

My Dreamy Old Husband Chapter 821

Michael was touched.

My little girl is all grown up and sensible now. She already understands how hard her father works.

However, Sophia was a little upset. She pursed her lips and purposely complained, "Then what about me? Aren't you going to take care of me?"

Carmen glanced at Cooper, who still had a dark look on his face, and said, "I'll take care of daddy, and daddy and grandpa will take care of you!"

Sophia was amused by Carmen's words and the family of three walked together happily. At that moment, Cooper looked like an outsider.

They only needed a few shots in the film studio and they had finished filming in one day. There was another scene in the museum, and per the director's order, they were going to film it at the Bayside City museum.

The shooting time there had been scheduled and they had two days of free time, so there was enough time for them to stay at the film studio for one night and travel around to see pandas.

After dinner, the lights in the studio were turned on, illuminating the night sky. When they were eating dinner just now, Carmen buried her face in the bowl halfway through the meal and she was so exhausted, she fell asleep. Sophia placed her in the hotel room and asked the nanny to watch over her before she got ready to head out.

Michael was a frequent visitor to the film studio so he said, "You've been to this film studio before, but let me show you around!"

Sophia naturally accepted his invitation. Michael knew that at this time, his father-in-law would definitely follow them so he could ruin Michael's plans. However, Cooper was quiet. He was so quiet, Sophia thought that it was strange so she asked, "Dad, aren't you going to join us?"

Cooper shook his head and replied, "You two go ahead and have fun. Remember to come back early."

After he finished speaking, he put down his knife and fork and went out alone, his figure forlorn.

Watching Cooper leave alone, Sophia was still confused. "... What's wrong with him?" Looking at Cooper's figure, Michael suddenly felt a little sorry for his father-in-law.

This place was filled with Cooper's memories. Back then, the film studio was not a film studio, but an old town. He and Annabel had eloped and came here but unexpectedly, as soon as they settled down, Sam had told the Mitchell family, and he was forced to go back.

Michael knew all about Cooper's experiences, so he always cherished the people he loved—Cooper lost Annabel and he could never make up for it.

Michael also lost Sophia once, but God gave him a chance to make it up to her so he swore to never lose her a second time!

Cooper silently went to the place he and Annabel once lived. After they eloped and came here back then, he found a job at a bookstore and Annabel set up a stall nearby to sell some food she made.

They thought that they could live their lives like that forever.

Unfortunately...

He walked past the bookstore where he used to work, which had already been demolished and replaced with a souvenir shop. The small building they used to live in was completely demolished too and replaced with an antique small building for the crew to film.

The only thing that I can find is probably the masonry bridge where we once took a photo...

Late at night, Cooper stood on the masonry bridge like a stone statue. He looked in one direction, at a place he wouldn't be able to go.

My beloved Annabel is right there...

Meanwhile, Michael took Sophia to the night market. Although Cooper wasn't with them, he had ordered two bodyguards to follow Sophia. The night market was really lively and there were all kinds of delicious food on display.

"I want to eat barbecue!"

"I want to eat noodles!"

"I want to eat lobsters!"

"I want to eat fries!"

Sophia took off her mask and kept walking ahead, her mouth chewing non-stop. The visibility at night was not as good as the day, so her scars were not visible. Her face was smooth and her former appearance seemed to have been restored.

Michael wore his mask and didn't eat much. Everything he bought was for Sophia to eat. After walking around for a short while, his hands were already filled with bags of food.

"Eat slowly. Come, drink some water. There is more delicious food over there!"

Michael took Sophia to search for more good food. As Sophia ate, she saw something floating in the sky in the distance. At that moment, the sky was brightly lit and the night was like a veil that shrouded the flames.

She was really surprised so she hurriedly asked Michael, "What's that?"

Michael glanced at the sky and replied, "Those are sky lanterns."

Sophia immediately saw a small stall on the street selling sky lanterns and she asked, "Can I get one?"

Michael replied, "No, this is an ancient city so there are many wooden buildings. You have to go out of the city to set it to the sky!"

Hearing this, Sophia hurriedly urged, "Then let's go outside the city!"

With that, they drove out of the city and went to the riverside. There were many people selling sky lanterns by the riverside, so Michael asked Hale to buy some.

Soon, Hale brought over two sky lanterns, set them up, and quickly left.

