

My Dreamy Old Husband Chapter 1176

The reason Sophia brought Cooper here today was to let him take a break and forget about Anna. She did not expect that they would be here too!

"Why are you here?" asked Sophia as she rushed toward Callum.

The spa resort was indeed quite hot. Eating his ice cream, Callum answered, "Sophia, this spa resort does not belong to you. Leave me alone!"

Daniel quickly came forward and explained, "The Yards made their appointment last month. Stay cool. Everyone's just here for a hot spring bath."

Because the place was owned by Daniel, and the Yards had made an early appointment, Sophia did not make a scene. After all, they were not going to share the same pool.

But, to her surprise, she noticed that the giant poodle held by Callum was the one that had been stolen away from them last week. How dare he bring it out here!

This is unbelievable!

"Bubbles. Come here. Come to Mommy!"

Upon hearing that, Bubbles went to Sophia in an instant.

Before she left, she did not forget to mock Callum.

"Your underwear is ugly!"

Callum looked at his frog swimming trunks and said with dissatisfaction, "Sophia, what's wrong with your eyes? These are swimming trunks!"

While he said that, Stanley came over. When he saw Callum and Cade, he threw them a single glare.

When Nathan came by with Lorelei, he also gave them a vicious stare.

Soon, Carmen joined in with her friends. The moment Callum saw her, he reached out and smiled. "Come here, kiddo. Let me hug you."

"Hmph!" replied Carmen.

Justin, Celine, Harry, and Sarah then came in pairs while Derek and Sean followed behind Stanley. They came in a huge group.

Michael joined them last as he dragged Quinton there with him. The whole family met up for a hot spring bath, and Michael felt sorry locking Quinton alone in the basement, so he decided to bring him along.

The family rented a pool, but they were separated according to their gender and seniority. As soon as the doors closed, they got to enjoy the hot spring comfortably.

This is so warm!

However, Sophia could not relax at the thought of sharing the pool with Anna.

Now that Anna can no longer remember Dad, Linus, and me, what's the point of confessing to her?

What happens if she uses Dad?

She can even go against her own son. How will it be different with a man she loved thirty years ago?

Celine was sitting next to her as she played with the water.

Looking at her, Sophia was jealous. How carefree!

Recently, Justin only wanted to stay home and do nothing. Refusing to go to work, he stayed home with his kid and wife, passing his days leisurely. Sometimes, he even went out to pick up Carmen from school.

They finally went through all the hardships...

On the other side, Sarah started promoting her son, Hope, again.

“Celie, come on. Let’s arrange a marriage for our kids. My son has a giant penis!”

“Sofie, what do you think about an arranged marriage? My son’s penis is massive!”

She then stopped Ashton’s mom, Gwen, and said, “Gwen, let’s engage our kids!”

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On the other side where the male guests were, Quinton had joined them in the pool wearing an extremely ugly pair of swimming trunks. Justin, who was resting by the side, glared at him viciously. He was ready to take Quinton down if he decided to do something.

There were more people in the pool over here. The guys talked about work stuff as they enjoyed the hot spring.

These days, Sophia’s JNS Group; Dragon Technology formed by Sean, Derek, and the others; as well as Mitchell International Energy and Technology that was managed by Cooper, were thriving. All of these companies were actually under the Mitchell Family. But, when they advertised the companies to the public, they included Linus in them as well. Looking at the situation as a whole, their family was growing bigger.

Cooper only worked with capable people. He never judged anyone based on their family background. Even though Derek was an illegitimate child, and Drake had once been a security guard, as long as they were talented, Cooper was willing to support them in expanding their career. What he did had greatly impacted the other branch of the Mitchell Family.

Many unappreciated talents had decided to join them. Cooper rearranged their genealogy record book and added all Mitchells into the record. He even bought the land next to the Mitchell Family’s ancestral grave, turning the whole place into the Mitchell Family’s cemetery.

There was no need for them to earn Alex’s acknowledgment. There was also no point in making a show to tell the world which was the legitimate bloodline of the Mitchells. As long as they were capable, there would be people rushing to introduce them to the world. For instance, the Mitchell Family led by Cooper had had a great say in the world of politics, business, and the military. It was just a matter of time before they were recognized as the true bloodline of the Mitchell Family.

The youngsters were looking forward to the future, but Cooper was enjoying the hot spring in the corner without saying a word.

