

My Dreamy Old Husband Chapter 1211

Sandra had been on the drugs for a while now. It was administered through injections, and 7 injections made up a single course of treatment. Progressively, the injections allowed one to feel more energetic and recharged; it helped Sandra to regain the stamina and strength that she had during her peak. The drug provided instant results, and Sandra had tested it a few times to make sure that she wouldn't have any problems with it.

She checked to ensure that medical tests wouldn't show any oddities and that the drugs wouldn't cause any other side effects apart from the occasional epileptic seizure. Sandra was extremely pleased to find out about this miraculous drug, so she spent millions on purchasing 7 or 8 boxes of the drug all at once. As long as I have these drugs, I won't have to worry anymore! I can be the champion for the rest of my life!

However, she hadn't expected the side effects to kick in during the most crucial moment—her press interviews. Regardless, she was still the champion. From now on, I'm going to return to my days of glory as a swimmer; those newbies are nothing in comparison to me! After feigning her sobs, Sandra spoke in an innocent tone. "Daddy, you have to believe what I say. I really didn't take any stimulants!"

Alex still didn't seem to trust her. "Should we do a urine test, then?" He was trying to test his daughter to see if she had actually used any stimulants, but to his surprise, Sandra was quick to agree to this. "Yes, Daddy! Sure! You have to clear my name!" He immediately followed through with his promise and arranged for Sandra to get a urine test. There have been so many rumors about Sandra being on stimulants. I have to find out if she's actually on stimulants, so that I can proceed with my plans. Soon enough, Alex received Sandra's urine and blood test reports. Ah, Sandra's amazing! She really didn't use any stimulants; all her urine test reports are normal.

"Haha. We can now embarrass Cooper and his daughter with this report!" Alex brought the report to Sandra excitedly. Sandra secretly felt rather excited herself. These drugs are really reliable! I didn't waste my money on it! Once Alex was certain of Sandra's innocence, he immediately started on his cruel plan to sue Sophia for defamation. After the urine test results were out, Alex immediately sent a lawyer's letter over to Sophia. He wanted to make a big deal out of this, so that Sophia would have to pay them a huge sum as compensation. My daughter's the world champion after all; I can't have her reputation being tainted just like that!

Soon enough, Sandra got discharged from the hospital. Reporters filled the entire area outside the hospital, and they buzzed around her like a swarm of bees once she walked out. "I relied on my own abilities to win myself that gold medal. I've even represented my country in the past. I simply can't have anyone insulting me just like that, so I definitely won't go easy in response to Miss Edwards' unfounded accusations held toward me. I have already sent her a subpoena," Sandra told the reporters confidently.

The reporters wanted to do an interview on Sophia as well, but they found it hard as Sophia was too sneaky, and no one really knew her whereabouts. However, she did post a tweet on her personal social media account. 'Aww, you're so amazing! If you're that great, you should join a few more competitions.'

Let's see what happens when you run out of stimulants to use!' She phrased her words in a rather childish and girly tone, which quickly went viral on the Internet. The netizens gave mixed responses—some thought that she was simply acting in an odd and weird manner, while others insisted that she was being genuine. They thought that she might actually have proof in her hands.

Being the overly-protective husband that he was, Taylor quickly made another post on Twitter minutes after Sophia's post. 'Aww, I think you're the one that's the most amazing @EddieFletcher.'

Harry: 'Aww, both of you are equally amazing, alright?'

Little Kitten: 'Aww, am I not amazing? @HarryWinston'

Stanley: 'Aww, you guys are so disgusting!'

Sean: 'Aww, why is everyone saying 'aww'?'

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Sandra felt a little uneasy after reading the short post that Sophia had made on her Twitter account. However, once Sandra thought about how she had purchased the drugs from an African terrorist organization that she had known through her international contacts, she felt much safer. Sophia can't possibly know the terrorist organization as well, right? It's Phantom Wolf! Phantom Wolf, who can easily kill a person without even batting an eyelid! How could Sophia possibly know them? She must just be trying to fool me. I bet she's surprised to see

how impressive I am. Under the influence of the stimulants, Sandra felt almost as if she was an omnipotent creature. Sophia is just a nobody to me, for I am the world champion!

