plate, Arissa turned to look at the man.

She could not help but gulp after seeing how elegant he looked even when he was eating.

“Don’t keep eating prawns.

Eat more of the other dishes as well,” Benjamin said, turning his head in her direction.

Arissa took one more look at him and continued eating.

Even though Darius was taking care of Jesse, he was also paying attention to the interactions between Benjamin and Arissa at the same time.

He laughed under his breath and asked Arissa, “Issa, do you like these dishes?”

”

“Yes, I do!

” Arissa replied with a nod.

“That’s good to hear!

We can order more of those that you like!

" Darius smiled.

"Okay!

Mr.

Graham, let Jesse eat on her own.

You should eat something too!

" Arissa replied.

"Sure, sure.

" Darius chuckled heartily.

His appetite increased greatly after seeing how much his grandchildren were enjoying their dinner.

Relishing in the harmonious atmosphere, Shaun and Kingsley started filling their stomachs as well.

Benjamin placed a piece of chicken on Arissa's plate and asked, "Do you like chicken?"

"

She glanced at him and replied, "I do.

"

"The food here is pretty good.

You should try a bit of everything," Benjamin suggested before going back to his own food.

The children sneaked a glance at their father and were noticed by Arissa, who arched her eyebrows at them.

When they realized that they had been discovered, they smiled at their mother cheekily.

"Concentrate on your dinner!

" she said to her children.

Instantly, the five little ones turned back toward their plates and stopped looking around.

“Benjamin, is it very busy at the office?

” after a while, Darius asked Benjamin in a serious manner.

“It’s all right,” Benjamin glanced at his father and replied.

“If it’s not that busy, try not to work overtime during the weekends.

The kids are still young.

You should try to spend more time with them.

If you’re really busy, you can carry on with your work but let Issa stay with the kids.

It doesn’t make sense for the two of you to spend the weekends working.

It’s not as if our family is short of money, and you have to work additionally hard to make ends meet.

Try to spend more time with the kids.

”

Although Darius gave Benjamin an earful, he was very considerate toward Arissa.

He continued, “The kids need their mom.

If you insist on taking Issa with you to work, the little ones would be upset and wouldn’t enjoy themselves as much.

”

Benjamin cast a glance at his children.

He couldn’t tell that they were upset at all.

“I got it.

”

He looked at Arissa before sweeping a glance at Gavin.

Gavin stared back at his father.

When Benjamin saw that, he sneered silently, wondering if the boy had complained to Darius.

“Why are you staring at me?

” Gavin asked fiercely, shooting daggers at Benjamin.

Darius looked toward Benjamin in an intimidating manner as well.

“Why are you staring at my grandson?

”

Benjamin was speechless.

Arissa could not help but giggle under her breath, amused by the scene.

Kingsley and Shaun tried their best to suppress their laughter as well, after seeing Benjamin’s inability to respond.

Meanwhile, Zachary, Oliver, and Jasper burst out laughing.

When Benjamin heard that, he gave the three boys a side-eye.

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The More the Merrier Chapter 340 Changing The Last Name Of The Children

Sensing their father glaring at them, the boys immediately took some food and placed it on Arissa’s plate.

“Mommy, you should eat more.

You must be tired after working so hard today!

”

Kingsley laughed out loud when he heard that.

“Boys, why are you only taking food for your mommy?

How about giving some to Uncle Shaun too?

” Shaun said in amusement.

The three boys blinked before looking at Shaun and said, “Uncle Shaun, we’ll pass the food to you.

You can take some for yourself.

You’re too far away from us!

”

Shaun and Kingsley laughed and said, “Look at how smart these boys are!

”

Darius gazed at the boys affectionately before turning toward Benjamin.

With a serious look on his face, he said, “Did you hear what I told you just now?

”

“Yes,” Benjamin answered plainly.

“Just hearing is not enough.

You have to take it to heart and act on it as well!

” Darius emphasized.

“All right.

”

Benjamin merely agreed without saying anything else to prevent Darius from nagging any further.

After dinner, everyone headed to the garden at the restaurant for a stroll.

The garden was picturesque and well-maintained.

While everyone was enjoying their evening walk, Darius gestured for Benjamin to step aside for a chat.

“Dad.

”

Benjamin walked toward Darius.

Noticing that the father-and-son pair had something to talk about, Arissa wanted to take the kids somewhere else but was stopped by Darius.

“Issa, you should come over here as well.

”

“Of course, Mr.

Graham.

” Arissa had no choice but to comply.

Darius looked at her smilingly and teased, “It feels really awkward to hear you addressing me as Mr.

Graham.

When are you going to change the way you call me?

”

“Huh?

” Arissa was confused.

“I prefer to hear you call me Dad.

" Darius went straight to the point.

Arissa was slightly startled and quickly explained, "Mr.

Graham, I think you've mistaken.

I'm not dating your son!

"

Darius frowned and stared at Benjamin.

Benjamin glanced at his father before looking toward Arissa, who was quick to clarify their relationship.

He could not help but feel slightly displeased.

He said, "Dad, she's just feeling a bit shy.

"

Darius looked at his son and smiled.

"Yeah, I can tell.

"

Arissa was dumbfounded.

Since when did we start dating?

"|—"

At that moment, Benjamin grabbed her hand and intertwined his fingers with hers.

Arissa could feel an electric current flowing through her fingers, and her heart skipped a beat.

"Dad, what is it that you wanted to say?

Stop beating around the bush," Benjamin said, interrupting Arissa.

Darius looked at the couple and said, "Oh, I was thinking that since the kids have reunited with each other, they should change their last name back to 'Graham."

""

Darius glanced at Arissa after saying that.

In actuality, Arissa had seen that coming.

However, she did not know how to respond now that Darius had brought the matter up personally.

"Got it, I know what to do," Benjamin replied.

"Issa, what do you think about it?"

" Darius directed the question to Arissa.

She looked at Darius before looking toward Benjamin.

"Can we talk about this again at a later time?"

"

Arissa knew that for a prominent family like the Grahams, changing the children's last names was not that simple.

There would surely be complex procedures to follow in order to formalize the change.

As such, she was rather reluctant to agree to that.

She was not ready for her children to return to the Graham family.

As Darius was an extremely sensitive and observant man, he only needed one look at the woman and he could guess what she was thinking.

"The kids are just changing their last name.

No matter where they might be in the future, they will always be descendants of the Graham family.

It doesn't mean that they will have to leave you.

”

Arissa’s eyes lit up when she heard that.

“Mr.

Graham, do you mean they can continue staying with me?

We won’t have to be separated?

”

When it came to matters concerning the kids, she made sure she clarified them properly.

“Since you’re their mom, it’s only natural they should be with you.

No one can change that fact.

Even if you and Benjamin do not end up together, they can still choose to stay with you, and you will still have their custody.

I know it wasn’t easy bringing them up on your own.

So, we won’t snatch them away from you.

My only request is that they change their last name back to ‘Graham.

”

Since Darius had already made his stance clear, Arissa figured she shouldn’t keep refusing his request.

“Do you mean it, Mr.

Graham?

”

She then shot a glance at Benjamin, who merely fixed his gaze on her and kept quiet.

“As long as I am still alive, I will keep my promise,” Darius said firmly, completely ignoring Benjamin.