There were a lot of people playing with sky lanterns that night, so Michael chose a place with fewer people to release their sky lanterns.

Hale sensibly persuaded the two foreign bodyguards that Cooper sent to give them some space, and they guarded them nearby, not allowing anyone to get close. After all, Michael just came back from the dead and was in the limelight. It would be chaotic if his fans saw him and swarmed over.

The two of them were about to launch their sky lanterns by the riverside when Sophia saw someone write something on their lanterns. Curious, she asked, "What are they writing on their lanterns?"

As Michael assembled the lanterns, he pulled out a marker pen from his pocket.

"Just write anything you want."

Tonight, the riverbank was bright and the street lamps were dim. When the soft lights shone on Sophia, it was like a thin veil wrapping around her body, making it seem like she had a halo. She looked like a fairy falling from the sky in the moonlight, and she was so beautiful that Michael thought that he was dreaming.

There were two sky lanterns but only one pen, so Michael quickly wrote on his sky lantern first. Sophia leaned close to take a look and as expected, she saw her name.

Sophia, Carmen.

These two people were the only ones that mattered to Michael, and his life would be incomplete without any one of them. They were his flesh and bones—without bones, he would have no strength to live; without flesh, his life would be short of something fulfilling. Michael's life would only be complete with the two of them in it.

After he finished writing, he handed the pen to Sophia.

Looking at his handwriting, Sophia said, "Your handwriting is beautiful!"

Michael smiled and lowered his eyes to look at her face closely, which was as smooth as a peeled hard-boiled egg under the soft light. It didn't have any blemishes or a single visible scar. However, she had had surgery, so it was still different from what she looked like. But, objectively and subjectively, she looked more beautiful, more mature, and more intellectual.

When he came back to his senses, Sophia had written a string of words.

Naturally, she had written Carmen's name, but his name was on there too.

Before Michael had the time to cheer, he saw her extend the list of names.

There was him, Carmen, Cooper, Linus, Nathan... and Judge, Snowball, Bubbles, Corrado, Chrysanthemum, Garfield, Sunset, and the other cats and dogs. She had filled every corner of the sky lantern until there was nowhere else to write.

Michael was rendered speechless.

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Finally, Sophia and Michael released their sky lanterns into the night sky. All the surfaces of Sophia's lantern were filled with her handwriting.

She was too kind-hearted, and she wished for peace for everyone she knew. On the other hand, Michael's only wish was for his wife and daughter to be happy.

Staring at the lanterns which ascended into the sky, Sophia felt as if she was floating in the sky with them too. Though the metaphysics behind the releasing of sky lanterns were unknown, it must be somewhat efficacious since so many people did it. She hoped that the sky lantern would bring her wishes to heaven so that everyone she knew would be granted peace.

Her eyes were fixed on the sky lantern full of handwriting as it gradually faded out of her sight.

Each lantern represented a beautiful wish. The riverside was lively as many came to release sky lanterns as well—some with their family while others with their lovers. There were lanterns floating on the river too, and the river became radiant and colorful as it was full with lanterns flowing gently with the current, creating a magnificent spectacle.

Sophia found a spot to sit down and quietly admired the sight. Glancing toward Michael who sat beside her and was also staring at the river lanterns, she could see the reflection of the lights in his eyes, which were elegant yet mysterious.

All of a sudden, she asked, “Is there any grudge between you and Quinton? Dad asked me to stay away from Theo’s son, but who’s Theo?”

Michael showed a rueful smile as she finally asked the questions. Nevertheless, he told her the story of him and Quinton.

His narration started from thirty years ago where Theo was summoned to perform tasks at the Southwest border, and he talked about Tanya and Hope as well as her history with Quinton.

There was nothing that he could not say to her, and he didn’t conceal anything. He would tell her whatever that was appropriate, and hold back other less appropriate contents.

He should not have kept these from her, and it was good for her to know now.

“... That night, Justin plotted to kill Quinton, but Quinton managed to escape. On the same night, you were attacked by a gangster that the Harpers hired was forced to protect yourself by jumping into the river. You ended up being washed ashore to Salvador Island, and there you met Quinton, who was also injured. Something might have happened back then...”

Michael let out a rueful laugh as he came toward the end of the story.

"I once thought that he took you away because you're my wife, and he wanted to snatch everything away from me. I thought that he would torture me by killing you and Carmen once he knew he could not have you."