In order to highlight the inaccuracy of Sophia's accusations, Sandra made a few announcements after she sent the lawyer's letter over to Sophia. Sandra announced that she would be participating in a few consecutive swimming tournaments soon, just to prove her true abilities. In Sandra's opinion, the stimulants weren't actually the reason for her skills. She believed that she was truly talented and that she would eventually achieve the same level of competency if she just put in a little more practice. The stimulants simply enhance the skills that I already have within me, so I don't really need to depend on it that much.

Soon after Sandra released the news about her upcoming competitions, Sophia made another sarcastic post. 'Aww, how impressive! I'm so afraid!' Sandra barely paid any attention to the post. It just looks like Sophia is just running out of bullets to fight me with.

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That day, Sandra was back in Mitchell's Technology. After she managed to rebuild her reputation and retrieve her good name, she also managed to improve the public's impression of Mitchell's Technology. The company began to receive more and more orders; their factories had to rush for production, and product sales were seeing a large improvement. After supervising the situation at Mitchell's Technology, Sandra then rushed over to the Ronney Group. Under Lucy's guidance, the Ronney Group successfully received approval to proceed with their fashion week. They managed to rent a location for the event, and many of the staff were busy with their preparations for it. Great. Everything looks like it's going smoothly, Sandra thought.

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Meanwhile, in The Imperial, Sophia realized that Michael hadn't made any posts after she posted her own tweet. In the past, he would always write a post to diss someone immediately after she dissed that person. When she walked out of her study, she went downstairs to find Michael chasing after Quinton with a flyswatter.

"You're so great, huh! How dare you sell fake drugs! I'm going to beat the f*ck out of you! Tell me; how many more fake drugs do you have?!" Michael shouted as he smacked Quinton. Quinton quickly slipped into his room and shut the door behind him without replying to Michael's question. He was initially supposed to be sent over to the laboratory in

Africa, but the new year was coming, and they felt bad to have Quinton traveling all by himself, so they allowed him to sleep under the same roof as Cash for a while longer.

Michael only found out about Quinton's acts of selling fake drugs and earning a fortune after he saw the latter walking around the house with a huge fur coat that he had never seen in the past. If it weren't for that fur coat, Michael wouldn't have found out about Quinton's secret business. He's really good at hiding! Michael managed to learn a little more about Quinton through his personal connections recently. He learned that Quinton's team of killers was on the verge of shutting down by the time Quinton showed up, because many of the killers under him were using the stimulants to modify their bodies. They had been continuously improving and evolving after 30 years of using the stimulants, but it was hard for them to determine the risks that these stimulants might pose to their health. They had been fine for the past 30 years and they thought they were safe, but they couldn't escape their fate in the end.

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Over the years, the killers under him had various aftereffects. Some of them became paralyzed; some of them had an epileptic fit like Sandra, and some of the others' brains had slowly deteriorated to a primal state. Others even had red rashes erupting all over their bodies before they died without any warning. Since no one knew what their aftereffects were, things spiraled out of control.

Fear and panic spread like wildfire in Phantom Wolf. Ever since the disappearance of their boss, Quinton, Phantom Wolf had no choice but to disband; its remaining members were scattered everywhere. There was also a large number of unused stimulants that were divided among the members of Phantom Wolf.

The sports world loved these stimulants—not only was it undetectable during urine tests, but it also enhanced the body's ability to its highest potential. Since their useless boss had run away, Phantom Wolf members sold off several million boxes of the stimulants at a discounted price for their retirement fund. No one knew what their next fate would be, so this group of heartless assassins finally got what they deserved.

When Quinton ran away to Cethos, he also secretly brought along a batch of medicine and hid it in his secret hideout. He wanted to show them to Linus to see if the medicine could relieve his symptoms. However, the sales of the stimulant were doing so well that all the sportsmen from different countries were demanding for it; there were even some buyers in Cethos. Quinton also wanted to buy a mink coat for himself—since he didn't have much money on him and Michael wouldn't buy it for him, he...

"How dare you sell the stimulants in Bayside City! Are you out of your mind?!" Michael was furious as he questioned and banged Quinton's door, but there was no reply from the inside.

Michael never expected Quinton to commit crimes right under his nose. By the time he arrived at Quinton's secret hideout, the stimulants had been completely sold out. Since he couldn't find any traces of the fake drugs, he couldn't figure out if Quinton had any other accomplices too. There must be another accomplice. Otherwise, he couldn't have sold the medicine to Sandra!

