My Dreamy Old Husband Chapter 836

It was useless to say anything now.

The assistant was angry because Sophia hung up on her. In a very short period of time, the fact that Faye was bitten by a dog became headline news. The news pointed out that Pourl was not able to control the situation and the person in charge of supervising the venue was incompetent, which led to Faye, a famous celerity, being bitten.

Faye's angry fans were furiously criticizing them on the Internet.

They first rushed to the Twitter accounts of Taylor and Ethan to curse at them. They were Pourl's shareholder and model after all.

The fans of the two male stars, who were long past their prime, were much more peaceful. They reacted calmly and didn't fight back. Plus, the two had retired for many years, so they had much less fans now.

This was nothing compared to the time when he was accused of being a scamming transvestite and teaching his dogs how to attack people.

Fans of Faye and her ghostwriters went around looking for their next targets like headless flies. After scolding the founders of Pourl, Harry and Michael, they finally went to Judge's Twitter page. It was the one who bit Faye after all.

To bury the news of Taylor's comeback, Faye frantically pushed the news of her being bitten by a dog everywhere and made it a trending topic. In the end, it really overshadowed the news of his comeback and the announcement of his new movie.

She wanted to see how he was going to make a comeback without any publicity. He would have a hard time promoting his new film!

After Sophia handled the hotel's affairs, the founders gathered together for a meeting.

It was clear that Faye wanted to smear their reputation with this incident.

If she had truly been bitten by a dog, she would have called for help immediately, but she had hid herself in the bathroom instead and called 911!

"We should have found someone to follow her to the hospital and expose her true colors on the spot!"

Stanley was filled with righteous indignation.

However, Sophia disagreed with him. "Just let her continue acting as she wishes! I'll take care of this matter."

Everyone had full trust in Sophia. She seemed to be very good at this kind of thing. It just so happened that there were many matters that needed to be handled in Plum Technology, so Pourl could only rely on Sophia to handle this matter.

After the meeting, Sophia went out. Cooper was waiting for her in a car parked outside. Linus, Carmen, and Michael, who wanted to come sit in this car although he also had a car himself, were also in the car.

"Mommy, did I do well just now?" Carmen asked immediately when she saw Sophia.

Seeing the cute Carmen, all the frustration in Sophia disappeared. As she hugged her little baby, her worries vanished.

"My dear baby, you did very well!"

Sophia got into the car, and the bodyguard climbed in with her 'big orange cat' next.

Barney had only been in Bayside City for a few days, so it was still not used to this place. It kept dozing off, and it put its head on Michael's shoulder to sleep.

With the lion head on his shoulder, Michael calmly chatted and laughed with Cooper who was sitting opposite him while silently chanting to himself, *This is just a big orange cat*. *This is just a big orange cat*.

Even though Michael was scared of the 2.5-meter big orange cat, he absolutely refused to show his weakness in front of Cooper.

After Sophia went home, took a shower and ate dinner, she took another look at the online news. The headlines had changed from Faye being bitten by a dog, to Faye being bitten by Scarlett's lion. Then, it was rumored that Scarlett and her lion had been caught. It was also said that she didn't go through the procedures of applying for a permit, and the lion had been confiscated and was now locked in a zoo, etc.

The opponent was really aggressive this time, going to great lengths to force Sophia to give up. However, Sophia didn't respond. No matter how much the fans or ghostwriters on the Internet scolded her, she would not respond.

Despite the scolding on the Internet, in reality, Pourl's orders had skyrocketed. It was probably because the more they were being criticized, the more popular it became. After all, Pourl had nothing to do with it as the fault lay in the poor supervision of the site. Who would've known that Faye would get bitten by a dog in the bathroom?

There were no issues with Pourl's own products, and because of the appearance of Sophia's big orange cat, she had become a legendary figure in the pet world of Bayside City. The pet lovers in the city were very interested in her orange cat and started to pay attention to Pourl. They finally attracted the celebrities of Bayside City, which made Pourl's popularity shoot up.

This was simply free advertising for them!

Therefore, Sophia decided to shut up and wait for a few days. She decided to take advantage of the increased publicity for now, but when she saw the haters on the Internet cursing at Michael and Harry, she felt uneasy.

