

My Dreamy Old Husband

Chapter 61

In an instant, there was an uproar in the training field; all eyes were focused on the Second Battalion.

The battalion commander from the Second Battalion, along with several company commanders and boys, came in with boxes of watermelon. In those boxes were huge ice cubes, and buried in the ice cubes were huge watermelons that seemed to be still emanating the coldness of when they were recently taken out of the fridge.

Every student thought they were seeing things, as someone could actually bring watermelon in here!

Anyone who brought extra bottles of sunscreen all had their bottles confiscated, but how did Sophia's watermelon come in?

Could it be that she had an extraordinary background?

Several company commanders got hands on and helped with cutting the watermelon. The watermelon skin was thin, and the flesh was thick and bright red in color. They could tell it would taste good at first glance.

Sophia called everyone over. "Come everyone, come and eat the watermelon. Everyone in the Second Battalion gets a share!"

After a moment of shock, students from the Second Battalion, regardless of their background, cheered in excitement and ran to grab their share of watermelon.

When Richard looked at Sophia from a distance, who was surrounded and worshipped by the students, his expression turned sour as he turned around and walked away sullenly without speaking a word.

The entire training field was in an uproar. Those who didn't get a watermelon were staring at those in the Second Battalion as they munched away, envy and desire oozing from their gaze.

They only had their luck to blame for not being in the Second Battalion.

There were also some people who were not from the Second Battalion, but had some sort of relationship with Sophia; they had put down their ego and went forward to ask if they could have some watermelon.

"Miss Edwards, do you remember me? In our first year in Riverdale High School, we were sitting next to each other for two years!"

"Hey hey over here! I'm from South Bayside Highschool. We have been at school together for a year, and I had even borrowed an eraser from you!"

When faced with those who used their relationship in exchange for the watermelon, Sophia welcomed everyone as if she was already very comfortable doing this. "Oh? Wayne, long time no see. You are in Bayside University too? Come have some watermelon! Say no more. Come have some watermelon!"

The Second Battalion was in full swing as the officers and the students were having fun together; even the battalion commander, who was solemn, had surprisingly smiled a little, distributing the watermelon to the students and the commanders from other troops.

When they were eating happily, the Commanding General, Joel Fletcher showed up.

The man seemed to have emerged from the ice, as wherever he went, there was a sense of suffocation, instantly dissipating all the excitement that was

happening, and it made the students who were munching their watermelon to quiet down. They hid their watermelon behind them, and the appearance of Joel ignited the fear in them that was shown through their eyes.

Other than their fear toward Joel himself, they were also fearful of the power of his family, which was one of the Four Great Families in Bayside City—the Fletcher Family.

Nathan hid behind Sophia without saying a word.

Joel glanced around the training field and started speaking. Everyone thought he was going to scold someone, but they didn't expect him to say, "Finish it in ten minutes and resume training!"

With that, he went and asked for a piece of watermelon himself.

There was a moment of silence in the field, but another wave of uproar came through. "Yes, Commanding General!"

So it turned out that the Commanding General was also here for the watermelon. His presence was so scary that they thought they were losing the chance to eat the watermelons.

When Joel walked away, someone boldly asked the battalion commander, "Commander, where did Sophia's watermelon come from?"

This was exactly what everyone wanted to ask, as by the looks of it, Sophia didn't appear to be an ordinary student. Maybe she was hiding it; otherwise, how could she be able to humiliate the Harper Family? Bayside University was always filled with people of hidden backgrounds. The students wanted to ask and decide properly on whether they should get close to Sophia or to stay away from her.

The battalion commander didn't know where the watermelons came from either. Someone sent it to the Second Battalion from the main barrack tent. It was

definitely breaking the rules, for normally, it was impossible for them to have a watermelon, but somehow, this was approved by their superiors.

The battalion commander glanced at Sophia and Nathan who were surrounded by the students, and wondered what kind of background they came from, especially the kid, whom the Commanding General had given orders to take special care of him. The Commanding General didn't mention the identity of the two of them, but the battalion commander could guess that the kid was most probably from some influential family...

A real magnate would normally keep a low-profile; they wouldn't want to expose their identity.

The battalion commander certainly wouldn't reveal things he shouldn't say, so he replied casually, "Sophia's family has a watermelon farm nearby."

The news quickly spread across the Second Battalion and the entire training ground.