"But you're back now, and he did not harm you nor Carmen at all during those years. He thinks that you belonged to him and I'm the one who stole you from him, so it was reasonable for him to take you away from me."

Sophia smiled and shook her head as she listened to Michael. A glint shone in her eyes as she gazed at the floating river lanterns.

She said, "I actually owe my life to him, then. At that time, he might have been planning to come and find me the next day, but Joe took me away, unfortunately."

Michael remained silent.

Back then, Quinton might have genuinely intended to take Sophia away after the incident had blown over. But alas, when he came back after everything had calmed down, Sophia had already left Duckburgs, and she had become Michael's woman by the time they met again.

... Indeed, Quinton came across her first. The two sorrowful souls got together and kept each other warm against the piercing wind, sustaining each other throughout the long night.

Seemed like he was the latecomer. Nevertheless, order did not exist in love.

He believed that he was the one whom his chica loved, and Carmen was the proof of their intense love.

Even though Michael paid a price and bought Sophia over, he was still a responsible man—he had already made up his mind to love her and protect her for a lifetime ever since he took her away from Daniel.

Two of them remained silent for some time. Moments later, Sophia lifted her head and stared at the sky full of romantic sky lanterns. "Anyway, I've paid off the debt owed to him. From now onward, my life belongs to myself."

Quinton treated her well back in those days, and she probably had some commitments toward him. However, after that, she left with Michael and thereafter fell in love with him.

If she had to trade her life for love, she had already done so!

Viris-18 had completely ruined her since the catastrophe—her appearance, her voice, her eyes, and even her life.

Since Quinton bloodlessly intended to exchange the favor of saving her life for her love, she poured out everything to repay his favor. However, her love toward him ceased too as she finished returning the favor to him.

From now on, she was the one to decide who to love.

Michael stared at her numbly, then suddenly broke into incessant laughter as he looked down. Sophia looked at him puzzledly and asked, “What’s gotten into you? Why are you laughing?”

Laughing until he cried, Michael waved his hand about. “It’s nothing.”

The eminent monk from Dragon Mountain was right—destined favors had to be returned, and destined separations could not be avoided. Right from the start, Sophia was bound to repay the favor to Quinton for saving her life, and she had already cleared her debt. And true enough, they were separated for three years before they met again.

Finally, everything had come back to the start.

Indeed, none of them were indebted to each other now. Standing on an equal footing, it seemed as if there were never any entanglements between them.

This was essentially coming back to the start, where everything restarted again, wasn’t it?

The wind was strong by the river. Though spring had come, the film studio had a higher altitude, and the temperature could decrease dramatically when the wind howled.

However, Sophia did not want to leave as she desired to watch the river lanterns.

Michael took off his jacket and laid it on her body as he gently cooed, “It’s cold here, so let’s get back earlier. We can come again some other day.”

It was not a smart approach given that he was courting her—he should have accompanied her until midnight. However, he could not bear to see her sitting in the wind and was worried that she would catch a cold.

Out of his expectation, his bodyguard flagrantly interfered before Sophia answered him. Turned out Cooper had called to urge them to go back.

Michael checked the time. *It's still early! We've only been out for less than two hours!*

Michael could not have done anything to Cooper's daughter in public within two hours. Even if he really wanted to do something to her, it was at most holding her hands.

Resigned, Michael had no choice but to quickly send Sophia home, in case his father-in-law got mad at him if they were late.

They arrived at the hotel, and Cooper was waiting in the lobby. When he saw Michael, he looked at him with a darkened face, then coldly threw Michael's jacket back to him and walked away with Sophia.

Michael's room was on the ground floor while Sophia's room was on the top floor, and between the floors were a dozen bodyguards who kept watch over Sophia all day.

Carmen had finished shooting her scene in a day, and she went to Panda Foundation right after that to see the pandas. Following that, she wandered around the place before returning to Bayside City for the second scene.

The second scene was going to be shot at Bayside City Museum, and the actress would carry Carmen to see the national treasures and tell her the history of them.

The shooting would take place after the museum was closed. This time round, Michael did not follow along as he was occupied with other matters. Sophia wore a mask and accompanied Carmen to the museum together with Cooper.

Upon arriving at the scene, Sophia met the actress with whom Carmen would be acting with... and she looked exactly like her!

