

# My Dreamy Old Husband Chapter 987

Vincent himself knew that he couldn't possibly accomplish anything great while he was on Alex's side. Everything he strived for right now might be credited to someone else in the future since Alex wanted to leave the fruits of his labor to his own son.

The Mitchell Family's members used to be judged on their merits, and the most powerful person in the family would become the family head. However, beginning with Alex, the head of the family became a position held by the previous family head's son.

Many talents had been forced to leave the family and strike out on their own. Hence, Cooper drew many talents back to him when he returned recently.

Moreover, Vincent had bragged to Alex and Sandra about wanting to win Lucile's heart and unite with the Michel Family through marriage back when he had fallen into the fake Lucile's romance scam. Now that he had lost both his money and the love of his life, he was too ashamed to explain himself to Alex, so he decided that it would be better to run away. He devoted his loyalty to the Mitchell Family and not Alex, so crossing over to Cooper's side wouldn't violate his life principles.

Vincent openly crossed over to Cooper's side, taking his trusted subordinates and resources with him. This came as a shock to the Mitchell Family's council of elders and caused Sandra and Alex to fly into a rage. No one had expected things to turn out this way in merely two days.

As a result, Vincent was openly removed from the Mitchell Family's genealogy record book.

Cooper was currently concentrating on clean energy, so Vincent's resources were useless to him. Therefore, the resources were distributed to Sophia and Sean.

Sophia was Plum Technology's major shareholder, whereas Sean was its founder. Ready to go all out, they absorbed Vincent and his team and reorganized their resources.

Sandra could only curse in response to this.

When it came to acting as an agent, Vincent had tons of experience under his belt. Alice once considered him as a potential candidate, but she removed him from the shortlist after

Sandra had a bad fit of 'rabies' at the banquet that night. To everyone's surprise, Sophia stole Vincent and his entire team from the Mitchell Family in just a few days. In an instant, her potential had grown exponentially.

Now that she had finished off the Mitchell Family, Sophia immediately turned her attention toward the next target—the Edwards Family.

The siblings of the Edwards Family were also fighting separately as two teams. It wouldn't be so easy to lay a hand on Lucy and Ian, but Sophia was currently on the lookout for their weaknesses like a buzzing fly.

Meanwhile, Sarah's target was Dana Winston.

The Winston Family belonged to the underworld, but it had its own family business which was quite successful. The Winston Corporation was a company under the Winston Family's name; Harry didn't manage Winston Corporation's business personally, but the company's board of directors consisted mostly of those he trusted, and they held most of the company's shares. Still, the Winston Family's Grand Elder had quite some influence within the board of directors.

Although Sarah held some shares in Winston Corporation, she didn't hold a post in the company. To accomplish the task Sophia had assigned her this time, she had to persuade the company's board of directors to turn down Dana's request of competing for the right to act as an agent for Dragon Eye.

The distributorship rights to the Michel Family's cell phones were lucrative, and getting the distributorship rights would benefit the company. Therefore, it was a big challenge to persuade the company's board of directors and convince them to give it up.

Securing the distributorship rights was beneficial from the Winston Family's perspective, but from Harry's point of view, doing so would only reinforce Grand Elder and his men's threat to the company—he was quite reluctant to see that happening.

Knowing that Sarah worked in Plum Technology, the board of directors knew exactly why she was persuading them; it was likely that they would turn down her request.

It was still difficult for her to persuade the board of directors even if she did so at Harry's suggestion.

It wasn't until Harry had threatened them that the board of directors sluggishly gathered enough people to call a meeting. Many directors were still absent, but the number of directors had reached a quorum, enabling them to pass a resolution.

Having prepared the relevant documents and presentation slides, she nervously took her laptop with her to Winston Corporation's office building as Harry sent her there.

When the car arrived downstairs, Sarah looked out of the car window while holding her documents. Winston Corporation's imposing building stood in front of her like a giant black monster, making her feel breathless.

She opened the car door and put her feet down, only to shrink back only a second after stretching out her legs. She looked at Harry inside the car with a troubled expression and said, "Old Wolf, am I considered living off our family while secretly helping someone else by doing so?"

As Harry's wife, she was Madam Winston; Plum Technology was considered an outsider to the Winston Family. By persuading the board of directors, it could be said that she was helping the outsiders to go against her own family.

Harry looked both helpless and affectionate as he stretched out his hand to pat her head. "It's alright, I've got your back. Just live off our family and secretly help Sophia and the others."

Sitting between Harry and Sarah was the tiny, dark-skinned, and stony-faced Sour Face.

"Come on—let your Old Wolf give you some encouragement." Harry stretched his neck out and cupped Sarah's face in his hands before giving her a passionate French kiss.

