

My Dreamy Old Husband Chapter 1386 - 1390

By the time Michael got to Bayside University, Sophia and Carmen were already basking on the lawn of the school's soccer field. A mat filled with delicious food had been laid out; it seemed as if they were camping on the field.

Due to a recent spell of wet weather, Bayside City had been awash for nearly half a month. Today was a rare sunny day, so the soccer field was occupied by people sunbathing. There were people everywhere laying on mats, basking in the sun.

Surprisingly, Bailey was there too. There was a basketball court next to the soccer field, and he would come and play basketball every weekend.

Alas, he's still a child and still finds pleasure in such activities.

Right now, Bailey was there, and so were Sophia and Carmen. Even Celine had come along. They had originally planned to go to the park to relax and enjoy the breeze, but somehow, Sophia had wanted to come to Bayside University, saying something along the lines of wanting to let Carmen experience the university's atmosphere early on.

When Michael arrived, Sophia had already invited Bailey over to eat. She had brought heaps of food from home and was currently sharing them with everyone. When Michael saw Carmen give Bailey a red apple, his eyes darkened and he nearly sprinted over.

Oh! My daughter!

Michael strode briskly toward them.

After taking the apple from Carmen, Bailey took a bite and found that it tasted good. He wanted to take another bite but saw a murderous-looking Michael stalking over. He hurriedly put down the apple and watched Michael warily.

He could clearly feel the strong sense of hostility emanating off of Michael's body.

I really don't understand these youngsters. They're simply incapable of being polite.

If they weren't overly enthusiastic, they were oddly hostile toward him.

He had come to Bayside University today to play basketball just as he did every weekend. The court was open to the public, and it was always lively because there were many people around, making it a good place to play ball and loosen up.

Most of the players at Bayside University's basketball court were students. He enjoyed this kind of environment and had soon met Nathan, who also happened to play basketball there.

But, for some reason that he wasn't aware of, Nathan seemed weirdly hostile toward him as well.

It just so happened that Sophia was here today and had invited him over for a bite.

The youngsters are certainly overenthusiastic.

"Daddy!" When she caught sight of Michael, Carmen waved happily at him.

Michael had been on set before he hurried over to the university. As soon as he arrived, he saw Carmen all dressed up as beautiful as a flower. She even had a small hat with cat ears perched on her head, looking utterly adorable!

Why did she have to dress up so nicely?

He chided her gravely, "Why are you all dressed up when you're just here to play? Next time, don't dress so nicely!"

Carmen had been eating an apple when Michael said this. Dissatisfied, she immediately stopped and pointed out, "Daddy, I'm not all dressed up. I'm just good-looking, so I look good in everything I wear."

Michael was speechless.

Surprised by his sudden appearance, Sophia asked, "Aren't you supposed to be filming today? Why are you here all of a sudden?"

Michael sat down on their mat and grabbed something to eat while saying, "My dad is filling in for me, so I came to see you all."

His main purpose was actually to reprimand that green-eyed goblin!

Michael's arrival had everyone bustling with excitement. Sophia quickly distributed the food she brought. "Nate, Bailey, try these roasted chicken wings that I made before I left this morning. Here, eat them while it's still hot."

She brought out her roasted chicken wings and passed them around for everyone to try. Bailey took one and ate it daintily.

As soon as the chicken entered his mouth, he knew that it was no ordinary bird. It had the aroma of grain, so it must have grown up on a pure-grain diet. It tasted completely different from one that was fed with normal chicken feed.

Nathan had one, Bailey had one, and even Carmen had one. Everyone had a chicken wing, except for Michael. He peered into the self-heating lunch box that Sophia had brought. "Where's mine?"

Sophia frowned. "You don't even like chicken wings. Besides, you didn't tell me that you were coming, so I didn't prepare a portion for you!"

Michael shot Bailey a glance before muttering, "Then, why does Bailey have one?"

Sophia handed Michael a drumstick. "I made this for Professor Clark, but he didn't show up. So, here, you can have it."

Michael was furious, but he could only swallow his anger. While eating the drumstick, he stole a peek at Bailey's wrist.

Sure enough, there was the apricot seed bracelet on his wrist.

How dare he flaunt that in front of me?

Filled with pent-up anger, Michael thought of ways to take the bracelet away from him.

All of a sudden, a dog's head popped up and snatched away the drumstick that he was about to eat.

Cerberus was here as well.

Michael nearly exploded with rage.

Today was certainly not going well for him!