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Sophia and Cooper were both stunned when they saw the woman. The actress resembled Sophia very much in appearance. Though it was extravagant to say that they looked exactly the same, all her features, face shape and even her cheekbone were very similar to Sophia's in the past.

Sophia felt a chill down her spine. Even Cooper thought it was unbelievable. Nevertheless, he could notice the difference as soon as he walked closer—they might look alike when they were immobile, but there were still dissimilarities between them once they started moving around, and they were two totally distinct individuals.

Moreover, the actress had a stiff face and heavy makeup on. Her skin was bad with large pores, and she had to touch up her makeup every half an hour to conceal the blackheads on her nose. Besides, the scar left from plastic surgery could be obviously seen on her face. There was no doubt his daughter was the prettier one!

The woman seemed to be a big shot as she had eight assistants following her around, all as busy as a beaver. Some served her drinks, while the others took care of her makeup and gave her massages.

"It's Miss Faye!"

Carmen saw the woman and recognized her the moment she arrived at the shooting scene. Excitedly, Carmen tugged at Sophia's arm and exclaimed, "Mommy, I'm going to ask for Miss Faye's autograph!"

Feeling resigned, Sophia was led away by Carmen to ask for an autograph from the celebrity. Suddenly, she thought of something. *Isn't this Faye Edwards?*

Lately, parent-child variety shows such as 'Where Are We Going, Dad?' were becoming popular in Cethos, and these shows had successfully helped some obsolete actors regain their popularity along with their children. Following that, many television programs that were

similar like 'Where Are We Going, Mom?', 'Where Are We Going, Sis?' and 'Where Are We Going, Bro?' emerged, all of which had high ratings.

Meanwhile, Faye Edwards was exactly the famous sister starred in 'Where Are We Going, Sis?'. She was also one of the most popular A-list celebrities in Cethos currently. Carmen saw her on the television everyday, and she admired her extremely. Now that she had met Faye Edwards in person, she immediately got down to ask for an autograph and pictures with her. On the other hand, Sophia had no choice but to go along with her.

Sophia knew Faye and could barely remember her as Joe's daughter. If nothing unexpected happened, Joe would have been gotten rid by Cooper already. Nevertheless, Cooper held on to his principle that women and kids should not be implicated by a man's wrongdoing, so he did not go after Faye even when he sought revenge against Joe for Annabel.

Thus, Faye was still a popular A-list superstar, especially after starring in 'Where Are We Going, Sis?', which further boosted her fame. She was no longer the insignificant actress who had to ride on other people's coattails.

Without Joe, Faye merely lost a father who was a loser that constantly caused her trouble. She was indifferent to losing her father, and in fact, she was even kind of glad about it. Nevertheless, she was unaware of Joe's whereabouts, and she thought he had fled overseas to escape from the creditors, as he always had.

She would rather him die and disappear forever. She had been castigated for having a father who was a troublemaker, and anti-fans would constantly dig out Joe's unattractive pictures and compare them with Faye's features whenever they criticized the fact that she had plastic surgery.

Carmen skipped buoyantly toward Faye and said in a syrupy tone, "Miss Faye, may I ask for your autograph?" Holding a pen and notebook in her hands, Carmen lifted her head hopefully with excitement in her eyes.

Though she had already shot one scene, Carmen's identity remained a secret as Michael was extremely protective toward her. The staff were not allowed to reveal her identity either, hence Faye assumed she was just a random kid who came from nowhere.

Surely, Faye heard the request, but she quickly shifted her gaze away after glancing at Carmen, pretending as if she did not notice her. She hated children the most! They were nasty and dirty... She would have loved to shove them away if it was not for the shoot.

Nevertheless, Carmen was not discouraged and she called out to her again. "Miss Faye..."

Faye was touching up her makeup with a compact powder in her hand. Suddenly, she snapped it shut and asked her assistant with her brows furrowed, "Go and check what time Taylor Murray is arriving."

Putting on an awkward look, the assistant answered inferiorly, "Wait a minute, Ma'am. I'll go and check right away."

As much as the assistant was fawning over Faye, he immediately changed his attitude when he approached the director. Rudely, he barked, "Hey you, what time is Taylor Murray arriving?"