On this day, she made a special trip to Villa No. 8 to apologize to Michael.

Before departing, as soon as Cooper learned that she was going to Villa No. 8, he immediately said, "Barney is also bored at home. You should take it out to play by the way."

As soon as Barney heard that it was going out for a walk, it immediately came over and rubbed itself against Sophia's belly docilely.

Sophia was speechless and had no choice but to take Barney. Cooper was relieved when he saw Barney and Sophia enter Villa No. 8.

When Michael returned to Villa No. 8, he received a call from Sophia saying that she would come and talk to him about work. Overjoyed, he hurriedly dressed up. Unexpectedly, he saw Sophia's 2.5-meter orange cat as soon as the door opened, and he couldn't help feeling queasy.

When the 2.5m cat came in, all the orange cats at home hid under the sofa. As for Barney, she immediately sat down on a rug and watched Michael and Sophia discuss work matters.

After the two sat down on the sofa in the living room, Sophia asked first, "How are you doing these days..."

Michael wiped his hair that he had just washed and said nonchalantly, "It's okay. I'm used to it."

When he said this, Sophia felt even more embarrassed. She bit the bullet and said, "It's all my fault. This happened because of me."

Michael took the opportunity to say, "You really don't have to take it to heart. News like this is already commonplace to me. If you remember, the news about me a few years ago was even more outrageous! They said that I was a woman disguised as a man!"

Sophia was taken aback. "Did they really say that?!"

Michael leaned toward her strategically. He took out his tablet and searched for a few keywords casually, and then gossip about him appeared.

Because he had recently returned to the public eye, some of the gossip posts from that year also resurfaced.

Sophia glanced at it casually. Michael indeed had many scandals—having sex with male actors, cheating a gay into marrying him, lifecasting, fighting in nightclubs, and that he was a woman disguised as a man... So there was really such crazy news?

Sophia initially came here to talk about work matters with Michael, but she ended up talking about gossip with him all night. She only left hesitatingly in the evening when Cooper called again and again to urge her to go home.

She initially felt sorry for Michael, but after chatting with him today, she felt a lot better.

Before leaving, she said to him, "Michael, don't worry. I won't let you be scolded in vain!"

Michael's unconditional support for her made her feel touched, so she would never let him be scolded in vain!

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Michael watched Sophia and Barney leave with a warm and content smile on his lips.

It felt good to be able to talk to her all night. He was so happy that he felt as if he was in a dream.

However, Michael was a greedy man and was definitely not satisfied with their present relationship. He still wanted to remarry Sophia and have a second child with her.

In addition, he could feel that Cooper's attitude toward him seemed to be a little better recently.

This might be a sign.

He had even figured out the name of their second child.

After talking with Michael all afternoon, Sophia felt a lot better.

She truly got along well with Michael. He was really a person who knew what was appropriate and what was not.

Sophia knew that he was pursuing herself, but his pursuit did not make her disgusted and annoyed. He was neither fanatical nor humble, and he treated her as an equal in his quest. This made her feel very comfortable.

He never used reasons such as 'Mark hopes' and 'Carmen can't live without her mother' to give her pressure and guilt. Instead, he expressed his feelings for Sophia calmly. Although he wanted very eagerly for her to return to him, he never forced her. He just waited for her in such a calm and guiet manner.

Sophia felt very relaxed and satisfied with him.

The news of 'Faye was bitten by a dog' quickly caused an uproar on the Internet. Fans of Faye kept hurling insults at everyone. They cursed and scolded both humans and dogs, and even crowdfunded to hire people to steal Judge and cook it into soup. They even wanted to find a few strong, lustful dogs to gang rape it, making Stanley furious.

Those f*cking fans of Faye. If anything happens to my precious Judge, I'll kill Faye for sure!

Ever since a 2.5-meter orange cat moved into Sophia's house, Judge, who had been freeloading in Michael's house for many years, finally proposed to go home. It barked at Sophia to call Stanley to pick it up.

When Stanley came to pick up Judge and saw a 2.5-meter long orange cat lying across the door and blocking the door, he was too afraid to enter.