Since long ago, Linus had already noticed Cooper's loneliness. Nudging Michael, he said, "Go talk to my dad."

Feeling reluctant, Michael furrowed his brows.

However, when it came to this kind of thing, Michael had the most experience out of the both of them, and he would be able to understand Cooper's emotions. Although he was unwilling to do it, he swam toward Cooper.

"Dad," greeted Michael.

With his eyes closed, Cooper hummed in response.

This was followed by a ten-minute long silence. The silence forced goosebumps all over Michael, and he wanted to leave. Yet, he felt like he should say something...

After a while, Cooper spoke first.

"Do you think I should confess to her? Should I tell her everything that has happened?"

Judging from what Cooper said, Michael knew that he was very distressed—which was why he had no choice but to ask his experienced, old son-in-law for advice.

After all, he was so thick-skinned that he had successfully gotten back together with Sophia, who had lost her memory, under Cooper's watch.

At this moment, Michael could no longer gloat at Cooper. He had been trying to talk about this matter with Cooper, and now that Cooper was the one who took the initiative, he decided to pour his heart out.

"Looking from your perspective, I think you should try."

What followed next was the advice that came from the bottom of Michael's heart. "We love someone with our heart, not our memories. If you're sure that she's still in love with you, even though she has lost her memory, she will never forget you. The second she sees you,

she might feel strange, but she still loves you. If you confess to her now, perhaps you guys will be able to get back together.”

When Michael was saying that, he looked at Sophia, who was in the pool not far away. She was playing around in the water happily, and her joyful face was wet.

Michael let out a chuckle at the sight of her. But, as soon as he smiled, he immediately put on a solemn expression and stared at Cooper. With a serious tone, he said, “Speaking from the perspective of your son-in-law, I don’t think it’s a good idea for you to confess. Once you do, it will no longer be a matter between just the two of you. This is going to become a problem between two families! Sophia and Linus’ fates might be affected as a result! Back then, the reason I was daring enough to bring Carmen back to you and Sophia was that I knew she only left me for a very short while.

She had not been influenced by the outside world yet. She was still kind, and would never hurt Carmen. I knew the same applied to you. But, Dad...” Michael looked into Cooper’s stony eyes and continued, “your Anna has been away from you for almost thirty years. She lives in a complicated environment. How are you going to make sure that she’s still kind? Can you be sure that she will never hurt you and your family?”

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After listening to Michael’s words, Cooper was silent.

If he were to confess, and Anna hurt him, he could still forgive her.

But, what if she hurt Carmen and Sophia?

What if the harm was irreversible?

Annabel Johnson was kind. Even to the very last moment, she was still waiting for Cooper. However, all that welcomed her was deception.

But, what about Anna Yard?

Although she was the same person, she was actually someone else. For thirty years, she grew from nothing to the woman behind the Yard Family. No one knew what she had actually gone through.

She was like a pure, innocent child that was 'brought up' by Jordan.

Jordan would have passed on all his treachery and connivance to her.

After Michael finished speaking, he shut up and looked at Cooper.

He was afraid that Cooper would do something stupid at this critical moment. It would not matter if only Cooper had been cheated. But, Michael did not want Sophia and Carmen to be hurt as well.

At the moment, Sophia was dealing with the youngest siblings of the Yard Family. If Cooper were to confess to Anna, it would have a huge impact on the current situation.

Seeing that Cooper was silent, Michael did not say anything.

When he was about to say something, Cooper wiped his face and left.

Michael saw that he had just burst into tears.

His cold, young-looking father-in-law was in tears. Other than being upset, Michael could no longer gloat at the situation anymore.

He knew it had not been easy for Cooper. It cost him so much to find his lost children. He now had his children by his side, but he could not get back together with his lover.

All living creatures suffered. But, Cooper's pain was something Michael would never understand.

It had been almost thirty years, and Cooper was still in love with his previous lover. He never got married because of her. His love for her is so deep!

Both Sophia and Cooper were quite similar. When they were in love, they committed themselves with everything they had—it was as if their partners were their life.

Once you owned her heart, you wouldn't lose it easily.

But, in the event that you lost it, you would never get it back. They would retaliate against those who betrayed them with the cruelest means.

Unfortunately, that stupid Richard lost her, and he even wanted to destroy her. Alas, he died in front of his house.

Cooper and Annabel... could only blame their fates. Perhaps, they were not destined to be together in this lifetime. After all, from Michael's perspective, he and Sophia were strongly against Cooper and Anna's reunion.

