

My Dreamy Old Husband Chapter 861

After Sophia came back, Michael immediately invited her to go to the movies.

'The National Treasury Action' was in theaters for two months. With its superb production and spectacular acting, plus Michael's beer belly, it achieved a global box office of 7 billion, breaking the record set by Michael himself.

After watching the movie, Sophia immediately started her own business. Previously, Pouri's reputation was affected because of Barney eating Faye. So, the business had stayed low for these two months. Now that the chaos had gradually settled down, Pouri prepared itself for another round of new product releases.

Sophia took her pair of alpacas and the prairie cat to the store. In addition to customizing outfits, she also had to shoot a series of new promotional videos.

The pair of alpacas were selected by Sophia at the largest alpaca breeding center in America and made for the best pets. They had been cultivated for several generations to have a gentle personality, an elegant posture, a beautiful appearance, and no slobbering. Thus, they were very photogenic and camera-friendly as well. They were truly an aristocratic pair of alpacas, so the videos would surely be great.

The quality of the models would also have a huge impact on sales. Judge used to be the top dog model, but now it was disfigured. It was estimated that it would have to retire for a period of time. Hopefully, this pair of alpacas could support the sales of new products this fall.

It was September now, and the kindergartens had begun to enroll new students. A few days in advance, Michael printed out a batch of test papers and came to Sophia to practice the interviews.

“These are all internal information that I have found out from my acquaintances. It’s regarding the possible topics of this kindergarten’s interview with the parents. Let’s take a look at it so that we have some idea of what to expect.”

Sophia frowned as she looked at the stack of test papers. *Raising a child is really not easy! This is almost as hard as the college entrance examinations.* Flipping to the first page, she glanced at the questions.

‘Parents, please introduce yourselves.’

‘Parents, please briefly analyze the differences and similarities between family education versus school education. Also, briefly outline your views on family education, as well as the factors that affect the cultivation of children’s characters through family education.’

‘Parents, please tell us about your thoughts of an equal and friendly family relationship with your children and suggest ways to properly guide and help your children through life.’

After reading the topics, Sophia’s face turned pale.

Sure enough, it was an international metropolis. Even the topics for the kindergarten admission were so difficult. Africa was better, for children were just directly admitted after the parents paid the fees.

This stack of topics really gave Sophia and Michael a headache, but the kindergarten was one of the best in Bayside City. If Carmen could get in, they would feel better as parents.

When Cooper came back, he saw Sophia and Michael doing papers in the living room. He peered at the topics curiously and then fell into deep thought.

When Linus returned and saw the test papers, he frowned and then picked up the pen to write his answers as well.

The family spent a few days before finally completing several sets of test questions. Then, they began to memorize the answers.

Each question was harder and trickier than the last, and the topics were all quite strange. There were even questions on the size of the baby’s diapers and the brand of formula milk

used. Besides, the parents were even required to list the advantages and disadvantages of the major brands of diapers and formula milk!

Moreover, the kindergarten also needed to know how many sets of matching pajamas there were in the family and how many hours the parents spent with their child per week.

Forming an opinion on the topic, Michael explained, "The current educational philosophy believes that children's growth should be accompanied by their parents throughout the process and not like how we were raised before. By asking what diapers and formula milk the baby had used before, it was in fact a disguised way of asking how much the parents care about their children."

He continued, "Children go to school, but parents take the opportunity to go and have fun on their own. The family environment has a great influence on the cultivation of children's acquired character. I mean, look at Nate... Well, that was all my fault, so I must bring Carmen up well."

At the mention of Nathan Fletcher, Sophia also sighed. The boy was too cold and did not behave like a little boy at all. *A child should act according to their age. Come on, look at Carmen. She's laughing and running around every day.*

After sighing, Sophia hurriedly asked about the diapers and formula milk used by Carmen as well as what Carmen liked to eat, which cat and dog she liked most, and what were the similarities between her ex-boyfriend and her current boyfriend. All of it was written on a booklet and memorized thoroughly.

In order to improve the harmony of the family and to reflect the importance of Carmen within the whole family, Cooper also went to the kindergarten interview. The family of four was dressed in the same matching outfits. The interviews were separated into two. There was a place for the child interview and another place for the parent interview.

Everyone sat in the waiting area, queuing up for the interview.

Sophia was very nervous, mulling over the questions and answers she had memorized these days.

