

My Dreamy Old Husband Chapter 891

Justin sounded panic on the phone call, causing Michael's heart to skip a beat. Hence, he got into the car in a hurry while reassuring him, "Don't panic; just get me up to speed. I'm coming over right now."

Celine had always been locked up in a secret research center established by the Fletchers in the suburbs, where there was a specific psychiatrist to diagnose her. Even though there hadn't been any results in the past three years, the research center was heavily guarded, and so it was impossible for her to escape.

Michael also knew what it meant since Celine had escaped—Phantom Wolf's number one assassin, Katrina, was on the loose in Bayside City. One could only imagine how many people would die.

He got into the car, and the driver started driving. On the other side, Justin reiterated everything to him over the phone clearly.

When I woke up today, I realized that Celine had cut her wrist to commit suicide.

Over the years, Celine's mental state had been a torture for me, just as much as she was torturing herself. She had tried committing suicide countless times. This time, I rushed in to get her out and sent her to the infirmary.

However, just when the doctor was about to help Celine stop her bleeding not long after I brought her in, the knocked out Celine got up suddenly. Then, she held the doctor under duress to escape the research center.

"We found the doctor somewhere around the research center. He has been seriously injured, and they are still trying to rescue him. It seems like Celine has stolen a car, and she's driving into the city. I managed to take a picture of the car's number plate, which I've sent to you."

Soon, Michael received the coordinates of Celine's current location sent over by Justin. It turned out that it was none other than Carmen's kindergarten!

Justin and some skilled masters from the Fletcher Family rushed to the site, whereas Michael desperately phoned the bodyguard who was in charge of sending and picking Carmen up from kindergarten. However, nobody answered the call.

In the meantime, classes had ended in the kindergarten. The kindergarten teacher held Carmen's hand while they waited for her family's bodyguards to pick her up from school.

Carmen's bodyguards would send Carmen to and pick her up from kindergarten every day on time. Therefore, the teachers in the kindergarten were familiar with them. They would only let Carmen leave if it was somebody they recognized. However, the person who showed up today wasn't somebody she expected.

"Eh? Mr. Michael, I saw the news reporting that you were filming out of town. Why do you have the time to pick Carmen up in person today?"

The teacher seemed confused.

A man clad in black suit got out of Carmen's family car. He had a pair of sunglasses on, and he looked exactly like Michael.

Nevertheless, the person did not utter a word throughout the exchange, and they left the moment he picked Carmen up. The kindergarten teacher was suspicious, but she suddenly recalled that the news reported that Carmen's mother had met with an accident. Therefore, it made sense for Michael to be in Bayside City for now.

The teacher had a feeling that Michael was different from his usual self today. *Maybe it's because there's a stark difference between an actor's appearance compared to when they are on screen and on television....*

Hence, it was unexpected when seven to eight cars came to a halt in front of the kindergarten about a minute after Carmen had left. One of the car doors opened, and Michael got out of it. He asked the teacher hastily, "Where's Carmen?"

The teacher was bewildered when she answered, "Didn't you pick her up earlier?"

Michael did not answer her, and his eyes bulged in shock. It took him three to four seconds to snap back to his senses.

Celine picked Carmen up.

Michael didn't even remember how he got back into the car. His mind was filled with the horrible state the psychiatrist was in.

Celine held the psychiatrist hostage to leave the center. Then, she demanded for the research center's security guard to open the door for her by threatening the doctor's life; she even brought the doctor along to escape, but she attempted to kill him cruelly in the end. Initially, she could have murdered him in one go, but she was wounded, and she didn't have any weapons with her. She lacked strength, and so the doctor did not die.

The psychiatrist is a healthy and strong man, but he can't even defeat Celine. My daughter, Carmen, is merely 3 years old; how could she possibly escape from her?!

Soon, they found the two bodyguards in charge of driving Carmen, whom Celine had wounded and hid in an alley. One of them was permanently disabled, whereas the other was unconscious and had to be sent to the emergency room.

Celine was currently under the control of the cold-blooded assassin, Katrina, and so it meant that she was a homicidal maniac. Her methods were extremely cruel.

The car continued chasing after Celine's car, and they drove out of the city. Throughout the journey, Michael did not utter a word, whereas Justin, who was sitting on the front passenger seat, consoled him. "It will be fine. It will be fine."