Everyone was in awe of the level of power Sophia had as she was able to bring in those watermelons, and her background must have been extremely powerful. However, when the news broke out, everyone understood suddenly; so it turned out that she was simply from a family that farmed watermelons!

There were indeed many vegetable farmers in the mountains near the barracks, and they sold vegetables to the barracks. It could be that Sophia's family had a good relationship with the personnel in the barracks, so they took advantage of it and sent in the watermelons.

It was merely a small gesture, but it was able to make Sophia's status in Bayside University skyrocket suddenly.

After the small episode, everyone continued to train. Sophia's position in the company rose significantly as expected. On top of that, she was being extra diligent in her training even though she was injured, and the company

commander was giving her special care. Hence, she was dismissed a while after and proceeded with eating her watermelon at the side.

In the afternoon, everyone was training, but Sophia had to go to the infirmary to replace her wound dressing, so she took a half day off.

The injury on her leg was fake. Michael Fletcher's people in the infirmary gave her a bag of blood plasma and faked a false impression of her being injured by nails, then they gave her a fake certificate to prove her injury. She was quick-witted to leave a good impression of herself in front of the drill instructors.

Nathan didn't go to the training as well. He took Sophia and they walked around in the barracks, and they found the computer room. There were computers in the barracks, but they were for the soldiers who served there. On normal days, they were not used, for they were only for the soldiers to use on their off days.

At the moment, there was no one in the computer room, for not everyone was allowed to go in. But of course, none of the rules work for Nathan.

Nathan swaggered into the computer room and started playing on one of the computers. Sophia sighed in silence, thinking the kid was indeed impressive. The Four Great Families in Bayside City was undeniably different, for even though he was a kid this young, he was already able to outsmart the adults, so one could only imagine much smarter he would get when he grew up. It was no wonder that Joel was able to become Cethos's youngest Senior Colonel.

When Nathan grew up, he might even outdo Joel.

Nathan sat down at a corner and switched on the computer, then he said coldly, "No peeking."

Sophia had no intention to see what he was playing. She found herself a computer and switched it on, ready to play some games, but she was afraid the specifications of the computers weren't enough to keep up, and the game was in a total mess, since her son was being held hostage by Scary Phoenix, so she

didn't feel quite dignified to log in; it was not a good time to join the game now either.

Thus, she browsed through the stock market, the housing market and bitcoin status, then she logged on to her Facebook account. However, she didn't expect that the moment she logged in to Messenger, a person named 'Pervert' sent over a video call invitation.

Sophia was startled. Motherf*cker, why is this Pervert online?! And he was ready to catch me?

Luckily, the computers in the barracks had no microphones nor web cameras, so she clicked 'accept', and immediately, that handsome face of Michael appeared on the screen.

Huh? He's only wearing underwear as he runs around naked? How much more perverted can this guy get?!

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Sophia looked disgusted, but she still pretended to act in a talk way as she typed, 'Oh hey, Hubby! You're here too!'

Pervert then replied, 'Mmm, yes. Wifey, are you getting used to being in the barracks?'

'Yes, pretty much. The drill instructors here are all very friendly. And we get to eat watermelons!'

'What about our son?'

'He is asleep!'

Sophia was disgusted by her own words. It seemed like it was getting dark over at Michael's side. 'Hubby, where are you?'

'Moscov.'

That's so far away! Sophia suddenly felt extremely safe.

After chatting for awhile, she quickly typed, 'Hubby, I need to go for training now. Bye!'

With that, she immediately turned off the video and Messenger. She breathed a sigh of relief when the handsome perverted face of Michael disappeared from the screen.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the globe, Michael turned off the computer and watched the surveillance from his phone.

On the screen was the barracks' computer room. Nathan, who was 'sleeping' and Sophia, who was 'going for her training' were playing on the computer.

She's so adorable even when she's lying!

While he was watching the surveillance, Harry rushed over frantically with a computer. Although it was a seven-star hotel, the door was useless to Harry; he could come and go as he wished, since it was his hotel and he was the boss, so he had the final say.

"Daddy, Sirius is back! And he wants to challenge you! Quick! Torture him!"

Michael looked at Harry's game screen, and the arrogant Sirius really did appear again. Two days ago, he killed the 'No. 1 Beast of the Server', and now he was directly looking for trouble with Scary Phoenix, for he had invited the entire server to fight with Scary Phoenix.

Michael didn't plan to fight him. "Don't worry about him. He is using a plug-in."