"Michael, look at me. Do you think I look okay?"

In order to show that the family was peaceful, she had deliberately put on her previous wedding ring, wore a matching family outfit, and slathered some baby lotion on herself, trying to pretend to have a happy marriage and a harmonious family.

Michael looked at her and said, "Yeah, you look great. Relax, we'll be able to pass this."

"Number 18! Carmen Fletcher's parents, please enter the interview room for the interview," the staff called out for Sophia and Michael, who hurriedly went to the interview room.

The interviewer looked at the people before him and was taken aback slightly. Then, he began to write on the booklet in front of him. The interview had begun.

"Parents, please introduce yourselves."

Michael could not completely finish the introduction with his face alone, but still, he introduced himself. He was the two-time Oscar actor whose movies sold so many tickets that the tickets could wind around Earth several times. He was fluent in three languages, born into a prestigious family, graduated from Bayside City University, and had a perfect resume.

Sophia, too, worked hard to be calm as she bragged about how she was an international socialite who was proficient in five languages and was a young but successful entrepreneur.

After the introduction, the interviewer's eyes bore into theirs as he asked, "So... Mr. Fletcher and Ms. Edwards, your highest education are only bachelor's degrees from Bayside City University?"

Michael and Sophia were at a loss for words. Michael went to university after retiring from the military and then started his business right after graduating. However, Sophia fared even worse. She was kidnapped after she received her university degree and had forgotten to engage in further studies these years.

Nervously, Sophia replied, "Y-Yes."

Under the table, Michael took Sophia's hand and squeezed it, giving her strength in an instant. She tried to take a deep breath and calm herself down.

The interviewer lifted his glasses and asked sharply, "The fathers and mothers who are here for the interview today all hold postgraduate degrees. I wonder where the two of you think your advantages lie compared to the other parents?"

Sophia became even more anxious. Trembling, she tried hard to stay composed.

This was a question that was not on the test papers. Sophia took a deep breath and started to answer, "Society is the best school. Although I left school, I did not stop there. My achievements are no worse than other highly educated parents. I can bring more resources to my child and let her enjoy a better education." *If we're not good enough, let's bring out Carmen's grandpa!*

She added, "My father and uncle, that is, Carmen's grandfather and granduncle, have 7 doctorate degrees between the two of them, which is surely enough. As far as our whole family is concerned, there is no pressure in terms of academic qualifications." *Carmen's grandpa is still useful at critical moments.*

There were only a few people in their family. With seven doctorate degrees, it was equivalent to each of them having a doctorate. Surely that was enough.

After passing the academic qualifications, the interviewer continued to ask some other questions, all of which were memorized before and were answered perfectly by Sophia and Michael. In the end, the interviewer asked the last question.

"Now, parents, please kiss each other affectionately to end today's interview!"

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The interviewer's request was totally out of Sophia's expectation. She wants me to kiss Michael in public?! How could she make such an embarrassing request? Sophia's face instantly flushed as red as an apple.

Her requests aroused Cooper's suspicion as well. Could it be that this kindergarten is run by Michael, and he is using this opportunity to take advantage of Sophia?

Seeing that Sophia and Michael did not respond after a while, the interviewer darted them a look in suspicion before asking, "When was the last time both of you had sex?"

S-Sex? Sophia was dumbfounded. The kindergarten's interview nowadays asks about this sort of topic? "H-How is this related to my baby attending kindergarten?"

Upon seeing Sophia behaving like an ignorant bumpkin, the interviewer explained, "The family environment is one of our assessment criteria for the child's quality. A good family environment and education is crucial to raise an excellent individual. If the parents have a bad relationship, this will affect the child's growth. Therefore, are both of you not getting along well and have been living separately for a long time? So is Carmen currently living in a single-parent family?"

As Sophia was afraid that this would affect Carmen's admission into the kindergarten, she immediately denied. "No, no."

Michael frankly replied, "That's not true. The last time we had sex was this morning, and we have a strong relationship."

Hearing that, Sophia's face turned redder. I don't even have a sex life, let alone had sex this morning. Did he mean that we had sex as morning workout before coming over to attend the interview? However, all she could do now was to swallow up the embarrassment. "Yes, this morning, several positions in fact..." In her mind, she was still a virgin, though she somehow had a daughter.