Michael maintained a calm façade, but his trembling hands revealed his anxiety.

He felt as if he was back to the day three years ago, when he was stuck at the stairway. His abdomen was stabbed with a knife, and he had lost consciousness. By the time he woke up, he was already lying in a hospital, and they told him that Sophia was gone...

During the time Sophia was gone, Carmen was his everything in life. He looked after her from the time she was a small bundle of joy, who was eager to move around, until she grew up into a child. Michael could not even begin to imagine how his life would be if he were to lose Carmen.

If I lose Carmen, all the joy in my life would be taken away.

Michael shut his eyes, while tears started streaming down his face.

The news of Carmen's disappearance couldn't be kept a secret. Once those in Villa No. 2 learned that Carmen didn't come home, they reported the incident to Cooper and Sophia straight away.

Upon receiving the news, Sophia felt as if her world was crumbling down. Hence, she rushed to the scene as soon as she could.

Celine drove the car to a construction site outside of the city. She chased the workers out of the site before entering the building.

When Sophia arrived at the construction site, she saw a little girl standing on the balcony of the building's tenth floor. *Isn't that my Carmen?*

The balcony construction had yet to complete on the tenth floor of the building, whereas Carmen was standing on the balcony without a guardrail. She seemed as if she might fall off the balcony any time. Her small hands were tied together, while Celine held onto the other end of the rope.

She could hear Carmen's cries from afar.

"Daddy, Mommy..."

Upon witnessing that, Sophia had a blackout, and she fainted on the spot...

When she regained consciousness, she found herself lying in a SUV. She opened her eyes abruptly, and she got up to get out of the car to look for Carmen.

She saw Carmen, who was still on the tenth floor's balcony, when she looked up. Carmen was sitting on the edge of the balcony without the guardrail. It was apparent that she could slip and fall any time. She was still tied with a rope, and one couldn't be sure if the rope might be able to protect her even if she were to fall off the building.

There was an inflated mattress on the ground floor. However, it wasn't a sure thing if such a young child would fall on the inflatable mattress after falling off from the tenth floor. She might get stuck on one of the scaffolding and may very well die on the spot.

“My baby!” Sophia lost her mind, and she charged toward the entrance. Carmen, who was on the tenth floor, caught sight of Sophia, and so she stood up on wobbly legs while looking at Sophia pitifully.

“Mommy...”

She walked toward the edge of the balcony, as if she was prepared to continue moving forward. Carmen even looked over the edge to the ground, and it scared the living daylights out of everybody.

Linus rushed out suddenly while yelling at Carmen, “Carmen, my dear, go back in and sit down. Sit down properly, and your mommy will be there to pick you up soon. We are filming now, and you’ll have to act according to the script, Carmen. Please be an obedient girl. Go back in and sit still. Otherwise, you wouldn’t be paid!”

Carmen glanced at Sophia, and she pouted before sitting down again. Her skirt was dirty, and one of her shoes was missing. There was even a hole in her sock right now.

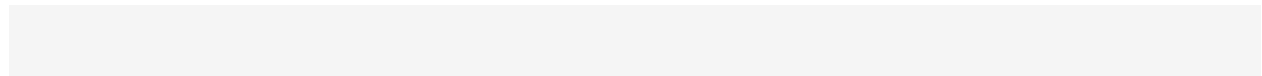
She choked back a sob while convincing herself that she was filming right now. Hence, she was only allowed to head down after the director yelled ‘cut’.

Sophia, who was on the ground floor, closed her mouth tightly because she was afraid that Carmen might just fall off the building if she were to make a sound.

Linus relaxed slightly when he saw Carmen walking back in, and he turned around to hug Sophia.

Sophia was trembling uncontrollably while staring at the building. She didn’t dare make a sound, and her tears kept streaming down her face.

“Please save my child; please rescue my Carmen...”



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At that moment, this distance that seemed not quite far was, in fact, the distance between life and death. Her child, her most precious one, was currently in this 10-storey building before her with the risk of falling at any time, but there was nothing she could do. Sophia wept desperately, but she could not make any sound for fear that the innocent Carmen would jump when she saw her.

Linus hugged Sophia when she was having an emotional breakdown and quietly said in consolation, "Don't worry, don't worry. Michael has gone in to talk to her. Everything is going to be fine..."

