

My Dreamy Old Husband Chapter 1331 - 1335

In any case, it was obvious that Joel did not come from an ordinary background. However, Christine vaguely understood why Maddie concealed it from her family after experiencing everything over the last two days. If our family back home learned about this... the consequences would be disastrous...

Soon, Maddie came back downstairs after changing her clothes. She was prepared to explain everything to Christine. Unexpectedly, Christine covered her ears and shook her head while saying, "I don't want to know! I don't want to know! I don't know anything! I've never met Joel before! Don't tell me anything!"

Maddie replied, "O-Okay..." It's better if she doesn't know anything.

Therefore, Maddie never brought the topic up again. Similarly, Christine refused to ask about it. She tried her best not to say anything, vowing in her heart that she would never reveal anything. Our relatives back home are already bad enough right now!

For a long time after that incident, the relatives back home continued to discuss how the Bishop siblings could win over the 'Linus siblings'. Once the Bishop siblings obtained their household registry in Bayside City, they planned to bring all their relatives over to Bayside City. And that wasn't all; they were determined to sink their claws into the 'Linus siblings'. They claimed that if the Bishop siblings failed to woo them, they would send another two over to court the 'Linus siblings'. If they knew that Joel's family was so prestigious, they would certainly try to reach for the skies!

Soon, dinner was served. It was quite late, so everybody ate it as supper instead. It was the first time Joel invited Stanley over for dinner, so Stanley was elated to be there. While eating, he said, "Don't be such a stranger, Aunt Maddie. Your sister is my sister. In the future, Christine and I will be a family. Just tell me if you need anything!"

Christine still felt as if she was dreaming. It felt like she was walking on clouds—it didn't feel real. Not knowing what to say, she lowered her head and ate quietly. Then, Maddie replied, "I'll definitely let you know if anything comes up in the future!"

Joel said nothing as he observed Christine secretly. After all, Stanley was still his nephew. Stanley had left the army, and his marriage no longer needed to be reviewed by the government. Even so, as his uncle, Joel felt the need to perform preliminary background checks on Stanley's potential partners.

When news of Christine coming to the military compound to 'visit the parents' went around, the Fletcher Family became very excited. As a result, many people soon came to crowd around for a glimpse of the future 'Stan's wife'.

It was quite late by the time they finished dinner. Stanley went home while picking his teeth. It wasn't easy for him to come back for a visit, and he did not imagine he would be invited to Joel's house for dinner. That was enough for him to brag about within the Fletcher Family for quite some time. After all, not everybody got a chance to eat at Joel's house.

On the other hand, Maddie arranged for Christine to be placed in a guest room.

Joel said to Stanley, who was walking out the door, "Stan, you'll be in charge of sending Christine to work tomorrow morning."

Upon hearing that, Stanley turned around and saluted Joel. "I will complete my duty without fail!"

However, Joel's expression became cold after everybody left the house. He made a phone call and said, "Monitor Christine Bishop's communications around the clock."

Although governmental approval was no longer needed, he was still very cautious.

On the night Christine slept over at Maddie's house, the calls from her relatives back home rang incessantly. Every call that came in was another demand for her to teach Maddie a lesson. They wanted Maddie to quit her job, bring her husband back home, and beg for forgiveness. Therefore, Christine waged war with her relatives from back home over the phone. "The 'Linus siblings' are major clients of Maddie's company. Uncle Byron's actions nearly caused her distinguished clients to walk out on her in anger! Maddie is just an ordinary worker. She doesn't have the influence you're talking about! Besides, one needs to make an appointment in advance just to meet the company's major clients. Do you really think Maddie can ask them out just because she wanted to? You're causing so much trouble for her! She nearly lost her job! What?! Incompetent?! You caused so much trouble that she nearly lost her job, yet you call her incompetent?! Joel may be a paratrooper, but he is a paratrooper in Bayside City! I won't allow you to insult Maddie and her husband like that!"

Unfortunately, their hometown was in a remote area. It was a closed-off society with outdated cultures. Ever since the earthquake several years back, the entire country town had been remodeled. Many large enterprises came to assist with the re-construction, including building houses and factories, relocating families, constructing highways and high-speed train stations, and developing the tourism industry. As a result, many became rich and started to think highly of themselves. In their opinion, Bayside City was just a slightly larger country town. In other words, people like them, who were worth millions, were part of the 'wealthy' that had the final say over everything else.

How much richer can those 'Linus siblings' be? They are probably worth several tens of millions at most. In extreme cases, they may be worth hundreds of millions. Still, we are the Evans Family and the Bishop Family! Who among us are not part of the 'wealthy' with several settlements under our names? How do we not match up to the 'Linus siblings'?! The only reason we are inferior to them is that they have a household registry in Bayside City! Christine definitely knows who they are too. She better invite them out for a meeting soon! How can she not introduce such a great resource to her own family?! How outrageous!