Harry was extremely unhappy. "Motherf*cker, who the hell is this Sirius? He used a plug-in, but there's no use even if I report him. It says there was no evidence of him using a plug-in." Then, he continued, "Isn't this your game? Someone used a plug-in in your game and you're not going to do anything?"

Michael replied, "We were unable to track any traces of the plug-in in our system. This person is an expert."

Harry was excited as he said, "In that case, quickly track his identity through his IP address!"

Michael refused again by saying, “A game is a game, and the reality is the reality. I don’t want to interfere. Furthermore, he is so powerful, so do you think he would let me track his IP address?”

Harry murmured something and he didn’t speak again as he closed the game silently, lest Sirius returned to attack him again.

After turning off the computer, Harry got down to business. “So you’re okay with Nathan going to the barracks? But that is Joel’s territory—”

Michael chuckled lightly. There was an inexplicable cunningness and confidence on his face, as if he was always on the cusp of victory. “It is exactly because it is his territory that he wouldn’t dare to do anything. It is a critical moment now, so if something happens to Nathan on his territory, he will have to take responsibility.”

Harry thought it made sense; the Fletcher Family was incredibly rich and powerful, but the Fletchers had one rule, which was that they wouldn’t involve the children!

Old Master Fletcher was definitely not an easy one to deal with. The fact that Nathan entered the camp meant that he would be Joel’s responsibility. If he was not taken good care of, the Fletcher Family would definitely put the blame on him. So, he wouldn’t dare to hurt the child.

In other words, the most dangerous place was the safest place.

On the other end, in the barracks deep in the woods, Sophia had been surfing the Internet for a while, and when she saw that Nathan had finished playing his game on the computer and was about to leave, she immediately followed.

“Good boy, wait for me!”

“Shut up!”

The two went back to the training ground and noticed a sense of lifelessness; everyone looked dead as if it was the end of the world.

She asked Quinton, "Why is everyone looking so down?"

Quinton knitted his eyebrows. "The commander announced the dinner rules in the barracks earlier."

Sophia was confused. She already had an idea of what the food was like in the barracks, and it was terrible; it was worse than the food in highschool cafeteria, and everything was made in a huge pot. The meat in the afternoon was so little that it was pitiful. As she looked at the students' grim expressions, she wondered, Is the cafeteria serving sh*t for dinner tonight?

Quinton said, "Dinner is to be held at Cafeteria No. 2. To get to Cafeteria No. 2 from the barracks, you need to climb over two hills. The distance is about three kilometres and every student must arrive within the time limit. The first third who arrives will get a high-end buffet dinner; the second third will get a normal meal, and the last third will only get two steamed buns. And he said that this will be the rule in the future as well."

What the hell? Sophia was completely shocked as she didn't expect the military training to be this insane. The school has so many kids from wealthy families. Do the camp administrators want to offend every aristocrat in Bayside City?

However, from another perspective, this military training was managed by the Fletcher Family, and the eldest son, Joel, was personally responsible to manage it, so nobody would be brave enough to disobey him.

Even so, this is indeed too insane!

"The boys and girls should be divided though," said Sophia. Boys had better stamina than the girls, and they could run faster. If there was no separation between the boys and girls, the girls would probably all starve.

Quinton shrugged. "There will be no such thing." His reaction was quiet calm, which meant the previous years were probably the same.

It was no wonder the sophomore year and third year students were all gloating when they saw them hopping on the bus to the barracks.

They're not going to even separate the boys and girls? In that case, most of the girls in the camp will definitely starve. The training difficulty is intense, and if they were to starve, all of these delicate wealthy ladies would definitely starve to death!

Quinton added, "There were already a few of them who came to apply for a withdrawal from the military training."

Withdrawing from the military training would cost a whole lot of credits, and they even risked not getting a graduation diploma. But even if those wealthy kids did not study in Bayside University, they would have other paths to venture into. However, dropping out from Bayside University would definitely be an embarrassing thing, unless the case was that they were forced to a point where they couldn't take it anymore.

But fortunately, Sophia was considered a 'patient' and Nathan was a boy scout, so they didn't need to go through that. They were allowed to go directly to Cafeteria No. 2 and enjoy the watermelon as they waited for the rest to arrive and fight for the food.

Sophia felt excited suddenly, as she couldn't imagine the kids who usually looked elegant and posh to fight for food as if they were starving dogs. What an amazing sight it would probably turn out to be!

If the person who put the nails in her shoes knew that not only did she not quit the military training, she was even exempted from the process, that person would definitely be furious and envious!