"Linus, please save my child." She grabbed him, as if she was clutching at straws. He supported her to one side to rest.

At that moment, Cooper and Joel were keeping the situation under control. Many people from the Fletcher and Mitchell Families were there surrounding the building, but they hesitated to send anyone in. The police were not informed of this matter yet to prevent agitating Celine and cause her to take irrational actions on the child.

They had to rescue the child as soon as possible. The situation would become more unfavorable to them as time passed—Celine might lose her patience, and Carmen might lose control out of fear and fall.

Linus managed to keep her emotionally stable by tricking her into believing that they were just acting, but this could only buy them some time. They were now discussing the strategies after they got hold of the building plan. Joel suggested, "We can send in an assault troop and some snipers to take her down as fast as possible."

However, Stanley immediately objected. "No, this angle is the sniper's blind spot. Recklessly sending assault troops may cause unnecessary sacrifices, and Aunt Celine may harm Carmen."

Katrina and Celine were one now. Celine now had both of their intelligence and skills, but the one in control was Katrina. If they were to use an assault troop, they had to first consider if the assault troop was a match for her. Besides, she had a gun with her now.

Cooper suggested, "We can use a drone to launch an accurate attack from a close range."

Joel thought about it for a while and finally rejected it. "If we use a drone, Celine will..." *Celine will die*. Joel intended to try his best to rescue both of them.

Cooper was furious. "Any sacrifices are worthy as long as my granddaughter can be rescued." He could even go as far as to kill Celine. A mere Celine was undoubtedly insignificant compared to his grandchild.

Joel wished to save both of them, but Cooper was willing to sacrifice Celine if Carmen could be saved. The conflict between their aims gave rise to an intense argument between the two parties.

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A car was secretly parked at an unnoticeable spot. Upon getting out of the car, Nathan raised his head and impassively glanced at Carmen, who had curled herself into a ball after being driven to the balcony at the tenth floor.

Meanwhile, Michael and Justin had reached the tenth floor to negotiate with Celine. On the tenth floor, Michael first saw Carmen curling herself into a tiny ball as she squatted at the balcony without railings. Her two little hands were tied together with a rope, and the other end of the rope was stepped under Celine's foot.

Celine's face was pale. She was injured in the research center; her black suit was dyed red, but it was inconspicuous. As she lost more blood, her patience gradually thinned.

Upon seeing Michael, Carmen stood up happily, her little face dirty and soiled. "Daddy!"

The moment her soft voice was heard, Celine, who was resting her eyes, abruptly opened her eyes. The gun in her hand was pointed at Carmen soundlessly. The sight shook Michael to the core. He immediately uttered to Carmen when she was going to run over to him, "Baby, don't stand up. Sit down. Sit down. I'm going to start reciting my script!"

Justin added, "Sit down now. Don't move no matter what happens!"

Their voices trembled uncontrollably. Carmen quickly sat back down. Her dark, beady eyes revealed her fear as she looked at Michael while pouting. She was near tears.

Seeing that she had sat down, Michael felt a little relieved. He gulped before looking at Celine. The two people had the same face but entirely different lives. Michael held back his tears and went straight to the point. "Katrina, I can give you anything you want. I just hope that you won't harm my child."

Justin was beyond nervous when he saw Celine stepping on the rope that was tied on Carmen. She then moved her foot away from the rope, causing Carmen to lose her only protective measure. Carmen, who was squatting near the edge of the balcony, was now in the position where she would fall if she took even one step back. Frightened, Michael immediately said, "I'll promise you anything. Please don't hurt the child. She's also your niece!"

Hearing that, Celine slowly placed her foot back on the rope and sneered at him. The gun she was holding in her hand was aimed at Carmen with its safety off. A gentle pull at the trigger would kill Carmen. "It's simple. I want you guys to provide me with a clear escape route. I want to leave this country as soon as possible. I will let her go after I leave Cethos' border."

Michael immediately replied, "Alright. Give me some time. I will contact the relevant departments and make necessary arrangements now." The first priority would be to pacify her.

Justin had a bag in his hand. He opened it and revealed the food and medicines inside. "Celie, you haven't eaten anything for 12 hours. I've prepared some food and medicine to stop your bleeding."

She pointed at the cement screed floor in front of her with the gun and said, "Throw them to me."