Christine tried to convince them for a long time. She talked so much that her voice became hoarse. The more she talked, the angrier she got. In the end, she decided to hang up and go to bed.

The next day, Stanley came to send Christine to work as he was ordered. Recently, he had ordered a super cool car from the car production factory owned by Sophia that was personally customized for him. The custom-made car had Judge's face embossed on the car doors. It looked very imposing as he flashily drove his car to Joel's house.

"Thank you for your hospitality, Maddie, Joel. I'm going to work now." Christine said her goodbyes to Maddie and Joel. Joel was already dressed in his military uniform. His shoulders were decorated with many stars and stripes—Christine found it hard to breathe just looking at them. Therefore, she wanted to leave as soon as possible.

Joel said, "My identity limits what I can do. I know it's not easy for you to work in Bayside City alone. So, look for Stan if you need anything. He has a wide network. Besides, it's easier for him to do things."

She nodded. "Okay."

Now that Maddie was liberated from her constraints, she wanted Stanley and Christine to get together too. Thus, she said to Stanley, "You better send Christine to work properly!"

Stanley said, "Okay! Your sister is my sister! Don't worry!"

Afterward, Christine carried her bag and got into the passenger seat. To her surprise, Judge's head popped out of the passenger seat suddenly. At the same time, Stanley said, "The passenger seat is for the dog. You can sit in the back!"

In response, Joel and Maddie rolled their eyes at Stanley in unison...

At one of the private hospitals under the Edwards Group, Ian was visiting his newly-married wife, Isla Wallace, who was recuperating in the hospital after being raped.

"Dear, will you find me disgusting and abandon me?" Isla asked with tears in her eyes as she sat on the hospital bed.

He patted her on the shoulder and said, "How is that possible? Silly girl!"

His newly-married wife hailed from another prominent family from Bayside City—the Wallace Family. Although her family background was not as prominent as the Yard Family, she was still quite rich. Back then, he was miserably deceived by the fake Lucile and lost everything. Then, he was later ridiculed by the real Lucile for having phimosis. After that, he suffered a setback as the spokesperson in the competition for Dragon Eye. As a result, the Edwards Group was severely suppressed by Lucy, and things became very sluggish for a while. In the end, he married the young lady of the Wallace Company in a flash marriage through his family's introduction. They were a beautiful couple and could be considered a great match for each other.

Following their marriage, Isla brought her luxurious dowry into the Edwards Group, solidifying her position as the young mistress. Moreover, she was very smart and capable. Working with Ian, they intervened in the management of the Edwards Group together. Hence, both husband and wife began to have more and more influence within the Edwards Group. I can't believe something like this happened...

Bang! All of a sudden, a loud noise broke through his reverie. The door was kicked open, and Lucy walked in with a group of people.

"Lucy, why are you here?!" When Ian saw the people that just came in through the doors, he subconsciously felt that something was wrong. Thus, he hurriedly stood up.

Lucy's expression was cold and indifferent. Her large-rimmed glasses concealed the emotion in her eyes, making her seem like an emotionless robot. Without saying anything, she threw a bunch of documents on Isla's bed. "The Wallace company has long been acquired by Ryan and Henry. Isla Wallace, you were sent by the Yard Family."

It was not a question; it was a statement.

Chapter 1332

Ian stared at his newly-married wife in disbelief. The Wallace Company was acquired by the Yard Group? Isla was sent by the Yard Family?

Isla didn't seem to understand what was going on, asking with a puzzled expression, "What are you talking about? I don't understand."

Lucy stared at Isla's fake expression intently. "From the beginning, the Yard Group planned to take over the Edwards Group. Aside from the surface interference by the Yard siblings, another group of people infiltrated the Edwards Group in advance. And, you're one of them."

Lucy had investigated everything a long time ago. The Yard Family sent many people into the Edwards Group. There were two groups in total—one was sent by Callum and Cade while the other was sent by Henry and Ryan. Whilst both groups were slowly eroding the Edwards Group from the inside, they were simultaneously fighting against each other too. Henry and Ryan's methods were the most obvious. After they got rid of Lucy, they openly entered the Edwards Group. Most of their people had infiltrated the key departments within the Edwards Group by then. Isla Wallace, the young mistress of the Edwards Group, was a prime example.