This was how fate worked.

Last year, Cooper was still bad-mouthing Michael to Sophia to try to stop them from getting back together.

Now, Michael was the one who was bad-mouthing Anna to Sophia to prevent their family from reuniting.

What goes around comes around.

But, thinking about it, he felt that he had to suppress his delight now that his father-in-law was already shedding tears.

The family was going to stay in the resort until tomorrow. When night came, they sat together for dinner.

They arrived in the afternoon and had been enjoying the hot spring bath since then. Besides, because the pools were separated according to gender, Michael had not seen his pretty young wife for the whole afternoon.

He only got to meet her during dinner, and he found himself missing her too much. A single day apart felt like many years. It was just half a day, but he already felt like half a year had passed.

When everyone was eating dinner in the restaurant, Michael sat beside Sophia while Cooper sat opposite them.

After the hot spring bath, Sophia was in her pajamas, revealing her fair collarbone. It seemed like the long bath had brightened her skin—even her face looked more hydrated.

Despite his thoughts, Michael sat beside Sophia and ate his meal. The moment he saw Cooper lower his head to eat, he quickly stole a kiss from her. By the time Cooper looked up, everything went back to normal.

Noticing the change in the atmosphere, Cooper glared at Michael sternly. As he gave Sophia a large chicken drumstick, he said in a commanding tone, “Eat more. You’re too skinny.”

Immediately, Sophia pouted her lips.

Sometimes, only one’s father would think that one was too skinny.

Sophia noticed that her weight had been increasing. If this situation were to go on, she figured that she would probably not be able to fit into her pants anymore.

Peeling off some meat from the chicken drumstick Cooper had given to her, Sophia took a few bites to entertain him before she gave the rest to Michael. “Hubby, you’re too skinny. Eat the chicken drumstick.”

Cooper’s gaze became even more stern.

Just like Sophia, Michael peeled some of the meat off and took a few bites. He then gave the rest to Quinton. “Eat it. You’re too skinny.”

Quinton just rolled his eyes at him.

Quinton felt like he was the family’s trash can, eating whatever was left over by them. The snacks that Celine couldn’t finish and the jelly leftover by Carmen were all given to him.

Following suit, Quinton took a few bites and left the chicken drumstick for Judge, who was beside him. He said, “Come on. Eat it, so you can mess up the house again.”

Judge let out a howl and ate it.

Cooper threw a glance at every one of them, and he stood up to get himself some chicken soup they brought from home. Taking the opportunity, Michael gave Sophia another peck on her lips.

Cooper came back with the soup after a while. When he finished the soup and ate the meat off the bones, three huskies on the side were looking at him earnestly.

Turning his head, Cooper glanced at the dogs. The moment he looked away, Michael kissed Sophia again.

Everyone at the table rolled their eyes in unison, but they said nothing.

Only Carmen, who was the bravest, pushed her milk bottle away and complained, "Grandpa, Daddy's stealing kisses from Mommy!"

Something cold flashed before Cooper's eyes. He looked at Michael and Sophia before giving Michael a fierce glare.

His old son-in-law was getting more and more rebellious.

Michael conceded for a moment, but the second Cooper's attention was off to somewhere else, he kissed Sophia again.

Even Sophia couldn't help but roll her eyes now.

Because Michael was only kissing Sophia and not her, Carmen was irritated. After she finished her meal, she sneaked out and played with her friends.

The spa resort was huge and it was divided into different courtyards. There were no public baths. Every pool was divided into sections for the privacy of the rich, so the price was not cheap.

The weather was cold and snowy outside, but inside the spa resort, it was as warm as spring. Leading Bubbles, Carmen was having fun by herself, but she was naturally followed by her bodyguards and her nanny. There was no way Sophia would allow her to wander around alone. She always made sure that there were people around to ensure Carmen's safety.

Bubbles led Carmen to Callum and Cade. After all, it had been living with them for a few days, and it could not forget the Royal Canin dog feed they fed it.

When Carmen saw Anna, she was pleased and called out, "Miss Beautiful!"

Noticing Carmen, Anna clapped her hands and said, "Come here, Carmen. Come to me."

Carmen ran to her happily, and Anna held her in her arms. Carmen was light and tiny, and she smelled good. It was extremely comfortable to hold her.