He placed the stuff at the spot not far in front of Celine as he knew that it would be unwise to confront her head on now—Carmen might be harmed in the process. Celine used her feet and moved the stuff closer to her with the gun pointed at Carmen at all times.

As a top assassin and the King of Soldiers of the special forces, Carmen would be hurt if Justin made a move now.

Celine took a box of biscuits and ate a little before throwing a carton of milk at Carmen. With both hands being tied, Carmen clumsily picked the milk up, inserted the straw into it, and drank it. She had been starving for many hours as well.

While being wary of Justin and Michael, she took off her clothes with one hand, revealing her injured arm, and used the other hand to skilfully stop her own bleeding and bandaged her wound. As she had been through special self-rescue training, she was able to tend to her injuries while staying vigilant of her surroundings.

Seeing that she had finally calmed down and Carmen was drinking milk, Michael patted Justin's shoulder before explaining to her, "This is a big issue. I have to go down to make some arrangements with the necessary departments. Give me some time."

All of a sudden, Celine grabbed Carmen into her arms and pointed the gun at her head. "Someone is here!" she growled mercilessly. Her especially acute sense of hearing allowed her to capture sounds of someone coming over from three floors away. Therefore, Cooper and Joel dared not send many people in.

Carmen burst into tears out of fear, and Michael quickly raised his hands and uttered, "No, no. Only the two of us, Justin and I, are here. There is surely no one else!"

However, when he turned around, he found Nathan, who had come up without his knowledge. He stared at Celine and Carmen, who was crying in the former's arms, with listless eyes—they were desperate to the point of numbness.

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Michael, who had been given a fright, sweated profusely. Sweat trickled down his face as he explained, "Celie, this is your son. He is just here to see you. Don't worry; we won't do anything reckless."

Seeing that Carmen was sobbing, Michael immediately coaxed her to prevent her from agitating Celine. "Carmen, we've started filming, so you have to be a good girl. You can't cry now. I'm going to start saying my lines now."

As a hardworking and diligent actor, Carmen tried her best to hold back her sobs, but tears kept streaming down her cheeks out of fear when she was in Celine's arm.

The black gun was aimed at her messy little head, and one of the small flowers pinned on her hair had fallen off. Michael's eyes widened, for fear that the gun would go off.

At that moment, Nathan suddenly took two steps forward. "Take me instead."

Celine roared as she raised her hand. *Bang!* She shot at the floor inches away in front of Nathan's feet, causing Carmen to tremble in fear, but she still forced herself to suppress her cries.

The gunshot alarmed the people downstairs. Cooper's flustered voice was heard from the walkie-talkie brought by Justin. "What happened?"

Justin replied, "Nothing's wrong. Don't make any move. We can resolve this."

Nathan looked at the bullet hole next to his feet in a daze, his expression still numb. Michael quickly pulled him back and said to Celine, "Stay calm! Stay calm! He's just a child who doesn't know what he's doing! I'll take him away now!"

He hurriedly dragged Nathan to the staircase and dashed down the stairs.

Wiping the sweat on his face, Micheal realized that his legs were trembling, as if every step he took landed on cotton.

Nathan, who was following behind him, suddenly asked, "Will you guys kill her?"

Michael's footsteps came to a sudden halt. A second later, he quickened his pace down the stairs without replying.

On the tenth floor, Justin looked at Celine from afar, the tears in his eyes unconcealable. *Why does fate refuse to leave us alone? Why do we have to be treated so cruelly?*

Justin was petrified. He was terrified that Cooper would lose his patience and kill Celine, and at the same time, he was terrified that Celine would lose her patience and hurt Carmen.

Celine finally calmed down and put Carmen at one side. She treated her own wounds while being wary of Justin, who was coaxing Carmen lovingly. "Good girl, your daddy has gone to the neighboring film set, but he will be back in a while. You need to sit down obediently. I've brought you some lollipops."

Celine's kick earlier caused the things brought by Justin to spill everywhere, and a few lollipops were scattered all over the place. Carmen cautiously glanced at Celine before secretly picking up a lollipop from the corner and putting it into her mouth.

After Celine finished bandaging her wounds, she took some syrup and leaned against the balcony to rest while remaining vigilant.

Justin's eyes were filled with pain as he looked at her. He sat down as well, holding a walkie-talkie in his hand to stay in contact with the people downstairs.