After a while, Quinton rushed over in a hurry. Luckily for him, he made it in time for the last piece of chicken.

A moment later, Stanley and Sean appeared with their daughter in tow. They had brought food as well, and all of them gathered around together to have a share.

"Papa! Daddy!" Maisie walked between her two fathers, happy as can be.

Nathan unzipped his bag, then began to shake its contents onto the mat. Several books dropped out, followed by a stream of snacks, jellies, and a little gift box decorated with pink garlands.

Celine was pleasantly surprised. "Nate, where'd you get all these?"

Nathan's signature scowl remained on his face. "Someone from the high school next door gave it to me."

They could tell at once that it was from a girl.

Sophia picked up a box of jelly, then ripped it open and ate it. It was obvious that it was the handiwork of a girl. She said merrily, "It's no doubt that someone like our Nate is the school jock. If I were a young schoolgirl, I'd fall for him too."

"Ugh, that's disgusting!" Stanley exclaimed.

Sean, on the other hand, was nodding in agreement. Nathan bore a strong resemblance to his uncle, but he was tanned to a shade of copper, and he was more cute than handsome. Since young, plenty of casting agents wanted to recruit him as a child actor but were unfortunate enough to meet with Nathan and Michael's dirty looks and rejections.

He was good-looking, his uncle was a famous celebrity, and his father had recently started a new company. To top it all off, he was a highly intelligent student and a gifted athlete. In the eyes of schoolgirls, his existence itself was a godsend. Simply appearing would be enough to cause a traffic jam.

Aside from the girls from the high school next door who would often sneak over to watch him in class, even older girls from the university drooled over him.

As if witnessing his own flesh and blood grow up before his very eyes, Michael was gratified and proud. Patting Nathan on the shoulder, he praised, "That's great, Nate! You have a bright future!"

Still scowling, Nathan pushed his hand away.

Quinton too unzipped his backpack and gave it a good shake. Out came heart-shaped chocolates, fresh flowers, cakes, and other small trinkets. All of the items were exquisite and lovely, and they knew with absolute certainty that they were made by girls. They were more wonderful than the snacks that Nathan had poured out.

Quinton tore open a packet of chocolate and was chewing on it—minding his own business—when suddenly, Michael gave him a gentle slap on the back of his head. "Did I bring you to Bayside University to seduce female students?"

Quinton rolled his eyes while silently enjoying the chocolate.

Double standard much?

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The students wanted to give him gifts, so what could he do?

Every day, whenever he left his seat for a moment, he would come back to find his office full of snacks. He couldn't possibly throw them away.

Everyone proceeded to evenly divide Quinton and Nathan's trophies.

Carmen picked a bar of chocolate out of the pile of snacks and gave it to Bailey. "Bailey, for you!"

Bailey hesitated for a moment, but when he saw the smile on Carmen's adorable and gentle face, he couldn't bear to upset her, so he accepted it.

Upon seeing this, a dark gleam flashed across Michael's eyes once again as he restrained the urge to lunge at him.

That chocolate is obviously used for courtship! Why did she give it to Bailey?!

Michael tried his best to force a smile onto his face, then said to Carmen, "Carmen, honey, Daddy wants a snack too."

Still rather disgruntled, Carmen retorted, "If Daddy wants one, Mommy can feed you! Aren't you guys always feeding each other at home?"

Michael was dumbfounded.

How could his own daughter say such a thing?

His heart fell to the ground with a 'crash', shattering into pieces.

He felt as if he was watching the seedling that he had worked hard to cultivate being invaded by a fat and ugly insurance-selling rodent.

Sensing Michael's despair, Sophia unwrapped a piece of chocolate and fed it to him. To his dismay, the chocolate filled his entire mouth with bitterness.

He thought back to the song that he had sung many years back: 'The cold wind drifted over and caressed my face; my child's rebellion is giving me a heartache'.

Meanwhile, Bailey was taking the first bite out of his chocolate. His arm was raised, and the muscles underneath that were beginning to take shape bulged slightly. His tanned, wheatish skin made him appear healthy, young, and powerful—just like a rising sun.

The three apricot kernels that hung on his wrist exuded a special sort of extravagance and strangeness.

Sophia had a fondness for his light brown complexion. Nowadays, fair skin was no longer mainstream in foreign countries; healthy, wheatish skin like his was favored instead. Plenty of people enjoyed sunbathing because they wanted their skin to achieve this shade of brown.