The chauffeur wasn't surprised to see this. Sour Face wasn't surprised as well; he looked indifferent the whole time even though his parents were kissing and sucking each other's lips just a few centimeters above him.

Sarah was brimming with confidence after Harry's encouragement. Cupping her son's face in her hands, she urged, "Hurry up and cheer your Mommy on, Hope!"

Sour Face knocked her hands off indifferently.

Sarah cupped his face in her hands again, to which Sour Face responded by knocking off her hands yet again.

After this was repeated three to four times, Sour Face finally lost his patience. He reluctantly said to her, "Good luck."

Bursting with joy, Sarah gave the disgusted-looking Sour Face a great big smacker before getting out of the car and striding into Winston Corporation's office building.

Harry didn't go in with her, but he paid close attention to his wife by watching Winston Corporation's surveillance videos all the time using his laptop. He wanted to see if his little kitten could persuade the group of big guns among the board of directors as well.

Sour Face looked indifferent on the outside, but he actually cared about Sarah in secret; similarly, he kept a close eye on the surveillance videos too.

Sarah entered Winston Corporation's office building. As soon as the receptionists saw her, they stood up and greeted reverently, "Nice to meet you, Mrs. Winston."

"Uh-huh," responded Sarah casually as she tried to give herself airs despite her girlish-looking face.

Much to her dismay, she saw her worst enemy in the Winston Family soon after getting into the elevator.

Standing in the elevator were three people who looked like businessmen with their suits and leather shoes. However, the tattoos peeking out from their necks and wrists occasionally revealed their identity as members of the underworld.

Feeling very nervous on this day, Sarah kept thinking quietly about what she was going to speak in a while, so she didn't pay much attention to the people in the elevator. Unexpectedly, right after she entered the elevator and steadied herself, a loud slap landed on her butt from behind.

Then, a wicked voice spoke in her ear. "Hey, isn't this person my dear little kitten?"

Sarah's expression changed drastically when she saw the frosty-looking person dressed in a business suit who was standing next to her. She was so furious that she jumped. "I'm warning you, Dana—stop getting physical with me!"

She was short, and both her voice and face had the cuteness of a young girl that existed only in comics. Therefore, she didn't sound commanding at all when she spoke.

The person dressed in a suit who was standing next to Sarah took off her sunglasses elegantly with a flirtatious look in her attractive eyes. As she whistled at Sarah, she said, "Get physical? Am I getting physical by doing so?"

With that, she slapped Sarah's butt again. Sarah covered her butt and jumped behind the bodyguards like a furious kitten.

The elevator went up speedily to the top floor, but the atmosphere in the elevator was tense.

Dana's 175cm body was wrapped in a slim, tailor-made suit that fit her very well. Her short hair stuck up in a classic hairstyle, and the tip of her hair concealed her hairline as it reached her eyebrows. Her handsome eyes seemed to shine 24/7, and any woman would blush when she glanced at them with her bright, sparkling eyes.

Dana was raised as a boy back when she was a child, so she always dressed herself in men's clothing like a high-class business elite. Putting her hands casually in her pockets, she had a flat chest and a face that looked like the male lead of a romance comic book, making her look noble and elegant. Tilting her head to the side, she looked at Sarah while making eyes at the latter. Sarah was totally defenseless against such a face that looked like the male lead of a comic book, so she got butterflies in her stomach; feeling a burning sensation in her slapped butt, she tried to avoid meeting Dana's gaze.

Dana was Sarah's worst enemy in Winston Corporation, for she took liberties with Sarah whenever they met.

The two parties were locked in confrontation on their way up to the top floor.

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Dana and Celine were cut from the same cloth, but the difference here was that Celine was simply playing pretend; when it was time to actually step up to the plate, she was useless. After all, her husband kept his eyes on her. On the other hand, Dana was the real deal. Regardless of male or female, both were acceptable to her—she even had countless sugar babies under her wing. Not only that, Dana had angered several fiances into leaving her. It even enraged the Grand Elder himself to the point where white, long hairs made their way into his beard.

As the elevator door opened, Sarah dashed out with the documents in her hand as she scurried away.

Meanwhile, Dana followed behind languidly as she put her sunglasses on. In an instant, her aura became cold once more. With a determined smile on her lips, she strode gracefully and made her way over to the meeting room with her spectacular aura.

She wanted to see what kind of trouble Sarah could stir up, wet behind the ears like she was.

Dana would certainly win those rights this time!

Meanwhile, the meeting had already begun inside. Dana sat down nonchalantly among the directors, having already taken her sunglasses off. A sinister smile hung on her lips as she steepled her fingers together in anticipation of Sarah's performance.