Contrary to Henry and Ryan's expectations, Callum's men began creating strife as soon as they took over. It brought chaos to the Edwards Group, causing the board of directors and the shareholders to be extremely dissatisfied with Henry and Ryan. That was when Callum and Cade were supposed to step in, under the guise of cleaning up after the mess caused by their younger brothers. At the same time, they took the opportunity to kick their younger brothers out of the company.

However, they did not account for Lucy's return. The fight between the four Yard brothers benefited her, in the end. After her return, she started removing and weakening the Yard

Family's spies, one by one. The first to go was Ian's wife, Isla Wallace. Lucy was willing to use any means to kick Isla out of her key position.

As Isla was not very successful at her job, Henry and Ryan were very dissatisfied with her. Still, nobody could have expected that they would be willing to sabotage their own people during their fits of insanity. Just because Ian kicked them once, they decided to rape Isla as a consequence.

Lucy explained everything right in front of Ian. "Isla, I know you are not happy working under the Yard Family. You only wanted to get rid of me through Henry. Then, you wanted to gain control over the Edwards Group through Ian. Unfortunately, you did not expect me to survive. Too bad, because I'm here today to take your life for both private and work reasons. So, just stop struggling."

Ian was completely taken aback. He could never have imagined that his icy and intelligent wife would have such intentions!

Even so, Isla continued to play dumb. Grabbing onto Ian's sleeve, she begged him piteously, "Ian, I have no idea what she is saying. She must hate me for interfering in the Edward Group's matters previously. But, I have washed my hands off the Edwards Group!"

He looked at his wife, then looked at Lucy. Hesitating, he did not know who to believe. After all, one was his wife while the other was Lucy.

On the other hand, Lucy threw a length of rope and a bottle of poison onto Isla's hospital bed. "Choose one!" She condescendingly added, "It's a good rope. It's a good poison too—it's the extract of the Arrow Poison Tree. After you die, you will still maintain a ruddy complexion and a beautiful appearance. It's a decent way to die."

Both Isla and Ian stared at Lucy incredulously. She wants Isla dead!

Lucy continued, "I have talked to the Family Elders Council and the Wallace Family. The young mistress of the Edwards Group, Isla Wallace, was too ashamed to look her husband in the eye after being raped. Therefore, she committed suicide in her hospital ward today. Shocked, the Edwards Family held a grand funeral for their young mistress and extended their deepest condolences to the Wallace Family, their in-laws."

Isla glanced at the closed hospital door. She could hear heavy footsteps coming from the corridor outside. It was filled with Lucy's men. Thus, she finally seemed terrified. Clinging to Ian, she shouted, "Save me, Ian! Save me! They are going to kill me!"

Ian stared at the poison and the rope in front of him, and the words 'honorable death' flashed through his head. Lucy wants Isla dead. She came here to tie up loose ends. After all, it would be humiliating for the Edwards Family if word got out about this. Therefore, the simplest way to protect their honor is for Isla to die. He hugged his wife tightly and angrily reprimanded Lucy, "No! You can't kill her! She's a victim too!"

Lucy smiled coldly but did not refute him.

Then, he seemed to recall something and shouted loudly, "You are afraid of Isla, right?! Isla is more capable than you are! That's why you're afraid that she might threaten your position by participating in the management of the Edwards Group's affairs! You're taking this chance to exact your personal revenge! You just want to kill Isla so that you can eradicate this threat! Am I right?!"

The more he spoke, the more furious he became as thousands of extreme and dark speculations spouted in his heart.

Lucy burst out laughing. "That's right! I am indeed carrying out my personal vendetta! I am going to annihilate everybody who stands in my way. Therefore... Isla must die today!"

Having said that, several people stepped forward from behind her. They pried Ian away and pressed Isla down against the hospital bed. Wrapping the thick rope around Isla's neck, two burly men pulled hard on both ends of the rope. Thus, the rope dug into her neck and hindered her breathing.

Isla struggled desperately while screaming, "Save me, dear! Save me!"

Ian desperately tried to rescue his wife. However, he was subdued by several burly men in the blink of an eye. Moreover, they lifted his head so that he could watch as his wife was strangled to death in front of him.

"Save me, dear—" Isla screamed. Her cries were as heartbreaking as the other day.

He felt as if the little world in his heart was breaking apart, again and again. However, he was held back, again and again. It was just like the other day. Last time, he watched his

woman get raped. This time around, he watched as she was strangled to death. “Lucy, what are you trying to do?! Ah—I’m going to kill you! Let go of Isla!”

Unfortunately, his two fists were no match for the four arms holding him. In front of Lucy, he was always powerless.

When Isla saw that Ian couldn’t do anything to help her, she suddenly became sweet. “Lucy, I was wrong. I beg you; please let me live. I will never interfere in the Edwards Group’s matters ever again. I just want to live incognito in a remote area with Ian. I was wrong. Please forgive me; I’m begging you.”

