

The More the Merrier Chapter 586 –

Chapter 586 Swooning Over Him

Suddenly, Arissa saw Benjamin's deep eyes staring straight into hers.

Only then did she return to her senses. Embarrassment rose within her as she felt like she had been caught red-handed in the act, and her face instantly flushed with a burning temperature.

She quickly averted her guilty-looking gazes to the ceiling, then shifted them to look at her surrounding before looking back at the man.

Yet, he still had his deepened eyes glued on her.

I wonder how long he has been awake. He doesn't even look like he just woke up. I can't believe I was swooning over him just now. And I was even caught red-handed by him!

With those thoughts in mind, Arissa was on the brink of going ballistic.

"Do I look good?" There was a tinge of pleasure and satisfaction laced in his deep voice.

Immense joy surged within Benjamin when he saw Arissa's obsessed and lovestruck look.

She shied away initially, then looked back into his amused-filled eyes and quickly shifted her gaze to look elsewhere again.

"Not too bad!" She did not deny either.

Of course, he's good-looking. That's why my Sweethearts all look so great.

Arissa had to admit that the man, indeed, had good genes.

The elation gleaming in Benjamin's eyes had become more pronounced. Reaching his arm out, he wrapped it around her waist and pulled her into his embrace.

"Oh, oh..."

Caught off guard, Arissa knocked her chin against the buttons on his shirt, leaving her with intense pain that nearly brought her to tears.

Benjamin was shocked to find himself hurting her. He lightly pinched her chin, and with a frown, he asked, "Does it hurt?"

“What do you think?” Arissa’s soft voice had a tinge of annoyance in it.

An unfathomable glint flashed across Benjamin’s eyes before he lowered his head and blew on her chin.

The proximity to the man left Arissa’s body stiffened up, and her heart began to race.

Does he know how close is he leaning to me? He’ll be able to kiss me if he lifts his head up!

“Does it still hurt?” He stared at her with a scorching gaze.

Arissa blinked her eyes, and her mind went completely blank.

A hint of delight flickered in his eyes, and without hesitation, he left a peck on her lips.

It was such a light peck, yet it felt like a tonne of weight in her chest, stirring ripples in her heart.

Benjamin gently rubbed her chin. “Why didn’t you wake me up?” He regained his elegant demeanor as he eyed her inquisitively.

“You didn’t ask me to wake you up either!” Arissa knitted her brows.

“Look at that sharp tongue you have!”

Benjamin admonished her, yet his tone was hinted with a trace of affection that even he did not realize.

Surprisingly, having detected it, Arissa’s heart began to throb violently.

“Let me get up. Don’t lean so tightly against me.”

She stole a glance at the man.

Benjamin hugged her tightly, put his chin over her shoulder, and took a deep breath.

The scent from Arissa’s body wafted into his nostrils, causing greed and craving to grow inside him.

“Wait a moment.”

The man rubbed himself against her neck. Unable to withstand the tickle, Arissa grew bright red as she shrunk back to avoid the man’s action.

Of course, Benjamin did not go overboard with more intimate behavior. All that he needed to satisfy himself was to cuddle her tightly.

“You should eat something now. Don’t you have a meeting later?” she reminded softly.

“There’s no hurry.” Benjamin let out a sigh of ineffable satisfaction. “I’m sure Ethen has already postponed the meeting!”

Arissa was rendered speechless. “But still, you have to eat. If you skip your meals, your gastritis will act up again.”

Even though she was nagging, Benjamin did not find that irritating. In contrast, he enjoyed listening to her soft and soothing voice that was full of concern.

“Ms. York, Mr. Graham...”

When Ethen walked in and saw them embracing each other, he hastily ducked outside.

Oh gosh... Oh no... Will Mr. Graham kill me?

Ethen cursed himself internally for his recklessness and clumsiness. He figured he should have knocked on the door before walking in.

“What is it?” Coincidentally, Kingsley happened to stride over. Upon seeing the look of frustration on Ethen’s face, he casually asked as he was about to head into Benjamin’s room.

Ethen hurriedly placed his arm over Kingsley’s shoulders and guided him away.

“Mr. Watts, let’s come back in a while!”

Unsure what the situation was, Kingsley threw Ethen a side glance. “Mr. Graham is mad again?”

“T-That’s a possibility!” The latter appeared uncertain.