Michael placed his arm over Sophia's shoulder and turned her face over to him. "Dear, come on. Relax, although this is the first time we're doing this outside. Don't worry." After he said that, he leaned his body forward and kissed her. His lips lightly wrapped around her pink, soft lips, gently taking in her taste.

Sophia gave in for the sake of Carmen's future as well. She closed her eyes while experiencing his kiss. It felt gentle and real, like flakes of rainbow falling onto her lips from the sky. It was soft and sweet. But... aren't we only acting? Why is he sticking his tongue into my mouth?

However, Sophia could not push him away when they were under the interviewer's watchful eyes. Hence, she had no choice but to allow Michael to embrace her and kiss for 30 seconds until the interviewer felt shy to continue watching. The interviewer then ticked the last item—whether the student had loving parents—with a red pen.

They kissed each other so affectionately in public, as if they were alone. Anyone could tell with one glance that they were a loving couple. Only families with harmonious relationships between the family members and loving parents would be able to raise children into optimistic and hardworking individuals.

“Cough!” As Cooper could no longer continue to watch them being affectionate with each other, he coldly coughed, which made the couple, who were immersed in the kiss, return to their senses.

Sophia lowered her head and dared not say anything, her face as red as blood. Michael looked radiant—even the breath he exhaled was filled with content and bliss. He asked, “Are there any other questions?”

The interviewer beamed at them. “Please wait for our notice. We will notify you of the results in 3 days’ time.”

Michael replied, “Thank you.”

After the interview, Cooper wore a dark expression while Michael held Sophia’s little hand when they waited for Carmen to be done with her interview. Although Cooper’s expression was dark, he did not voice out and stop Michael, which made the latter feel that he had made some progress and was getting closer to having their second child. He felt that he had been testing Cooper’s limits every day.

When they were waiting outside, they bumped into some familiar faces—for instance, Harry and Sarah. Their child, Hope, was younger than Carmen by only a couple of days. They applied for him to attend this kindergarten as well, and they were here today to attend the interview. Besides, Hale and Gwen were here as well. They had been married for a few years and had given birth to a chubby son. They, too, had gotten the notice to attend the interview, and they were now waiting for their son to come out after the interview. Everyone was very nervous. Cold sweat appeared on their palms as they wondered if their children could impress the interviewer.

Soon, Carmen came out after she was done with her interview. Upon seeing her parents and grandfather from afar, she dashed at them like a little butterfly. She was even dolled up to ensure that the interview today could go smoothly. “Daddy, Mommy, Grandpa!”

Sophia embraced Carmen and asked, “Darling, how was your interview?”

Carmen was brimming with confidence. "I've passed!"

Sophia asked her the details, "How did you pass? What questions did the interviewer ask? Quickly tell me."

Carmen seemed delighted. "I showed them the Bear Dance. The lady interviewer praised that I can dance well and I have acted in movies before. Daddy is also the major hairholder of the kindergarten! So they allowed me to pass."

Upon hearing Carmen's words from the side, the smile that the high-spirited Michael had on his face instantly froze.

"Major hairholder? What's that?" Sophia contemplated the word and understood the meaning in three seconds—Michael was the major shareholder of this kindergarten! Why do we need to attend the interview if he is the major shareholder?! She understood the whole situation in that instant. She looked at Michael, feeling mad yet embarrassed. "Michael, y-you... jerk!"

After saying that, she turned around and left in rage and embarrassment, while Cooper's expression instantly became dark as well. I can't believe that my daughter was taken advantage of right under my nose! He held her hands and kissed her! I even made an exception and allowed Sophia to go to Michael's house by herself to memorize the interview questions! Cooper left in a huff as well.

Michael rose to his feet and glanced at the innocent Carmen before going after Sophia. "Sophia... dear! Let me explain..." He left to chase after Sophia just like that. After he left, the two women, Sarah and Gwen, could not hold back themselves and burst into laughter. Even Hale, who was usually taciturn, could not suppress his smile.

Harry covered his face with his hand, unsure of whether he should be laughing or not right now. He lived in the same neighborhood as Michael. When he saw Michael went to look for Sophia with a stack of questions, he knew that the latter was plotting something. As expected, he was indeed trying to pull something off. Using the kindergarten interview as an excuse, he had plenty of chances to spend time alone with her—it was the golden period to develop their relationship! However, Carmen's words unexpectedly made his efforts go in vain.

Looking at her parents leaving, Carmen gazed innocently at Harry with her little hands on the latter's knees while childishly asking, "Godfather, why did Daddy and Mommy run away?"