Lucy expressionlessly sat down opposite Isla. Her expression remained unchanged whether Isla begged for mercy or tried to curry favor with her. Regardless of heaven or hell, her heart no longer wavered.

Isla saw that Ian couldn’t save her and begging was getting her nowhere. Consequently, she finally revealed her true colors as she shouted, “Lucy, you d*mn b*tch! You should have been raped to death back then! I was the one who investigated where you and Dana were having your affair! I was the one who told Henry about it! I was the one who brought them there! Hahaha! It was all me! What can you do to me?! Even if I died, it will never change the fact that you were raped! I stuffed several dozen men in there and threw several bottles of gaseous aphrodisiacs in there! You should have died back then! Why didn’t you die?! Ian is the real future head of the Edwards Family! And, I am the matriarch of the Edwards Family! The Edwards Group is mine! You will regret this! Even if I turn into a ghost, I will never forgive you!

Lucy simply watched as Isla cursed at her. Meanwhile, Isla went from alive and kicking to a lifeless corpse, her expression remaining hideously savage even after her death. On the other hand, Ian watched as his docile and adorable wife turned into a savage and hideous devil in the blink of an eye. He was completely stunned by the sight. What just happened...

Chapter 1333

Lucy watched expressionlessly as Isla was strangled to death on the bed. She continued watching as her men hung Isla’s body up, creating the illusion that she had committed suicide. She had finished her discussions with the Wallace Family. As such, they were

waiting for news of Isla's suicide. When everything was done and over with, she got up and left without sparing a single glance at Ian, who was sitting on the floor in a daze.

Ian was staring at Isla's corpse; his eyes were completely blank after suffering the shock. All of a sudden, he saw that the documents Lucy brought with her were still lying around. During his struggles just now, he had kicked the documents off the bed and scattered them all over the floor. As a result, a pile of photos was strewn about in front of him.

He randomly picked up two photos. The photos depicted an unsightly scene. His icy, intelligent, and considerate wife was entangled with Henry and Ryan. She was licking and sucking, busying herself in all directions. She looked like a b*tch in heat, desperately trying to satisfy her urges. Looking at her expression, she didn't look like she was being forced to do those actions. It doesn't look like the day she was raped either...

Each photo had a time stamp. Moreover, each location was especially marked with a pen too. Various locations were listed, including a hotel, the Edwards Group, and a karaoke bar... There was also a photo depicting Isla, Henry, and Ryan indulging in a wedding dress roleplay, in a place Ian did not know about, on the very day Ian got married. One hour before our wedding, she was kneeling and giving the twins blowjobs in her wedding dress. Then, she vowed to be with me for the rest of her life using that very same mouth during our wedding one hour later!

"Hahahaha—" Looking at those photos, Ian suddenly burst out laughing instead. Amidst his laughter, he frantically tore the photos to pieces and scattered the pieces all over the hospital ward. So... everything was a lie. What a joke. Lucy once mentioned to me that I can never become the head of the Edwards Family because I am easily deceived by women. At the time, I scoffed at her words. But now... I was fooled by the fake Lucile and deceived by Isla... Despite being cheated on, I was so smug... thinking that I could finally take on Lucy with help from my other half...

He stood up indifferently, stepping on the pieces of the photos as he walked out of the hospital ward. Not once did he turn back to look at his wife that had 'committed suicide by hanging'. Standing at the door to the hospital ward, he numbly lit up a cigarette and smoked on his cigarette. As the cigarette smoke filled his nasal cavity, it felt like a miraculous cure that relieved his tense and broken mind at this point. After a while, he tossed the windproof lighter in his hand into the hospital room behind him, and a large fire ignited almost immediately. However, he simply walked away calmly...

With that, a large fire and dozens of lives covered up the shame of the Edwards Family. Unfortunately, the perpetrator was still at large.

At the Edwards Group.

“Father, I don’t believe I did anything wrong. I was protecting the Edwards Family! If you believe that I did something wrong, then please remove my name from the Edwards Family!”

When Jordan heard the news, he rushed back only to discover that Lucy had finished clearing up the mess by then. Isla was dead; Henry and Ryan were placed under house arrest at the Yard Residence; and Anna, Callum, and Cade had fled back to Ronney City. As a result, all of his plans had been disrupted.

“Lucy, you—” Lifting his hand, he wanted to slap her fiercely in punishment. However, he realized that she had dealt with the matter perfectly—he could not find fault in anything she did. If he were looking at it from the Edwards Family’s point of view, that was exactly what he would have done.