Certain people even had the mentality that a person's skin tone and figure determined their social class. Foreign eateries mainly served what Cethosians considered to be junk food—high-calorie fried chicken and hamburgers were their staples. As the average person couldn't afford to hire a private trainer, the foreigners were usually plump and overweight. Not to mention, they worked long hours and had no time for vacation, so their skin was comparably fairer.

Hence, if a person had fair skin and was fat, they were undoubtedly from the lower classes.

Conversely, the rich could hire professional dieticians and private trainers to keep them in shape. With the money they possessed, they could go on vacations to get tanned.

Thus, one could tell Bailey's financial status and social standing just by looking at his figure and complexion.

Wow, he's only fifteen, but he already has muscles, Sophia thought as she ogled him.

Michael, on the other hand, was figuring out ways to get the bracelet back. Bailey suddenly stood up and said, "I'm done eating. Thank you for the hospitality."

With that, he picked up his belongings and turned around to go to the court.

"You only ate an apple and a chicken wing; you should eat more! I still have pork trotters and some lamb shoulder!" Sophia called after him in a hurried tone.

Bailey replied, "I'm going to play basketball, so I can't eat too much!"

Seeing as Bailey didn't want it, Stanley gave a 'whoop' and pounced on the chance to take it. Chewing on a pork trotter, he exclaimed, "Since the foreigner doesn't know how to eat your pork trotters, you can give them all to me!"

Michael took a piece of pork trotter as well and tore fiercely into it, all the while thinking to himself, He's the pig that should be turned into a dish!

Bailey had arrived at the court and was already active. His agile body darted left and right, and he could even shoot perfect three-pointers. He was only fifteen years old, but he was already a little taller than Nathan. At an estimated height of nearly 1.8 meters, he was almost capable of performing a slam-dunk.

Sophia watched him play as she nibbled on one of the chocolates.

If she was a few years younger, and if she hadn't met Michael, she would have pursued Bailey.

He's so cute with those long eyelashes, long legs, and that beautiful face... She had the sudden desire to place him under her household register.

Michael noticed that Bailey had taken off his bracelet as soon as he got on the court and that he had passed it to a bodyguard, who was standing to one side.

Michael's eyes lit up. He cast Nathan a meaningful glance, and the two of them went up to the court.

They couldn't publicly grab it, and they couldn't steal it either.

Their only choice was to stay near him, then wait for a chance to take back the bracelet.

On the court, Michael immediately made his way toward Bailey. He and Nathan converged on Bailey from both sides. As long as they managed to snatch the ball from him, they would take turns shoving him.

Bailey could obviously feel the malice they felt toward him. He didn't know why these two 'youngsters' resented him so much, but since they were here, he wouldn't back down. He would meet their attacks with calmness; it was two against one.

The courage and tranquility he showed were unlike that of a fifteen-year-old kid.

Stanley, who was by the sidelines watching the game, could tell that something was up. He said, "Aunt Sophia, look at my uncle. Why's he being so hard on the kid?"

Shaking her head, Sophia reckoned Michael had a short fuse.

All Bailey did was eat one of their chicken wings! Did he have to be so hateful?

Carmen tugged anxiously at Quinton. "Uncle Quinton, look! Daddy is bullying Mr. Bailey; go and help him!"

Quinton too felt that Michael had gone too far to pick on a kid.

He rubbed his mouth, then rushed up to the court with excitement.

He hadn't played ball with Michael before, so this was his chance to see if he could beat him!

Quinton joined in and quickly snatched the ball from Michael's grasp before passing it to Bailey.

Michael started, "Quinton, you—"

Quinton gave him a sly smile.

With Quinton stirring up trouble, it wouldn't be easy to mess with Bailey anymore.

"How could my uncle pick on a kid? That's bullying! I can't stand it anymore," Stanley mumbled as he tightened his shoelaces before hurrying over to provide support.

Just now, Bailey was alone against the two of them; now, it was three against two.

Michael was so angry that he nearly ran forward to kick the two of them who were in the way. Turning toward the people on the mat, he shouted, "Is no one coming over to help?"

Sean didn't much enjoy playing basketball, and he was too lazy to wash his hands every time, but Michael seemed to be sending out a distress call.

Sean could tell that Carmen liked Bailey very much, while Michael didn't. He always looked like he wanted to beat the kid up.

Sean got up reluctantly, preparing to go into battle. All of a sudden, Celine popped up like a husky, then ran over. "I'm coming, I'm coming!"

Turns out he was asking for Celine's help!

With Celine in the mix, Michael's team was further strengthened. His superiority was restored as the game evened out into a three-on-three match.