In the past, this director had produced a few popular films, but his production had been going downhill in recent years and he became infamous for producing box-office bombs. The current film was his only hope to repair his reputation. He was well aware that the obsolete actor starring in this film might not be able to guarantee the film's popularity, and hence, he could only go around begging famous celebrities to play a cameo role in the film, and Faye was one of them.

Cursing in silence, the director unctuously approached Faye and asked respectfully, "How can I help you, Miss Faye?"

Faye was sitting down like an honorable queen with eight assistants attending to her. Arrogantly, she glared at the subservient, middle-aged director. Indeed, every dog had its day. Several years ago, she had to send these directors money and even sleep with them in order to get a good role. Now that she had built up her career and established her own company and resources, these directors became the ones who needed to beg for her appearance in their films.

Faye had on fabulous makeup, and an assistant was half-kneeling beside her holding a mirror which she was looking into at her gloriously made-up face. Sneering, she said, "Director Wall, you should be well aware of the grade of your film. There's neither A-list celebrities in it nor does it have a conventional theme. You merely have a few obsolete

actors who retired from acting a few years back, so I suppose it is indeed challenging to record a decent box-office performance...”

Director Wall looked humiliated but he agreed with her. “You’re right, of course. The popularity of this film will be boosted the moment we announce your cameo appearance, and it will guarantee a box office smash.”

Sniggering, Faye flared up all of a sudden and smashed the mirror into pieces. “Since you’re the one seeking my help, what about the conditions that you’ve promised me? Where’s Taylor Murray?! You’ve promised that you would get Taylor Murray to play second fiddle!”

Tears welled up in the director’s eyes as he pressed on and mumbled, “Uhhh... Something came up, so Taylor won’t be here today.” In fact, he did not even dare to ask Taylor about it.

Knowing that Taylor was not showing up anymore, Faye kept silent and stared fiercely at the director.

Meanwhile, her assistants sensibly put themselves to good use. One of them hissed in a surly voice, “Director Wall, you should know that given Miss Faye’s popularity, she is paid millions for showing up in a commercial shoot and tens of millions for starring in one season of reality shows. She declined other work opportunities to participate in your filming, so how could you not keep your promise?!”

Another assistant was even arrogant. “The lead is merely an obsolete actor. Miss Faye wouldn’t even show up if it wasn’t because they had worked together before. Call him right away! Miss Faye will not act in this film if he doesn’t show up!”

Director Wall tried to persuade Faye. “We can shoot your scene first. He is merely held back by some issues and can’t show up for now. It’s just a small hiccup and he’ll be here soon.”

Nevertheless, Faye was not appeased. “Director Wall, times have changed, and you should know who’s the big shot here. I’m saying this upfront—I want Taylor Murray to play the supporting role and accompany me to dinner, or else I won’t shoot any scenes. Make sure he shows up within half an hour!”

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Taking on a ghastly expression, Director Wall mumbled servilely, "I'll get him right away."

He turned around to make the phone call, not knowing how he should bring this up to Michael.

At the moment, 'The National Treasury Action' desperately needed some eye-catching elements. If an A-list celebrity appeared in the show, it would instantly boost the popularity of the show and the director would not have to worry about the box office performance.

It was a daunting task to get an A-list celebrity onboard. Nevertheless, Faye had taken the initiative to request for a cameo role in the show, and her only condition was to have Taylor Murray play the supporting role.

Obviously, Faye's intention was to flirt with Taylor!

Years back, she rode on the wave of Taylor's fame. To attract his attention, she even underwent plastic surgery to look exactly like her sister, Sophia, who was Taylor's wife.

However, times had changed and they were in totally opposite states now—the formerly infamous best actor had become an obsolete artist while the actress who was once insignificant had become an A-list celebrity.

That was the reality of showbiz, where people toadied the superiors and trampled over the inferior ones. One could do whatever he wanted toward others when he was highly sought-after. Conversely, he could only be at the disposal of others when his popularity faded.

Back then, Faye was the one begging favors from Taylor, but now, he would be the one begging favors from Faye!

Meanwhile, Carmen was frightened by the sudden smashing of the mirror. With tears welled up in her eyes, she pouted her lips.

Sophia, too, was startled at the scene, and she quickly cuddled Carmen.

*Forget about it, we should pull out. Showbiz is f*cking toxic. And poor Michael, he has been dealing with these underlying rules all this while.*

Meanwhile, Cooper pulled a long face.