However, Quinton wouldn't confess the whereabouts of his accomplice, nor would he explain where the rest of the stolen money had gone to.

A box of stimulants cost several hundred thousand at the very least; since he had sold seven or eight boxes, he should have a few million by now. Did he spend all that on a mink coat? He doesn't even have a bank card; where else can all that money go?

Celine huffed and said, "Don't hit Quinton! Quinton said that he was cold and he wanted to wear a mink coat! You didn't even buy him one!"

Michael was so angry that his face had turned red. Is it my fault for not buying him a mink coat?

Since he couldn't hit Quinton anymore, Michael fell into deep thought as he tried to calm himself down. Suddenly, he lifted his head and saw Sophia giving him a pointed look as she stood on top of the stairs. Her big round eyes looked at him warily with a tinge of guilt.

Realization dawned upon Michael—there was a crooked middleman! He used several million from the stolen money in exchange for a mink coat—the rest was swallowed by the middleman!

Carmen used to bring Judge to her kindergarten and 'sold its body' for five bucks. In just a single day, she had earned more than a hundred and only shared a small amount with Judge, giving him a piece of ham sausage as payment. It's in their genes!

Sophia was afraid to speak, so she quietly disappeared and left the depressed Michael alone in the living room.

Quinton was already bankrupt; the man who once had millions was now penniless. He also knew that he had come to the end of the road, so he returned to Cethos and joined Michael. Although Quinton had the goods in his hands, he had no way of selling them. Coincidentally, Sophia had learned of Sandra's movements through her own connections and decided to team up with Quinton to sell the drugs. After deducting various middleman costs, the two people shared the profit from the goods.

In reality, Sophia had deducted at least 90 percent from Quinton's share and only gave him money enough for a mink coat. Quinton hadn't seen the actual amount of money as Sophia just sent him a mink coat that she had allegedly bought with the money. That was payback for him being a jerk back then! He was heading to Africa anyway, so the coat was to be reused.

Since Sophia had sold the medicine herself, she would know if something were to happen to Sandra. In the past, Quinton only took the stimulants once a month to slowly transform his body. That amount was more than sufficient, but Sandra used one every day; even without Sophia doing anything, Sandra was already doomed.

Though Michael was furious with Sophia, he still had to clean after her mess. Much to his surprise, he didn't have to do so—her tracks were clean as she didn't use any local channels to sell the drug. Instead, she issued it from Bayside City and sent it around Europe and Africa before arriving in Bayside City once again. After going through so many different hands, she finally exported it back to the country. Quinton, too, was incredibly tight-lipped even after a large amount of money had been swindled from him.

Truthfully, Michael knew that Quinton's bodily functions were deteriorating; his superhuman strength and agility that came from the stimulants were slowing down. Soon, he would be worse than an ordinary person. Who knew what was going to happen to him? He could become mentally retarded or demented. Perhaps, he'd leave silently one day...

Quinton often complained he was cold lately, and he even had to wrap himself up in a coat with a heater at home; it was probably the aftereffects of the medicine. In the end, Michael

decided to forgive him for the time being—he even bought him a new coat and phone so that he wouldn't fight with Carmen for her tablet and phone all the time.

Ever since getting his new phone, Quinton spent most of his time watching movies and dramas every day. He had recently taken a liking to Harry and watched all of his movies, including the drama Harry was currently acting in; he finished the whole series without missing a single episode.

Quinton was still using Michael's account to watch these movies, so Michael could see what he had been doing.

'War Dragon: What a trashy film! I wouldn't even rate this with half a star.'

'Doctor Invincible: Trashy film. Give me back my wasted time.'

'The Winter Breakthrough: Cheap special effects. I heard that they used dyed huskies to impersonate wolves. Trash.'

'The National Treasury Action: The male lead is too ugly. I refuse to look at ugly things.'

After reading the reviews Quinton had left on his movies, Michael was furious as he picked up the fly swatter again and gave Quinton a good beating. There were slapping sounds accompanied by Michael's roar. "How dare you rate all the movies I've starred in so poorly?!"

Celine jumped out to protect Quinton. "Don't hit Quinton! Don't hit him! He is still young, so you can't hit him!"