Sarah cleared her throat, getting ready to present her findings. However, she was interrupted by a director before she could even speak. "After deciding through a majority vote, we will compete for the rights to endorse the Michel Group's Dragon Eye cell phones. I do not think there is any need for you to speak anymore."

The other directors chimed in as well and said, "Yes, yes. There's no need for that, so you shouldn't waste your breath."

Sarah felt uncomfortable after being shot down like that, but she steeled herself and steadied her trembling voice, lowering her pitch in a bid to not make herself seem cute.

"Please quiet down and listen to me first. I am not opposed to the partnership between the Winstons and the Michels, but I think that we can certainly gain a project that is even more beneficial to us!"

The directors were skeptical. In their eyes, the director's wife was simply here for show. What kind of project could she get, and a better one at that?

Dana had a laugh waiting to bubble up.

Sarah glanced at the directors present. As she played her presentation slides, she spoke. "As you all know, other than its illegal businesses, the Winston Group mainly deals with legal territory. While there have been successes when we marketed major international brands on their behalf, our most successful project to date is actually in luxury furniture—our furniture line is ranked third in the world. Locally, our market shares can't go any higher. Of the wealthy families in Bayside City, two-thirds of them own furniture manufactured by us. Many international organizations and councils recognize the Winston Group's furniture, and we have thousands of official stores in over thirty countries around the world."

That was right. Other than its illegal businesses, the Winstons also had their fingers in the luxury furniture industry; Sophia had even pre-ordered a full set of luxury furniture from the Winstons while her house was being remodeled. The Winstons began dabbling in the luxury furniture business generations ago, and its 200-year long history spanned across several generations altogether. Their furniture sold well internationally because of its unique charm and craftsmanship.

"Our strength lies in furniture. Should we wish to partner up with such a prestigious company like the Michel Group, I strongly believe that we should negotiate with our greatest strength instead of our weakness—we should humbly request for a partnership by offering them advantages that they don't have!"

Dana's calmness evaporated the moment those words left Sarah's mouth. With anger flashing through her eyes, she knew that Sarah was talking about her; she had negotiated for the managing rights with Alice using her background in the Winston Group's shady dealings and her vast network. On top of that, she even offered a few extra crumbs.

Sarah's words successfully drew the attention of the board of directors.

Sarah continued. "Meanwhile, the Michel Group's primary businesses include military arms, jewelry, and the tech industry. If we want to partner up with them, we'd have to make it a strong partnership by combining our strengths with the Michels. That is the only way we can create more benefit for ourselves, and our partners would take our requests more seriously. Annette, please give each director a copy of my proposal."

Annette the assistant hastily gave out Sarah's proposal. The directors and other higher-ups took the document and looked at it. The proposal's title was as clear as day—Proposal Regarding the Partnership With the Michel Group and Smart Furniture.

Smart furniture?

The directors exchanged glances as it dawned upon them.

"The Winstons' main advantage is our luxury furniture business, and the Michels' strength lies in the tech industry. Partnering up for a smart furniture deal is the correct way to handle this collaboration with them. I've written down a comprehensive plan; please take a look at it and raise any questions you have. Also, I've already begun to negotiate the contract with Mr. Linus, who is the lead of the Michel Group's technology business. If my calculations are done right, this will be our largest project of the year. If we do this well, it will be a new development for both traditional craftsmanship and technology, and the Winston Group's furniture will be sure to make another leap forward. Hence, that is why I don't agree with the plan to manage Dragon Eye cell phones. This is not our strength, and it will also divide our attention and manpower. I hope that the Winston Group will do their best to make this project a success. This will be a long-term and reliable partnership."

Sarah was brimming with confidence as she broke down the data and listed out the statistics of markets she had studied. She even went into detail for their short-term and long-term plans, how the Winstons should go about the partnership, the division of the profits, and so on. Evidently, she had a clear direction of her plans.

Sarah had been preparing for this project for a long time. Incidentally, Linus was thinking along the same lines as her. He had the best smart technology in the world, while the Winstons had the best furniture in the world. Why not form a partnership then?!

Of course, Sarah certainly couldn't neglect her own company—she would fight for their benefits, and smart furniture was the way to go for the Winston Group. Even though they could insist on landing the management deal for Dragon Eye phones, Sophia was truly in need of those management rights so that she could begin taking over her duties in the Michel Group. Hence, Sarah was fine with Sophia having those rights instead.

If this partnership deal went through, the Winstons would have ties with the Michel Group—Harry and his family would receive the most benefits.

In the end, the plan was approved through a majority vote; Dana's proposal to manage the Dragon Eye phones was promptly discarded. Dana left the meeting room fuming, while Sarah received praise from the directors.