However, in the next instant, she immediately had a wicked thought.

She took the initiative to tell Commander Ford, "Commander, I want to rejoin the team and train with everyone!"

Everyone looked at her coming back to the training as if she was dumb, and they were annoyed and envious at the same time.

Isn't it good to just lie down and have food delivered to her? Why must she come and fight for food with us? We don't have enough already!

Commander Ford rejected her request directly. "Sophia, the fact that you continued to train while having the injuries was already good enough. I will not assign you any high intensity training these two days!"

Sophia was determined. "No! Commander, my injuries were my own fault. I can't use this reason to escape from my training!"

With that, she 'limped' her way back to her seat and insisted to train. Commander Ford didn't say a word, but his eyes were filled with commendation.

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They practiced the formation in the afternoon till it was twenty past five, then everyone gathered and lined up, standing as straight as possible while Commander Ford glanced at his watch.

“I have already told you the rules. At half past five, you will start the last training of the day, and Cafeteria No. 2 opens at six o’clock sharp. Remember, the rice and meat are for the wolves, and as for dogs, they will only get to eat dirt!”

All drill instructors, commanders, and seniors were evacuated, and Nathan was led away as well. The remaining students stood still and neatly in the green field, and under the surveillance of numerous surveillance cameras, nobody dared to move.

In front of the training ground, there was a clock tower that showed the standard time of Bayside City. Everyone was counting down, breathing heavily and ready to charge.

Sophia looked at the time and counted down in silence.

Three, two, one—

When it was precisely half past five, the thousands of students headed toward Cafeteria No. 2. Clearly, the boys were ahead, especially those who were from the School of Athletics, for they went fast and furious.

It only took a minute when a group of girls who were all graceful and delicate were left behind, and one after another, they started crying. Some of them lost control and they started to cry like babies.

Sophia's body was well-built, blending among the boys as she ran quickly. She ate a lot at lunch, so she was all energized. Furthermore, she worked out everyday, so the distance was nothing to her.

The students rushed out of the training ground and ran according to the road signs. Suddenly, there was a hill in front of them that was covered in a dense primary forest. Everyone was dumbfounded as they thought it was only an ordinary hill, but they didn't expect it to be a forest!

So it turned out that three kilometres was not the actual running distance, but the displacement between the two points!

Also, there were two of the same hills like this ahead, and they needed to climb those two hills. So in total, that definitely exceeded three kilometres already.

A tempting smell wafted from afar, and it seemed to be the smell of sauteed green pepper pork shreds. Everyone immediately judged the direction of Cafeteria No. 2 based on where the smell came from, and a group of students rushed up the hill hurriedly.

The vegetation in the forest was not exactly that dense, and there was a clear path ahead while the altitude was not particularly high. The snakes and bugs were probably removed already, which made the running fairly easy. It was not dangerous at all, but it required a lot of physical exertion.

Sophia and a group of men took the lead, and they were brimming with energy as they ran. Looking over her shoulder, she saw a sea of cadets in olive-drab and felt a sense of accomplishment.

Not far away, an asphalt road stretched into the mountains that meandered away from the highlands; a long line of cars were slowly moving on the road. The commanders and drill instructors were all in the cars, while Nathan sat next to Quinton and Commander Ford, drinking his soda.

Joel, the Commanding General, was looking through his binoculars to check the situation. Sophia felt slightly guilty when she saw Commander Ford as he might notice she was pretending to be injured immediately if she were to run that so fast.

Her main goal was to highlight her determination to train despite her injuries so she would get a high score. The result was not important, and it was the journey that mattered. After all, she had someone to cover for her, so she needn't worry about starving herself.

Therefore, she lowered her speed, and in a blink of an eye, she was swarmed over by the army of cadets and fell behind the group as she kept running at a constant speed.

A group of girls were crying while they ran.

Suddenly, she saw a familiar figure.

Richard was pulling Kayla with his left hand and Xyla with his right while running up hill. It looked exceptionally difficult, and halfway through the run, Xyla staggered and fell.

"Xyla!" Richard and Kayla were forced to stop and help her.

Kayla looked at the everyone who ran past them. As they paused for a moment, they were already falling behind by a lot, and Xyla was whining and refusing to walk, almost stomping her feet in anger.

Sophia was running behind Kayla, and subconsciously, she kicked her on the back. "F*ck you!"

The din of the tumultuous footsteps had drowned her voice.

Kayla rolled down the hill, and she was covered in mud when she got up, looking like a poor tabby kitten.