Anna carried Carmen around the resort. She seemed to be very fond of her and was unwilling

Looking at Carmen, who behaved herself very well, Cade was excited and wanted to hold her too. "Mom, quick. I want to hug her! I want to hug the lolita too!"

But, Carmen quickly responded, "No. I only want Miss Beautiful to hug me!"

Wrapping her arms around Anna's neck, Carmen refused to let go. Smiling gently, Anna said, "Okay, I'll hug you."

What a lovely child! It's like there is some kind of magic that is stopping me from letting go.

This is strange.

Perhaps it's because I never had a daughter before?

If I had a daughter, what would she look like?

As soon as she thought about that, unbeknownst to her, the first image that appeared in Anna's mind was Sophia.

She knew she would probably only be content if her daughter grew up to be like Sophia.

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“Miss Beautiful!” Carmen suddenly called out, drawing Anna’s attention.

“Can we take a photo together? Please?” Carmen looked at her with glistening eyes.

Anna was, of course, willing to do so. Happily, she answered, “Sure!”

Cade, who was standing beside them, quickly said, “Come; I’ll take it for you.”

He had long wanted to take a picture of this cute lolita.

However, Carmen seemed to dislike him a lot. “I have my own photographer.”

With a clear voice, she shouted, “Shae!”

A robot dexterously came over at her command. “I’m here!”

“Take a picture of Miss Beautiful and me!” instructed Carmen.

“Okay!” Shae replied.

With a bubbly expression, Carmen posed for the robot. Anna was puzzled by her action, but she quickly readied herself with a pose. The robot quickly took a picture of them with a ‘click’.

Callum, who heard the news, came and joined the selfie session.

Click! Click! Click! Carmen and the Yards had been taking pictures for a while now. They went to the pavilion and even in the water, shooting dozens of pictures. When Carmen was not paying attention, Callum finally took the opportunity to hold her in his arms. When Carmen pouted, he pouted; when she glared at him, he glared at her too. He even requested special effects and filters.

After they were finally done with the pictures, Shae printed all of the photos. As always, Carmen picked out a few of the ugliest ones to give away, and she kept all the good ones for herself.

Finally, she tidied up her things and left in satisfaction. Before she left, she even said, “Goodbye, Miss Beautiful.”

With a stack of photos in her palm, Anna waved goodbye to her. "Bye."

On the other hand, Callum and Cade were dividing the photos. The longer they stared at the photos, the cuter Carmen seemed. Oh, how I wish I could hug her again.

When Carmen went back, everyone was busy playing cards, mahjong, and video games. Cooper was the only one who had returned to his room. He did not want to play mahjong nor cards. With nothing to do, he could only go back and deal with his work.

"Grandpa!" Carmen went in and called sweetly.

Cooper knew where she had gone earlier, but since they had people following her, he wasn't afraid to let her go. After all, the Yard Family wouldn't dare to do something to her here.

"Where did you go just now?" asked Cooper as he held Carmen in his arms even though he already knew the answer.

Excitedly, Carmen said, "I went to play with Miss Beautiful. Look. We even took pictures together."

She laid out the pictures, and Cooper saw Anna in it.

With a gentle and lovely smile, Anna was sitting next to Carmen. Even though thirty years had passed, her smile was still as lovely as it had been; her smile could radiate straight into the deepest and softest part of one's heart.

She was clearly still the same woman. Nothing about her had changed.

Looking at the photo, Cooper couldn't help but cry.

Noticing her crying grandpa, Carmen said with guilt, "Grandpa, am I so ugly that you have to cry..."

Quickly, Cooper wiped his tears away and said, "No way. How is that possible? Carmen is the prettiest! Grandpa is just happy."

Only then Carmen was satisfied. Wrapping her arms around Cooper's neck, she said softly, "I'm giving you a kiss, Grandpa!"

Cooper held her tight and held back his tears.

I'm satisfied with the two little sweethearts of mine...

Since Carmen was with him, Cooper did not want to continue with his work anymore. Putting his work aside, he started building blocks with her.

As they played, they chatted.

"Grandpa, why don't you find yourself a girlfriend?" asked Carmen like she was a little adult.

Dumbstruck for a moment, Cooper laughed bitterly. "I'm getting old. I don't want one anymore."

Carmen did not continue this line of questioning.

However, she was secretly vowing to set Cooper up with someone.

I must find someone like Miss Beautiful for him!

Probably attracted by the loud noises of mahjong, Callum and Cade came over.