Michael was so angry he almost had a stroke. Ever since Quinton came to the house, several fly swatters had been smashed. How could such an unbelievable existence like him exist?! Maybe the stimulants have messed with his brain too.

The fuming Michael went back to his study. When Celine saw him leave, she smiled and comforted Quinton. "Don't be afraid, Quinton. I will protect you!"

Quinton seemed unfazed as he lay down on the sofa and tinkered with his phone, his legs crossed in the air.

Just then, Cooper came back with his children; he saw Quinton sprawled on the sofa while playing with his phone. Strange sounds were coming out from the device, though.

“Let’s learn how to sound like a cat and meow together...”

“I have crossed mountains and seas, I have also crossed mountains of people...”

“I want to take you to the romantic land of Turkey...”

Apart from Sophia, everyone else in the family treated Cooper with respect; Quinton was the only one who dared to sit crossed-legged in front of Cooper.

“You just can’t use mud to hold the wall,” Cooper said in disgust.

Linus smiled. “It’s better to be a puddle of mud than for him to go out and kill people.”

Sophia nodded. Quinton’s current situation was better now; he stayed at home to watch Tiktok videos and read blogs, which was better than him going out to harm society. Whenever Sophia came back home, the first thing she’d do was to plop on the sofa and turn the television on.

There was another live broadcast of Sandra’s competition today. Sandra had used that medicine to enhance her physique, but the adverse effects were also quite severe; any kind of emotional outburst would induce a variety of adverse effects.

She was foaming at the mouth previously; what will happen this time round?

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Before watching the broadcast, Sophia decided to send out a tweet so that the drama wouldn’t die down.

She pondered for a while before name-dropping the person in her tweet.

‘How will our Mermaid Princess perform today? Let’s wait and see what happens!’

Soon enough, the Internet blew up once her tweet was posted.

Everyone knew that Sophia had been sued by Sandra ever since she dissed the latter, and their lawsuit was just around the corner. People thought that she would keep a low profile for a while, yet she sent out another tweet.

After posting it, Sophia ignored her phone and focused on watching television.

As it turned on, the game was already in full swing.

“Allow me to comment on the game for our viewers at home. As you can see, our world champion—Miss Sandra Mitchell—is already in first place at the beginning of the match, putting her in an absolute advantage once again.”

In the live broadcast, Sandra was swimming in the water like a mermaid. This was a big international event held abroad, and Sandra came in first place once again with absolute advantage.

Fans from inside and outside the television gasped in astonishment.

Sandra came out of the water and waved happily at the audience, her exquisite and waterproof makeup making her look as though she had a beauty filter on.

The commentator sounded excited. “Congratulations to Miss Mitchell, who has broken her own world record! Let’s cheer for Miss Mitchell!”

Sophia stared at the television quietly. Quinton, who had been lying down while playing with his phone earlier, sat up to watch the live broadcast attentively.

Cooper had found out from Michael about Quinton and Sophia’s recent partnership which involved selling stolen goods. He lectured Quinton with a cold and stern look while saying, “Stay away from my daughter! If I see you leading my daughter astray again, I will kill you!”

Quinton rolled his eyes. Why would your daughter need me to lead her astray? She’s already bad to her bones.

Even though he was also selling illegal drugs, he still had some conscience in him; he’d instruct his buyers to control their dosage. After all, half a dosage taken once a month was more than enough for women.

Instead, Sophia had informed Sandra to take one every day.

Not only is she taking her money, she's also taking her life. What a scary businesswoman.

Since Michael didn't dare to reprimand Sophia, he told Cooper about it and hoped that the latter would teach her a lesson.

True enough, Cooper tried his best to lecture Sophia as he said, "Don't associate yourself with this person so much in the future!"

Sophia was busy watching the live broadcast as she waved a hand and snapped impatiently. "Okay, okay! I understand."

It was obvious she wasn't really paying attention.

Cooper gently reprimanded Sophia because he was afraid that if he came off too strong, she would get too upset.

During the live broadcast, Sandra waved excitedly at the audience from the pool. The high definition camera seemed to only capture her as it zoomed toward her face without missing any of her expressions.

Although the second and third place winners were also Cethosians, they seemed to have become completely invisible to the crowd.

All of a sudden, a shudder passed through Sandra's body as she climbed out of the pool in a panic, looking as though something was about to happen.