Damn, it's scary.

He thought it was scary enough for Sophia to raise a large poodle. Unexpectedly, she even raised a lion at home.

He should definitely not offend her!

Cooper shook his head when he saw him being so cowardly.

He was even more of a scaredy-cat than Carmen!

Carmen was not afraid of Barney at all, probably because she was an ignorant child.

"Stanley, why are you standing outside?"

Michael came from behind Stanley and saw him waiting at the door of Villa No. 2, frowning at the lion that was blocking the entrance.

Michael, who was in a suit and leather shoes, was obviously heading somewhere. With a gentlemanly smile, he walked to the door of Villa No. 2 and stepped over the lion.

Stanley was so scared that he almost peed himself. Still standing at the door, he said to Michael, "Uncle, please bring Judge to me. I-I don't want to go in."

The difference between the uncle-nephew duo was so obvious. Cooper shook his head while he looked at Stanley, but his knitted brows slightly loosened when he saw Michael step over the lion without fear.

Stanley didn't know that he had been completely abandoned by Cooper and became a stepping stone for his uncle's show of bravery. He waited anxiously for Judge outside the door.

"Mr. Cooper, I'm here to pick up Sophia."

They had a press conference today, so Michael had hurried over to pick up Sophia.

Although Cooper had on a cold face, he didn't stop him and said, "End the conference early and send her back for dinner."

Michael took it that he could also come to their house for dinner, so he quickly replied respectfully, "Okay."

Sophia went downstairs soon after and asked the servants to pack up all the daily necessities of Judge. Even its bed was taken away by Stanley.

Michael calmly helped her carry the things in her hand and said, "Let's go to the press conference first. We are almost late."

He also complimented her smoothly. "I like the earrings you're wearing today."

Sophia fiddled with her new earrings shyly and replied, "Thank you."

These were the diamond earrings from Africa that she received yesterday. She didn't expect Michael to notice it when he walked in. *He's really observant*.

The two went out talking and laughing. They stepped over the big orange cat calmly at the entrance and drove away.

Although Cooper was expressionless, he saw everything that happened.

Although he didn't particularly like his old son-in-law who was only a few years younger than himself, he had to admit that older men were better at loving their partners. He was much better than Stanley, that stupid young man.

Comparison was the thief of joy.

Stanley was afraid of even a cat. How could he marry his daughter to such a person!?

At this time, in the VIP ward of a private hospital in Bayside City, Faye was sitting among flowers in the room, happily and excitedly sharing her recent 'feat' with Sandra.

"Now, Scarlett and her store are going to collapse. Taylor's new film is also crushed by my news, and the new film is destined to be a failure!"

Looking at the proud and confident Faye, Sandra smiled. However, she was actually gloating in her heart.

Faye had indeed achieved a great feat. However, the pitiful girl didn't know that she had offended the Fletcher Family and the Winston Family at the same time. She also had to be held accountable if her plan went wrong, but the person who would suffer the most was Scarlett.

Now, Scarlett must be utterly exhausted...

It was a pity that King had announced that they would completely withdraw from the pet luxury goods market. Otherwise, she could take this opportunity to gain publicity.

"You did a great job this time round. Lucy hates Scarlett because she ruined King that she worked so hard to create. Lucy will definitely thank you for all the trouble you caused Scarlett!" Sandra said pretentiously.

Speaking of Lucy, Faye was both fearful and disdainful of her.

Lucy was nothing. She was the goddess of the nation after all!

Sooner or later, she would surpass Lucy!

But now, she had to please Lucy as beggars couldn't be choosers. She had done such a good job this time round, so she would definitely be able to leave a good impression on Lucy.

Sandra said confidently to Faye, "From my judgment, Scarlett has suffered a big loss and will never let you off the hook easily. You have a tough battle to fight next, but don't worry! You will always be backed by me and Lucy!"

Of course, this was just lip service. If she really provoked the Fletcher Family and the Winston Family, they would abandon Faye.