By the time she walked out of the company building, Sarah reeked of sweat. Her hands continued to tremble from nerves as she sat inside the car on her way back.

Harry patted her shoulder. "Calm down. Here, hold him for a bit and gather your thoughts."

He placed Sour Face in her arms, and Sarah rubbed her face against the boy as if she was cuddling a doll. Eventually, she calmed down.

Meanwhile, Sour Face remained silent through all this.

You're really treating me like a prop, aren't you?!

"My proposal got accepted, Old Wolf!" Sarah still couldn't believe it.

Harry patted her on the shoulder and praised her. "That's right. You managed to convince the board of directors. Amazing work there—you're even more impressive than I imagined!"

The family of three drove away in the car, but Harry still couldn't forget Dana's slap inside the elevator earlier.

One of these days, he would chop Dana's offensive hands off!

Meanwhile, Sophia finally found Ian's weakness after circling round the Edwards' building all day.

Later on, Sophia invited him out for a one-on-one meeting.

The moment he saw her, Ian said coldly, "If you're here to tell me to give up, I'm just going to tell you this—impossible! I will win those management rights!"

Unbothered by his prattle, Sophia whipped out a stack of photos with Ian in the nude; they were all high-definition pictures. "Here are pictures of you and the fake Lucile. I also have six videos of you with your d\*ck out in all of them. Think about it; once we step out of this place, I cannot guarantee that the videos and photos won't turn up somewhere else."

Ian was speechless.

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The corners of Ian's mouth spasmed as he looked at the stack of nude photos Sophia had pulled out. Indeed, they were his nudes—all sorts of poses and expressions were revealed in these photos.

If his guess was right, Lucile had taken those photos several nights before—no, the fake Lucile was the one who took them.

Things began to make sense; he hadn't been able to successfully pursue the gorgeous woman, but she suddenly agreed to have dinner with him that day. In fact, she deliberately had some wine too. Once they were done with dinner, Lucile was clearly drunk since she had a low tolerance for alcohol. Of course, Ian did not send her back to the Mitchells like a gentleman; he booked a room at the hotel and carried her there instead. Entering the hotel room as a man and a woman, anyone could guess what came after that.

Furthermore, Lucile had been absolutely certain that he would be the one to win the management rights, assuring him that he would get it. Much to his surprise, she vanished without a trace the next day. All the things he gifted her had been sold off—even the Audistin's gold member card.

He hadn't been able to contact her since then, but he did not have the guts to openly look for her either.

She was a scammer, no doubt!

Prior to leaving, she even slept with him and enjoyed every last bit of pleasure.

Ian kicked himself out of regret as he stared at the stack of nude photos.

*So that's how it is—Sophia must be in league with that scammer!*

However, Ian remained calm as his fingers languidly tapped away at the stack of photos, a condescending look on his face. “Oh? In that case, you must’ve seen these photos of mine too. Since you’ve had a look at it, I wonder what you think about them,” he said nonchalantly.

With that, Ian even closed his eyes and pretended that this wasn’t concerning to him at all; he seemed like a perverted flasher who feared nothing.

Sophia calmly pulled over one of his nudes; his face was clearly shown in the picture along with his privates on display. Looking straight at it without any embarrassment, Sophia appraised it with surety. “Hmm, my thoughts? I do have a lot to say about this. From what I can see, it’s only 10cm—what a huge difference compared to my husband’s.”

Ian’s flippant smile slowly stiffened.

“Not only is it thin and short, it’s not a pretty one either. It looks so ugly! Even the foreskin is a bit too long.”

Sophia went through each of the photos one by one, airing all her criticisms about his body and his private parts. Ian’s expression darkened as this went on, keeping silent all the while. At last, he smacked the table hard and stood up. “I won’t let you get those management rights, Sophia. You’d better give up on that notion! I will be the one to get it instead!”

Sophia didn’t continue speaking. She simply pulled out her elite, custom-made Dragon Eye 7 and began typing away after she unlocked the screen with the fingerprint scanner.

“What are you doing?”

Sophia continued typing. “I’m sending out those nudes of yours.”

The color instantly drained from Ian’s face; he instinctively grabbed her phone and realized that she was posting it on some forum with a burner account. With the caption typed up and the photos uploaded, his nudes were taking center stage. The post had already been uploaded; even if he tapped ‘cancel’, it wouldn’t be of any use now.

“Sophia, y-you...”

Ian was so furious that his entire being shook.

If those photos got out, he would never be able to live this down!

Sophia giggled as she retrieved her phone. "You're done for. It's an internationally renowned forum. Soon, socialites from all around the world are going to know about your thin, skinny and ugly d\*ck with its long foreskin."