Harry replied, "It's nothing important. They had a little disagreement. They will make peace again in a while."

Sophia, who had fallen into Michael's trap, felt enraged yet mortified. She locked herself in her room when she reached home. I'm utterly furious! Utterly embarrassed! He actually kissed me! In public!

She could feel her face burning in embarrassment, but her heart was pounding wildly. The kiss made her heart skip a beat and caused her to feel as sweet as honey whenever she recalled the feeling. I'm absolutely mortified!

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Michael followed Sophia to her house but was locked outside. The two alpacas, which seemed to have received certain orders from Cooper, spat saliva at his face when they saw him. *Ptooy!*

Ugh, it stinks! Michael nearly passed out from that stench. He stood under her room and yelled, "Sophia, dear... I was wrong! Please hear me out..."

Since the truth had been revealed, any sophistry would be useless—the most important thing to do now was to admit his mistake and apologize.

However, no matter how hard he shouted or called, the person upstairs refused to respond to him. Only three silly dogs appeared on the first-floor balcony, sticking their heads out to look at him, as if he was a clown.

Michael currently regretted his actions a lot. *I shouldn't have done that this time. I'm screwed. All my efforts have gone in vain, and I'll have to start all over again...*

Not only did the flustered Michael not receive any response from Sophia, Cooper even forbade him from entering the house and ordered Shae to wallop him if he barged in, so he had no choice but to go home.

At night, Carmen reached home. Michael wrote an official apology letter and asked her to pass it to her mother in secret.

Carmen was put on a spot. “Daddy, Grandpa said that he wanted to teach you a lesson. Otherwise, you won’t remember it and won’t learn to appreciate Mommy. Therefore, I can’t help you!”

Since Carmen refused to help him, Michael came up with another plan, which was to have Sarah pass Sophia the letter. However, she dared not help him as well. “Taylor, you know how grim Mr. Cooper’s expression can be. He dislikes me because my father and step-mother have offended him, so I cannot help you with this...”

Nevertheless, Michael still had plenty of opportunities.

“Come, Snowball, my darling, come here. I’m giving you this treasure. Give it to your Mommy.”

“Bubbles, you are my good baby. You must send this to your Mommy!”

“Silly dog, I’ll give you 5 bucks if you give this to Sophia! Huh? You think that it’s not enough? How about 50? That’s the most I can offer! Alright, alright, 500! 500!”

Looking at the few dogs—which he had been taking care of with blood, sweat, and tears on behalf of Sophia—carrying his gifts to her in their mouths, he inwardly exclaimed, *All my hard work has finally paid off!*

However, what he did not expect was that the few silly dogs were stopped by Cooper in the living room as soon as they entered the house—the large bags in their mouths exposed their ‘mission’.

Everything that they brought was confiscated, so was the 500 that Judge had just earned!

Disgruntled, Judge bared its sharp teeth and started to carry out its '5-million renovation plan' in Cooper's house on the spot. It chewed on the couch, table, carpet, and even its own bed, refusing to stop unless it destroyed enough furniture that amounted to 5 million.

Cooper gave in and returned the 500 to it, but Judge was dissatisfied. Only when Cooper gave it another 500 as compensation for its mental anguish that it finally stopped destroying his furniture. There was chaos in the house while Michael was outside feeling anxious.

"Tsk..." Knowing that the few silly dogs might be unreliable, Michael took the opportunity to use his old trick when Cooper was busy dealing with Judge—he took out his drone and controller. Nonetheless, the drone was unexpectedly mercilessly shot down after flying for only 2 seconds.

Unwilling to give up, Michael carried Chrysanthemum over to Cooper's house and pointed at the balcony. "Chrysanthemum, you are a cat, so you can climb up to the first floor, right? Go, climb up there! I know you can do this. I have faith in you!"

Entrusted with this mission in such a critical moment, Chrysanthemum tried its best to climb up to the first floor while carrying Michael's gift for Sophia in its mouth, only to realize that... it had failed—its fat body was simply a burden!

After trying different cats, none of them managed to climb up because they were too chubby—there were more than twenty orange cats, but one was fatter than the other.

Sitting amidst the pile of fat cats, Michael had run out of ideas. All he could do was to pet the cats while he waited for Sophia to come out to meet him. He refused to believe that she would not leave the house.