"Hey, Sophia. No wonder you're not online; it turns out you're playing mahjong here!"

The brothers came excitedly, and they even brought their wallets and phones. It seemed like they wanted to play with them too.

"Go away. Your underwear is so disgusting!" Sophia was disgusted by their arrival, but they were allowed to stay anyway.

Although Ryan, Henry, Callum, and Cade were her little brothers from the same mother, she did not know why she hated Ryan and Henry so much but found that Callum and Cade were adorable even though they stole her pig, cow, and rooster.

It was probably the same feeling Michael had toward Quinton. He obviously hated Quinton, but they were biological brothers after all...

It's just mahjong; I should let them stay.

Sophia and Linus played against Callum and Cade. It was a match between twins. They were completely immersed in the game, playing until early in the morning. Sophia finally went back to her room after Michael came looking for her numerous times.

In the end, Stanley took her place and continued with the match.

Quinton wanted to play too, but he didn't have money with him since Michael didn't give him anything. He also didn't have his phone either. Now that Michael had gone back to his room, Celine gave him one hundred secretly. It so happened that Linus left too, so Quinton quickly joined the game with the money Celine gave him.

Feeling confident, Stanley slammed his palms onto the mahjong table and announced, "Tonight, we, the Fletchers, are going to make you Yards leave with nothing left. Not even your underwear!"

Upon hearing that, Callum snorted, "You Fletchers love to brag. No one knows who's going to win yet!"

Although Quinton did not say anything, he had automatically regarded himself as a Fletcher.

He should have been one of them since the beginning...

The final result was that Stanley, Callum, and Cade lost their underwear. The trio left in a hurry in their towel.

On the other hand, Quinton was staring at the pile of cash and the three pairs of underwear in front of him. But, Michael suddenly came out the moment he finished counting the money.

"Wow! That's a lot of money! I'm confiscating all of it!"

Michael grabbed the money. "You can have the underwear. They are way better than the one you're wearing."

Rolling his eyes, Quinton went back to his room to get some rest. However, he found it hard to fall asleep. He opened the window to get some fresh air and took out the tablet Carmen gave him. As he was watching 'Where Are We Going, Dad?', Michael appeared outside of the window. Coldly, he reached out and took the tablet away.

"You're only staring at screens all day. Don't you care about your eyes anymore? Sleep!"

Quinton was rendered speechless by Michael's action.

Putting the tablet away, Michael did not leave. Instead, he came into his room. He left the tablet by the side and said to Quinton who was on the bed, "Get up. I have something to tell you."

But, Quinton did not get up. Instead, he covered his head with his blanket, pretending to have fallen asleep.

Michael came inside. He closed the window and shut the door before he asked Hale to stand guard at the door.

The light in the room was off. It was so quiet that one could only hear the sounds of their breathing. After some hesitation, Michael finally said, "If you don't want to go to Africa with Linus, you can stay in Cethos. Just promise me that you won't be a killer anymore. I can give you a new identity. It would be better if you were to become a teacher at Bayside University. You're suitable to be a teacher, and I'm sure you'd be a great one. You have warrants all over the world, but not in Cethos. Just settle down here."

He looked like someone who made sure that their family was taken care of before leaving for a long trip.

"Justin will be taking care of Celie. Sophia... Linus and Cooper will be looking after her. I'm not even worried about them. The only person I can't stop worrying about is you."

Quinton, who was hiding inside the blanket, did not make a sound. However, hot air filled the inside of the blanket, and streaming tears soaked his pillow.

The tears were bitter, and it tasted like 'regret'.

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Quinton knew Michael was settling his affairs.

Sitting at the corner of the bed, Michael went on and on. He talked about Lorelei's recent situation and the time when they were in military training at university. Quinton did not know when he left.

After his departure, Quinton's uncontrollable tears continued to fall down his cheeks.

He bit onto his blanket, trying hard not to cry out. He wanted to swallow all his pain and grievances.

Everything he longed for, except for death, could no longer be obtained easily!

He once longed for Theo and the Fletchers to bring him home. He didn't want to kill people; he didn't want to live that kind of life. But, after his hands were stained with blood, there was no turning back. He knew he could never return to the Fletcher Family again.

He once hoped that Sophia could belong to him, but when he erased all her memories, there was still only Michael in her heart.

However, all he wished for right now, was that nothing of that had ever happened. He was destined to part ways with the Fletchers. He should have just remained a ruthless killer and not have anything to do with the Fletchers...