Faye took it seriously. Full of confidence, she said, "Don't worry, she can come at me! I'm waiting for her to do just that. I even have a video of her dog biting me! They can come to check the wounds if they like. I made this wound very realistic, and I've bribed the people in the hospital."

The more they talked, the more excited they became. Sandra vigorously instigated Faye to continue to frame Scarlett and asked her to go to Lucy to take credit.

Just then, Sandra's phone rang so she went out to answer it. When she came back, she looked weird. With a frown, she said to Faye, "Scarlett and Taylor jointly held a press conference and apologized to you publicly."

In the battles between Sandra and Scarlett, Sandra was the one who was defeated all the time. Although she had not known Scarlett for long, Sandra already had a certain understanding of Scarlett's personality and methods. How could she possibly apologize after suffering such a big loss?

However, Scarlett's apology press conference had already gone live...

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"Scarlett really... apologized?"

Faye thought she had heard it wrong. She had always known about the fight between Sandra and Scarlett, so she knew that Scarlett was a very difficult person.

She had suffered such a big loss this time, so she was most likely going to fight back. However, after a few days of silence, she actually apologized directly?

Sandra was also at a loss as to what was happening. She silently turned on the phone and searched for the live video of Scarlett's press conference.

The 'Faye was bitten by a dog' incident had caused a lot of uproar on the Internet. It had been several days since the incident, but it was still trending. Now that the owner of the dog that caused the accident had come forward to apologize, the popularity of the incident naturally reached a climax. Immediately, it was followed up and reported by many media outlets.

Faye immediately turned on her phone, and she didn't even need to search for it because the entertainment channel had vacated the homepage cover to promote Scarlett's apology press conference on a large scale.

Faye was now in the A-plus list. Even if she squatted casually on the side of the street, her fans would storm the place. Plus, anyone who had any relations with her was guaranteed a boost in popularity.

This time round, she was bitten by a dog, so the dog and the owner were also pushed into the limelight.

In the live broadcast, Sophia wore a white skirt. She looked capable and elegant, and she had a serious expression as she said to the live broadcast camera very sincerely, "I am here

to formally apologize to Miss Faye for everything that happened at the Pourl new product launch a few days ago."

She got up and faced the camera before lowering her noble head and bowing deeply, full of sincerity.

After the apology, she raised her head and took all the blame on herself. "I am mainly responsible for the occurrence of such an incident, and I blame my mismanagement, which caused the scene to be chaotic. I am extremely sorry for the harm caused to Miss Faye. Pourl will bear all subsequent treatment costs and the costs of her work lost. I apologize again to Miss Faye. I will definitely strengthen my management in the future, and this will never happen again."

Sandra felt that she must be imagining things. A proud person like Scarlett had suffered such ninjustice, yet she chose to apologize directly instead of fighting back?

Was it because she knew that Faye had evidence and footage of the incident, so she gave up fighting back?

However, she had gone to great lengths to tear apart Sandra and King. Why did she get scared when the matter involved Faye?

Faye was biting her lower lip as she watched the live broadcast with a complicated expression.

At the press conference, after Sophia apologized, Michael also apologized. Although the matter had nothing to do with him, he still took the initiative to do so.

"As one of Pourl's shareholders and executives, I am also responsible for this incident. I am extremely sorry for what happened to Miss Faye. I'm sorry."

Michael also bowed and apologized. He then fell silent for a few seconds, waiting for the media to finish taking pictures of him.

After the apology, the two instantly occupied the moral high ground.

They had apologized and would compensate her. What else did Faye want? Kill the dog? Gang rape the dog?

If this was the case, the animal protection organization and fans of Judge would not stand idly by.

Did she want Sophia to kneel down and kowtow? To be paraded in public? Or confiscate her household registry to make up for Faye's injuries?

The police probably would not agree.

The reporters looked at each other as they had never seen such a straightforward apology.

After the apology was over, the reporter could voice out their questions.

Some reporters began to ask tricky questions.

A reporter asked, "Miss Mitchell, what are your thoughts on the Internet rumors that you allowed your dog to bite Miss Faye because you are jealous of Miss Faye's fame?"