After Michael and Nathan reached the ground floor, the former was impassive when Cooper, Joel, and Linus approached him and asked, "How did it go? What did she say?"

Michael answered, "I managed to keep the situation under control for now. She wants to leave Cethos. She will release Carmen after she leaves the Cethos' border." He sounded especially helpless as he was speaking.

The astute Celine knew what bargaining chip she should get hold of in exchange for the things she wanted, and she had indeed selected the right one—having Carmen alone was enough to threaten everyone.

The group of people gathered to figure out a way.

Joel was the first to raise an objection. "No, we can't do that. That was what she said when she was in the research center before this. She kidnapped the psychologist and escaped, but she still tried to kill the hostage after she managed to escape! I won't fall for the same trick twice!"

Cooper cast a vicious look at the tenth floor before declaring, "Send drones to launch a precise attack now! I can't wait any longer!" *Carmen is all I care for. As for Celine... Although I feel sorry for Mark, no one is comparable to my grandchild! I don't mind being selfish!*

Currently, Michael just remained quiet without saying anything. He sat at one side in dejection. His eyes wandered around and found Sophia, who was also sitting at one side.

Sophia had a deadpan expression with fresh tears at the corner of her eyes as she was comforted by Sarah, who had rushed over for her.

The two of them looked at each other from a distance. Though they were separated by the busy and anxious crowd, they felt as if all the sound in the world had quietened down at that instant.

All they had in their eyes was each other as they communicated soundlessly with their soul.

The current Michael was like a helpless child, drowning in despair.

On one side, he had his sister, whom he had always depended on, while on the other side was his daughter, who was his whole world.

Now, he had to choose between the two of them—it was a choice that was too difficult to make.

He stared at Sophia impassively and finally moved away his gaze.

She looked blankly at him before raising her head to look at the tenth floor. Carmen was eating lollipops up there. She tore open the wrappings and threw it down.

She raised her head and lowered it while tears escaped her eyes.

She then saw Nathan sitting next to Michael with his head leaned against the latter while he soundlessly wiped away his tears.

Michael seemed to be consoling a sobbing Nathan in a low voice as the latter wiped away his tears and looked at everyone around with his eyes reddened. He not only had tears in his eyes, but also hatred and hope.

Sophia heard their arrangements—they were definitely not going to let Celine go because Carmen would not survive if she escaped.

Their priority now was to keep her under control to buy them time to arrange for more people to go and save Carmen.

However, it would not be easy to save Carmen from Celine!

The situation was intense. All sorts of weapons had been secretly moved to the scene.

Sophia stroked her face and realized that it had become cold and numb after her tear-soaked face was air-dried by wind. When she was taking a sip of water, an idea crossed her mind, which caused her to immediately stand up and hurry to the people who were planning for the rescue. “I have an idea!”

Everyone raised their heads and looked at her as she said to Linus, “Uncle Linus, you must still have Quinton’s contact details, right? If we are able to find him, he certainly will have a way, since Katrina listens to him!”

It suddenly dawned on them that Quinton would definitely have a way to resolve this since Katrina was a personality created by Quinton himself!

Everyone turned to Linus. As the ex-financial backer of Phantom Wolf, he must be able to contact Quinton.

Unfortunately, Linus frowned and shook his head. “I’ve severed all ties with Phantom Wolf... Besides, even if I were able to contact him, it wouldn’t bring any help. He is now far abroad, and everything would be too late when he’d come over. Moreover, he is not stupid, so he won’t walk right into the lion’s den. Even if he would come, who knows what he’d be here for? Who can guess what’s in Phantom Wolf’s mind?”

After listening to Linus’ analysis, Sophia, who had initially gotten her hopes a little high, felt as if a bucket of cold water was just poured on her, extinguishing all her hopes.

Quinton could not come over since he was too far away. The Fletcher Family hated him so much that they would kill him, so appearing now would be no different from throwing himself into a trap. Therefore, it would be impossible for him to appear for the sake of a child.

Even if he came, who could guarantee that he would be able to save Carmen?

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Phantom Wolf might meet up with Katrina, and Carmen would fall into his hands by then. Since Quinton was far more cunning and cruel than Katrina, he might even make the matter worse.

At that instant, despair filled everyone's heart.

It was late; the sun had set, and the wind was cold at night. Carmen was given a blanket to cover herself. She meekly curled herself up on the balcony while looking at Justin in a pitiful manner.