Unfortunately, he was no longer just part of the Edwards Family now—he had various powers under him. And now, she completely separated the Edwards Family from the Yard Family by doing this! The Edwards Family loathed the Yard Family. Similarly, the Yard Family detested the Edwards Family. With several dozen lives lost between them, it would not be easy for the two families to reconcile with each other.

Looking at it from the big picture, it was very dangerous for the powers under him to be in conflict with each other. After all, an internal conflict would make it easier for his defenses to be broken through.

In the end, Jordan withdrew his hand. Clenching his fists tightly under his sleeves, he said, “Now that you’ve finished cleaning up the mess, don’t pursue this matter any further. Don’t cause more trouble for your younger brothers. I will send somebody to take them away.”

Lucy replied, “Okay.”

Jordan came and went in a rush, only staying for two days during his return. After comforting his two sons, he immediately flew back to Ronney City. Anna had fled back to Ronney City ‘with her tail between her legs’ after being frightened by the murderous Lucy. Therefore, he needed to deal with the matters there...

“This is the list of Isla’s people within the Edwards Group.” Ian took the initiative to hand over some of Isla’s work materials. When Isla married into the Edwards Family, the two of them had certainly been plotting to use the Wallace Family’s wealth to strengthen their position. Later, Ian brought her into the Edwards Group to help him. After a while, she brought in a group of her own people, seemingly to help him fight for the position as head of the Edwards Family.

At that time, I felt so smug about it... I can’t believe what happened after! Knowing that he was not capable of going against Lucy, he decided he might as well serve under her as the second-in-command of the Edwards Group. For that reason, he handed over all the information he had on his own initiative.

Lucy silently took the information from him before leaving in a hurry. From then onward, Ian chose to serve under her as the second-in-command of the Edwards Group...

None of the people who contributed to what happened that night will get away with it! After getting rid of Isla and the rest who posed a hidden threat to the Edwards Group, the Edwards Group finally stabilized. Then, her next target became clear.

Meanwhile, Mitchell’s Technology had long been on the verge of dying. The capital and supply chains were broken, the products could not sell, the workers were on strike, the executives had resigned, and their debt was staggering. Finally, the moment everybody had been waiting for came—Cooper officially announced the acquisition of Mitchell’s Technology. Following that, a major management overhaul took place. Naturally, Sandra was kicked out of the company and vanished suddenly after facing multiple accusations from all directions.

In a simple rental house out in the countryside, Sandra spent the last of her money to buy a dose of drugs and injected it into her veins. At that moment, she felt as if her life was full of hope again. She was the wonderful young lady of the Mitchell Family all over again. I will soon be able to regain the Mitchell Group!

The drugs she purchased from the Phantom Wolf had long been used up. Without those drugs, she felt as if she didn’t have any strength in her body at all and couldn’t do anything right. Moreover, she was drowsy, panicky, and especially prone to losing control over her emotions. Fortunately, she soon found another more direct way of cheering herself up again. Needless to say, that was through the use of a product most people tended to avoid—drugs.

Many people would start with small doses during their first attempt. Although she just started using the drugs, the dosage she needed was higher than that of a long-time drug user. Any other drug addict would have died from an overdose from the amount she was using. However, she was completely dissatisfied with that amount and practically lapped the drugs up like an unsatisfied dog.

Sandra enjoyed herself for a while, feeling as if she had ascended into immortality. Both her hearing and her sense of smell were very well-developed. It felt like both heaven and earth were under her control.

However, she suddenly heard a rush of footsteps among the insect cries in the middle of the night. At present, she was living in the countryside surrounded by farmland. Practically nobody lived nearby. Therefore, so many people appearing without any warning in the middle of the night indicated that the situation was dire.

Opening the door, she saw that the road on the other side of the farmland was filled with people and cars. Two women stood on the road, chatting under the heavy protection of their bodyguards.

Lucy was smoking a cigarette. She was wearing a leather jacket, and her flaming red lips left a vivid red mark on the cigarette butt. Turning to Sophia, who was standing next to her, she suddenly asked, "Do you know of Devil Island?"

Chapter 1334

Standing beside Lucy, Sophia blew a smoke ring and said, "Of course, I know of it. It's a mysterious island located outside any national borders in Europe and belongs to no country. Moreover, the identity of the mastermind behind the scenes is a complete mystery. I heard it is a paradise for the wealthy where they can do anything they want there even if it is prohibited by law."

For instance, the killing of humans, cannibalism, and the hunting of humans as prey... Anything that will shock an ordinary person can become the bloody way the rich and powerful entertain themselves daily. She continued, "I heard that my uncle and his family are working on the island now."