Sophia replied clearly, "Ms. Faye was indeed injured because of my negligence in management, but the rumor that I allowed the dog to bite her is pure nonsense. On the day of Pourl's product launch ceremony, there were many international superstars among the guests. There were five or six Oscar winners, and if I allowed my dog to bite her because I was jealous of famous people, then I definitely would not have targeted Miss Faye."

After the reporter heard this answer, they nodded one after another, feeling that her answer was reasonable.

It was said that there were also European royals and international superstars present that day. Pourl's slogan was to become an international brand and have global influence, so their clients were all international big shots and celebrities. Although Faye was popular in Cethos, this was not the case overseas...

There had been so many celebrities on the scene, so Sophia wouldn't have targeted her just because of her fame.

Michael had a solemn expression, but he was secretly laughing.

While Sophia was clarifying, she roasted Faye as well. Well done.

The reporter went on to ask the next tricky question, "Miss Mitchell, is this a marketing ploy jointly planned by you and Miss Faye? I understand that Pourl's sales have skyrocketed since the launch. Even Mr. Murray's new movie 'The National Treasury Action' has continued to rise in popularity. Miss Mitchell, I hope you can answer this question."

Sophia replied very solemnly, "This was an accident caused by my mismanagement. It was definitely not a premeditated marketing ploy. We will take responsibility and compensate Miss Faye, but please refrain from any conspiracy theories. This is disrespectful for Pourl, and even more disrespectful to Miss Faye. She is the victim, and the victim should not be subjected to such speculation."

The reporter nodded and agreed again. It was an impeccable answer. It showed full sincerity while protecting Faye, showing Scarlett's responsibility and courage.

She was indeed Cooper's daughter!

Another reporter asked another question, "Miss Scarlett, can you comment on the unexpected consequence of Pourl's soaring sales due to this incident? Did you secretly cheer, or even gloat for having caused such a misfortune?"

Sophia remained calm and answered impeccably, "It is definitely not a fluke that Pourl can have such high sales. We focus on quality and craftsmanship, and with great sincerity, we strive to create a big pet luxury brand belonging to Cethos. Although Pourl's new product launch event was regrettable, it was generally very successful. The whole world knows Pourl now, which has always been a part of my plan. Pourl deserves our current sales and popularity, and we definitely did not take pleasure in Miss Faye's misfortune."

The reporters had nothing more to ask, so they turned to other topics.

"Miss Scarlett, what do you think of the Internet rumors that you had plastic surgery?"

Sophia said, "I indeed had plastic surgery."

The reporters were all speechless.

They had never seen such a frank person before.

The reporter asked again, "Someone revealed that Mr. Taylor Murray is your sugar baby in an anonymous online post. Can you please give a comment? You had plastic surgery to look like Mr. Murray's dead wife. Does it mean that you are also interested in Taylor?"

Sophia said, "Mr. Murray is pursuing me. Our relationship is fair and equal, and he's not my sugar baby. As for why I look like this, my answer is: it's because I like it."

The reporters fell silent again.

They felt that they had reached new heights in their careers.

Striking while the iron was hot, the reporters asked, "Miss Mitchell, what do you think of Mr. Taylor Murray? Would you consider dating Mr. Taylor Murray?"

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Sophia was thirsty from answering all the questions bombarded by the reporters. When she was about to reply, Michael, who was beside her, handed her an opened bottle of mineral water. He then took the initiative to answer the question with a smile. "I feel that this question shouldn't be answered publicly. I'd like Miss Mitchell to answer me when we're alone."

The reporters were left speechless.

But giving it a thought, Scarlett was single, and Taylor had also been widowed for years. It wasn't anything shameful if he wanted to remarry.

They had the freedom to fall in love and were a good match. They looked good together, like a picture from a fairy tale, and had nothing people could complain about.

But some reporters liked to make a fuss. Snatching over the microphone, the reporter started asking some pointed questions. "Mr. Murray, is the reason you are courting Miss Mitchell because she looks similar to your late wife, Miss Edwards?"

"Did you choose to court Miss Mitchell because of her wealth, and because she can bring you resources?"

That was an extremely pointed question.

It was so pointed that some of the reporters felt awkward and looked at Michael.