However, it was too late. As soon as she came out of the water, an indescribable color slowly spread out from where she had been positioned before.

There were still two athletes in the pool; when they saw the indescribable colors rippling toward them, they fled the pool like they had just seen a ghost.

The whole scene was in chaos. The camera hurriedly switched scenes, but the audience still saw the circle of indescribable colors spreading out with Sandra in the center.

The family in front of the television were absolutely dumbfounded.

It seems like Sandra wasn't able to contain her bowel movements in the pool!

As a result, Sandra could not bring herself to receive her trophy and had long fled the scene. Meanwhile, the audience remained stunned by the indescribable scene in front of them.

It was the first time a swimmer had experienced incontinence in the pool during an international competition. Even though Cethos' national team won all the winning titles in the competition, they had also become the national laughing stock.

That night, no one ate dinner.

The moment anyone closed their eyes, all they could see was the indescribable scene; they might even vomit yesterday's meal.

Likewise, Quinton had no appetite as he went back to his room and played with his phone. All of a sudden, Michael came in and threw a packet of diapers at him.

"These are Pleiades' leftovers—you can use it as you like."

Quinton was speechless.

After Michael left, Quinton stared at the diaper for a long time and decided that it was better to secretly stock it up.

Just in case...

Ever since this incident, Sandra became globally famous. After all, she was the first national athlete to experience incontinence in the pool.

She had an epilepsy episode the last time, and it was incontinence now.

What was going to happen next time?

After the incident, the Mitchell Family was completely silent.

Sandra immediately left the competition and had someone else collect her trophy. She came back to the country with humiliation, not daring to watch the news or even read the comments left on the Internet. Instead, she locked herself in the room as soon as she got back to the Mitchell Family.

That day was the most humiliating day of her life—she had embarrassed herself in front of the world!

Although she won the championship, she still ended up as a global laughing stock.

The reputation that I've worked so hard for!

There were many discussions about Sandra being infected with a strange disease. As Sophia had claimed, was it an adverse reaction from the stimulants that Sandra was taking?

In the face of skepticism, the national team publicized Sandra's urine and blood tests. Soon, everything returned to normal again.

Since the Mitchell Family and national team didn't clarify what was wrong with Sandra, the public speculated that she had caught a strange disease. However, her hospital results indicated that everything was normal.

Nonetheless, the impact of that particular incident in the pool was so great that the national team was forced to suspend all of Sandra's upcoming events.

In just a few days, everything turned upside down once more.

The news of her suspension and the discrediting of her status caused Cethos' mainstream media to shun her as newspapers and magazines published photos of her incontinence during the sports event.

When she heard that Alex had returned, Sandra rushed to Alex's study to talk to him. She needed to go back to the competition; after all, she had the magic medicine which would allow her to win the championship. The previous two times were just minor accidents, and she was certain that she would not make the same mistake for the third time.

Much to her surprise, she saw a helper leading Alex's lawyer into his office.

What is he doing here?

Sandra hid outside the door and tried to eavesdrop on their conversation inside. Suddenly, she heard the lawyer's voice. "I have revised your will according to your wishes, Mr. Mitchell. All the shares and properties are now at the disposal of your son, Albert. Miss Mitchell's five

percent of shares are under Albert's name as well. Once you have confirmed it, please sign here."

Alex proceeded to sign the will, complaining as he said, "She really is a shameful and illegitimate daughter. What a useless thing! She only brings disgrace to this family."

That wasn't a father feeling exasperated for his daughter, but rather a person's disgust and annoyance toward a useless tool.

When Sandra heard those words, her whole world turned upside down. She was filled with hatred as she clenched her fists tightly, but there was nothing she could do.

I have done so much for the Mitchell Family. Yet, all I've gotten in return is being called a 'useless tool'! Since you've decided to be so heartless, don't blame me for my disloyalty, Alex! If you won't give me the inheritance, then I will take it myself! I won't be a fool and act upon it myself, though... I heard that Albert's kindergarten will have its year-end performance soon; since Sophia's daughter also studies at that kindergarten, I'll just appear at that time!

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The kindergarten's final year performance was approaching, so Carmen dragged Cooper over to the Yard Family.

"Let's go, Grandpa! Let's go get Miss Beautiful to come and see my performance."

Carmen was known as the prettiest and most ambitious kindergartener. Her whole family would naturally come and watch her performance, but she really wanted to invite Anna over as well.

