

"Hehe!" Jesse giggled happily. "Don't worry, Mommy. All of us likes Gavin a lot. We already met him in school... Ah! I remember now! It was actually Gavin who was at our house, not Jasper. The two of them lied to me!"

Jesse frowned when she realized that.

She had been very puzzled when she saw Jasper carrying a schoolbag, but he had told her that it was actually Gavin's.

*What a liar!*

Arisa smiled as she removed Jesse's clothes and gave her a bath.

"Mommy, Gavin is calling!" Oliver shouted from outside the door.

"Answer it quickly," Arissa urged as she turned to the door.

Oliver opened the door and put the phone on loudspeaker.

Gavin's voice was heard from the other end of the phone.

"Mommy, Daddy and I have reached home," Gavin's adorable voice said.

Arisa smiled dotingly. "That's good, Sweetheart. Take a shower and go to bed early. See you tomorrow."

"See you tomorrow, Mommy. Good night." Gavin was very happy.

Arisa's lips curved into a smile. "Good night, Sweetheart."

She waited for Gavin to hang up before putting the phone away.

"Mommy, why did Gavin call?" Oliver asked with a frown.

"He's your older brother." Arissa pinched Oliver's cheek.

Oliver's frown deepened. "Mommy, how do you know that he's older?"

Arisa was amused. "The one who was taken away was definitely the one who was born earlier. I remember that he had already been taken away when I gave birth to all of you."

As Arissa recalled the past, she blamed herself for being useless and getting set up.

Her child had been abducted, but she was too weak to get them back.

Oliver noticed that Arissa was caught up in her memories. "I understand now, Mommy. Go and give Jesse a bath."

Arisa looked at him. "What did you understand?"

"Gavin is older than me!" Oliver giggled.

It would be nice to have an older brother.

Having another younger brother would just be another source of frustration.

Jasper caused trouble everywhere he went and would not listen to them, making them worry about him all the time.

Arisa smiled. She quickly finished Jesse's bath and brought her four children to bed.

The four of them were ecstatic as they rarely got to sleep with her.

After playing for a while more, they finally went to sleep.

Benjamin was overwhelmed by emotions. He sat in the study for a long while before finally heading upstairs.

He went to Gavin's room and saw that Gavin was asleep, nestled cutely under the blanket.

Benjamin sat on the edge of the bed and caressed Gavin's face.

After a while, he tucked Gavin in properly and returned to his own bedroom.

Benjamin frowned. *It's been a while since we returned home. Why hasn't she called to ask if we got home safely?*

Then, he realized that Gavin could have already called her. Benjamin was frustrated. *Should I give her a call?*

Benjamin stood in the room with knitted brows. It looked as though he was troubled about a business deal worth billions.

It was just a phone call, but he struggled for a long time.

He finally made the decision to call her, but no one answered.

After confirming that he was dialing the correct number, he tried again.

Once again, no one answered the phone.

Benjamin's face darkened. *How dare this woman ignore my call?*

Anger surged in his chest.

He could not help but send her a message: *Call me once you see this!*

He waited for half an hour, but Arissa did not return his call.

Benjamin's aura grew colder. *This woman actually ignored me? Why is she so nice to Gavin but so cold to me?*

That night, Benjamin was so angry that he only fell asleep late at night.

In the end, Benjamin only fell asleep after squeezing into Gavin's bed.

Gavin rubbed his eyes in surprise when he woke up in the middle of the night and saw Benjamin beside him.

*Why is Daddy sleeping here?* Gavin was puzzled.

Thinking that he was dreaming, he reached out and poked Benjamin's cheek.

Benjamin woke up the moment Gavin touched his cheek.

He opened his eyes and asked sleepily, "Why are you awake?"

"Daddy, why are you in my room?" Gavin asked after confirming that he was not dreaming.

"I'm accompanying you." There was no change in Benjamin's handsome face.

Gavin pursed his lips. *He came to accompany me when I was already asleep?*

Gavin turned around and got off the bed.

"Where are you going?" Benjamin's brows furrowed.

"I need to pee." Gavin glanced at him then headed to the bathroom.

Benjamin waited for Gavin to return before also making a trip to the bathroom. When he returned, Gavin was still awake.

"Daddy, are you having trouble sleeping?" Gavin asked sleepily.

Benjamin simply answered, "Go to sleep."

Gavin glanced at Benjamin, yawned and adjusted the blanket before closing his eyes and falling asleep.