“Ahh!” She let out an earth-shattering scream, and when she glanced back, she could only see a sea of army green, and the culprit was long gone.

After entering the camp, Kayla had been constantly feeling wound up. She had been spoiled all her life, and she had never suffered such grievances. The final shred of endurance in her finally snapped, and she burst into tears on the spot.

“I don’t want to train in the military anymore! I want to quit! I want to quit school!”

She sat there, crying and kicking like a baby, but her cries did not receive any sympathy in exchange. Along the way, there were too many girls who sat down and started crying.

Richard picked up Kayla. He knew the consequences of losing the military credit score, so he demanded angrily, “What are you saying? Come on!”

He held on to them both and kept on running.

He used to train in the military, and he knew the rules. As long as they continued to run, they would get to eat; only those who gave up would be given steamed buns.

Military training was not as scary as it seemed.

After kicking Kayla, Sophia was extremely happy as she ran merrily, but she tripped over something and fell down.

“F*ck!”

Sophia got and was about to continue running, but suddenly she realized that Commander Ford seemed to have noticed her, so she pretended to be wounded. She held her leg and acted as if she was ‘struggling’ for a while, appearing to be in pain.

There were too many people who fell down, so no one would actually be bothered with her. Everyone was hungry, and there was only a little food. They couldn't even take care of themselves, let alone someone else.

Sophia rolled around and she was preparing to get up when suddenly, a tall boy and a short girl came over and picked her up in each hand.

The short girl was panting. "Girl, what are you doing? Hurry up and fight for the food!"

The tall boy looked exceptionally delicate. His lips were cherry red and his teeth were white, while his skin was fair and smooth. Furthermore, he stood at an impressive height of at least 180 centimetres. "Stop being in a daze. Come on!"

Sophia was almost dragged along by the two.

Sophia said, "Guys... I can still run. I can still run! Let go of me!"

The three of them ran up the hill while panting heavily and in a blink of an eye, they arrived at the peak of the hill, then they started running downward. There was a ten-metre wide river in front of them, and there were two bridges, one each on the left and right hand side, but there was quite a distance. If they went through the bridge, it would add another one kilometre to the journey.

Sophia started cursing. "F*ck!"

Some looked at the deep emerald-green river as they stepped back and took a detour to cross the bridge over the river; some dived directly into the river and swam across. The drill instructors were patrolling along the river, just in case if anyone was drowning, so someone would be able to save them.

Sophia exchanged a look with the girl. They then both asked simultaneously, "Can you swim?"

After they asked the question, there was a three second pause. The two of them who were covered in dirt jumped into the river, leaving the boy alone by the shore as he shouted and jumped. “How could you do this? I am not going to jump! The water is so dirty. Hey! Wait for me—”

In the end, he still had to jump into the river and swam as fast as he could. He soon caught up with the two girls in front of him. Although he was a sissy, he was still a man at the end of the day.

When they trained in the afternoon, they were only wearing an army-green T-shirt that was very thin. So, there was no burden at all as they swam. As the three of them swam really quickly, they reached the opposite bank of the river in less than a minute. They took a breather by the river and prepared to hike the next hill.

The river water had washed their faces, and the short girl recognized Sophia on the spot. “You are the Watermelon Queen, Sophia!”

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Watermelon Queen? Sophia did not know she had such a nickname, but she simply nodded. “Yes.”

The shorter girl tilted her head and smiled. “I’m Sarah West from the second class of the Marketing Department.”

The boy introduced himself in a feminine tone. “Hello. I’m from the first class of the Classical Literature Department. I’m Sean Mitchell.”

The moment Sophia heard Sean’s last name, she shivered all over. The Mitchell Family was one of the Four Great Families in Bayside City, so anyone would stand up straight out of respect when they heard the other person’s surname was Mitchell in Bayside University.

However, the boy standing in front of them did not seem like he was a Mitchell. The influence that the Mitchell Family had over the political world was overwhelming. The Mitchells were supposed to be arrogant and elegant people, not a feminine guy like him.

After the trio had finished introducing themselves, they gasped for air for a few moments before continuing their hike. Sarah looked like she had great stamina. She was still chatting away while climbing the mountain. “Let me tell you something.

When I was five, my father borrowed some money to open a small factory. He had nobody to help him transport the goods and no money to hire any workers. Hence, our whole family went to help him out, including my mother, my sister and my brother.