He had wanted to use this chance to retrieve the bracelet; who knew that he would be so shamelessly defeated by Bailey? Although Michael had the heart and face of an

eighteen-year-old, his body was nearly in its forties. He was simply no match for this fifteen-year-old boy.

But his wife and his daughter were still watching, so he couldn't give in!

Right now, bringing Bailey to his knees was more important than getting the bracelet back.

Everyone on the court was brimming with energy. Stanley, Quinton, and Bailey were up against Michael, Celine, and Nathan. All of them were full of vigor and vitality.

A moment later, Harry and Sarah turned up with their son. "Hey! Why didn't anyone call us out to play?"

Harry joined them as soon as he arrived. In the end, Sean, listless as he was, was dragged into the game. With the addition of two more people, they could finally form two groups and have a real match.

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Since a group of idols was playing basketball, it was not strange that they had attracted plenty of onlookers.

Bayside University was Michael and Harry's alma mater, so the two of them were often seen in school—up to the point where the students were no longer surprised to see them. At this moment, students who had nothing to do had gathered around to watch the game.

The two teams played with all they had. Sitting to one side, Sophia ate jellies, chocolates, and roasted seeds as she watched them battle it out.

During half-time, Michael quickly gathered his teammates to discuss strategies to defeat their opponent. The score was currently tied, so they had to be more aggressive than they were in the first half.

"All of you, take on the other three; leave Bailey to me!"

As they talked about the tactics they would use, Michael turned and saw the other team huddled together, discussing strategies as well. To his horror, he watched as Carmen scampered over with a bottle of water in hand. Giving the bottle to Bailey, she said sweetly, "Bailey, have some water!"

Bailey thanked her before accepting the bottle and taking a few small sips.

Boom, boom, boom!

In just a split second, thunderbolts struck Michael's world. For the third time today, his eyes darkened, and he barely restrained himself from unleashing fury on Bailey.

Everyone understood right away. No wonder Michael wanted to have a go at Bailey so badly today!

Fortunately, Sophia had the good sense to bring Michael water, and she even gave him wet wipes to clean his face.

"That's quite enough. It's highly inappropriate to mistreat a kid and glower at him like this. Many people are watching!"

Gritting his teeth, Michael's gaze was fixed on Bailey as he said in a low voice, "Stay out of this."

Just watch; I'm going to end him today!

The second half of the game began. Michael had gone mad and focused on Bailey alone. With no consideration for his teammates' assistance, they constantly lost possession of the ball.

In the end, they lost to their opponent by several points.

When they summed up their experience, everyone blamed Michael for being blinded by hatred. He didn't care for teamwork, and he completely ignored the strategies they had decided to use, choosing to focus on Bailey instead.

When the match was over, it was already time for dinner. Sophia suggested, "Let's go to Crimson House! It's Uncle Taylor's treat!"

Michael had lost a battle today; he didn't manage to get the bracelet back and had caused his team to lose instead, so he was more than willing to pay for this meal. That was until Sophia enthusiastically beckoned Bailey over. "Bailey, let's go eat together! The world's best actor is buying!"

Bailey's expression was cool as he responded, "That's fine. I still have other plans—"

Before he could finish, Sarah cut in, "What other plans could you have at this hour? Come on; let's go. Someone's paying for it; it'll be a waste if you don't join us!"

Carmen chimed in excitedly, "Yeah, let's go, Bailey! It's Daddy's treat, so eat as much as you want!"

With Sophia tugging from in front and Sarah pushing from behind, this second-generation 'old son-in-law' was successfully persuaded to follow.

Michael glowered, and for the fourth time today, he wanted to pounce on Bailey.

When they reached Crimson House, Sophia intentionally sat beside Bailey, pampering him and showering him with warmth. Knowing that he wasn't used to Cethosian food, everyone chose his country's cuisine; Sophia even went so far as to order Crimson House's most expensive dish. They ordered more than a dozen dishes as Michael watched on unblinkingly.

She wasn't even this generous when she treated me to a meal!

At the end of the day, Michael was the one who had to pick up the bill.

He was quickly beginning to see stars.

This day couldn't get any worse.

As Sophia had invited the 'old son-in-law' to dinner, everything was considerably more ostentatious, and she treated him with extreme generosity. It was truly a rare sight to behold, as she was usually stingy and it was nearly impossible to get her to have a sumptuous meal outside. It was hard to believe that she was willing to fork out so much for Bailey today. Everyone just couldn't help but adore Bailey, the old son-in-law.