The revelation stirred Kingsley’s curiosity. “He really got mad? What exactly happened? Perhaps I should go take a look!”

The More the Merrier Chapter 587 –

Chapter 587 Do Not Jeopardize Your Health

At the sight of how Kingsley was about to cause more trouble, Ethen twitched his lips.

“Mr. Watts, don’t blame me for not reminding you, but Ms. York is inside too.”

Kingsley immediately stopped in his tracks, seemingly all ready for more gossip. "Arisa is inside?"

Ethen nodded his head.

In response, Kingsley tiptoed his way over to open the door slightly and sneak a peek inside, only to meet with Benjamin's intense gaze.

Jolting in shock, he hurriedly shut the door.

Meanwhile, back in the room, Arissa felt so embarrassed she almost wanted to bury her head. She quickly shifted to the empty spot while secretly throwing Benjamin a glare.

Noticing that he was looking over in her direction, she looked away.

The man was amused and chuckled as he saw how adorable she looked with her flushing red face.

Flustered, Arissa gave him a deadly stare as she snapped, "What's so funny?"

After sneaking a few more glances at her, he did not stay around for longer and got up to freshen himself up.

The man's well-built figure left Arissa's heart beating wildly.

Shortly after, she opened the lunch box, scooped some oatmeal porridge into a small bowl, and left it aside to cool down.

She then walked over and hollered, "Benjamin! I'll leave to visit Mary now!"

There was no response from inside.

She had took several steps forward, but worried that his gastritis would act up again, she turned and walked back. "Benjamin!"

As she did not hear any sound inside, she knocked on the door. "Are you alright?"

"Mm..." At this point, Benjamin groaned in pain.

The astounded Arissa hastily pushed the door open and headed in.

With one arm on the basin supporting himself, Benjamin had his other arm cradling his belly. The crease between his brows deepened, and his head slightly lowered as he tolerated the pain and discomfort.

"Benjamin!"

Startled, Arissa darted over and held onto him. "Are you alright?"

The man seemed a little breathless. "Head out first..."

She helped him out and put him on the couch. "Lie down and try to relax a little."

After helping him lie down, she massaged his temples.

Soon after, she poured a glass of water and fed it to him.

"Are you feeling any better?" Arissa looked at him with concern.

With his hand over his stomach, he pushed himself up and leaned against the couch, looking slightly pale and sickly.

She pulled a tissue to wipe the cold sweat rolling down his face.

Observing how she kept a gentle look while doing everything, the man's furrowed brows slowly relaxed into their original placement.

"Have some oatmeal porridge."

Arissa sat at one side, took the bowl, and held it in her palms to check its temperature. She then stirred the bowl and blew it to cool it down.

She had wanted to pass it to Benjamin for him to feed himself.

Nonetheless, she succumbed to the sight of his weak look and eventually scooped up a spoonful and sent it near his mouth.

Benjamin opened his mouth to eat it though he was slightly frowning.

"Isn't there something else?"

Arissa shot him a look. "No wonder you have gastritis. You're one picky man!"

Benjamin kept quiet in response.

"Your gastritis is acting up, so you can't eat solid foods now. Have some oatmeal porridge first." Arissa switched to cajoling the man. She could not bear to retort him anymore since he was still looking sick.

"At least this tastes better than what you get in hospitals, right?"

Benjamin gave a slight nod. "It does taste a little better."

“Isn’t that good enough? It’s late; hurry and have some. Otherwise, your stomach’s going to hurt again.” Arissa continued feeding him while comforting him.

Benjamin had cooperatively eaten a few mouthfuls before the door flung open again, with Kingsley walking in.

The latter grinned brightly with a mischievous look on his face. “Benjamin, you sure know how to enjoy life. You even have Arissa to feed you during meals.”

Benjamin shot daggers toward Kingsley, who was chuckling and making fun of the man after settling down opposite him.

“Don’t be so melodramatic!”

Arissa giggled at those words. However, she was still worried that Benjamin would feel provoked and hence quickly put forth an explanation.

“His gastritis is acting up.”

Kingsley heaved a sigh. “This condition has been pestering Benjamin for a long time. It’s all because of his erratic meal habits. Not only does he skip breakfast, but he also doesn’t have his lunch and dinner on time either!”

Noticing that Benjamin was glowering at Kingsley, Arissa quickly chimed in, “From now on, remember to eat your meals on time. You have to take care of yourself and not jeopardize your health. Or else you’ll be the one suffering!”