Michael went silent for a moment. Sophia, who was drinking water, couldn't help but perk up her ears.

That question was really inappropriate. For the time being, she didn't want to admit that she was Sophia Edwards because she wasn't ready to accept everything she used to have and be. But if the situation was critical, she could only bite the bullet.

Michael remained silent for a few seconds, but he still answered with the microphone. "My wife was the only interesting soul in this whole world. A lot of people tried to imitate her appearance, but no one could ever imitate her soul. I love her forever."

Love her forever...

Sophia, who just finished drinking water, felt tears well up in her eyes, but she didn't show any obvious reaction and maintained her dignified manner.

Michael maintained his warm smile, but everyone could see how sorrowful his smile was.

His voice travelled to everyone's ears on the scene. "Three years ago, because of that incident which everyone knows, I lost the love of my life. These three years, I shut myself out from the world. I had even wanted to follow after her, but I pushed through."

"Three years later, I met Miss Scarlett. She was like a gift from the heavens because she gave me the hope and motivation to live. The reason I love her has nothing to do with her appearance."

"We make a great pair, and money was never part of the equation."

It was a touching confession.

After hearing Michael's answer, those reporters who wanted to ask why he faked his death and didn't appear for three years were left speechless, while the reporter who mentioned his late wife was ashamed of himself.

A few years back, when Sophia became famous as the prettiest girl in Bayside University, her face was used as *the* reference for plastic surgery, and a lot of stars used her face as a template when they themselves went under the knife. With so many people wearing a similar face, Taylor had chosen Scarlett. That was probably true love!

Taylor was not a poor man either—he was a major shareholder of Asco International and was an Academy Award winner. Even if he had retired, he was still filthy rich, so the rumor of him being a sugar baby was indeed groundless.

The press conference ended successfully in peace.

After the press conference, 'The National Treasury Action' and Pourl's popularity increased rather than waned. Three years ago, Michael's whereabouts were exposed and he was harmed from being mobbed by his fans. His fans regretted their actions and were filled with remorse, and him resigning from being an actor was more than understandable.

Now, he had made a comeback and found a person to rely on. His fans were all happy for him.

In the ward, after Faye finished watching the live stream, she quickly took out her laptop and googled Pourl. Although they were criticized badly on all social media platforms in Cethos, their branches were spreading quietly abroad. The business of their headquarters in Bayside City was also booming. She didn't know the actual turnover, but it didn't seem like they were going to go bankrupt anytime soon.

Taylor and his new movie were also criticized badly, but the search index had also risen sharply, becoming one of the most anticipated blockbusters this year.

At the same time, Taylor admitting that he was chasing after Scarlett had also become the nation's second hottest topic following the incident of Faye being bitten by a dog.

Sure enough, announcing a relationship was the best way to build hype. The popularity of Pourl and Michael's new film didn't decline because of Faye's incident, but instead reached new highs.

What?!

Faye was so mad she threw her laptop onto the ground.

How could this be?

She had hired ghostwriters online to spread rumors, engaged in sadfishing, and even turned down a lot of jobs just so she could pretend to be sick in the hospital, but what she did had helped them instead.

Sandra was looking at all the information on the Internet too. The more she looked, the more ugly her expression grew.

They played us. They gave ground so that they could advance.

Faye was really popular now, so anyone who had a connection with her would become popular. She didn't expect them to be so shameless to throw away their pride and ride on her coattails.

Faye didn't know what to do.

Ring! Ring!

Faye's phone rang. It was an unknown number.

She answered the call, and the first thing she heard was the voice in the live stream.

The person on the other end sounded excited.

"Thank you, Miss Edwards, for faking your injury and aligning it with Pourl's new product marketing schedule this year."

"Also, thank you for sacrificing your precious time and turning down jobs worth tens of millions to help Pourl achieve our goals."

"I also want to thank you on Michael's behalf. A first rate actress like you taking the initiative to create buzz for an obsolete actor who faked his death was really nice, and it has allowed him to regain his popularity and restart his career."

"Later, my lawyer will go over to discuss compensation matters with you, taking into consideration your injuries and missed work opportunities."