It was as if Sophia had forgotten that Michael was paying for the meal.

Everyone was in a jolly mood during tonight's meal, and even Bailey was infected by the bubbly atmosphere, occasionally speaking up. Michael was the only one who ate with a sour feeling in his gut.

After saying their farewells, Michael was too enraged to speak on the way home. As for Sophia and her daughter, they simply leaned on him and dozed off.

When they arrived home, the mother and daughter pair seemed to be in good spirits as soon as they stepped into the house.

Cooper, who was already in his pajamas, was in the living room watching television. Theo was once again watching 'The Bright Sword'; this was his third time watching the show. Cooper had a sudden interest in the show as well, so he watched it together with Theo.

"Grandpa Cooper! Grandpa Theo!"

Carmen ran in as soon as they got home. Cooper caught her and gave her a kiss, then asked, "Where did you go today, sweetie? Why are you so happy?"

Carmen answered gleefully, "We went to Daddy and Mommy's school to play today!"

Sophia added delightedly, "Everyone had a great time today! Mikey even played ball the whole afternoon!"

The mother and daughter pair happily recounted the day's events—it was warm out today, the food they brought was delicious, and the basketball match was utterly intense; at the end of the day, Michael even treated everyone to a big meal!

It seemed that both mother and daughter's experience today had been completely different from what Michael had gone through.

At this moment, Michael felt some of his tension vanish. He realized that his wife and daughter's happiness was more important than getting back those three apricot kernels.

Even though he didn't manage to reclaim the apricot kernels, everyone seemed to have had a good time today.

Sadly for him, his relief lasted less than twelve hours. When he started work on set early the next morning, everyone came over to congratulate him, leaving him baffled.

He turned on his phone, only to see the day's headline: 'Shocker! Taylor Murray's five-year-old daughter's love affair exposed! The Academy Award winner's son-in-law turned out to be the young president of the Adams Group!'

Clicking on the news article, he saw pictures of scenes from yesterday at Bayside University. There were pictures of Carmen smiling as she handed an apple to Bailey, Carmen smiling as she gave Bailey water, and Carmen smiling as she looked up at Bailey. She was beaming from ear to ear in every picture and her entire face was as sweet as honey—she looked like she was truly in love.

As he scrolled through the article, Michael's expression darkened.

While he seethed with anger toward Bailey, Lucy's engagement party was in the works.

Looking at the invitation, Sophia felt hesitant. The big day was approaching, but she didn't know if she should go.

Lucy didn't agree to the wedding in the first place, and to make matters worse, Jordan would probably be there.

Jordan had even sent an invitation specifically for Cooper. No matter how Sophia looked at it, it seemed like a trap, but perhaps she was overthinking it.

It was unlikely that Jordan would create trouble at Lucy's engagement party. The party pretty much signified a marriage alliance for the Edwards Group, so it was unlikely that he would mess it up.

After pondering over it, Sophia decided not to go.

Unexpectedly, on the day before the party, Callum suddenly sent her a message: 'Sophia, are you coming to tomorrow's engagement party? You should!'

Sophia replied: 'The user you are looking for is dormant. Please transfer 8888 to wake them up.'

'Yikes!' Callum sent.

A moment later, 8888 was transferred to her account.

“Wow!” He’s rich, all right!

Sophia hurriedly accepted the money, then following Callum’s previous ploy, she typed, ‘For text consultation, please transfer 1111. For voice consultation, please transfer 2222. For video consultation, please transfer 3333.’

Callum proceeded to transfer her 1111.

Sophia responded: ‘Sorry, the user you are looking for has failed to wake up. Please transfer 8888.’

Callum transferred another 8888 to her account.

Speechless, Sophia replied: ‘I don’t want to go. What’s wrong?’

Callum replied: ‘There’s nothing wrong with that, but did you know that there’s gonna be serious drama tomorrow? If you don’t come, you’ll regret it for the rest of your life!’

Serious drama?

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Could it be that Jordan is planning to deal with Cooper at the engagement ceremony? Or did Cooper and Lucy join forces to tackle Jordan? Maybe Cooper and Anna are the ones who want to go after Jordan?

“What’s so significant about the event?”

“Anyway, it’s not a trap,” Callum answered. “You’ll know after you arrive. Just come and watch the show—it’s going to be a big one!”

A big show?

The next day, the stylists arrived on time and dolled Cooper and Linus up. When they left for the banquet, Sophia quickly tagged along to find out what the 'big show' was about.