“Did you hear what she said? Don’t jeopardize your health.” Kingsley suggestively repeated those words.

Benjamin ignored him and instead cast an impassive glance at Arissa. “Hurry up.”

She was unquestionably dumbfounded at his attitude, but instead of holding a grudge, she patiently fed him the oatmeal porridge on the account that he was still a sick patient at that moment.

Sitting at one side, Kingsley grabbed an apple to munch on while staring at the pair closely. His lips could not help but curve into a playful smirk.

The More the Merrier Chapter 588 –

Chapter 588 Ignore That Fellow

“Arissa, don’t tell me you’ve been taking care of him for the entire afternoon?”

Arissa was taken aback. “Nope.”

“But I saw everything just now. You two... Haha... You guys should pay more attention to the location in the future. Luckily, Gavin and the others are still taking their nap. Otherwise, it won't do them good if they see you two getting intimate. After all, they're still young...”

Whoosh!

Just then, something flew past Kingsley's eyes. It was so aggressive a strong gust of wind brushed across his face, instantly putting him in utter shock.

And with a loud clang, Benjamin's lighter fell on the floor not far behind Kingsley.

“Haha! I'm just kidding, Benjamin!” The latter chickened out.

A sharp glint crept up Benjamin's eyes as he warned, “I'll throw you down if you spout nonsense again!”

At once, Kingsley pressed his lips and said nothing more.

Arissa could not help but peer at Benjamin, only to see a horrifyingly sullen face on him.

If not that he deliberately tries to tease me, would people run into it? Instead of reflecting on his actions, he's blaming them now.

“Hurry up and eat!” she urged.

Benjamin brushed his gaze across Arissa's peaceful-looking face as he tried to control his emotions. Then, he lowered his head to continue eating his oatmeal porridge.

On the other hand, Kingsley continued snacking the apple by the side quietly.

The sound of his bites was exceptionally crisp and loud in the room.

Benjamin lifted his eyes and glowered at him in dissatisfaction.

Catching sight of that, Kingsley almost choked and stood up in fright. “I'll go and check if Sweethearts are awake.”

After leaving that sentence, he slipped out of the room. It's better to go and look for the children to play with them.

Arissa was looking at Kingsley when she felt another pair of eyes fixated on her intently. She averted her gazes and cast him a puzzled look.

“What is it?”

“Ignore that fellow.” Benjamin pursed his lips and uttered.

Arissa laughed. “Why?”

The man’s handsome face darkened. “Is there a need to question when I merely ask you not to be bothered about someone else?”

Arissa could not find words to refute.

After she finished feeding him one bowl of oatmeal porridge, she scooped another bowl.

“I’m not eating anymore.” Benjamin furrowed his brows.

Arissa spared him an odd look. “You’ve only had one bowl. Eat another one.”

Sensing that she was slightly displeased, the man decided to compromise.

“Then just one more.”

“Okay!”

She almost wanted to burst out laughing. How can this man behave like a kid at times?

“Don’t eat too full for now since your stomach hasn’t completely recovered yet. Finish these two bowls for now, and eat again if you’re hungry later.”

Watching her small mouth occasionally parting as she spoke, the man directed his blazing gaze longingly at her.

Moreover, the scent from Arissa’s body was igniting the desires within him from time to time.

Benjamin’s Adam’s apple uncontrollably bobbed up and down. It was an indescribably tantalizing and enthralling sight.

When Arissa took notice of that, she stole a few extra glances at it. He looks so good.

Right then, Benjamin’s gaze deepened. Does this woman know her bright eyes are especially enchanting?

He reached out his chiseled and slender fingers to touch her soft and supple cheeks.

Arissa felt her heart skip a beat. Her cheeks turned crimson red as she met the man’s passionate gaze.

She avoided his stare and compelled, "Finish it. I still have to head over to check on Mary to see if she's awake."

Benjamin's voice was a little raspy, and it sounded rather alluring.

"The caretaker is around. Why are you in such a hurry?"

Arissa instinctively sat further away. "The caretaker might be good at taking care of her, but how can she compare to me?"

Essentially, a caretaker was hired to do their job. Arissa reckoned there was no way they would be as thoughtful and careful as compared to her.

"If that's so, I'll get Ethen to find another one!"

Arissa stood in stunned silence. "But I didn't say the current one isn't good!"