As a matter of fact, Sophia found out what happened outside by watching the security recordings from her room. She started watching when Judge was making a commotion by destroying the furniture downstairs and kept watching as Michael tried his luck with the bunch of fat cats. He looked like a helpless little kid or like a regretful teenager who had had a quarrel with his girlfriend.

Looking at him, Sophia could no longer hold back her smiles, but it did not mean that she was not mad—Michael had gone overboard this time.

Downstairs, Michael tried to use another orange cat, attempting to initiate the next wave of attack. However, he then realized that the outcome was still the same—the cats just could not climb up to the first floor. When he was in despair, he saw the grassland cat that was recently bought by Sophia. The cat silently picked up the gift and nimbly climbed up a tree. It sat on a branch before leaping into the air with the force from its hips, drawing a swift arc through the air. It then made a perfect landing on the balcony with a light and agile movement before disappearing into Sophia's room.

Michael almost gave the cat a standing ovation. The grassland cat named 'Leapy' was a crossbreed between a serval and a domestic cat. It had the ability to jump 2 meters high from the ground and was an excellent climber.

As expected from Leapy—it can jump up to 8 feet high.

Sophia was frustrated. When she was feeling mad and embarrassed in her room, she saw Leapy coming into her room through the cat door from the balcony. It then jumped onto Sophia's table, put down the thing in its mouth, and left.

"What's this?"

Leapy brought her a small pouch. She opened it and found a tiny MP3 inside.

She found her earphone and plugged it into the earphone jack before turning on the MP3. She could hear a clear male voice from the device.

"Sophia, I'm sorry. I just hope for us to spend more time together. I didn't mean to lie to you, and I didn't want Carmen to be accepted into the kindergarten using my influence. I just wished to prove to everyone that we are good parents. Let me sing you a song."

She could hear the guitar playing and Michael's sexy, charming voice singing.

"You are the light in my life. Not only did you dispel the gloom of my life, you've also alleviated the melancholy of my mundane life. Your warm light blends into my blood and flesh, your gentleness coursing through my veins with my blood. You've immersed into my whole body, like an invisible hand caressing my bones and flesh..."

It was a simple tune coupled with cliché lyrics—it gave her the vibes of a young teenage girl in school uniform secretly writing childish verses in the textbook during class under the noisy electric fan.

Michael anxiously waited for a long time downstairs without any idea if Sophia saw the thing that he gave.

After some time, he saw a paper plane flying down from the balcony, which Chrysanthemum obediently brought to him. He unfolded the paper plane and saw a few words on it. 'Who wrote the lyrics? It made me cringe.'

Seeing that, he was overjoyed. *Sophia is finally willing to talk to me—this means that she is not that mad anymore.* He quickly took a pen to reply to her message and asked Leapy to send it upstairs.

She soon saw his reply, which was only one sentence. 'It was from the love letter you wrote to me back then.'

The message made her feel abashed. *I can't believe that I actually wrote that before, but Michael composing music for it and singing it is something even more unexpected. How embarrassing! However, I can't believe that he still remembers the love letter I wrote. Wasn't that something from ages ago?*

The paper plane flew out from the first floor again. Michael caught the paper plane and unfolded it—on it was her beautiful and bold handwriting. 'You lied to me.'

The paper plane flew out from the room, and a while later, Michael asked Leapy to send it back upstairs, and the process repeated. One of them was in the room while the other was downstairs outside the house, and just like that, they communicated via the paper plane.

Michael replied, 'Please hear me out. I just hope for us to spend more time together.'

Sophia replied, 'I'm not going to listen to you!'

He was speechless for a moment, but he then wrote, 'I was wrong. I promise you that I won't do this next time.'

She asked, 'You're saying that there will be a next time?'

He was rendered speechless again.

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After the two of them had a quarrel through the paper plane and small note, Sophia did not leave home for two days because she refused to meet Michael.

Whenever Michael had free time, he would sit under the balcony of her room and patiently wait for her. He would write notes on a small notebook, tear out the paper, and have Leapy send it up to her.

In contrast, the bunch of fat cats were absolutely useless. "It's a waste of effort rearing all of you. All my efforts had gone down the drain! All you do is eat, and you even shed fur! You guys keep shedding fur!" Michael complained while pinching the fats on Chrysanthemum. He grabbed a handful of its fur and blew it away like dandelion seeds. "I will put you up for adoption in a few days."