The public was aware that today was the engagement day of the Edwards' young lady, Lucy Edwards and her fiancé, a CEO from an overseas corporation. The bridegroom was a successful and mature man in his fifties. Everyone deemed the couple as a perfect match and that their marriage was a blessing from above.

The nosy media couldn't lavish enough praise on the couple, asserting that they were a match made in heaven and the perfect combination. However, none of them dared to publish a picture of the couple.

After arriving at the engagement banquet, Sophia finally got to see the 'perfect' fiancé. Oh well, I guess I have to redefine the media's descriptions...

The fiancé was much older than Jordan.

Lucy had now established her influence in the Edwards Group and had conquered every department. Ever since Henry and his twin brother passed away, Callum and Cade seemed to have ceased taking action against the Edwards Group. As such, Lucy would become the future owner of the corporation if everything went well.

Numerous big shots from the military, political and business circles showed up at Lucy's engagement ceremony today. The event was held with great pomp and there were many guests from the bridegroom's end as well. After years of giving up on keeping his body in good shape, Lucy's fiancé had a pot belly which resembled that of a pregnant woman. Standing beside Lucy, he was like a huge barrel whose size was twice as big as hers.

Upon seeing that, Sophia murmured inwardly, A toad marrying a swan!

However, Lucy had on an affectionate smile. As the fiancée, she stood beside the toad and chattered delightfully with the guests. With a sweet and happy smile on her face, she looked no different than any other bride.

Michael had not shown up on that day because he was caught up with his shooting while the Winston couple was not invited. As such, only Cooper, Linus and Sophia attended the ceremony; it seemed like Cooper had known the toad for some time as the latter had grabbed him and started chattering heartily the moment he saw Cooper arrive.

Cooper introduced his children to the toad and the man gave Sophia a kiss on her hand, as per western etiquette. Those few seconds were the most terrible moment of the day for Sophia as she felt like she was being kissed by a pig.

After the kiss, the toad continued his friendly chat with Cooper. Much like a frightened cat, Sophia freaked out as she could feel her hand burning and goosebumps erupting all around her body. She then sneaked away and went around to look for a washroom but before she managed to find one, someone patted her on the shoulder.

“Hi, Aunt Sophia!”

Turning around, Sophia saw the inseparable couple—Stanley and Sean. They were almost at the same height and even their outfits were identical. Stanley was incompetent at taking care of himself, so Sean had been the one running the household. He was in charge of meals and purchasing essentials, and even Stanley’s outfits were chosen by him. Hence, they often wore identical attires like a pair of twins.

Sophia hummed as she rubbed the back of her hand against Stanley’s shirt. Nevertheless, she still felt disgusted.

Just as three of them were chatting, Stanley suddenly exclaimed, “Aunt Sophia, your old son-in-law is here!”

Sophia turned around and saw that Bailey had arrived. Despite his skinny figure, he looked dashing dressed in a black suit, his dignified and mature aura complementing the look.

“Bailey! Over here!” Sophia waved at him enthusiastically.

However, Bailey furrowed his brows upon seeing her and thereafter ignored her, pretending to not see her. He didn’t even go up to Cooper and greet him. This was because he had read the news and finally knew the reason behind Michael’s unusual hostility toward him.

Oh my goodness! I’m not a pedophile; why would I be interested in a five-year-old?

On the other hand, the Adams Family seemed to have read the news too and they were overjoyed. Back then, the Adams had rendered assistance to Fass and the latter had agreed to unite the two families in marriage. However, twenty years had passed and they had not heard from him. It turned out that he was planning to marry his granddaughter to Bailey.

With that, the marriage between the Adams Family and Michel Family had finally been established.

Besides Bailey, Tiffany and Betsy were here too. Tiffany was mad upon knowing Bailey was targeting Cooper's granddaughter. Never did she expect this brat to have devised such a plan! Nonetheless, she would not easily allow Bailey to marry Cooper's granddaughter. Hence, she had shown up at the event today and had been looking for Cooper the minute she arrived.

Meanwhile, Jordan was here too.

Everyone has appeared one after another. It seems like today's great show is going to... Oh wait—there's still another family. On a hunch, Sophia looked toward the entrance and saw Callum and Cade arriving right at that moment. They were Lucy's biological brothers; of course they would attend the event. Thereafter, Anna showed up too.

Today, she was dressed in a crescent-colored gown; the fine lines on her face were not signs of aging but further enhanced her mature aura. In fact, changes in her appearance did not affect her elegant qualities as she gave off a mien of dignity and nobility from the inside out.