Not waiting for Faye to react, she hung up the phone.

"Damn you, Scarlett!!!"

Faye was so mad she smashed her phone. A bulging vein throbbed on her face, and even the implant in her chin protruded.

"B*tch! B*tch!"

Faye was so furious that she started smashing things.

To put on this show, she had turned down a few endorsements which paid handsomely! Hiring ghostwriters had also cost her a lot too!

She had spent all that money but it ended up helping others. Not only did they ride on her wave of popularity, but they also humiliated her!

How could Faye accept all these?

Compared to Faye who was going crazy, Sandra was calm. She was not the one who suffered all these losses anyways.

She carried on scheming, planning to let Faye continue to shine and be in the front line, and have her crush Scarlett on her behalf. Besides, Faye was the one who needed to take responsibility if anything happened.

Now, there was no point for Faye to continue acting like a victim. They had already apologized and promised to compensate her. It would definitely be inappropriate to continue to criticize them.

Asking Faye to accept their apology was impossible too, as this was harder than having her swallow dog sh*t.

Not only was she unable to fight back, but she was also incriminated of cooperating with the other party on hyping up their new product and new movie.

After much deliberation, Sandra thought of a safe way to deal with this. She suggested to Faye, "Apologising through a press conference can't be considered a proper apology. You can raise the issue to the media and request for Scarlett to apologise to you personally! She's too proud to do that so she will never agree. Then, you can make an issue out of it!"

"Also, didn't she mention compensation? Just take the opportunity to bleed her dry. The higher the price, the better. She must have a limit, right? When that happens, it's your turn to put on a show."

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Faye was blinded by rage earlier, but now that Sandra had given her an idea, enthusiasm instantly flooded her. She's right. At present, I can only retaliate in this manner! After making up her mind, she hurriedly contacted her lawyer to commit daylight robbery by demanding a king's ransom! It'll be great if she agrees since I'll be recouping all the damages I've suffered. However, if she refuses, I can continue kicking up a fuss, too!

Meanwhile, when the press conference had ended, Sophia said to Michael, "Let's go for dinner! My treat."

My goddess is offering to treat me to dinner? With just the two of us? Michael was inwardly ecstatic, but outwardly, he maintained a nonchalant expression. "Are you sure? Didn't Dad say to come home early for dinner?" he reminded, sounding conflicted.

Cooper's love for Sophia was so overwhelming that he'd have eyes on her 24/7 if possible. Despite the press conference on this day, he still called every half an hour to inquire about her. But to be fair, if it were Carmen who'd gone out, Michael, the gray-haired old father, would definitely be pacing anxiously as well.

However, Sophia was already walking away. "It's fine. I'll just give him a call. Let's go to Uncle Sam's Crimson House for dinner." Thus, Michael briskly followed.

At home, when Cooper learned that Sophia wasn't coming home for dinner, his face turned as black as charcoal. Nonetheless, he said nothing, merely asking her to come home earlier.

In Crimson House's best private room, a candlestick sat on the dining table. As the candlelight flickered, an intimate and romantic air enveloped the place amidst the elegant strains of piano. The two people at the table clinked glasses lightly, creating a tinkling sound. Thereafter, Sophia raised her glass slightly with a single hand and sipped from it.

As they ate, they talked in a low voice, their topics ranging from the stock market to real estate besides also talking about the interesting things Michael encountered during his filming throughout the years. In fact, they talked about everything under the sun.

Sophia listened attentively, interjecting and laughing occasionally. Having indulged in red wine, her petite face was stained with a hint of scarlet, her eyes slightly glassy. Her glazed eyes seemed as though they held an infinite ocean, rendering her entire person immensely breathtakingly.

"How's the performance of the stock I recommended to you the other day?" Michael asked, raising his glass.

Sophia ordered medium-well steak but found it rather dismal after eating some, so she left half of it uneaten. Jabbing the remaining half with her fork from time to time, she answered, "Not bad. It's doing good, having gone up quite a bit, so I made a little over ten million. By the way, when are you planning to send Carmen to kindergarten?"