When Harry was walking his dog, he passed by and saw Michael sitting under Sophia's balcony with the hope of meeting Sophia but to no avail. It was quite sad, but he could only blame himself for being too greedy. Cooper had acquiesced in him holding her hand, but he wished to take another step further by kissing her, which then caused all his earlier efforts to go in vain.

He basically dug his own grave! The kindergarten interview was real, but the questions were altered because he had someone to intervene with the interview through the kindergarten board meeting after he became the major shareholder. The reason he did all that was for the kiss at the final part of the interview! Serves him right!

Michael regretted plotting this as well. Regardless of how perfect his plan was, it unexpectedly completely crumbled with Carmen's one sentence—"Daddy is the kindergarten's major hairholder".

He petted the cat twice and growled, "All you do is eat. Look at yourself—do you know how fat you are right now?"

Hold on... Eat? An idea came to him in a flash of inspiration.

The weather was very cool in one fine evening after a downpour. Michael set up a barbeque pit at Cooper's front yard, and the aroma of the food spread into Cooper's house.

A soft mat was spread out on the lawn, and sitting on it was Carmen, who was drinking milk while talking to Michael. "Daddy, will Mommy really come out?"

Michael was busy grilling food with a chef when he replied, "She will come out. Your mommy used to love barbequing on the rooftop."

Harry came with his wife as well. As it was a weekend, Nathan was back home, while Stanley, who had come to visit his cats and dogs, brought Sean along with him too. The few of them were having a great time at the barbeque party in front of Cooper's house, making a lot of noise.

Sophia was reading documents in her study when she found out that Michael was having a barbeque party in front of their house. The fragrance was so strong that it seemed to be able to penetrate through walls—she could still smell the aroma everywhere even though she had shut all the doors and windows.

On top of that, the smell became more fragrant as time passed—so fragrant that it made her drool. I wonder what delicacies they are grilling...

She peeked at the security recordings and saw that all the cats and dogs in their neighborhood were there, watching them as they enjoyed their barbeque party. Even the two alpacas were there.

It smells wonderful... There is seafood, lamb and chicken wings. It's so fragrant, and I think I can hear the sound of oil sizzling.

A couple of chefs were diligently grilling the food, while the few people took the food to the tables on the yard and enjoyed them with relish.

Leapy went over, took a piece of ham, and ate it in front of Sophia. It enjoyed the food very much, which caused Sophia to be unable to concentrate on reading her documents.

Stanley yelled at her from downstairs, "Sophia, come on down. We are having a barbecue! You used to love barbecue! Come down now. Your favorite chicken wings grilled with a secret recipe is ready. If you are not going to eat them, I'll feed them all to Judge!"

As expected, Sophia was seen coming down in her pyjamas. She sat down and immediately started eating without greeting anyone.

Stanley admonished her. "Why are you so shy? It was only a kiss with my uncle! You used to kiss him in front of me every day. It made me cringe..."

Sophia continued eating with her head bowed without saying anything. Michael slowly nudged himself toward her with intention to please her. "Dear, here. Eat this. It's your favorite."

He had prepared her favorite food—she might not have her past memories, but her taste preference would never change.

She treated him coldly without giving him any response; she even moved away from him but accepted the food.

He inched closer to her and kept trying to please her.

She said, "Stay away from me."

He replied, "Alright, I'll stay further away." And by staying further away, he meant to have a dog sitting between them.

With a dog between them, Michael handed her some beverages while uttering, "Tomorrow is Carmen's first day at the kindergarten. Other kids will have both parents accompanying them to school..." He implied that Sophia should go as well.

Sophia coldly refuted, "Is this the kindergarten's major hairholder's new rule?"

The thick-skinned Michael smiled without any hint of awkwardness. "They'd had this rule before the major hairholder joined the board."

Hearing that, she did not reply to him as she was aware that even African kids would have both parents sending them to school during their first day at kindergarten.

He took her silence as an acquiesce to his request. Delighted, he announced, "I'll come to pick you up at 7.00AM tomorrow."

She just remained quiet without either agreeing or disagreeing.

The delicious barbecued food probably made her happy and caused her to be willing to talk to the people around.

Michael grabbed the opportunity and approached her again. "Dear, I'm going away to shoot for a movie with Harry. Carmen will be in your care for the time being."