As Carmen dragged him along, Cooper didn't seem too enthusiastic about the idea. Nonetheless, his feet moved uncontrollably.

He knew that he still couldn't forget Anna, but he also knew that they could no longer be together like before.

Yet, he wasn't able to control the love he felt for her.

The last time Anna was sick, he visited her briefly before he stopped going over. However, he didn't stop Carmen from stealing her father's roses and sending them to Anna every day under Cooper's name.

Meanwhile, Anna had been recuperating and rarely went out of the house; her face brightened up when she saw that Cooper had come to visit her.

"You're here, Mr. Mitchell. Please come and have a seat."

Anna invited Cooper into the living room as the latter sat down silently while Carmen jumped into Anna's arms. "Grandpa and I have come to see you, Miss Beautiful!"

Anna kissed Carmen on the cheeks and replied affectionately, "You're so sweet, Carmen. That is why I like you the most."

After greeting Anna, Carmen kept winking at Cooper, who was sulking on the sofa.

Cooper felt reluctant but there was a tug at his heartstrings—he wanted to be with Anna and spend time with her.

Finally, he mustered the courage to pull out a pink invitation and handed it to Anna. "Mrs. Yard, this is an invitation to Carmen's year-end performance at her kindergarten. Carmen hopes that you can go and see her performance."

Anna took the invitation and read it; it clearly stated that Carmen's parents were invited to the kindergarten.

Anna teased Carmen and said, "The invitation is for Carmen's parents and grandparents, so I can't go."

Carmen replied innocently, "It's okay, I'll just tell the teacher that Miss Beautiful is my grandmother."

Anna froze for a while, but she smiled as she glanced over and saw Cooper's embarrassed face.

"Don't be ridiculous!" Cooper scolded, but his heart was thumping fast.

Anna hugged Carmen and laughed. "I'll be Carmen's grandmother for a day, okay?"

"Yes! Yes!" Carmen exclaimed.

Anna hugged and kissed Carmen again with an unusual feeling of happiness in her heart.

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When Carmen came home, Sophia gave her a long lecture.

"How can Miss Beautiful be your grandmother? Don't talk nonsense! Don't simply call her names!"

Carmen pouted. "Miss Beautiful has already agreed to come, so you can't stop her from coming to the kindergarten!"

Sophia was speechless.

She wanted to say something bad about Anna so that Carmen would stop playing with her, but as soon as the words came to mind, she swallowed them back.

What an ill-fated relationship! At the end of the day, Anna is still my mother.

She was more worried about Cooper.

Many years ago, Annabel had already cheated him once; there was bound to be a second time...

Who knows if she has an ulterior motive now? Is there a hidden purpose for coming back?

She was Anna Yard, the President of the Ronney Group! She was no longer Annabel Johnson!

Despite Sophia's objections, Anna had arrived together with Callum and Cade.

Other kindergarteners only had one or two parents, but Carmen's family members came in three cars.

Because they were a star-studded family with Carmen's famous parents, uncle and grandfather, they were seated in the front row.

Sophia saw many of her acquaintances with their children; Harry and Sarah had come with Hope and Poppy, who were supposed to perform together with Carmen. There was also Hale and Gwen together with Ashton and Audrey.

The one who stole the show was Maisie, the only kindergartener with two dads.

The three babies Sophia had bought back then settled in with their families and were all attending this kindergarten together. The four kids had rehearsed their programs and were ready to go on stage.

Carmen was very happy as she brought over a large group of kindergarteners to show off her parents.

"This is my Daddy. Don't be fooled by his ordinary appearance—his real identity is actually Superman! He has fought monsters and aliens, so the earth depends on him to protect it!"

Michael was speechless.

"This is my Mommy, and she is a bossy president! She's a super bossy president of a company!"

Sophia was also speechless.

After that, she introduced Linus and Cooper. "This is my uncle and my grandpa!"

Then when she saw Anna, she proudly introduced her and said, "This is my future grandma!"

Anna pursed her lips and smiled gently. Although she didn't correct Carmen, Cooper felt quite embarrassed.

Callum and Cade, who were not introduced, protested in defiance. "What about me, eh?"

Carmen pouted and introduced reluctantly, "These two want to be my uncle, but I haven't agreed to it yet."