That was something that happened many years ago. I wonder if they are still alive after Linus sent them there. I'm sure Michael and Cooper are aware that Linus was one of the masterminds behind Devil Island. Despite Linus' cute and handsome appearance, his heart is as dark as can be!

Lucy blew another smoke ring, her deep gaze studying Sandra, who had stuck her head out of the rental house just now. "How much do you think I can sell Sandra for?"

Sophia frowned. "She won't be worth much. Look at her; she's all skin and bones."

When Sandra popped her head out of the house just now, Sophia could barely recognize her. She looked like a walking skeleton covered in skin. Her recent drug addiction had been unexpectedly strong. It had reached a point where she was taking the drugs constantly—so much so that it quickly depleted all the wealth she had and she was now penniless. As she was now, she was the very epitome of the saying 'drugs kill'.

On the other hand, Sandra was so terrified that she ran back inside when she saw Lucy and Sophia. She used the tables and chairs to block the entrance before hiding behind the door and trembling in fear. Even so, she could still hear the conversation between the two ladies outside. She could hear Lucy's voice loud and clear.

"Since she's not worth much, I might as well feed her to my wolves. I am raising two in my manor that feed on human flesh. Don't worry; I will let her die a painless death. I will inject her with an anesthetic in advance so that her entire body will not be able to feel anything. But, her brain will remain alert when I throw her into the wolves' den. She can watch as she gets eaten by the wolves, bit by bit. She will witness the entire process clearly. Her heart will beat slowly, so her death will come slow. Did you know? Wolves feed on the meatiest part of the body first. The head comes last. Therefore, she will be forced to watch as she gets eaten but be completely helpless against it."

Inside the house, Sandra covered her ears. I don't want to hear it! I don't want to hear it! She was terrified beyond anything she ever felt before. As she tried to look for a way to escape, she heard Sophia's voice coming from the outside. "Eek! That sounds terrifying! I'm leaving."

Then, Sophia headed in the direction of her car. Lucy seemed to recall something and suddenly spoke up. "Tell your father to be more careful these days. Proceed cautiously; don't leave any traces."

"Got it." Sophia drove away in her car. It looks like Jordan is looking for a weakness to deal with Cooper. We better be more careful.

After Sophia left, Lucy put out her cigarette, led her men, and slowly surrounded the small little rental house...

From then, Sophia never saw nor heard about Sandra again. Sandra disappeared from the surface of the earth without a trace. Sophia didn't know whether Sandra had been sent to Devil Island or fed to the wolves. In any case, Lucy would never let Sandra see the light of day ever again.

Meanwhile, Mitchell's Technology was officially acquired and merged into Dragon Technology Corporation, becoming Cooper's property once again. The Mitchell Group underwent a series of divisions and reorganizations and was finally restructured under Cooper's control. With that, it was bound to progress toward a bright future.

Nobody knew if it was because Linus was the mastermind behind Devil Island; Theo's resurrection was against the laws of nature; Cooper sold most of the military ammunition; or that Sophia killed too many minks. In any case, the pet pig died suddenly. By the time they discovered it, the entire pig had gone cold. Even so, Sophia hurriedly sent it to the vet. After the autopsy, the results indicated that it was too fat. It also had poor sleeping posture, which caused it to suffer from difficulty in breathing and resulted in death by suffocation. In other words, it died because it was obese.

The pig used to be very popular. It once made its debut as a fashion model. However, it retired because its body was getting out of shape, and now, its glorious life finally ended on a calm note.

The pig was later taken back home and temporarily placed in the backyard. When Carmen returned from school, she cried sorrowfully after learning that the pig was dead. Due to how young she was, it was her first time coming face-to-face with the word 'death'.

Upon learning the news, Michael rushed home only to see Carmen crying by the side. The sight of her crying distressed him greatly. Thus, he hugged her and comforted her by saying,

"Sweetie, everything will die eventually, whether they are man or pig. You're still young. You will understand once you grow older."

Carmen looked at him with tears in her eyes. Then, she anxiously grabbed his hand suddenly. "Daddy, will you die too?"

He did not know how to answer her question. Reaching out, he wiped away the tears on her face. "Death is not the ending. It's simply part of a journey. Piggy might have died, but the truth is that it simply changed the way it stays beside you. Even if I die one day, I won't actually leave you. I will still be by your side. You will still feel my presence beside you whenever you close your eyes."

She didn't quite understand the meaning behind his words and continued to sob. Afterward, he carried her and walked around the garden, kissing her small face as he did so. How could I bear to leave you, my little princess? Still, I will have to leave soon. No matter how reluctant I am, I cannot control the strings of my fate.