Ian's face immediately darkened in rage. "Y-You..."

Seeing how Ian looked like he was about to have an aneurysm any time soon, Sophia couldn't bear teasing him further. She explained to him and said, "I'm joking. I wasn't connected to the Wi-Fi earlier! Still, I won't leak your nudes because of Master Sam."

Ian finally relaxed and heaved a sigh of relief, but he continued to glare balefully at Sophia. "Don't take things too far, Sophia. You..."

Sophia lowered her head and deleted the post that she had just drafted. Since there wasn't any internet connection on her cell phone, the post was still in the midst of uploading.

As she looked at her phone, she whipped her free hand out and held it in front of Ian's face. "Stop! Let me delete that post first before you speak to me. If my fingers slip and that post accidentally gets out, it's all over for you."

Ian shut his mouth, deeply afraid that Sophia would actually upload his nudes. Hence, he sat there with his mouth sealed and a frosty expression on his face as he watched her delete all the photos. He only dared to speak once she put her phone down.

"Turns out that everything was part of your plan; you arranged for that scammer to get close to me!" Ian exclaimed, his eyes on the table.

Sophia none-too-hurriedly took a sip of coffee before she spoke. "I arranged for that scammer, you say? Mr. Edwards, have you forgotten how you came into contact with that scammer?"

That scammer had originally wanted to trick the Mitchells, but as the former head of the Mitchell Family, Ian still had loyalists inside; he only found out that Lucile had been in contact with Vincent when they leaked the information to him. At that point in time, he decided to get closer with Lucile so that he could compete with Vincent.

Ian was rendered speechless by this. He dug his own grave by claiming that Sophia had arranged for the scammer to trick him, but he continued to question her anyway.

“Regardless, you’re still the one who arranged for that scammer. Your initial target was the Mitchell Family, and I just happened to walk into your trap. Am I right?”

Even though he knew that he couldn’t get his money back, he had to get to the bottom of this!

Sophia shrugged, unsure how to answer. She knew that the woman was a scammer from the very beginning, but she tolerated her the entire time. In reality, Sophia had been waiting for the scammer to finish up her antics before catching her as she escaped. That way, she could squeeze every last bit of value out of that woman.

She had instructed the fake Lucile and Abbie to speak badly of Alice in front of Sandra; Sophia even got them to help her sneak some top-secret information out of the Mitchells so that she could pass it on to Cooper. If those women didn’t follow her instructions, Sophia would’ve exposed them.

However, Sophia never thought that Cooper wouldn’t care for the confidential information she had obtained from the Mitchells.

Cooper simply hadn’t started his war against the Mitchell Family. If he had actually decided to make a move, the Mitchells would’ve long since been decimated. Mitchell International Energy and Technology achieved a meteoric rise this year, outgrowing Alex ages ago.

Meanwhile, the Mitchells would be swallowed up by the Michel Group sooner or later, which was their rival.

Still, Sophia felt indignation over the fact that the Mitchells had divided up Cooper and Woody’s possessions back then; she kept that indignation close to her heart all this time.

Ian was the one who ran into this himself. She wasn’t duty-bound to warn him about that!

With Ian questioning her now, she gave him a vague answer. “I guess you could say that. I realized that you were being tricked earlier on, but I just didn’t call her out.”

Ian was so furious that his eyes rolled back into his head. What difference was there between this and outright joining hands to scam him?!

Seeing how he was about to speak, Sophia suddenly asked him in curiosity, “Do you want to marry Lucile that much? You do know that Lucile wouldn’t lower herself to marry you, right? You’ll have to marry into her family instead. However, do you know the price of marrying into the Mitchells?”

Ian’s ears pricked up upon hearing that. He couldn’t help paying attention to this, but he still feigned an uninterested expression on his face.

“I don’t care about such things.”

Sophia shrugged. “To be honest, it’s not that high of a price—you’d only have to change your family name. When you die, you won’t be buried in the Edwards’ ancestral graveyard; you’ll have to be buried with the Mitchells.”

Just as she expected, Ian hesitated after hearing this. An elite family that spanned generations like the Edwards had strong feelings about blood ties. Obviously, they wouldn’t agree to one of their male descendants marrying into another family.

Besides, women in Cethos never changed their family names upon marriage, let alone a man.

To top it off, Ian stood at the top of the Edwards’ hierarchy. If he changed his family name and married into the Mitchells, he would definitely anger the Edwards; they would strip everything away from him. Even if he really did marry Lucile, he would just be a son-in-law who brought nothing material to his new family.