Since the year-end performance hadn't started yet, children were running around the venue while the parents who arrived sat in the kindergarten auditorium and whispered amongst themselves. Sophia met a few of her business partners and started to talk with them.

Meanwhile, Carmen led a group of children and surrounded Michael; they wanted to take group photos and get hugs from him. Ever since Michael had appeared on 'Where Are We Going, Dad?', he had become the most popular dad of the year, transitioning from the national husband into the national father of Cethos. He was popular among children, and everyone wanted to be the baby of Taylor Murray's family.

Sophia spotted a familiar child who had fifty dollars in his hand. The kid probably wanted to take a picture with Michael, but he didn't dare to go forward because the price of a picture had gone up. Hence, he paced around at a slight distance.

"Aha! It's you!"

She grabbed the child swiftly, and the child was almost scared to death when he saw her—he even struggled to run away.

"I don't lift Carmen's skirt anymore!"

The terrified Albert cried out as he backed away.

Last year, Albert was a bully in the kindergarten. He lifted Carmen's skirt and was beaten up by her, and Sophia taught him a lesson when she found out about it. Since then, he has been quite a good boy.

Carmen transferred to Riverdale for a while and had just come back this semester. They were attending the same kindergarten together again, but Sophia was more worried about Carmen bullying him than the other way around.

She glanced at the space next to him. As she grabbed onto him, no one was there to stop her. Sophia asked curiously, "Where are your parents and your sister?"

Albert's little face was covered with sadness. "They're busy, so they can't make it."

Sophia's heart clenched. Her child was pampered by everyone, yet he didn't even have a parent there.

All of a sudden, Derek came over and Albert ran up happily toward him. "Derek!"

Derek explained, "I saw him the last time I came to help pick Stanley's child up; whenever his parents can't make it, I'd step in during his parent-teacher conference."

Albert seemed to be close with Derek as they held hands and left together. Although Derek had completely cut off all ties with his father, he wouldn't hold a grudge from a previous generation against an innocent child.

"Albert, do you want to take a picture together with Carmen's dad?"

"Will Carmen beat me?"

"No she won't."

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Meanwhile, Carmen was using Michael for 'business' while children were lining up for a photo with him; each photo op cost 50 bucks.

Michael was reluctant to show his face for 'business', but Carmen had become so good at it that her little bag was bulging with all the money she was collecting in secret.

Hope was recording accounts; Ashton was in charge of maintaining order; and Maisie was in charge of taking pictures since she had a good eye for it. This tenacious yet illegal team continued to grow stronger even though they had been banned a few times—they even managed to hire several new employees with very clear internal division of responsibilities.

The kindergarten had turned a blind eye toward their illegal activities since Carmen was the class representative and was very authoritative; ever since her popular dad went on 'Where

Are We Going, Dad?’, her popularity grew tremendously. Now, everyone called him ‘Daddy Taylor’.

Hence, no one dared to cause trouble in front of Carmen; they were worried that once they were on her list of troublemakers, they would no longer be able to take pictures with ‘Daddy Taylor’.

The kindergarten teachers had repeatedly told Sophia that her daughter had the potential to be a leader—she was especially good at managing people, and her role as the class representative had the children behaving very obediently. Evidently, she had some strong genes.

Cooper realized that the children would come over to his side after they were done with Michael. He knew the flat fee for a picture was 50 bucks; he thought that he’d be worth 25 bucks at the very least, but he was actually a freebie.

Derek brought the nervous, skittish Albert to Michael as the young boy excitedly asked for a photo with ‘Daddy Taylor’.

He even dreamed of having a father like Taylor; his parents were always so busy with their work that they rarely talked to Albert.

When Carmen saw Albert, she pouted and said disapprovingly, “I don’t like him because he lifted my friends’ skirt! Daddy, don’t take pictures with naughty children!”

Albert scurried behind Derek and felt upset. Meanwhile, Sophia quickly chipped in and said, “It’s okay, let him take a picture just this once! Look, Al has already changed and doesn’t lift peoples’ skirts anymore. In the future, you can’t bully Al!”

Albert quickly nodded. He was a good boy and hadn’t caused any trouble lately.

Carmen pouted and said reluctantly, “Well... I won’t give you a discount, though!”

She took Albert’s 50 bucks into her pocket and glowered at him, looking as though Albert had defiled her father.