Indeed, showbiz was a corrupted industry.

Director Wall made a call to Michael, who was busy dealing with issues regarding the release of the movie at that moment. Actually, the entire film had already been shot, but a few more scenes of Carmen were added later on, so it would be ready for release as soon as her shots were completed.

“Hi, Director Wall, how’s Carmen doing?”

The director stammered, “Uhhh... I...”

Thinking that Carmen was not cooperative, Michael said, “No worries, I’m coming over soon.”

He thought Carmen had thrown a tantrum because after all, she was just a three-year-old and was very attached to her father. Given that this was only the second scene and he was not around, it was normal that Carmen would feel uneasy, so he decided he should still go over to guide her.

After hanging up the call, Director Wall told Faye in a servile manner, “Miss Faye, Taylor will be here soon.”

Elated, Faye waited arrogantly.

She was wondering how Taylor would react upon seeing her after all these years.

She had become an A-list superstar in Cethos whereas Taylor was merely an obsolete actor who had been forgotten by people after retiring from the screen three years ago. He had to depend on Faye’s favor if he desired to re-establish his popularity.

In fact, she would not even be bothered about Taylor if it wasn't because she could not reconcile herself to her failure to surpass him in the past.

She might still help him if he pleased her.

"Taylor is just an obsolete actor. How dare he be this arrogant? Is he still reminiscing about his good old days?"

"Miss Faye is the Queen of Cethos' showbiz these days."

All kinds of flattering came from her assistants as they gave her a massage and touched up her makeup. Taking selfies, Faye was extremely pleased by the adulation from them.

Meanwhile, Sophia frowned as she looked at the scene. She knew that given Michael's status, he would not need to be at these people's disposal if he really wanted to make his comeback. She reckoned that it was the director who was unconfident about his film's performance and took it upon himself to invite A-list celebrities for cameo appearances.

Sophia was worried that Carmen would have to deal with these nasty people in the future if she really chose to become an actress.

Carmen, who had good hearing, could instantly hear that they were talking about her father. Pouting her lips, she turned to Sophia and asked, "Are they bad-mouthing Daddy?"

Thinking that kids should be pure and innocent, Sophia did not want Carmen to be exposed to the ugly side of the world at this young age. So, she answered, "Not at all! They are not bad-mouthing Daddy. We're not going to film today and we'll go home with Daddy. He's coming to pick us up soon."

Carmen did not want to film with someone who spoke ill of her father either. With a moue, she replied, "Okay."

Following that, Sophia put Carmen down and went to the director to talk about the shooting.

Meanwhile, Cooper took Carmen's hand as he led her to admire the Imperial Jade Seal, which was displayed in a bulletproof glass case.

Looking at the seal, Cooper was overwhelmed with mixed emotions.

The Mitchell Family had participated in the search for this seal, but they were not featured in the movie as they did not contribute greatly. In addition, it was difficult to get approval for their contribution to be featured in the film.

He introduced the seal to Carmen. “Carmen, this is the national treasure of Cethos. It’s invaluable!”

At the same time, the entire crew was waiting for Faye to start shooting. However, none of them dared to complain because everyone would suffer if she was displeased. After all, she was the main celebrity there.

All of a sudden, one of Faye’s assistants squealed with surprise. “Look, Miss Faye! Isn’t that the lolita who became popular on the Internet recently?”

Putting down her phone, Faye glanced toward the lolita who was looking up to admire the Imperial Jade Seal.

Indeed, she was the lolita who became viral on the Internet recently!

This toddler was just some random kid, but she had become extremely popular through a short video. It was now the era of cute toddlers—in the past, attractive appearances were a must for celebrities to become popular but nowadays, cute toddlers had become the key.

Faye herself did not have a child, and she was envious of the obsolete actors who had regained their popularity through their adorable children in ‘Where Are We Going, Dad?’. Because of that, she invested in producing a similar show—‘Where Are We Going, Sis?’, of which she was the star. Now that the first season had finished airing, they were seeking actresses and cute kids to participate in the second season. While there were plenty of professional actresses out there, it was an arduous task to seek adorable children. In fact, besides Faye, many other companies were also seeking out celebrities’ children to participate in reality shows.

Now that this lolita had become famous, many production companies must want to get her on board for reality shows. How lucky Faye was to bump into her!