Speaking of their child, the two of them turned solemn. Michael replied, "Carmen is almost two and a half years old, so it's about time for her to attend kindergarten. She's definitely going to kindergarten since children need to mix with their peers."

Then, he lamented, "I raised Nate, but in an attempt to protect him, I've never had him attend kindergarten. I employed an early education expert and gave him the best education, yet he's been isolated since young, with few friends. He doesn't like talking to people either... It's all on me."

Finally, he asserted, "Thus, Carmen has to attend kindergarten. She can't be too isolated, so I had Hale drop his kid off at our place."

Recently, Sophia had noticed that Villa No. 8 had seen an increase in the number of children who stuck to Carmen every day. Having so many friends to play with, she wasn't even interested in coming home anymore. Michael is truly a tender and considerate person!

When she snapped back to reality, she saw that Michael had already taken her half-eaten steak, which she couldn't quite bring herself to finish yet didn't want to waste, and he was eating it with relish. "Why did you do that?" Shock inundated her.

However, Michael was used to it. Not only did he finish her half-eaten steak, but he also ate her unfinished fruit salad. "You had a difficult life when you were young, often having no food to eat, so you cherish food a lot. When you go out for a meal, you only order what you want to eat, but you become distressed when you can't finish the food at times. You don't want to waste it, yet you find it troublesome to request for takeaway, so you force yourself to finish it."

For that reason, he then became her recycle bin for unfinished food. He would often be seen eating her unfinished steak, the coriander in her beef noodles, and the green pepper she disliked in her shredded meat dish. Of course, he knew that she loathed wasting food, probably because she was once destitute, at the mercy of others for even a bite of clean and fresh rice in the past. Hence, she was still exceedingly thrifty even after having money to her name, food wastage her pet peeve.

Sophia froze for a moment before she smiled, not knowing what to say in response. When he'd finished her half-eaten steak and fruit salad, she asked in curiosity, with a hand resting on her cheek, "Back then, I was just a pet you bought. Why have you always been so good to me?"

Upon hearing this, Michael knew that Cooper had given her a fake story again. In Cooper's mouth, he'd probably become a shameless old man who spent 80,000 to purchase her so that he could ravage her every day.

However, Sophia knew that Cooper's version of events wasn't true. Michael had always regarded her as family, a fact that he'd never once concealed.

"Bought? Never once have I said that I bought you. I merely offered ten million as bride price to marry you. We're a legally married couple."

After he was done eating, Michael suddenly said, "Oh yes, there's something I've been meaning to give you." He then took out a card from his wallet and slid it over to Sophia. While the card was preserved nicely with a plastic sleeve, one could still tell that it was a few years old. The words Bayside University were printed on the card, while Sophia's name was written at the corner with a ballpoint pen.

"What is this?" Sophia questioned, curious.

His lips curving upward, Michael replied with a smile, "This is the meal card you used when you attended Bayside University. There's still money in there, so remember to go and use it when you're free. After all, you were still thinking about the remaining money when you took your graduation photo!"

After having been poor for half her life, Sophia was done with poverty. Back then, she practically killed herself to get into Bayside University just because Bayside University provided top students a generous meal subsidy. Meals and accommodation would be free of charge, while tuition could be covered with a student loan. This was so perfect for her that it all sounded like a dream.

Although she was already making money when she got into Bayside University, she abandoned the thought of eating all the delicious food out there, going to the cafeteria instead when she could do so since the subsidy issued was in the meal card! When she left upon graduation, she was very much reluctant because she hadn't yet finished the money within the meal card!

Sophia stared at the meal card while listening to Michael speak of its history, bursting into giggles every so often. Out of the blue, she stood up and suggested, "It's still early, so let's go to Bayside University now and finish the money in the meal card. There's no time like the present!"

Without a word of objection, Michael slipped on his jacket and offered, "I'll lead the way."

Since Sophia had declared that she'd be paying, it was certainly a done deal. Anyhow, Michael felt that he was a kept man now, merely waiting for her to foot the bill. As he followed her out of Crimson House like a puppy, he remarked, "Back then, you wholeheartedly hoped that you could make money and support me one day, making me a kept man." Now, she's finally getting her wish!