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As he lowered his gaze, Ian was utterly quiet now. Sophia deliberately taunted him and said, “I do know Lucile herself, but she’s already married. However, I can introduce you to other unmarried ladies in the Michel Family who are definitely worthy of your status. Just get

ready to change the family name on your household registry, ID, and passport. Also, you're required to change your citizenship too.

You'll have your wife's family name in the future, and you'll have to swear your loyalty to whatever country she's a citizen of. From then on, you cannot call yourself a part of the Edwards Family anymore. Don't you worry, though! Apart from changing your family name to your wife's, everything else stays the same! You can bring your wife back to your family home.

With your parents' permission, you can still work in the family business—you might even be able to nab some manpower and resources from your wife's family! It's a match made in heaven! How awesome is that? While your kids won't be carrying your family name, they'll still be your kids. Here, I have a bunch of the Michel ladies' numbers. Do you want them? Think of it as my compensation to you."

Ian's gaze was conflicted. On one hand was the Michel Family, and the Edwards were on his other.

As a man, how could he possibly take his wife's family name?

He wouldn't have the courage to look his ancestors in the eye when he died!

In the end, Ian flung the coffee cup in his hand away and stood up, extremely furious. "Do I look like the kind of person who would rely on his wife's family like that? Don't you look down on me, Sophia! I am not the kind of person who will betray both his nation and family because of money and status! Back in the day when the nation was suffering, us Edwards had always been at the forefront to protect it! We donated and saved as many people as you Mitchells did! If you're planning to humiliate me like this, I can tell you now that your plan has failed! I will still fight for those management rights, Sophia. Even if you send those nude photos of me out, it's no use. You'd better be careful—don't get yourself dragged into this too, you scammer!"

After that rousing speech, Ian put away those eye-catching nude photos before he turned around and stormed off. Much to his surprise, he immediately caught sight of Linus standing outside the moment he pushed the door open.

Ian's gaze turned respectful. "Why are you here, Mr. Michel?"

Linus smiled politely. "I'm here to fetch Sophia." He then gestured at Sophia with his gaze and asked, "How did your talk go?"

Before Ian could reply, Sophia had already come out after putting her belongings away. She grinned as she walked. "Our chat wasn't so bad—Mr. Edwards promised to back out of the bidding war for the management rights."

Linus nodded as he relaxed, reaching out affectionately to take Sophia's hand. "Alright, let's go back. Fass and Carmen are probably home already."

*Cooper is back!*

Sophia had been so busy lately that she hadn't even seen actual daylight; she nearly forgot that today was the day of Cooper and Michael's glorious return.

"Let's hurry up. Get the cooks to prepare some delicious food. We must have dad's favorite eggplant with minced meat and braised eel for Carmen's dad!"

The slender fingers of Sophia's hand were soft and warm in Linus' palm. It seemed like they were boneless, and her hand felt nice to hold.

Meanwhile, Ian's gaze kept flitting between Linus and Sophia.

*When did they get so buddy-buddy with each other? They're even holding hands—is Sophia a two-timer?*

With Sophia's hand in his, Linus turned and spoke to Ian. "Mr. Edwards, since the discussion has come to an end, Lucile and I will be leaving. Thank you for your time, and I'll take you out for a meal some other day."

Ian was silent.

*No wonder Sophia knew that Lucile was a fake! She's the actual Lucile! If Sophia is Lucile, doesn't that make Cooper...*

At the thought of the implications behind it, a chill immediately ran up Ian's spine; goosebumps prickled over his skin.

*Fass is actually Cooper! That's terrifying as hell!*

He figured that it would be better if he gave up on getting those management rights.

As for Lucy... He couldn't be bothered to pursue that thought anymore. He realized that Fass—no, Cooper—put those rights up in order to test his daughter.

It was all an inside job! Even if the rights didn't go to Sophia, they wouldn't go to any outsider! Even if some outsider won those management rights, Sophia might even sabotage them in secret.

Meanwhile, Sophia followed Linus home. The moment she opened the door to the house, her darling Carmen flew over like a butterfly.

“Mama!”

Sophia caught Carmen as she pounced on her and spun around happily. She lifted Carmen high in the air.

“Oh, Mommy's sweet little baby!”

They had only been apart for ten days, but Sophia thought that her baby had grown a bit more during that time; the girl was also getting cuter by the day.

The house was bursting with merriment today. Sarah and her husband had brought Hope over; even Justin and Celine were present with Nathan. Of course, Stanley and Sean were sure to be here too.

Michael had been treating Sophia's place like his own home recently, completely falling into the role of a house husband. He had brazenly moved his luggage into Sophia's bedroom, and he even set up another aquarium next to Cooper's tortoise tank for his eels. He wasn't acting like a guest at all.

Now that Cooper was back, Michael killed two eels for dinner.