Benjamin laid down beside him and hugged him as he listened to his deep and regular breathing.

Gavin's milky scent reminded him of her.

She had the same scent on her body.

Benjamin fell asleep unknowingly as he listened to Gavin's even breathing.

The next day, Arissa woke up early.

She left some oatmeal porridge to simmer before going back to sleep.

At the Graham residence, Benjamin woke up naturally.

He washed up and went for a run.

When he returned, Gavin was already dressed and carrying his schoolbag, prepared to leave.

Benjamin frowned. "You're going to school so early?"

"I promised Mommy that I would go to her place to have breakfast," Gavin said with his head tilted back as he looked at Benjamin.

Benjamin's eyes flashed as he said, "I'll send you there."

With that, Benjamin headed upstairs.

Gavin turned to look at Benjamin heading up the stairs. *Does Daddy want to go to Mommy's place with me?*

Gavin giggled as he headed back into the house. He sat in the living room and waited for Benjamin.

In less than five minutes, Benjamin returned and dressed in a suit.

His hair was slicked back, making him look particularly handsome.

Every gesture gave off an air of nobility.

Gavin could not help but admire him.

"Gavin, let's go," Benjamin called out to Gavin.

Gavin smiled and went to him.

"Mr. Graham, aren't you and Gavin having breakfast?" Edwin hurried over and asked when he saw that they were neatly dressed and about to leave.

"No, we're not. We'll have our breakfast somewhere else," Benjamin answered and left with Gavin.

Edwin thought that Benjamin was bringing Gavin to have breakfast at a restaurant and smiled.

The amount of time they spent together had increased quite a fair bit recently.

Arissa had set an alarm. When the alarm rang, she immediately got up and went to the kitchen to check on the oatmeal porridge. Then, she started preparing more food for breakfast.

As the children were all growing, she did not make breakfast a simple affair. She prepared a large amount of food with balanced nutritional value.

Once breakfast was done, she woke the children up.

Jesse was not a morning person. Even after all of her brothers were up, she still refused to get up.

"Sweetheart, wake up." Arissa patted Jesse's butt gently.

"Mommy, I don't want to go to school. I want to sleep!" Jesse whined, refusing to get up.

"Don't you have lots of fun at school? Are you going to stay at home alone while your brothers go to school?" Arissa coaxed Jesse exasperatedly.

"No. They don't have to go to school too. We'll stay at home and play!" Jesse shook her head as she answered, her eyes still closed.

Arissa sighed and patted Jesse's head.

The three boys had already gotten up.

They realized that Jesse was not with them as they brushed their teeth together.

"Mommy, is Jesse awake?"

"No. She's still asleep." Arissa started brushing her teeth.

"I'll wake her up." Jasper ran to the room with his toothbrush in hand.

"Jesse, wake up. Everyone will be leaving soon and you'll be the only one left at home. What if someone comes and takes you away?" Jasper said as he pulled at the blanket.

"No!" Jesse cried sleepily.

She just wanted to go back to sleep.

"Wake up! If you don't get up now, I'll tell the teacher!"

"Jasper, you're so mean!" Jesse sniffled pitifully.

"Get up quickly. Mommy got up early to make delicious food for us. We'll eat everything and not leave any for you!"

When Jesse heard that, she got up in a hurry, but her eyes were still drooping sleepily.

Arissa entered the room after brushing her teeth and smiled when she saw Jesse's sleepy look.

She picked Jesse up and exited the room.

"Are you still sleepy?" Arissa pinched Jesse's nose, as she laid on her shoulder.

"Mommy!" Her adorable voice would make anyone's heart melt.

Arissa caressed Jesse's hair, which looked like a bird's nest.

"Mommy, Jasper said that he would not leave anything for me to eat!"

Arissa was nonplussed as she looked at Jesse, who still had her eyes closed.

Only food would make her get up so quickly.

"If you wash your face and brush your teeth now, I'll let you eat more later."

"But, Mommy, I want to sleep!" Jesse whined and hugged her neck.

Arissa turned her head and kissed Jesse's face. "Jesse, if you continue to sleep, we'll finish our breakfast and leave. Do you want to stay at home alone?"

Jesse shook her head and rubbed her eyes. "No, I don't want to be alone!"

"Then go wash your face and brush your teeth. I'll send all of you to school," Arissa coaxed as she passed Jesse her toothbrush with some toothpaste already on it.

"Jesse, come and brush your teeth. Mommy still needs to wash her face and put on makeup," Zachary said to Jesse with a frown.