“Go on.”

Derek picked up Albert and placed him into Michael’s arms while Maisie took their photo.

As soon as the picture was taken, Carmen urged hastily and said, "Hurry down once you are done. There's extra charges for extra time."

Albert jumped up in excitement as Derek carried him to Cooper.

Cooper felt that the child seemed familiar when he saw Albert. He asked Derek, "Whose child is this?"

Derek replied straightforwardly, "This is Alex's only son, Albert."

He knew that Cooper would never take out his anger on Albert because of who his father was.

Sure enough, Cooper did not and even carried Albert into his arms for a photo.

After getting his photo taken with Cooper, he left happily together with Derek.

Meanwhile, Cooper stared at Albert and sighed.

"What are you sighing about?"

All of a sudden, Anna spoke up as she sat beside Cooper.

Cooper replied, "I'm just lamenting at how the once glorious Mitchell Family has fallen apart and I'm mostly responsible for it."

If he hadn't faked his death to escape, the Michell Family wouldn't be in this current state.

That fateful year, he didn't leave because the Michel Family was rich—it was just a way for him to escape reality.

Now, the decision he regretted twenty years ago had finally come back to haunt him; he suddenly realized that he had missed out on so many things.

Anna smiled and kept quiet. She was dressed in a low-profile manner with sunglasses and a scarf as she sat beside Cooper in silence.

She knew what Cooper was worried about; she had heard about the downfall of the Mitchell Family, but what did Cooper have to do with it? It was all fate!

However, she admired Cooper's commitment and sense of responsibility.

The closer she got to Cooper, the more she realized that this man was a treasure. There were countless glittering lights around him, looking like fireflies that couldn't be captured.

Callum and Cade were sitting behind them as they watched Cooper and Anna whispering to each other; it seemed like things were looking pretty good for them.

Callum seemed to be in a deep thought as his eyes took on a faraway look.

The three of them were dependent on each other. To the public, Anna seemed to be cold and distant; she looked like a mother who didn't care for her own sons.

Truthfully, Anna cared about them more than anyone. She was actually a gentle and loving mother! Although they did not come from her body, they were her own flesh and blood.

Her cold, distant demeanor was just a camouflage to protect them and herself.

She was still young and had a life of her own, so the Yard brothers hoped that she would find her true love. Cooper seemed to be a great choice...

Soon, Carmen's performance began. She was dressed up as a flower fairy as she sang and danced on stage. Her performance was very successful, and she even gave a speech as the most outstanding student of the kindergarten at the end.

After the performance ended, everyone wanted to take their families over to Michael's house for a big meal. Stanley asked around and found out that Michael had prepared several big fishes—they were going to have a feast.

Carmen's performance was successful and she even received flowers from the kindergarten. She jumped around in joy and said, "Miss Beautiful, come to our home for dinner tonight!"

Sophia was about to discourage her but Anna immediately agreed. "That sounds great. Let's go to Carmen's house for dinner tonight!"

Cooper didn't say anything but smiled gently. Then, Sophia turned to look at Michael.

Michael also felt that it was dangerous to let Anna close to his house, but Carmen just liked her company.

What a sinful fate...

Anna was certainly not coming alone and would bring her sons. Stanley, Harry and their families all seemed like they were harped on eating Michael's supply of food.

Michael frowned. He bred a few fishes that were only taken out during big events—these people were too shameless.

While the group of people drove away from the kindergarten, they saw Derek and Albert at the entrance of the kindergarten, looking as though they were waiting for someone.

Sophia stopped the car and rolled down the window. "Let's go, Derek. Come over to my house and have some fish!"

Derek looked embarrassed. "I will wait for someone to pick Albert up before I head over."

Sophia glanced over at Albert's sad face as he carried his small school bag while waiting under the rain and getting soaked all over.

"Why don't you come over and have a meal at our house, Al? Get Derek to leave a phone number for the kindergarten teacher. When your family arrives, they can come to our house to pick you up."

Although tension between them and Alex were high, she could not be so cold-hearted to such a young child.

Albert was overjoyed as he nodded. "Alright!"

Derek carried him into Sophia's car and left his phone number with the kindergarten teacher.

An expressionless man in black was in the car across the street. He dialed a number. "The Young Master has gone to the Mitchell Family's house. The plan was successful."