Yet, time could not be turned back.

Early the following morning, Carmen led Bubbles to Anna after she finished her breakfast.

They started with a selfie session, and she then invited Anna to play with her dolls and eat some jellies. Once she felt like they had gotten to know each other better, she started pumping Anna for details.

"Miss Beautiful, are you married?"

Married?

The word felt strange to Anna.

She was not married to Jordan. There was no ceremony and registration. He sat up high in a leading position. Why would he marry her?

But, she also did not want to marry him either. Every time she saw him, she was disgusted.

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Jordan was only trying to use her status as the direct descendant of the Yard Family, so that he could take over the Yards without playing tricks.

Although they looked like they were only here in Cethos to celebrate the new year, they were actually trying to allay Jordan's suspicions toward them. Recently, he had begun to suspect that they were plotting against Ryan and Henry. Thus, it was better for them to walk away without leaving a trace

Anna let out a chuckle in response. "No!"

Feeling overjoyed, Carmen asked again, "Then, do you have a boyfriend?"

Boyfriend?

This word sounded even more unusual to Anna.

She shook her head. "No."

"Are you going to find a boyfriend in the future?" Carmen proceeded.

Find a boyfriend?

Anna had never thought about that question before. When she could finally kick Jordan out of the Yard Family and made sure that he was dead, she wanted to start a new life. She was supposed to be the master of the Yard Family.

By the time she sat in that place, she would be more careful when it came to marriage. Once she got married, her enormous assets would become an issue. She had to be cautious.

If she wanted a relationship, her partner had to be someone that could match up to her in regard to his wealth, his outlook, and even his capabilities.

Single men like that were rare...

But, for some reason, Cooper came into her mind.

He was the kind of man who exuded coldness and mystery from his bones. He was handsome and particularly capable. Indeed, he was a fascinating man. Although his net worth is probably not phenomenal right now, I trust that he will surprise the world one day.

Carmen was waiting for Anna to answer. If she wanted a boyfriend, Carmen would take the chance to show her Cooper's picture and set them up.

Before Anna could even answer, Callum came out from nowhere and mocked, "Kiddo, are you trying to set your grandpa up with my mom?"

Her intention was so obvious that even he could see it.

Carmen, who had been read like a book, pouted and said, "Grandpa doesn't need me to set him up with someone. There are so many people out there who are trying to ask him out! I'm just simply asking. Hmph!"

She would never admit that she was trying to promote her own grandpa. Angrily, she stomped away.

Callum let out a hearty laugh. When he was done, he looked at Anna. Anna seemed to have fallen deep into her thoughts. Lights were radiating from her eyes—as if she was a girl who had just fallen in love. There was an unusual emanating from her.

He was shocked. Did Mom fall in love with Cooper?

He turned and looked at Cade, who was beside him. There was the same kind of horror in his brother's eyes.

If it had to be Cooper, both of them would be able to handle him.

But, there had been rumors in the underworld saying that Cooper was actually Fass Michel...

If Fass was going to become their stepfather, wouldn't it be terrifying?

In the morning, Michael found a private pool and brought Sophia there to make out. The others were playing games and mahjong. All of them were enjoying themselves since they were on vacation.

While Callum and Cade were enjoying the hot spring, they started boasting.

They had a heated debate on whether it was possible for Cooper to become their stepfather.

The more they talked, the more they thought that the plan could work out.

Cooper was indeed good-looking, and he was a perfect match for Anna in every way. There was no one else in the world that was as well-matched for Anna. So, it was possible that Anna was attracted to him.

They could even work together with Cooper to fight Jordan.

Once they became Cooper's stepchildren, they could even get a share of his assets and annoy the sh*t out of Sophia. The main point was not the assets, but to irritate Sophia.

This is doable. Perfectly doable.

And, it must be done as soon as possible!

When they reached a preliminary agreement, Cooper arrived with Carmen out of the blue.

Carmen was more anxious than them.

"Where are we going?"

Cooper, who was being dragged forward by Carmen, was confused.

But, Carmen continued to tug him forward and said, "I'm taking you on a blind date!"

Blind date!

Cooper was so frightened that he tried to escape.

Based on Carmen's personality, he wasn't sure if he would see a human or a dog when they arrived at the location of the blind date.

Carmen continued to pull him as she walked.