She secretly observed the lolita who was not too far away from her. This girl was even cuter than she was in the video with her sweet baby voice. Furthermore, she was now recognized and had fans all around the world, so she would be the perfect candidate to cast in the reality show.

Faye's eyes lit up as she stood up and walked toward Carmen.

"Honey, didn't you ask for my autograph just now? I can give it to you."

Displaying her professional acting skills, Faye put on a friendly smile and intended to coax Carmen.

Lifting up her head to look at Faye, Carmen was frightened and immediately hid behind Cooper as she could still remember Faye's vicious appearance when she smashed the mirror.

With her tiny hand holding onto Cooper's sleeve, she purred, "Grandpa, I'm afraid..."

Carrying Carmen in his arms, Cooper stared at Faye, who had unkind intentions, and snapped coldly, "Stay away from my grandchild!"

Meanwhile, Sophia was negotiating with Director Wall. Director Wall was flurried knowing that they wanted to leave, and he insisted them to stay on and complete the shooting.

Just as they were arguing, Sophia noticed Faye walking toward Carmen. Worriedly, she strided over. "Hey, what are you doing?"

Faye glanced at Cooper and Carmen, then Sophia, who had her mask on. Suddenly, she came to a realization about their backgrounds.

"So, you're Scarlett Mitchell!"

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Scarlett Mitchell was the daughter of Cooper Mitchell. Faye had seen her before at King's product launching ceremony, which Sandra had carefully planned but was ruined. Sandra had even spent a great deal of money to invite numerous celebrities to support the event, and Faye was one of the guests.

These days, not only was Faye an A-list celebrity who was in a few blockbuster film series and popular reality shows, but she was also a socialite in Bayside City given her identity as the young lady of the Edwards. Furthermore, she was close to Sandra, so she had delightfully attended the event when Sandra invited her.

However, she had left early on that day due to the chaotic scene, hence she did not get to meet Sophia.

Because of her identity as one of Sandra's socialite intimate friends and the close relationship between the Edwards and the Mitchells, Faye had been paying close attention to the happenings of the Mitchells. In addition, she deemed herself as the future family head of the Edwards and had been seeking out potential candidates from the Mitchell Family for marriage. As such, she was aware of the internal situation of the Mitchells.

Never had she thought that she would bump into Scarlett and Cooper today, whom Sandra detested.

According to Sandra, Cooper and Scarlett were merely swindlers who came back to fleece them out of the inheritance and beguiled some of the witless members in the Mitchell Family. They were not even worth mentioning, and it would be a piece of cake for the Mitchells to destroy Cooper. However, they left him alone to lure him into exposing the location of Old Master Mitchell's hidden inheritance.

Glancing at the child being carried by Scarlett, Faye smirked.

As far as she knew, only poor families would send their children into showbiz at such a young age, and the rich would never allow their toddlers to appear on the big screen.

"What a surprise! You already have a child!"

Sandra would be thrilled if she knew about this. Faye had heard through the grapevine that Scarlett was only twenty years old, yet this child seemed to be at least a couple years old. Cooper also didn't seem to have a son-in-law, so it would be interesting to find out how Scarlett had this daughter.

Frowning, Sophia held Carmen in her arms and retorted impatiently, "This is my child, and it's none of your business. I don't even know you!"

Faye ran her fingers through her blonde, curly hair and remarked, "It's normal that you don't know me since you just returned to the country. You'll know who I am after some time."

She continued, "Your daughter has decent qualities, and she's pretty smart. I intend to recruit her for my company and groom her into a child star. You've got a bargain!"

Faye spoke in an arrogant tone as if she was giving alms to them.

Of course, Sophia wasn't going to agree to that. Carmen was just a child and she had allowed her to participate in this film merely for fun. It was a matter to be discussed in the future once Carmen was old enough, and that was if she still had the intention to be a celebrity. Besides, their family had sufficient money and resources to support Carmen and she did not have to go around begging people to make a debut. It was known that trainees of entertainment companies had a hard life and were ill-treated.

"No, thanks. My child came here just for fun, and we have no intention to make a debut."

Holding Carmen in his hands, Cooper glared at Faye and decided to not give a damn about her.

She assumed herself as the conqueror of everything else upon accomplishing some achievements in her industry. How pathetic she was!