I was already carrying loads as heavy as 25 kilograms by myself when I was ten. Now, my father has become rich and he has factories all over the country. I don't need to work anymore either. Luckily, my father let me work when I was young. Otherwise, I wouldn't have made it until now!"

So she's a daughter of a rich family. There were rich kids like Sarah in Bayside University, where most of them paid for the school building fund. They were a tier higher than the ordinary students, but they still could not assimilate themselves into the truly wealthy circle; they belonged in an intermediate zone.

"My father has spent so much money, hiring dozens of home tutors who held a cane in their hands, forcing me to study hard so that I can be admitted into Bayside University. They did all these to make sure I can have a brighter future and enable my family to become an actual noble family sooner!

Don't worry, we are friends from now on. I will look after you guys from now on!" Sarah was a talkative person who wasn't particularly reserved in her speech. She was born to a father who had built a wealthy family out of nothing, so she naturally wouldn't be a person that was easy to deal with, considering the environment she grew up in.

Sean had yet to utter a word, but Sarah had spoken his mind. "Sean is like me too. Since you can't play with those rich kids, let's play together from now on!"

So it turns out that he's also one. They seem to have their own circle. Wait what? He's blushing? That's creepy!

The trio went on with their chattering, and they finally succeeded in reaching the cafeteria in time to get their dinner. The cafeteria was extremely spacious and was separated into a few sections of different classes.

The first section was a high-end buffet. There were traditional dishes, delicatessen food, Western menus, pastries, desserts, fruits and seafood; anyone who was there could eat to their hearts' content. The middle class section would supply typical lunch sets.

It contained the necessary meats and vegetables; it wasn't quite filling, but it was enough to fulfill the training requirements. The lower class section only served two steamed buns or a bowl of soup noodles. The difference in class of the three sections could very well be compared to the difference between heaven, earth and hell.

The cafeteria was located in a circular building, and each section occupied a third of the building, with a tempered glass door separating each section.

Those who were nibbling on the steamed buns could clearly see those who were having buffets next door. While those people could enjoy themselves with the high quality food, they could only nibble on their miserable steamed buns. This was outright mental abusement!

Sophia and her friends had arrived late, so they could only have the middle-tier lunch sets. Their eyes were on the verge of popping out as they stared at the people in the adjacent room enjoying their high-end buffet.

Everyone was busy eating their fill, and the sounds of utensils clanging were mixed with the sounds of wailing as a group of girls started to cry as they bit on their steamed buns.

At this moment, Sarah finally kept quiet. After finishing her meal, she wiped her mouth and began chattering away again. "The cafeteria's portion is quite reasonable.

Those who were in front were normally boys or those who had good stamina. Those people have a bigger appetite, so they need to have a bigger portion. Those who run in the middle only have decent stamina and thus, a moderate appetite. Hence, the cafeteria provided them with a smaller portion.

It's normally the weaker girls who run last. This group of people have the smallest appetite, so two steamed buns should be enough for them."

Sophia, who was still eating, agreed with her. The meat is for the wolves!

Sean was a boy, but he had quite the delicate look. He sounded naïve and adorable when he spoke, “The military camp won’t starve us to death.”

Sarah and Sophia nodded, agreeing to what he said. Nevertheless, this was only the first day, but the officers had already been doing this to them; they didn’t dare to imagine what else they would do in the coming month. Sarah seemed to be very well-informed as she said, “30% of the students in Bayside University fail yearly and have to retake the course. Most of them lost their marks in the training camp.”

While she was talking, Nathan appeared quietly. He was holding a plate of delicatessen food and prawns out from the buffet hall. After placing it in front of Sophia, he simply stared at her silently, telling her without words that those were for her.

Sophia then smilingly pinched his face. “Hello there, my son.”

The other two hands were swifter than his, hugging Nathan while pinching him here and there.

“Wow! What an adorable kid!” This was Sean. His face, which was even better-looking than a girl’s, looked elated.

“Quick, my turn to hug him!” Sarah was already queuing behind him.

Nathan brutally slapped their hands away and with an expressionless face, he said, “I’ll go and take a rest first. We still have housekeeping training tonight. Don’t be late.”

Nathan then left in arrogant strides. Looking at his silhouette, Sophia still thought that he was rather cute. Sarah then seized the opportunity to ask Sophia, “This is your son?”

Sophia replied, “A son whom I met in a game!”

Sarah then came to her senses. So this is the reason. Sophia is a new student as well, so she shouldn't be more than twenty. And there I was, wondering how come she has a son this big.