"I'll find a new one!" Benjamin was firm with his decision and called out to Ethen.

The latter hurried in with his head lowered, not daring to look at Benjamin in his eyes as he was still awkward about how he had interrupted them earlier.

"Mr. Graham!"

Benjamin cast a placid glance at him. "Find a new caretaker who can take better care of people."

Ethen was baffled for a second but quickly obliged. "Got it!"

Did the current caretaker not do a good job right now?

"Find someone from Dellmoor," added Benjamin.

He believed there would be easier to find a larger pool of professional talents in a smaller location.

"I'll notify them right away!"

Since Benjamin had no other instructions for him, Ethen headed out to make the necessary arrangements.

There were private hospitals in Dellmoor, and getting the director to look for a good caretaker would not be too much of an issue.

The More the Merrier Chapter 589 –

Chapter 589 Accept Mary As Her Aunt

As Arissa cleaned the table, Benjamin started working right after he finished having the oatmeal porridge.

“Do you need to get some rest?”

Benjamin met her caring gaze and explained, “The meeting has been postponed for a long time. Anyway, please check on the kids on my behalf!”

As Benjamin continued with his work, Arissa didn't disturb him. After washing the dishes, she headed to Mary's room.

Meanwhile, Mary cleaned her face while the care worker stood beside her.

Upon seeing it, Arissa hastily walked toward Mary and asked, “Mary, allow me. Did you just wake up?”

With that, Arissa gently wiped Mary's face with a towel.

“Yes, I just woke up!” Mary was still a little tired.

After wiping Mary's face, Arissa passed the towel to the care taker and asked her to continue with other work.

Then, Arissa poured a glass of warm water for Mary to rinse her mouth and reminded her to drink more water.

After a while, Mary was visibly energized.

Arissa took a plate of breakfast platter and fruits for Mary and said, “Mary, have something to eat!”

“Come and join me!” Mary took the plate from Arissa with a grin.

“The meat floss bread is delicious!”

“Let me try some!”

Arissa grabbed a piece of meat floss bread and enjoyed it with Mary. “Hmm, it's delicious! Mary, you should have more.”

“I can't eat so much. Keep some for Tim and other kids!”

“I've kept some food for them. Since the breakfast platter is to your liking, feel free to have more,” Arissa gently persuaded Mary.

After a while, Arissa proposed to Mary, "Mary, we plan to bring you back to Dellmoor for future treatment after your condition has stabilized."

Mary was taken aback for a while and frowned. "To Dellmoor? It's too far!"

"Dellmoor has the best medical facilities. We can put our minds at ease if you receive treatment there. Besides, since we're working there, it will be easier for us to take care of you. Even though the environment changes, your doctor would still be Dr. Bailey."

Arissa paused for a while and added, "Anyway, don't worry about the medical bill because we'll transfer you to Benjamin's hospital. We'll handle everything if there are any charges."

"Well..." Mary hesitated.

Deep down, Mary was slightly reluctant to leave her home and head toward Dellmoor.

All the more so, she didn't want to trouble Benjamin, Arissa, and the others.

"Do you miss your home?"

Gazing at Arissa, Mary replied slowly, "I've never been to a place so far from my home. I'm worried that I won't get used to it! Well, I think I can get some simple treatment here. Just go back to Dellmoor if you guys are busy. Don't worry about me because I can take care of myself."

"How can we stop worrying about you? You'll be alone if we go back. Besides, Tim is still a child and can hardly take care of you here."

After a while, Arissa continued to persuade Mary. "If you miss your home, you can return once you've recovered. What do you think?"

Arissa kept trying to persuade Mary to go to Dellmoor with them, for the medical facilities there were way better.

They wouldn't make such a decision if the medical facilities here were on par with those in Dellmoor.

Looking at Arissa, Mary said, "I think it's enough for you to bring Tim back to Dellmoor. Isn't that too much of a hassle if I come with you?"

"Not at all!"

Arissa immediately held onto Mary's arm and said, "Mary, I'll be upset if you think like that. By the way, would you like it if I accept you as my grandaunt?"

Mary met Arissa's gaze and felt touched. "You silly goose, others keep their distance from me after knowing my health condition. Why do you want to accept me as family? I'm worried that I'll be a burden to you instead."

Arissa said, "Well, I meant it from the bottom of my heart. Mary, I'm grateful to you for raising Tim for us. Hence, we're indebted to your family and must treat you well."