There was a moment of silence at the scene when Anna appeared. As the only woman whom Jordan had made known to the public, she would naturally become the main mistress of Edwards Family in the future, besides her identity as Lucy's stepmother. As such, everyone was eager to curry favor with her.

Meanwhile, Sophia quickly walked over to Cooper, who was busy talking to Tiffany. He seemed to have not noticed Anna's arrival but the truth was, he knew she was there. Cooper could immediately sense Anna's presence as long as they were at the same place. However, he did not glance toward Anna as it was inappropriate for them to talk to each other at today's event. Moreover, Jordan was present.

Meanwhile, Tiffany was stuck close to Cooper, her bosom right in his face. "Coop, are you really going to let Carmen marry Bailey? She is still so young. You can't be this cruel," Tiffany murmured in a coquettish manner.

Hearing that, Cooper frowned. This woman always talks to the others in a distinct and direct way but will change her tone every time she talks with me; it really makes me uncomfortable. Can't she just talk properly?

"Where did you hear that from? Carmen is still so young. Of course I won't let her marry now."

With that, Tiffany was finally relieved. Nevertheless, seeing that Anna was here, she continued sticking around Cooper and held him by the arm as she behaved in a flirtatious manner. Even though Tiffany was in her forties, her coquettish behavior seemed extremely natural. She knew Anna must have been looking at them. Alas, Cooper was not Anna's; she could not do anything besides peek at him.

On the other hand, Anna had long understood Tiffany's triumphant look. She felt a tinge of dismay as the smile on her face gradually turned stiff. At the same time, Jordan had spotted her and was walking toward her.

The two lovers could not be together and they couldn't even look directly into each other's eyes; neither were the ones standing beside them the ones they loved.

However, this was only temporary to Cooper!

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"Dad."

Knowing Cooper must have felt depressed, Sophia quickly walked over to him. His little sweetheart wanted to lighten up his mood.

However, Cooper seemed to be unperturbed as he smiled at her.

"I'm fine, darling. Go talk to your friends. Don't worry about me."

Nevertheless, the tinge of disappointment and dismay in his eyes was unmistakable.

That being said, Cooper already had a plan.

Sophia knew he was sad and it made her want to stay by his side all the more to keep him entertained. Tiffany too quickly came to fawn over Sophia and it turned to be a harmonious chat among the 'family' of three.

Even so, there were some who simply would not allow Cooper to be this lighthearted.

"Cooper, you're here!"

Jordan's ardent voice emerged from the crowd as he held Anna's hand and walked spiritedly toward Cooper. It seemed like he had recovered from the grief of losing his sons.

Looking calm and indifferent, Cooper greeted him, "Hi, Jordan. How are you?"

Greeting each other enthusiastically, the two men were like brothers who had not met each other for years even though the last time they met, Jordan's son had abducted Carmen and they were at daggers drawn.

Back then, Cooper really wanted to take Jordan's life on the spot.

Even so, he would not kill Jordan in a self-destructive manner no matter how much he wished for Jordan to die. He knew he would be in deep water if Jordan had died back then. Cooper didn't want to get himself into trouble just because of a wretched man. Moreover, his family and loved ones would be implicated too.

Till now, the cause of Henry and Ryan's plane crash remained unknown.

Cethos had shirked their responsibility. After all, the accident happened beyond their territory, so the government had no intention to bother with it.

The plane crashed in a small country in West Asia and the Michel Military Group happened to be the largest weapons manufacturer for said country.

Investigations revealed that there was a malfunction in the plane engine, causing it to crash into a snow mountain.

However, Jordan knew the plane was shot down by a missile and the mastermind was either the Fletcher Family or Cooper.

To him, there was no difference between the two.

The hatred Jordan had toward them for killing his sons was irreconcilable and a blood feud had started to rage between them.

Holding Anna's hand, Jordan walked toward Cooper while he guffawed. "Annie and I are so glad that you're here, Cooper!"

With her hand being clutched by Jordan, Anna greeted Cooper with a smile. On the other hand, Tiffany leaned closer to Cooper. She felt sorry for him and didn't want him to be embarrassed. She thought she looked much more attractive than Anna, and that she was a better match for Cooper.

Besides, Tiffany wanted to make Anna realize who was the one qualified to stand beside Cooper.

And so, the four of them greeted each other with a grin on their faces.

Nevertheless, only they themselves knew what was on their minds.

Just as Sophia was depressed to see her parents forcing a smile on their faces, she saw Callum and Cade, who were standing behind Jordan, wink at her. It seemed like they were signaling something big was going to happen and were asking her to get ready for the show.