When Cooper saw the plate of eggplant on the table, his face turned green. Sophia enthusiastically got him some food, plopping half the plate of eggplant onto his own plate.

In truth, Cooper really disliked eggplant with minced meat.

Nonetheless, the atmosphere around the table as everyone ate was nice and heartwarming.

While the babysitter helped Carmen with dinner, Sophia sat next to Nathan and began interrogating him.

“How have your studies been recently? What’s your GPA? Are there many ladies sending you confession letters? Have you got a girlfriend yet? When are you bringing her back to see me?”

Nathan kept his head lowered as he focused on his food, a blank expression on his face. He ignored Sophia completely.

Meanwhile at the dinner table, Michael told them all about Carmen’s audition with the production team. As they expected, Carmen still didn’t get the role. Although her acting was good and she was a bubbly girl who could also play the role of a boy, she was on the younger side; she wasn’t even four yet. In the end, the production team decided on a 12 year-old child star.

However, they didn’t want to waste their time since they were already there. Michael and Cooper contacted several other production teams, so Carmen auditioned for a few major films too. In the end, she managed to snag a few small roles in them.

After they had finished dinner and sent their guests off, it was time for family bonding. Cooper played with Carmen, stacking building blocks with her while Sophia and Michael left hand-in-hand. Anyone could tell what they were going to do just by looking at the anticipation on their faces.

The moment he shot them a glare, Carmen pouted. “Focus, Grandpa.”

No matter how much Cooper hated this, he didn’t have any way of stopping them.

He got Nathan to play with Carmen and took the opportunity to slip away. He still had plenty of things to ask Linus.

## My Dreamy Old Husband Chapter 991

Cooper listened as Linus talked about the issue regarding Dragon Eye's management rights inside the study.

Ian's guess had been right. From the very beginning, Cooper had already planned to give Sophia the Cethosian management rights for Dragon Eye. While Alice called the shots, Cooper was the actual ruler of the Michel Family. Despite that, Sophia never asked Cooper for the rights; she chose to fight for them herself instead.

Cooper naturally had an interest in his daughter's career, especially when it came to Dragon Eye's management rights.

Linus was equally invested as well. He hadn't said it himself, but he had been keeping an eye on Sophia's every action. This included the time where she had gotten someone to act as the fake Lucile in order to get the two Mitchell siblings to show themselves, as well as convincing Vincent to do her bidding. He even knew about how she had gotten Sarah to work with him over a smart furniture deal so that the Winstons would be threatened into giving up their claim for the managing rights, as well as how she held Ian's nude photos over his head to make him exit the competition. He had seen all of this, and he added a little nudge here and there whenever he could.

Linus had watched as Sophia smashed all her competitors into the ground.

Cooper felt relieved and proud upon hearing this; his daughter was indeed a brave and cunning person. Even though she knew that the chance of her winning was slim, she would do her best to fight for whatever she wanted. She was someone admirable; if only his son could be like her.

At the thought of his son, his heart sank. Cooper had no idea where his son actually was...

Daniel had assured Cooper that his son would appear out of the blue one day and show up on his household registry. All Cooper needed to do now was to take out the household records every day and wait for his son to come back.

Cooper didn't quite believe Daniel's nonsense, but he didn't exactly distrust him either. Still, Cooper had already done all he could and was unable to find his son. Now, he couldn't do anything else but wait.

He still felt a sense of comfort when he saw Linus, for the latter was more or less his son. He asked about his development with Sophia.

Cooper and Michael had been busy the past few days with Carmen's auditions. With Michael out of Bayside City, it was a great opportunity for Linus.

However, Cooper watched as Linus shook his head. "I'm sorry, Fass. I don't think there's been any developments in our relationship. Sophia treats me like a brother wholeheartedly, or perhaps even an uncle..."

For some time now, Linus had sent Sophia to work and picked her up once the work day was over. Every day, he would eat his meals with her as well. He had been doing his best to get her to notice him, but Sophia always treated him like an uncle—she never saw him as a man.

He didn't dare to make his thoughts known either. Sophia and Michael were so close; how could he possibly step right in between them?

Cooper sighed deeply after hearing Linus' explanation. He patted him on the shoulder and said, "You've done your best, Linus..."

He suddenly recalled his past. At the memory of Annabel, a thought came to him. "If you like someone and you are a capable person, you must do your best to win their affection."

He had made a terrible mistake because he was too young back then. He knew that he didn't have the capabilities, yet he still fought for her. In the end... he deeply regretted it. He shouldn't have done that in the first place.

He should have protected her properly and hid her existence well. Not only that, he should've become powerful enough that no one would question or oppose him before bringing her back to the Mitchells; perhaps his family of four would have been living a happy life now. A truly happy one...