"Uncle Justin, why isn't Daddy here yet?"

Justin looked at her from afar and quietly replied, "Your daddy is in a meeting; he will be here soon, darling. Cover yourself properly so that you won't catch a cold."

She nodded as she burrowed her little face under the blanket. She had been sitting on the same spot as she dared not move even an inch.

Outside the building, Sophia slumped onto the ground helplessly. Raising her head and looking at the tenth floor again, she saw the red flower pinned on Carmen's hair swaying in the wind. Two rows of hot tears once again coursed down her icy, numb cheeks.

No, I must find Quinton; only he will have a way to solve this. I'm sure he doesn't have it in him to just let Carmen die! I believe there is still a shred of kindness in him.

Sophia wiped away her tears and spoke to Linus again. "Phantom Wolf has an email address to accept all sorts of tasks. Uncle Linus, I'm sure that you know of it, right?"

Linus nodded, whereupon she uttered, "Send it to me."

Linus immediately sent the email address to her before she returned to the SUV with the phone in her hand. With her lips pressed, she thought and contemplated for a long time but still could not figure out how to bring this up to Quinton. Looking through the window, she glanced at Carmen, and then at Nathan, who was crying in Michael's arms. The sight of them caused her to feel a lump in her throat, and she failed to hold back her tears.

What should I do to convince Quinton to come over? She was well aware that if he were to come, he would be walking straight into the lion's den. Also, even if he really managed to rescue Carmen, the Fletcher Family would detain him on the spot. Therefore, why should he come? I don't have any bargaining chip! I don't have anything that he wants!

However, Sophia did not have much time left. She had to give it a try no matter what.

She switched on her phone and opened the selfie video mode. As she looked at the lens, tears rolled down her cheeks like pearls falling from a broken necklace before any words could be formed. Nevertheless, she still tried to explain the situation in a strangled voice. "Hope, I'm Sophia. If you can see this video, I beg for you to save my child."

She focused the lens on the tenth floor. Part of Carmen's little head and the red flower pinned on her hair on the balcony of the tenth floor was caught on camera.

She turned the camera back at herself and murmured, "Hope..." However, she could not bear to finish her sentence. After hesitating for a long time, the words seemed to have stuck in her throat, and she still could not say them in the end; she could only cry soundlessly. "The address is East City Road No. 28."

Finally, she stopped the recording and emailed the messy video to the email address.

After the email was successfully sent, she lay in the car and wept helplessly.

As time went by, Justin tried his best to keep the situation under control while Celine stayed vigilant of her surroundings. Meanwhile, Carmen curled herself up in the blanket on the balcony with her beady eyes wandering around. She dared not fall asleep as she was afraid that she might fall.

The people downstairs had prepared a rescue plan.

Celine's threat level had greatly exceeded everyone's expectation. According to Cooper's plan, she would not be given any chances of survival because it would be impossible for Carmen to escape this alive without killing Celine.

The Fletcher Family had no choice but to reluctantly accept the plan and give up on Celine.

Michael went upstairs to take another look at Carmen, who was obediently curled up on the balcony with her eyes wide open. She tried to stay awake although she was at the verge of dozing off at any time.

Suppressing his tears, Michael tried to make himself sound relaxed as he consoled her. "Good baby, I'm here. We are going to shoot our night scenes soon. Carmen, be good—don't move and don't sleep!"

Carmen seemed pitiful. "Daddy, it's dark. I'm scared."

He replied, "Shooting night scenes is like this. Don't be scared. After we finish shooting for this movie, you will become famous, and I will take you to go and participate in 'Where Are We Going, Dad?'."

Upon mentioning joining the program that she had been looking forward to, she became excited. Her eyes were twinkling when she uttered, "But Grandpa doesn't allow me to become an actress. He wants me to go home and rear big sheep, but I don't want to rear big sheep."

The father and daughter chatted with each other with a few meters' distance between them. He smiled and replied, "No, it won't happen. I promise!"

After a while, Carmen raised another question. "Daddy, are you going to divorce Mommy?"

Michael fell silent for a moment before forcing a smile on his face. "This will depend on you, Carmen. If you behave yourself, your mommy won't divorce me."

Deep down inside, he knew that he would lose Sophia if he lost Carmen this time.

He looked at her with teary eyes and uttered, "You will always be my sweetest baby."