Cheering up, Sophia gazed back and forth to seek the 'big show'.

However, before she could spot anything special, Jordan held Anna's hand joyfully and announced to Cooper, "Today is Lucy's wedding ceremony. After this, Annie and I are going to replan our engagement banquet too."

Cooper's smile faltered upon hearing these words, though he had made every effort to resist his disappointment and distress deep down.

Jordan seemed to have not noticed it as he looked at Anna affectionately and murmured, "Last time, our engagement ceremony was interrupted due to an accident. I'll definitely not allow anyone to disrupt our ceremony this time."

Before Anna could say anything, a crisp voice emerged behind Jordan.

"Jordan—"

There was a sudden change in Jordan and Anna's expression upon hearing that voice. While both of them seemed surprised, Jordan's expression was complicated—a mix of shock, anger, astonishment, and even awkwardness.

Secretly glancing at Cooper, Anna noticed his lips subtly curving upward into a complacent smile.

Anna seemed to have perceived something as she gave Cooper a mysterious, quick smile while the others' attention was attracted toward the voice.

"I'm here, Jordan!"

The appealing female voice most probably belonged to a woman in her twenties. While Jordan turned around to look for the young lady, Anna quickly stood aside and pulled out her arm from Jordan's hold, thereafter keeping a distance from him.

Here comes the big show!

Holding her breath, Sophia could see from the gap between Jordan and Anna that a young lady, who seemed to be in her twenties, was walking toward Jordan with a sweet smile on her face.

Looking noble and gorgeous, the lady had fair skin and beautiful eyes, looking extraordinarily angelic. With a pair of dimples in her cheek when she smiled, she gave off an extremely pleasant aura.

The lady glided toward Jordan. From where Sophia was standing, she could see the lady standing in between Jordan and Anna, and was moving closer to him. She then swiftly held Jordan's arm and with that, she had delicately separated Anna and him. Though it appeared to be just a casual posture, Sophia could sense the lady's aggressiveness.

"Jordaine, what brings you here?"

Jordan was surprised to see the woman with a pair of dimples.

The lady named Jordaine answered, "I came for a business talk and decided to drop by."

It seemed like she was an unexpected guest who came without receiving an invitation.

Nevertheless, not only was Jordaine not ashamed of turning up uninvited, she even obtrusively stood in between Jordan and Anna, replacing Anna as she introduced herself to Cooper in a self-assured manner.

“Hi, you must be Cooper! I’ve seen you on the parent-child show. I’m Jordaine Marks from Marks Real Estates. This is my card.”

Cooper, Tiffany and Sophia each received a card from the woman. Sophia glanced at her name and position written on the card, Jordaine Marks, Regional President of Marks Real Estates.

Jordaine... Jordan... What a cringy name!

As such, Ms. Jordaine’s identity was becoming increasingly obvious.

“I’m Jordan’s lover.”

Pleasantly introducing herself, Jordaine pretended to have not seen Anna—who stood next to her—and was the only official fiancée declared by Jordan. In contrast, the woman arrogantly presented herself and usurped the hostess’ role while Anna was left aside and deemed invisible by Jordaine.

Sophia stood off to one side, her eyes wide.

So this is the big show Callum was asking me to watch—to see Jordan getting into trouble!

Right after Jordan announced his engagement with Anna, here came a mistress. This had caught him off guard and he looked extremely awkward. Obviously, Jordaine’s status was not ordinary. As the person-in-charge of an overseas prominent Cethosian conglomerate, she was probably one among Jordan’s many mistresses who could be deemed to be in the same league as Anna.

Even Jordan was reluctant to fall out with her.

At the same time, Jordaine clearly intended to stir up trouble by showing up unexpectedly today.

This is getting interesting! Sophia exclaimed to herself excitedly.

Meanwhile, Cooper had started shooting the breeze with Jordaine. After introducing themselves, they exchanged their cards and even introduced their children to each other.

“This is my daughter, Sophia, and my son, Linus.” Cooper presented Linus and Cooper to Jordaine.

Standing behind Jordaine was an adorable man who had a baby face and a pair of dimples, which was similar to Jordaine’s. Taller than Jordaine, the man appeared to be in his twenties and he seemed to be Jordaine’s older brother. After all, a brother should show up in this kind of setting to back his sister up.

“This is Jordan and my eldest son, Moore Edwards.”

Jordaine introduced the young lad standing behind her.

With that, Sophia was rendered speechless.