The trio then gladly split the food which Nathan had brought for them amongst themselves. While eating her watermelon, Sarah suddenly felt the urge to take Sophia under her wing. "From now on, call me if your family's watermelons don't sell well. I will buy all of them."

Sophia felt awkward. Her family didn't sell watermelons, nor was she the Watermelon Queen. Who was the one who spread this false rumor?

Nevertheless, this was good anyway. She could just assume the identity of the daughter of a watermelon farmer who had worked hard to pay for her studies and enrolled into Bayside University as a normal student.

After finishing her food, Sean took out a small mirror from his bag, looking at himself in the mirror with his pinky lifted. In a feminine tone, he sighed and said, "My skin is tanned." He then quickly took out a spray bottle from his bag and sprayed some sunscreen on his face before massaging it, even though he had just climbed out from the water not long ago, so his body was still drenched.

The corners of Sophia's lips were twitching as she silently distanced herself from him. There were really all kinds of people in Bayside University.

After finishing their meals, the trio parted ways and gave their respective phone numbers to each other so that they could stay in contact. Then, they returned to their camps and to their own rooms. After returning to her dorm, Sophia changed her clothes and blew dry her hair before taking her blanket and rug to the training ground.

The training at night was not that heavy, but it was rather important too, for it was housekeeping training. They would learn how to fold their blankets and tidy up their daily essentials in this so-called housekeeping training. The most important part of the training was the blanket folding.

Sophia rubbed her hands together as blanket folding was her strong suit.

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Commander Ford opened up a rug before placing the blanket on it, showing the crowd how to stack the blankets.

“After placing the blanket evenly, pick a spot one third away from the edge of the blanket and fold it three times. The corners of the blanket must be folded properly. After that, fold it this way, this way, and lastly, this way...”

Everyone watched in awe as Commander Ford folded the blanket into a neat square in the blink of an eye. They were all impressed when they saw that there was not even a single crease on the folded blanket.

Commander Ford asked, “Are you guys clear with it now? You may start folding it if you have remembered the steps.”

The students looked stunned, for most of them couldn't follow at all. However, they couldn't stand there and do nothing, so they could only try folding the blankets themselves.

Commander Ford then walked around to inspect how the students were doing while scolding them at the same time. “What is this? A pile of crap?”

“Did you not eat anything earlier? Why are you trembling while folding a blanket?”

“You, come over here! I asked you to fold a blanket, but what are you doing? Such a crybaby. Stop crying!”

Finally, he came across a student whom he was rather pleased with. He then praised her in front of everyone. “Everyone, come over and have a look. This blanket that Sophia had folded has passed the test.”

Everyone turned to Sophia. The blanket in front of her was a standard square with its edges well-defined; even the blanket which Nathan had folded looked decent.

Sophia then replied bashfully, “Since I couldn’t catch up with the earlier training because my leg is injured, I can only work harder on the housekeeping training.”

After Michael got back home, the house was handled in a military style. She was not allowed to laze in bed and she had to finish her breakfast within ten minutes; even her blanket had to fold into a square, military-style. Thus, this was the result of Michael’s training.

She was a step closer to getting full marks in military training.

Feeling very pleased with her, Commander Ford showered her with praises. He had been the officer for a few terms now, but this was his first time seeing such a diligent and motivated student. Everyone then learned from Sophia, who did not hold anything back and taught everyone the techniques of folding the blanket.

Sophia’s status in the class had steadily risen.

After the housekeeping training, everyone returned to their barracks. They had ended a tough day of training, and it was finally time for them to rest.

The moment they returned to their dorms, the girls embraced each other and started bawling their eyes out. They wanted to withdraw from the military training, but they did not have the courage to do so. The thought of having to wake up at 7:30 the next morning to start training on time and to get their housekeeping checked devastated the girls.

This was only their first day, and they still had twenty-nine more days to go.

After washing her face, Sophia sympathized with the group of girls who were crying when she entered the barracks, even though one of them had probably placed a nail in her shoe before.

She advised everyone, “Stop crying, everyone. You have to think positively. The General is the eldest son of the Fletcher Family. He’s a rich bachelor. If one of you can get his attention, that’ll be amazing!”

Any woman from prominent families in Bayside City would want to marry into one of the Four Great Families, but even though they were famous in the city, the chances of them meeting a member of the Four Great Families were disproportionately small. Now that this opportunity of seeing Joel Fletcher daily had presented itself, it was something that many could only wish for.