After that, he turned to Celine, whom he currently felt was a complete stranger!

Her eyes were dangerous and cautious, resembling a snakes', as they silently watched him from the darkness.

He turned around and lowered his head, warm tears on his face.

He really could not make a choice between losing a child or losing his only sister—he couldn't afford to lose any of them!

At the same time, Justin, who had just received the news from downstairs, uttered to Michael in disbelief, "He is here."

Just now, Quinton had arrived at the scene.

An hour ago, Sophia's email was sent out; an hour later, he showed up.

Step by step, he emerged from the darkness alone as the searchlights exposed his figure. Sophia could not see his face vividly; she could only see his tall build under the strong beam of lights. As he paced closer, his face gradually became visible—it was Quinton.

He was wearing a black tuxedo with a neat bow tie and a bouquet of flowers in his left hand; he resembled a gallant gentleman who had returned from attending a ball. Yet it was the same gentleman who was the main reason for Phantom Wolf's notoriety—underneath the exquisite surface lay a psychotic devil.

Countless guns were instantly aimed at him, but that did not make him retreat—he continued approaching them instead. But when the safeties were turned off, signaling that they were ready to open fire at him at any time, he slowly stopped his pace and raised both his hands, completely revealing himself under the enemies' gun without any hesitation.

"Hope!" Michael dashed at him like a gust of wind and called out his real name. However, when he arrived in front of him and saw his face, which was exactly the same as his father's, he was unable to do anything to him. His fist was clenched so tightly that he nearly hurt his own palm, but he was still unable to throw him a punch.

He was the only person who could save both Carmen and Celine!

The two of them looked at each other from a distance—one of them had indifference in his eyes, while the other one's were filled with overwhelming rage.

If it weren't for him, Michael would not have been separated from Sophia for so many years; Carmen would not have almost died; Celine would not have become how she was now; and the situation tonight definitely would not have happened!

He was the person responsible for everything!

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Sophia suddenly rushed out and stood between Michael and Quinton, blocking the former behind her while she pleaded, "Please let me talk to him, alright?"

Michael had no choice but to release his clenched fist and step to the side while glaring at Quinton.

She took two steps forward and stood in front of the man who had accompanied her for two years.

She never thought that he would actually come!

Her throat tightened. She had thousands of words in her mind, but they were all stuck in her throat.

Back then, she had cruelly abandoned him and unhesitatingly left with Cooper. But now, he was actually willing to venture into such a dangerous place after listening to only her words.

Quinton took her into his embrace without saying anything.

He initially thought that he would never see her again for his whole life. When he learned of her injuries, he secretly sneaked into Cethos at great risk, but he'd never thought that he would receive her request for help so soon.

Looking at the two people hugging each other, Michael nearly rushed at them, but he restrained himself in the end.

Quinton embraced her, greedily wishing that he could hold on to her warmth for a longer time, but he suppressed his urge to do so. After a fleeting moment, he said to her, "Take me to her."

Hearing that, she returned to her senses and brought him to the entrance of the building. Everyone gave way to them.

Cooper glared at Quinton, and the latter gave him a smug smile. "Mr. Michel, long time no see."

Cooper clenched his teeth. If it weren't for the fact that his granddaughter's life was still in danger upstairs, he would have chopped him up into minced meat in a matter of minutes.

Quinton strode to the building while listening to Michael explaining about the situation upstairs. Justin suddenly sent them a message from above. "Celie is running out of patience. I can't hold her back any longer!"

Justin's words from the walkie talkie nearly made Sophia collapse. She subconsciously gripped on Quinton's sleeve, making a crease on the immaculate black suit.

He took Michael's walkie-talkie and instructed, "Tell her that we have dealt with the customs at the borders. I'm coming up there to confirm with her the path to leave the country."

He then put down the walkie-talkie and spoke to Michael and Sophia behind him. "I will deal with this. Don't go up there." With that, he entered the building alone.

Sophia looked at him disappearing into the darkness at the end of the path while a complex feeling filled her heart.

Seconds later, tears streamed down her face. She gently threw herself into Michael's embrace and cried desperately in his arms.

With Sophia in his arms, Michael raised his head and looked at the tenth floor, where a tiny red flower was swaying in the wind.

Quinton arrived at the tenth floor. He heard the sound of a child crying and adults quarrelling from afar.