Although Sophia did not reply, her ears were kept open. He is going away to shoot for a movie? That's not a surprise at all since he is an actor. He tends to spend more time at the filming set than at home. Carmen is going to be fatherless for some time again.

After the barbecue, Sophia went home after filling her stomach. She did not talk much to Michael, which indicated that she was still mad.

The next day, Michael came over to pick Sophia and Carmen up early in the morning.

Carmen was well-prepared today. Carrying a bag, she was wearing a new dress with a water bottle strapped across her shoulder. She happily got into the car after Sophia with the intention to behave like a good girl in the kindergarten.

As her grandfather, Cooper took her kindergarten's entrance ceremony seriously, so he tagged along as well.

Sophia had always thought that Cooper doted on Carmen more since her own existence as his daughter came too suddenly to him. When he thought that he was a bachelor, a grown-up daughter in her twenties suddenly appeared out of nowhere and completely caught him off guard. He was still stuck in the impression that a daughter, if he had one, should be small and adorable like Carmen. Therefore, he doted on and pampered Carmen to no end.

Upon arriving at the kindergarten, they encountered a few familiar faces. Harry and Sarah brought their son, Hope, while Hale and Gwen brought their son, Ashton. Besides, there was also... Sandra.

Unexpectedly, Sandra and Ian were here as well. They brought along a two or three-year-old child, who was about the same age as Carmen.

Seeing that Sophia seemed to be puzzled, Michael explained, "That's Albert, Alex's second son and Sandra's younger brother."

Albert... This name kind of matches the chubby little kid.

Sandra naturally spotted Sophia as well. She let out a scoff, as if she was confident that she had something on her.

It turns out that she really is Sophia. Sophia's face had become a model for the girls who wished to undergo plastic surgery, which resulted in plenty of online influencers having similar faces. Therefore, when she previously had plastic surgeries on her whole face, Sandra had a preconceived thought that Scarlett had undergone plastic surgeries to look like Sophia, but it turned out that she was actually Sophia herself. How did she survive years ago? And how did she become Cooper's daughter?

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She has a child with her. Is that her and Michael's daughter? Although all of this seems uncanny, I will figure it all out one day.

The entrance ceremony went on smoothly. After the ceremony, the parents had to leave their children to attend the Parent Association meeting organized by the kindergarten at another place. They had to select a president for the association and form a chat group with all the parents in it. On the other hand, the kids had to follow the teacher to the classroom to familiarize themselves with the environment and begin their first class.

Sophia and Michael arrived at the place where the parents gathered and began their first Parent Association meeting. Sophia glanced around and found that the kindergarten was quite high-end while the parents were all wealthy and powerful with extraordinary

backgrounds. There were also plenty of celebrities and politicians. In other words, the children studying here could be described as accompanying the royalties.

The meeting started off by playing the security recordings of the classroom. There were 15 children in the class. As it was their first-time attending kindergarten away from their parents, the children were crying their eyes out, filling the classroom with their cries.

Those who were initially not crying were almost affected by their companions' cries.

Luckily, the kindergarten teachers were all very experienced. They managed to stop the children from continuing to cry by coaxing them one by one.

The parents repetitively nodded upon seeing the teachers' professional skills.

Michael spotted his baby at first glance—she was the most beautiful child. As soon as she entered the classroom, she put down her Husky backpack and took a sip of water while she watched other children crying.

“Look, our baby is not crying.” He sounded proud.

Sophia felt proud for her as well. Even Hope and Ashton were crying, but Carmen sat meekly in a corner by herself and drank water.

Finally, the children stopped crying, and the classroom became quiet. When the teachers were going to start the class, Carmen suddenly blurted out, “I want to be the class representative!”

Seeing that, the parents were speechless.

The teachers were taken aback by her proactiveness as well because it was extremely rare for a kid to be so brave and not cry. One of them smiled and said gently, “Sure, Carmen. You will be the class representative, then!”

Therefore, Carmen became the class representative on her first day at kindergarten.

After school, Sophia rushed from her office to pick Carmen up from the kindergarten.

"Baby, how was your first day at kindergarten?"

Carmen was confident. "I'm the most beautiful girl in the whole class!"

Such a narcissist... She must have inherited it from her father!

As a celebrity, as well as a star who had made a successful comeback, Michael could not simply appear in front of the kindergarten to pick up his child, so he sat in the car and waited for her instead. He embraced Carmen and said, "I'm going away to shoot for a movie some time later. You need to be a good girl. Stay at home and listen to your Mommy!"