The Mitchells were determined to leave the place and even the director failed to persuade them to stay. Enraged at being ignored, Faye ordered her assistants to block Cooper and Sophia's way.

"Hey, freak! Are you a mute?! Miss Faye was talking to you!"

"Your daughter is lucky to be to Miss Faye's liking. Your kid will become popular instantly with Miss Faye's help, and she's going to make a fortune! Don't you need the money?"

Carmen had left a favorable impression on Faye with her adorable and smart look. Faye was confident that the girl would instantly become famous with her debut, and she was determined to recruit her since she had met her today.

Pursing her cherry-red lips, Faye smiled and said, "It's such a pity if your daughter doesn't make a debut. What about this—name your price to sell your daughter. I'll pay whatever price you demand."

"After all, your daughter is only acting in this movie for the sake of money, isn't it?"

She finally revealed her true colors.

Cooper had no desire to be bothered with this ridiculous woman.

Sophia, too, thought that it was a waste of time to engage in a conversation with her, and she quickly caught up to Cooper as they left.

Seeing how they had ignored her act of 'kindness', Faye glared coldly at the bodyguards standing beside her, and the four of them immediately dashed out to block the Mitchells' way.

Aggravated, Cooper was about to beat them up but was immediately stopped by Sophia. "Forget about it, Dad. We're in the national museum and there are cultural relics all around, so we might break something if we start fighting. Besides, Carmen is watching."

Carmen stared at Cooper adorably with her eyes so clear and bright that it could melt one's heart.

Cooper did not want to rough up someone in front of Carmen either, so he ordered his bodyguards to send off the trouble-seeking people.

Amidst the chaos, Cooper carried Carmen and left the scene first. Just as he took a few steps toward the exit, Michael walked in hastily. He was surprised to see Faye at the scene while Cooper and Faye's bodyguards were pushing and shoving one another.

He knew what had happened the moment he saw Faye.

Upset, Carmen tenderly called out to Michael when she saw him. "Daddy..."

Before Cooper left hurriedly with Carmen in his arms, he coldly said, "We're not going to shoot anymore. We're leaving."

Michael was distressed, and then saw Sophia walking out coldly. "Carmen is not in her best state today. We'll continue the shooting some other day; hope that's fine."

Meanwhile, Director Wall and Faye caught up to Michael too.

Faye had seen Michael the moment he entered the place, and she was astounded by his charm and good looks, which did not change a single bit even after three years.

Three years ago, he was a stately prince who was high up there and could only be admired from afar, but now, he was merely an obsolete actor. Getting him to sleep with me will be easy this time round.

She then walked up to him in large strides, her eyes glinting.

On the other hand, Michael was questioning Director Wall, who had already reached him. "What's going on?"

The last scene had been tailored for Carmen, and the original plan was to look for any actress to take Carmen around the museum.

However, it turned out that the actress was Faye Edwards.

Director Wall became even more embarrassed as he mumbled, "Uhhh... As you know, you've retired from the screen for three years, and I'm worried about the box office performance even with your comeback. I thought it would be desirable to have the cameo appearance of a few popular celebrities in this film."

"Miss Edwards is your relative, and she offered to take the cameo role for free. All she wants is to meet you."

Given Faye's identity as Michael's sister-in-law in addition to her physical resemblance to Michael's wife, Director Wall thought he might as well matchmake them knowing that Faye was interested in Michael.

Meanwhile, swaying her body, Faye walked charmingly toward Michael. Even though she was excited, she contained herself as she knew that they were not in the same league anymore, and he should be the one riding on her coattails.

"Taylor..."

Gazing at him seductively, Faye accosted Michael in a delicate voice, her body almost leaning against Michael's. She sized up Michael from head to toe as if what was standing in front of her was a delicious meal.

Avoiding Faye's feverish glare, Michael frowned and turned to Director Wall. "Don't worry about the box office performance. Also, we don't need the cameo appearance of A-list celebrities in our film. Let's call it a day for now. We shall schedule another time for today's shooting."

After he said that, he left in a hurry and didn't even talk to Faye.

Sophia was waiting for him at the entrance, and they quickly left the scene.

Once he was gone, the atmosphere became increasingly awkward. Director Wall did not even dare to glance at Faye, who was now flaring up in contrast to her gentle demeanor just now.

Who do you think you are, Taylor Murray? You're just an obsolete actor! How dare you be this arrogant?