"Grandpa, you're not allowed to leave. If you leave, I'll cry and you'll never be able to stop me!"

She threatened him solemnly. "And, I'll roll around on the ground as I cry. Aren't you afraid of that?"

What? Rolling on the ground as she cries?

Cooper's scalp prickled just at the thought of it. Maybe I should just go. It might just be a dog.

They arrived at the entrance of a pavilion. It was surrounded by hot springs, and the inside of the pavilion was enveloped by steam. Although it was blurry, Cooper could see that there was someone inside the pavilion, and it seemed to be a woman, who was talking.

Grimacing, Cooper was determined to scare her away.

When they entered the pavilion, Carmen became excited and shouted, "Miss Beautiful, I'm here!"

Miss Beautiful!

The moment Cooper heard those two words, his expression changed.

Carmen only knew one Miss Beautiful, and she even told him yesterday that they took a picture together.

Is Carmen trying to set me up with Anna?

Finding out the identity of the woman, Cooper halted his movements. He was afraid to take another step even if it meant that Carmen would cry.

He wanted to turn around and leave. But, when he knew that she was just ahead, he could no longer move.

He could not move forward, yet he did not want to leave; he could only stand there.

However, a girl in a swimsuit, who had a towel draped over her, came out from the pavilion. The moment she saw Cooper, her eyes brightened—they were full of fascination and surprise.

“It’s you, Cooper!”

Cooper then noticed that there were two people inside the pavilion. One was Anna, and the other was Anne.

At that moment, he felt like he was surrounded by a gust of cold wind even though he was standing in the middle of pools of hot springs.

It looks like Carmen was trying to set me up with Anne. Anna probably suggested this...

Cooper did not know how to describe his feelings. Perhaps, this is what a broken heart feels like!

On the other side, Callum, who was hiding to watch the event, was startled. What the hell! What is that ugly Anne doing here?

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Oh no!

This is bad!

As expected by Callum, the moment Cooper saw Anne, his expression changed. He probably misunderstood something and immediately turned around to leave.

Our stepfather is running away!

Cade quickly came out and stopped him. "Mr. Cooper, why are you here? Since you're here, come in and have a cup of tea!"

Quickly, Callum joined in and said, "That's right. My mom wants to talk business with you."

When Anna heard the noise, she came out. The moment she saw Carmen coming with Cooper, she immediately recalled the thing Carmen told her, and she couldn't help but smile.

What a cheeky little girl.

Since Cooper was here, and she had something to talk to him about, she said, "You're here, Mr. Mitchell. Please come in."

Anne then shyly leaned next to Cooper. She was so excited as she thought that he was here for her.

Immediately, Cooper backtracked. "I was just passing by."

But Carmen continued to tug Cooper toward Anna. "Grandpa, since we're here, come in and take a seat."

Both Cade and Callum pushed and tugged him in with excitement. "Come on. Take a seat before you leave."

Just when Cooper was wondering what he should do, Sophia suddenly appeared. The moment she saw the Yards pulling Cooper toward Anne, she was infuriated, and she marched toward them.

"What are you doing? Huh! What are you doing to my dad?!"

Seeing Sophia, Callum immediately said, "Hey! Sophia! You're here! We didn't do anything. We're just trying to talk to your dad! We will become a family soon after the talk!"

Now that Sophia was here too, they wanted to talk it out in order to settle everything down quickly.

However, they did not expect Sophia to stride forward and grab Cooper, not allowing them to bring him away.

“No way! No way! There’s no way you’re getting together with my dad!”

She quickly gestured. “Roger! Come and help me! They are trying to set my dad up with Anne again!”

Upon hearing her call, Roger and the others came. They pulled Callum away from Cooper and separated the group of people.

When they finally pulled Cooper away, Sophia held Carmen up and said viciously to the Yards, “I’ll never let you set my dad up with that ugly Anne! Never!”

She turned around and marched away with Cooper following behind her quietly.

“Sophia, listen to me!”

Callum knew that Sophia had misunderstood the situation. He ran after her but failed to keep up. Stomping his feet in irritation, he turned around and looked at Anne, who was sobbing with her head held low; his eyes flashed with coldness.

Anna did not say anything. She went back to the pavilion, but her eyes carried a hint of sadness.

Cooper...

This was a name that attracted her so much every time she heard it!

On the other hand, Sophia successfully saved Cooper. She was originally making out with Michael in the hot spring pool, but the moment she learned that Anne and Sandra were here, she was so worried that Anne would annoy Cooper again. Alas, she decided to rescue him from them.