Cooper's attitude had seemingly softened. He sort of felt that... Michael was still kind of a reliable son-in-law who resembled him somewhat. Furthermore, Michael knew when to exert his power on top of being cunning. He was a smart man as well.

Michael knew that Cooper didn't agree with his marriage to Sophia, but he still did his best to stay with her. He was smarter than the Cooper of the past; he knew his own shortcomings and his own place, as well as how to use all the advantages at his disposal to win Sophia and Cooper over.

Cooper was a strong man, so going for the rough and straightforward approach wouldn't work. Michael had been playing dumb in front of Cooper while playing the lustful husband in front of Sophia. He had been utilizing Carmen as well, trying to take down the household with the three of them.

Cooper did admire Michael's shameless tenacity somewhat, but on the inside, he still preferred Linus. After all, he watched as Linus grew up before his eyes!

"Grandpa! Where have you gone, Grandpa?!"

Cooper felt a headache coming on when he heard Carmen's childish little voice calling him. He patted Linus' shoulder. "Try your best, Linus."

Cooper knew that Carmen was onto him; she didn't allow him to pester her parents, doing everything in her power to stall him.

Now that Carmen had stuck herself to Cooper like glue, Linus sat in his study and lapsed into thought.

He wanted to be together with her forever. He really did.

Meanwhile, inside Sophia's bedroom, the wooden bed that had a leg bitten into by Judge the dog creaked whenever its occupants shifted their weight.

After creaking for half the night, the bed stopped making those sounds. Having had her fill of food and wine prior, Sophia got up and showered before returning to snuggle into Michael's arms.

Michael was exhausted, having had a long flight as well as taking on a long love-making session. He had fallen asleep.

Sophia curled up in his arms, but she didn't fall asleep for a long time. Her eyes were wide open as she took in Michael's handsome features, looking at the night sky.

Is Michael willing to marry me and take on my family name?

While Cooper hoped that Sophia would stay in Cethos, the Michels definitely wouldn't allow it. She couldn't possibly throw away the Michel Family's power and name.

Sophia understood the lesson behind the story back then; Cooper had been powerless and failed to protect his beloved. She wanted to make herself so strong and powerful that no one would be able to hurt her and her loved ones.

However, if she really did manage to stand on that mountain peak in the future and inherited her place in the Michel Family, would Michael be willing to change his family name?

Would the Fletchers allow Carmen to change her family name too?

At the thought of Ian's earlier words today, Sophia felt even less confident in herself. To a Cethosian man, taking on their wife's family name and marrying into her family was a humiliating thing!

She really wanted to ask him about it, but Michael was already fast asleep. She wanted to ask him the next day, but she didn't know how to phrase it well.

He probably won't be able to take it...

After Michael returned, he began his endless work schedule once again. Other than his career in show business, he had many other things to do.

Sophia had her own plate full as well. Her current influence was still too weak; compared to the powerful Michel Family, she was still at the stage where she needed to rely on her father. She had to become powerful as soon as possible. If she could obtain the managing rights for the Dragon Eye phones, that would be her ticket into the Michels when she returned to them—it would be a proof of honor as well.

If she wanted to protect everything, she had to have power!

The next day, Celine and the others held a meeting to report their progress regarding their various matters. Other than the original four, Vincent and Derek joined in as well.

Vincent was a newcomer here, while Derek was already a higher-up in the company. Stanley viewed him as an important person and would call for him whenever there were major projects.

"The Winstons have already declined Dana's project. I'm done on my end," said Sarah.

"Ian has backed out too. Stan, Sean, Derek—what about you guys?" Sophia asked.

Stanley was confident as he spoke. "We've got the resources sorted out already. I believe that we're the best of the bunch when it comes to competing for those managing rights!"

Celine was already the cream of the crop when it came to her efficiency. With the newly-arrived Vincent, she was not to be underestimated after they had combined their families' resources.

Having kicked two groups out of the running and swallowed one, they were even more competitive now.

"There's still Lucy. We can't underestimate her," Derek said anxiously.

At the mention of Lucy, Sophia sighed and said, "All we can do now is to let fate take its course."

There really weren't any chinks in Lucy's armor that they could poke at. Sophia thought of making an example of the capable Bill, but even if she managed to pull it off, it wouldn't cause much of an impact to Lucy.

Lucy was a woman among women. She had no weaknesses and was a highly capable woman. If Sophia allowed her to be her competitor, it would be difficult to win against her to say the least.

A few days later at the Michel Group, dozens of teams competing for the management rights showed up. Everyone inside the building was tense, knowing that Alice would announce the final decision later today.