"Daddy, why are you crying?" She suddenly lifted her head to look at him and was surprised to see tears at the corners of his eyes.

Wiping his tears, he replied, "I'm also feeling a little sad because Piggy died."

She quickly hugged him in response and comfortingly said to him, "I'll hug you, Daddy. That way, you won't be sad,"

Those small and tender arms wrapping around him felt like the chains of destiny that would never allow him to die peacefully...

Following the death of the pig, grief enveloped the entire household. Nobody was in a good mood as they sat in the living room discussing how to deal with the pig. In the end, they decided to hold a funeral for it. They would choose a burial spot and hold a majestic funeral for it! To their surprise, Stanley and Sean rushed over with their children in tow while everybody else was still discussing their plans.

"Why are you here?" Michael exclaimed in surprise when he saw Stanley appearing all of a sudden.

Stanley replied, "I heard from Grand-uncle Theo that you are butchering a pig today. So, I came over to lend a hand!"

Everybody was rendered speechless by those words. While everybody was discussing how best to carry out the pig's funeral, Theo had dragged the pig to the kitchen at the back and butchered it cleanly. The intestines, fatty meat, and lean meat had been neatly processed—so much so that it looked professionally done.

That night, everybody ate pork stew for dinner. Theo also made a large pot of braised pork belly. They didn't know how he made it but it was especially delicious. Therefore, Michael placed some of the braised pork belly on Carmen's plate and said, "Eat more, sweetie. Eat and grow up well. Piggy will become part of your body and stay with you forever."

In response, Carmen ate heartily, converting her grief into appetite.

Cooper also placed several slices of pork on Sophia's plate. "Eat more, sweetie. You've become thin recently."

Sophia frowned. "Dad, it wasn't easy for me to lose that weight!"

After eating and drinking their fill, Stanley and Sean went home. Stanley was holding his child by hand while Sean carried two pieces of fresh pork. Before they left, they said, "Come over to the cybercafé whenever you're free!"

Unexpectedly, an angry expression immediately came over Cooper's face. It was a standard Cethosian father's angry expression. "You are not allowed to go to the cybercafé!"

Chapter 1335

Unexpectedly, Sophia visited the cybercafé the next day in secret.

In this era of decline for cybercafés, Stanley set up a huge cybercafé. Originally, everyone thought he would lose a lot of money. However, after the business went on for a while, it was surprisingly good. It became an established brand and quickly became the must-visit landmark amongst the internet celebrities in Bayside City. The business was roaring and it was visited by fans and media from all around the world every day.

Sophia came when she went out to walk her dog. She wanted to book a separate private room to try the supreme gaming experience Stanley offered. The package came with a professional gaming desk and chair. Just the thought of the setup made her satisfied.

Usually, Cooper wouldn't allow her to visit the cybercafé. So, she had to sneak over while walking the dog. I have to play two rounds before going home.

Nevertheless, she did not expect Stanley to notice her the moment she stepped foot into the cybercafé. He came forward and patted her shoulder. "You'll have to pay me one hundred, Sophia! Otherwise, I'm telling your dad that you snuck out here to play games!"

"Hmph! If you complain to my dad, I'll withdraw my money and let your illegal business go bankrupt!" she retaliated.

With an annoyed expression, Stanley protested, "What a ruthless, cold-blooded capitalist!"

While Stanley said that, Sophia saw Christine, who was standing next to Stanley.

"Sophia, you're here to play games too?" Christine greeted her.

Sophia eyed the pair and said, "Yeah. I'm here to have some fun."

Arching his brows, Stanley said to Sophia, "Aha! Guess what! Christine is Aunt Maddie's younger cousin. Aunt Maddie said that Christine is not familiar with Bayside City, and she's alone here. So, she asked me to bring her around when I'm free to enjoy the scenery of Bayside City."

So... you brought her to the cybercafé to enjoy the scenery? Sophia rolled her eyes. What a typical Stanley way of doing things.

"Okay, let's go and play games together!" Stanley ushered her.

Yet, Sophia was aware of the situation. She knew this was an opportunity Maddie created for them, so she decided not to join them and said, "You guys play on your own. I want to play by myself."

Patting her shoulder, Stanley did not argue. "Fine, then. You can find a room and have fun, Aunt Sophia!"

Seeing that the pair were talking and laughing as they looked for a computer to play games on, Sophia was sure that there would be something between them. It looks like the reason God made Stanley into someone who would go on a date at a cybercafé was that he reserved him a girl who would be willing to have a date in a cybercafé!

Carrying her dog, Sophia found a private single room and began to play computer games.

In the meantime, Christine and Stanley went into a private room as they chatted. Neither of them knew that a security guard was watching them from the other side.