The Yard Family was so close to taking Cooper away.

Cooper seemed to be very upset when he went back to his room.

Taking the opportunity, Sophia scolded Carmen. “Never help the Yards to set your grandpa up. Do you understand?”

Carmen pouted in response as if she was wronged by Sophia and replied with an ‘oh’.

Finally feeling relieved, Sophia went back to Michael.

Seeing that Sophia had finally left, and Cooper was back in his room, Carmen snuck out to play again. There had been many new visitors at Anna's place and Carmen did not like them. So, she went to Daniel's place instead.

Daniel had been visiting to enjoy the hot spring every now and then recently. Sitting beside the pool, Carmen splashed his head with the spring water; her little feet kicked the surface of the water excitedly.

"Mr. Psychic, when did Cas come?"

When Carmen arrived at Daniel's place, she did not only see him, but she also saw Casper.

Casper was swimming in the pool; his inky black hair was as lively as an aquatic weed.

Proudly, Daniel announced, "Cas came for his winter vacation."

Although Alice and Daniel were no longer in touch, she did not stop Casper from visiting Daniel.

Even though she could provide the best environment for Cas to grow up in, she could not give him a father—a child would always need a father.

Popping out from the water, Cas shouted at Daniel, "Daddy!"

There was happiness and sorrow in Daniel's eyes...

The Yard Family had been visited by a group of uninvited guests, and their arrival interrupted Anna's relaxing hot spring trip.

"Mother, you know very well that it was Daniel who had framed my brother and me. Why are you still associating with him?"

Henry had long known that Anna and his two older brothers were here in Bayside City, and he had sent people to keep a close eye on them. He did not notice anything wrong with them, and they truly seemed to be here to celebrate New Year's. But, he had not expected that she would actually come to Daniel's place for a vacation since Daniel had screwed

things up for them not long ago, causing them to close their building for a few days to fix the mess.

She's probably doing it on purpose!

Standing by the side, both Callum and Cade did not say a word. However, mockery was evident in their eyes.

To them, their little brothers looked like two angry chimpanzees.

Looking at her two sons, Anna seemed sad. She said, "I'm only here for a vacation. It's not as serious as you think. What are you doing? Are you doubting me? I've laid down the groundwork for you guys in the Cethosian market and handed it over to you guys completely. I've never intervened with the company since then. How can you guys still be so suspicious of me?"

Henry and Ryan exchanged a glance with each other.

They had been keeping a close eye on Anna and their older brothers. Since their retirement from the Cethosian market, they seemed to have not done anything after.

Softening his tone, Henry said, "I wouldn't dare. I was just a little anxious earlier."

Upon hearing that, Anna smiled affectionately. "I know you guys must have been tired lately. Let's not talk about business now. Since you guys are here, try to relax a little and enjoy yourselves."

Henry did not say anything. The reason he was here was to see what Callum and Sophia were up to.

He did not expect Callum to offend Sophia again. Callum was even rejected by her when he wanted to join her in mahjong.

Those that came with Sophia had been enjoying the time of their lives. They played mahjong and cards all day long, spending almost ten thousand every day. None of them ever talked about anything business-related. And after that night when Quinton had won himself three pairs of underwear, no one dared to play with him anymore, except for the silly Celine.

Nathan did not want to play card games, but he was forced to join them in order to make up a group of three to play blackjack.

The three could only bet on snacks, dog food, or cat food because Quinton's money had been confiscated by Michael. Within one morning, Celine lost all of Chrysanthemum's cat food to Quinton, earning Chrysanthemum's groan.

Nathan had also lost a lot of snacks. However, Quinton had all kinds of snacks piled up in front of him. Kids were gathering around him and as he held a random kid in his arms, he dozed off.

Taking the opportunity, Derek took a bag of potato chips from Quinton. While he was enjoying it and going off to buy some ice cream, someone called him from behind.

"Stop right there, Derek Oak!"

Derek Oak! That was a name that sounded so strange to him right now!

Turning around, he saw Sandra, who was standing not far away from him. She was wearing a bikini. As an athlete, she had a perfect streamlined body. Although she was here to enjoy the hot spring baths, she had her full makeup on, so it was obvious that she was just trying to hunt for rich guys.

"You traitor!"

Sandra darted toward Derek and slapped him hard across his face.