"Sure, Daddy, I will behave myself." She nodded.

Carmen, who had just spent her first day in school, was excited; she kept sharing about the new friends she made in the kindergarten with her parents along the journey.

"Hope is so handsome, and all the girls in the class like him! Mel's dress is the most pretty! Flo cried for the whole day. I hate Al the most. I don't like him!"

Carmen entering kindergarten probably put Sophia in a good mood today, so she finally treated Michael slightly better. When they arrived home together, he entered her house under Cooper's cold eyes and dark expression; he even managed to have dinner together with them. I have to be thick-skinned in whatever I do... If I don't have skin as thick as a wall, it would be impossible to make my lady come to me!

Michael went home after dinner.

After Sophia took a shower and changed her clothes, she thought for a while and decided to go look for Michael. When Cooper saw her heading in that direction, he coldly asked, "Darling, where are you going?"

Sophia answered, "I am going to find Michael to discuss something. I can't just let this matter slide easily."

Hearing that, he had no choice but to let her go.

Sophia reached Michael's house, and the latter warmly invited her in although her visit was sudden and unexpected. "Come on in and have a seat."

As it was the cats' dinner time, over twenty cats gathered up at a place in the house to eat together. It was so packed that there was almost no room to place their feet. Besides, cats would shed a lot of fur, so rearing cats and dogs was no different from planting dandelions—it might be easier to relate by imagining planting over twenty pots of dandelions in a house...

“Why are there so many cats at home?”

Sophia took a seat and saw that there was cat fur everywhere—on the couch, floor, and even on Michael's trousers. Having a couple of robotic vacuum cleaners was totally insufficient, and Nicholas nearly broke down from excessively sweeping the cat fur. On top of that, the orange cats had strong destructive power. The couch at home was replaced weekly. In fact, the one that Sophia was sitting on had been replaced yesterday although it was now already covered with scratches.

Michael replied, “These are all your cats. You didn't tell me what to do with them, so I didn't put them up for adoption or send them for neutering. Therefore, they kept breeding.”

Sophia felt a tingling sensation on her scalp. She found the cats adorable when a few of them occasionally went to her house. However, when she saw that the house was full of orange cats today, she was a little shocked at the imposing view. No wonder Carmen keeps complaining that her house is full of cat fur. Come to think of it, Michael may be stressed out as well. But since they are my cats, he was unwilling to put them up for adoption and so he continued keeping them. After some time, the cats filled his house.

She uttered, “Let's put the cats up for adoption.”

Since she had said so, Michael would definitely listen to her. He had long been wanting to put this bunch of orange cats for adoption. Now that his wife gave the orders, it would only be natural for him to do so willingly.

The two of them discussed the adoption matter and Carmen's performance in school today. Without them noticing, it was already 10.00PM. It was only when Cooper came over to urge her to go home that she finally left reluctantly.

She walked all the way home but suddenly realized something. What was I going to talk to Michael about? Forget it; I'll just let that matter slide!

In fact, after asking the parents of other children, she was told that all the parents who went for the interview had to kiss each other in public. Refusing to do so would show that the parents were not getting along well, and an inharmonious relationship between family members would cause the child's assessment score to be deducted.

On top of that, if Michael were to use his identity as the major shareholder and force the school to make an exception for Carmen, it would have been simply an insult to her.

It would not be nice if words got out that her daughter had to make use of her father's influence to be accepted into a mere kindergarten.

Due to time constraints as Michael was going away to shoot for a movie soon, he asked the bodyguards to send Carmen to kindergarten the next day while he brought a booklet with him to Sophia's house to discuss with her about the matter of putting the cats up for adoption.

"This is the booklet I had asked people to prepare over the night. The names listed on it belong to people who are interested in adopting our cats. You can have a look."

The freshly prepared booklet, which Michael had had someone to prepare over the night, was sent to Sophia just like that. She glanced at the names listed on it. Every single adopter had their respective resumes attached, which clearly displayed their identities and backgrounds. They were all people from reliable backgrounds; many of Sophia's old classmates and friends were included in it too.

The adopters were introduced in a concise manner. Everything about them was stated in the booklet, including their phone numbers and Messenger account.

It made her wonder if his high efficiency was due to his eagerness to get rid of the cats, or if he cared too much about this matter which was related to her that he managed to gather so much information in just one night.