After a while, Christine went out to the bathroom and she saw her uncle, Byron. He pulled her to the corner with a serious face and asked, "The guy from earlier; is he the owner of this cybercafé?"

It was only a few days since he had been here, but he already found out that the owner was someone called Stanley Fletcher, and it was the man from earlier. Instantly, Christine grew cautious. Yet, she affirmed, "Yes."

Byron's eyes immediately shone. "Then, you should tie him down quickly!"

In response, Christine quickly shook her head and said, "How could I? Look at his family background! And, look at mine! Nothing is going to happen between us."

In all honesty... it would be the happiest thing that could happen to her if she could get together with Stanley. Unfortunately, she could only dream about it. She knew her place, and she knew his status. She was already satisfied just to play games with him occasionally.

Unlike her, Byron's face sank. "What's so bad about your family background? Look at Maddie. She's not as pretty as you and she can't earn as much money as you, but she got married to someone from Bayside City. With your capabilities, you can even marry the president."

Upon hearing that, Christine let out a chuckle and said, "Uncle Byron, you should be content working here. The benefits are good and the wage is high."

Byron noticed her reluctance, but after he thought for a moment, he decided to forget about the idea. Their family wanted Christine to make more money. If she were to get married now, the money they got would be less when her husband's family was in charge. Taking the opportunity, he said, "If you don't want to, I'll ask Tawny to do it. Find a time and ask him out. We can create a chance for Tawny!"

Why is it Tawny again? After the Bishop siblings were kicked out of Maddie's company, they had been loafing around doing nothing. They stopped working completely and played

games at the cybercafé every day. They basically ate and lived there; even Christine was reluctant to care about them.

Once Christine found out about Byron's intention, she no longer wanted to talk to him. Pretending that she had a phone call, she said, "Uncle Byron, I have a phone call. I'll leave now."

Hurrying back to the private room where she played games with Stanley, she saw Tawny, whose face was painted like a baboon's bottom. She was greeting Stanley. The weather was slightly cool in early May. However, Tawny had already put on short pants, exposing her fair thighs which were covered by goosebumps that were triggered by the cold.

"What are you doing, Tawny Bishop?" Christine rushed over quickly.

Because Tawny had a guilty conscience, she ran away as soon as she heard Christine's call.

Out of confusion, Stanley inquired, "You know that baboon's a**?"

Forcing out a smile, Christine admitted, "She's my cousin back from my hometown..."

Baboon's a**... What an awful analogy. Although Stanley wasn't referring to Christine, those words pierced through her ears as if he was talking about her. Fine. Tawny's makeup style has always been like that. She really does resemble a monkey's bottom.

Recalling Byron's words, Christine bad-mouthed Tawny intentionally. "She's a bad girl. When she was in junior high school, she fooled around and had an abortion! The next time you see her, please avoid her."

Christine was not the one who had an abortion, but right now, she found it hard to say those words. It was as if she was the one who did it. After she said that, she looked down to the ground. She knew Stanley would despise her because her relative was so humiliating.

Surprisingly, it seemed like Stanley did not take it seriously at all. Seeing Christine's embarrassed expression, he quickly added, "So, she's your cousin... Hey, who doesn't have a disgraceful relative in their family?" Mysteriously, he continued, "I have an uncle—my biological uncle, in fact! He's a killer on the global Killer List, and he's taken countless lives. There's no crime he would not commit, including raping and pillaging!"

This time, Christine was shocked. "Whoa, you have such a person as a relative?!"

As if it was something worth bragging about, Stanley boasted, "Of course! My family sent a lot of people to catch him, but they failed every time. Afterward, I shot him in his balls and he has to squat to pee now. Your cousin having an abortion is nothing compared to this..."

"Achoo!"

At the Imperial, Quinton was reading a novel as he lay on the sofa. Suddenly, he let out an explosive sneeze. Subconsciously, he tightened the blanket around his body and continued with the novel while cuddling the dog in his arms.

Michael hadn't come home as he was rushing his work at the film set. Since Quinton fell sick, Michael had asked him to go home and rest for two days. Recently, he had been getting sick very easily, and his health was getting worse.

Meanwhile, Carmen's piano teacher came and was giving her lessons.

As for Sophia, she had said she wanted to walk the dog and hadn't returned. However, it was already raining outside. Cooper was reading the newspaper, but he kept on looking at the rain outside with concern. Millions of scenes of 'Darling Encountering a Horrible Event While Walking Her Dog in the Rain' were playing in the theater in his heart.

It's so dark outside and the rain is so heavy. What if she falls? What if she runs into a bad guy? What if she's abducted by an alien?