“Don’t play any tricks. I will give you ten minutes—I want to see my plane!”

“Calm down, calm down, Celie. Your plane will be arriving soon. It will be here right away!”

“Sob—Daddy!”

“Carmen, come over here. Don’t go any further outside. Daddy will be here soon!”

Upon hearing the childish, helpless cry, Quinton involuntarily quickened his pace and arrived on the tenth floor. He gazed around and saw that in the tiny space barely illuminated by a simple bulb, a tiny body was sitting on the balcony. A rope was stretched from the balcony into the room with the other end stepped under Celine’s foot.

Celine was irritably shouting at Justin, causing the latter to sweat profusely out of anxiety while his eyes were bulged.

“Katrina.” The cold, merciless voice sounded like an order, causing the agitated Celine to instantly calm down and look at him with extreme devotion. “Master,” she uttered.

Quinton Clark! Upon seeing his face, Justin almost could not control his fist.

Quinton slowly walked to them, as if he did not see Justin, in his clean, elegant outfit that seemed incredibly out of place.

He ordered Justin in a low voice. “Back away.”

Justin glared at him. He looked at the agitated Celine, and then at Carmen, who was curled up in a ball on the balcony while crying, before deciding to silently retreat and wait in the darkness to watch the commotion from behind.

The moment Quinton made an appearance, Celine instantly calmed down, as if she had found her faith. She raised her head and looked at him.

As he was stepping forward, he fished out a pocket watch from his pocket and held it in front of Celine. He then spoke to her in a kind, gentle voice. "Look at it."

Her highly tense spirit became relaxed at that moment. She looked at the pocket watch without any resistance while her pupils followed the movement of the swinging pocket, which then caused her to be unconsciously hypnotized. Her eyes became glassy, and her mind turned blank.

At the same time, the gun that she had been firmly holding in her hands fell to the floor. Meanwhile, Quinton impassively continued to swing the pocket watch with one hand. "Look at it... If you feel tired, close your eyes and take a rest."

His voice, which was full of magic, caused Celine to almost fall asleep with her eyes half-closed. He quietly picked up the gun with his other hand, turned off the safety, and removed the bullets. At the same time, he stepped on the rope that had been released by her.

Thud! She finally fell asleep and collapsed onto the ground. She seemed to be soundly asleep.

Exhaling in relief, Quinton looked at the corner of the balcony, where the light could not reach, before squatting down. He then held the rope and gently clapped his hands. "Your name is Carmen, right? Carmen, quickly come over!"

The small black figure on the balcony squirmed and asked in a soft voice, "Are we done shooting?"

Quinton replied, "Yes, we are done filming. You can go home now, Carmen."

Hearing that, the tiny figure made a move and got on her feet. She wobbled a little due to her numb legs, causing his heart to skip a beat, so he subconsciously gripped the rope tightly.

A little girl was seen slowly walking to him from the darkness. Her face was soiled, but her familiar features were still clearly visible—she had inherited her mother's features and her father's temperament. As a girl with a male's features, her looks showed that she would grow into an extraordinary beauty in the future.

He could still remember her, but this was not the case for her—even though he was the person who delivered her.

When they were on the run with Michael and the Fletcher Family chasing after them, Sophia gave birth in the chaotic town. He delivered her baby—a tiny, thin baby girl.

When she was just born, she looked like a lump of filthy flesh, resembling an ugly monkey. Due to the complication during delivery, she was not breathing when she was born.

However, he refused to give up on her. As a person with a doctorate in medicine, he used everything that he had learned and successfully saved her.

When the blob of dirty flesh cried loudly and started moving, his eyes felt hot with tears, as if he had attained a treasure.

He had initially wanted to take her along with them, but he was aware that she would not survive for long with her poor health condition if he were to do so. In contrast, leaving her with her father would at least give her a chance to survive.

Therefore, he sent her away, but he would sometimes dream of the scene where the soft, dirty lump of flesh was squirming in his palm. It was unexpected to him that he would actually meet her today in such a situation.

Carmen was all dirty; her hair was messy, and she had lost a shoe. Terrified, she walked over to him, only to find a handsome man; her parents were not in sight. “Where’s Daddy and Mommy?” she asked pitifully.

He untied the rope that was tying both her hands together before answering, “Your Daddy and Mommy are waiting for you downstairs!”