"Mommy, I'll brush my teeth myself," Jesse said softly.

"Okay." Arissa patted Jesse's head and let her down.

"Jesse, why are you so lazy today? Mommy has been up for quite a while. We need to take more initiative," Oliver nagged Jesse.

Jesse brushed her teeth sleepily and answered, "I know, Oliver. I slept late last night."

Arissa urged her children to hurry up as she squeezed out some facial cleanser on her palm and washed her face.

Zachary, Oliver, and Jasper grabbed their own towels.

They stood on small stools and wet their towels to wipe their faces.

Once done, they obediently placed their towels back neatly.

Zachary took Jesse's towel and helped her wipe her face after she finished brushing her teeth.

Oliver and Jasper waited for Jesse to be done before all of them went to change their clothes.

"Hurry up, Mommy!" Jesse became very energetic and urged Arissa.

"All right!" Arissa answered with a smile and sped up.

"Go and have your breakfast first, Sweethearts! I'll be right over!"

The children were self-reliant. Getting a bowl of oatmeal porridge was nothing difficult for them.

A few minutes later, Arissa headed to the bedroom for a change of clothes and exited with her makeup done.

Just as she was heading to the dining area, the doorbell rang.

Arissa was surprised. *Is Bradley here to pick me up already?*

She walked over and opened the door.

She was very surprised by who she saw.

Benjamin stood there with Gavin in his arms. When he saw that she was about to close the door, he stepped forward and entered the house.

Arissa blinked. "Mr. Graham, you... Good morning."

"Good morning, Mommy!" Gavin greeted happily.

Arissa smiled at him brightly.

Benjamin glanced at her then walked into the house with Gavin in his arms. "Gavin wanted to have breakfast here, so I brought him over."

Arissa's lips twitched as she looked at the man who treated her house like his own.

Her heart dropped when she thought of the four children.

She closed the door and quickly followed them.

"Daddy, you should change your shoes. They're dirty," Gavin reminded Benjamin.

Benjamin paused and glanced at Gavin, then turned around and happened to see Arissa's flustered expression.

Arissa hurriedly suppressed the panic in her heart and smiled sheepishly. "It's alright, Mr. Graham. No need to change your shoes."

Benjamin shot her a glance but still went to the door to change his shoes.

His brows furrowed when he saw the men's shoes on her shoe cabinet.

Benjamin did not wear the shoes but simply walked into the house in his socks.

Arissa hurriedly placed the shoes in front of him. "Mr. Graham, please wear these shoes. My house is a little dirty."

Benjamin did not move, his gaze fixed solely on her. "Is there a man in your family?"

There was an inexplicable feeling of unhappiness in Benjamin's heart.

Arissa looked at him and shook her head. "No, there isn't. I just prepared it for when my friend comes over."

"Friend?"

Benjamin's brows furrowed. He knew that she was talking about a male friend.

His face darkened.

Arissa glanced at him and answered warily, "Yes, a friend like you, Mr. Graham. You have these shoes to change into even though you suddenly came over."

"Am I not welcomed here?" Benjamin sneered and carried Gavin into the kitchen.

"Of course you are. You're always welcomed here." Arissa laughed awkwardly and followed closely behind.

The kitchen was empty. The four children had vanished.

Arissa's nervousness dissipated immediately.

Benjamin's eyebrows rose when he noticed that there were only two dishes. *Is she having breakfast alone?*

He glanced at her and said, "I haven't eaten either. Go and prepare some more food."

Benjamin placed Gavin onto a chair and sat down as well.

Arissa smiled at him half-heartedly and went to get them utensils.

"Thank you, Mommy," Gavin thanked her.

Arissa ruffled his hair dotingly and said softly, "You're welcome. I'll go and prepare more food. Eat this first. Have some of these first, Mr. Graham."

She quickly went to get them a bowl of oatmeal porridge each, then went to fry some eggs.

The four children had taken food with them when they went to hide.

Arissa would not need to worry about them going hungry then.

However, she struggled to think of a way to make the man, who had suddenly appeared in her kitchen, leave.

Then, she could send the children to school.

She accidentally burnt the eggs as she was deep in thought.

Benjamin raised his brows as he looked at the busy woman in the kitchen.

His expression darkened.

Gavin looked around and suddenly realized that the four other children were all hiding on the balcony.

He quickly looked away and looked at Benjamin, who only had eyes for Arissa.