Catching the attention of Joel was the only motivation that made the girls continue with their military training. If they could perform well and attract Joel’s attention, that would be great.

Sophia then added, “All our facial masks and makeup have been confiscated. If you guys continue crying, your eyes will be swollen tomorrow. Then, the General won’t even lay his eyes on you guys.”

Her words seemed to be quite persuasive, for the barracks instantly turned quiet. Sophia then carried an iced watermelon over. “Go to sleep when you’ve finished eating.”

Everyone cheered before snatching their portions of the watermelon. Their moods had improved greatly. The barracks were packed with beds and even the fan was barely working, let alone the refrigerator and air conditioner. Hence, it was a huge deal that they could get some watermelon to eat.

Sophia’s watermelon had become a hard currency in training camp. With the absence of a refrigerator and air conditioner, her iced watermelon was like an oasis. Everyone started cottoning up to her just so that they could get themselves a piece of iced watermelon.

Military life was simple yet robotic in nature. The lights would be switched on at seven in the morning daily and they were given half an hour to freshen up and have their breakfast. After starting their run for one kilometer at 7:30 sharp, their training for the day would then commence at eight. Their lunch was okay, while those who wanted to have a heartier dinner would have to run faster.

Every electronic device had been confiscated in the military camp. The only leisure activity after a day's training was sleep. The most interesting thing that would happen was if they had a bedtime chat before bed. They would talk about their dream men, gossip about who was good-looking in a certain company, and who was the most muscular.

The difference in everyone's status seemed to be getting less obvious, for they were now all equals in hardship. Unknowingly, they had forged a military friendship among themselves.

Sophia had become the co-leader of Company 49, second to Commander Ford; even Nathan was basking in her limelight.

If this persisted, she felt like getting full marks in her military training would not be a dream anymore.

During the second afternoon of the military training, Sophia used the excuse that she needed to get her bandage changed so that she could sneak into the computer room to use the computers with Nathan again.

She took a look at the stocks, checked the futures and housing market, but in the end, she logged on to her Messenger account and looked for Michael on her own accord.

Michael, who was in front of the computer screen, had just come back from a late filming session. The moment he returned to the hotel, he immediately noticed that Sophia had taken the initiative to come and look for him, which was a first.

Chica asked, 'Are you there, Honey?'

Micheael's reply came. 'My dear chica, you finally talked to your hubby first!'

Eww. Sophia was so annoyed that she wanted to turn off the screen. She then cut to the chase. 'Honey, I'm secretly surfing the Internet, so my time is limited. I want to ask you something. What should I do to get full marks in military training?'

Sophia had asked this question before. Ever since Bayside University had started the military training system, only a handful of people managed to obtain full marks. Furthermore, most of them were the Fletchers.

If she could obtain full marks in military training, she would get significantly more credit hours as well. Then, it would be easy for her to get a scholarship. She thought to herself that since she was already here and had put in so much effort, she needed to obtain full marks so that she wouldn't let herself down.

Michael, who was sitting in front of the computer, rubbed his chin while looking at Sophia's question, his eyebrows raised.

He did not expect Sophia to have such ambition, for it was almost impossible to get full marks in military training.

He replied, 'The full marks for military training is 100, but you already pass the test if you get 60. Chica, don't be greedy. It isn't easy to get marks in military training. It's already good enough if you can pass it.'

Sophia quickly answered, 'I'm just curious. Honey, quick, tell me. Tell me!'

Michael must be thinking that Sophia was acting coquettishly as she typed out those words. It was a pity that he could not hear her voice. He then replied, 'There are too many rules and I'm too lazy to type them out. Look for the personnel in charge of the computer room and ask for an earphone. I will say them out for you.'

Sophia swiftly looked for the personnel and asked for an earphone. After plugging it in, her audio was connected and they began chatting.

Michael went straight to the point when the call was connected. He immediately started explaining the rules of training camp. "Bayside University's training camp is very strict. It may seem like they let you have your freedom, but the instructors whom they have assigned to you guys are from the special forces.

Every one of them has been specially chosen. There are less than forty people in one company, so the instructor can clearly see everyone's actions. The training grounds and every corner of the place have been installed with surveillance cameras. Besides, there are more than 100 people watching your every move in the surveillance room."

Sophia was drenched in cold sweat after listening to him. It turned out that there were so many secrets in training camp. Would that mean that she had been exposed for pretending to be injured?