Arissa paused for a while and added, "Please don't think that you might be a burden to us, for Tim will be upset. Also, Tim, Gavin, and the other kids will return to school in Dellmoor. They will be happy if you can go to the city with us for treatment."

After Arissa brought up Tim, Mary gave it some thought and eventually believed that she ought to go to Dellmoor.

After all, Tim had to go home with his dad and mom.

Moreover, Tim hadn't gone to school all the while because Mary couldn't afford it.

Mary knew that if she insisted on staying here, Tim wouldn't leave her alone.

The More the Merrier Chapter 590 –

Chapter 590 Tim Is Visibly Nervous

"I didn't have the money to support his studies. Besides, he saved all money that he earned for my treatment instead of going to school..."

Feeling heartbroken, Mary lowered her head and wiped her tears away.

"Tim has suffered a lot with us. Hence, I think it's best to let him go to school. If he delays his studies any longer, I'm worried he can't catch up with others. Okay, I'll go to Dellmoor with you..."

Arissa was delighted upon hearing it. "Well, we'll tie you up to bring you back even if you refuse. I let you know earlier on so that you could be mentally prepared!"

Mary almost burst into laughter. "You silly goose!"

"I'll treat you as my family member and you'll be my grandaunt from now on!"

Feeling touched by Arissa's sincerity, Mary nodded non-stop. "Sure, I'm glad you're willing to accept me."

"Well, it's our good fortune to meet a kind-hearted woman like you!"

Wrapping her arm around Mary's, Arissa continued to coax Mary to put her mind at ease.

"Grandaunt, you can stay with us after you've recovered. Besides, we're always busy working and don't have enough time to take care of the kids. Hence, we'll be glad if you can help us. If you can't get used to living in Dellmoor, feel free to come home for some time before returning to the city."

After a while, Arissa added, "We can bring our kids here during the holidays. By the way, I've bought the house but rarely stay here. If you don't mind, can you occasionally clean the house for us when you're here?"

"Sure!" Mary nodded with a beam.

"Grandaunt, Tim learned a lot by working on the farm with you. He is lucky to have met you. I can't imagine what will happen to him if he is sold by a human trafficker and tortured by others in another country. Hence, I'm grateful that he's in good shape."

Arissa added, "Besides, Tim has lived a better life than that of other kids from poor villages. I grew up in a village when I was young. Despite being poor, Tim has learned to be more understanding than other kids. Am I right?"

"Yes, Tim is a considerate child. After James passed away, I fell sick and couldn't work much. Since then, Tim has helped me with nearly everything. My useless son never cared about us. All the more so, he even asked for money and snatched Tim's hard-earned money..."

Mary was irritated and heartbroken when she recalled how Raphael treated them as though they were his enemies.

Arissa was shocked upon realizing that Raphael wasn't as good as Tim described.

Tim used to tell me that Raphael is in the police station... It can't be that...

At that moment, Arissa felt like asking Mary why Raphael would be in the police station.

Nonetheless, Arissa eventually bit her tongue when she noticed that Mary was emotional. Moreover, she wasn't sure if Mary knew about it.

Then, Arissa patted Mary's back and consoled her. "Grandaunt, please don't get worked up over this. We won't let you live a life like that anymore."

"Thank you! Thank you!" Mary was beyond grateful.

"My son is useless. Please don't get in touch with him, for he might disturb you from time to time. Also, don't give him money for Tim's sake..."

“Grandma!”

Just then, Tim came in. He was seemingly a little nervous after overhearing their conversation about Raphael.

“What are you guys talking about?”

Caressing Tim’s head, Mary replied, “We’re talking about you!”

Tim anxiously glanced at Arissa. Is Mommy aware that I have been toiling on the farm and beaten by Raphael?

Noticing that Tim fidgeted, Arissa squatted down and held his shoulder.

“Do you have any secret that you can’t tell me?”

Biting his lips, Tim gazed at Arissa silently for a while.

Seconds later, Tim turned to Mary and said, “Grandma, please don’t talk too much because you have to rest more!”

While Tim shot her a worried look, Mary replied with a smile, “I didn’t talk much!”

With that, Mary kept silent.

Arissa was aware that she didn’t know a lot of things about Tim. Therefore, she didn’t dwell on Raphael but decided to take some time to find out what Tim had gone through.