

My Dreamy Old Husband Chapter 1461

He could not bear to leave without explaining everything.

He was also worried that Sophia might resent him for not bidding farewell, or that she might lose confidence in all men because of his lie.

Hence, he wrote a letter to tell her that he loved her very much. Even when he passed, he was full of her love.

Michael hoped that she would live a happy life when he was not around and he did not want her to waste her precious time on him.

He also wanted to tell his children that he loved them a lot. No matter if it was Carmen, whom he brought back from Africa and raised, or it was the pair of twins whom he did not get a chance to name, he loved them equally.

He did not hate anyone and conceded defeat to this fate of his.

After he buried the time capsules again, Michael realized that he had been crying.

He longed to stay in this world.

He wanted to age together with Sophia, to see Carmen grow up, to watch the birth of the twins and be by their sides as they grew up...

Even though he had prepared himself mentally, he realized that there were still too many things holding him back when he was about to leave.

How good would it be if we could go back in time... I definitely won't leave so early.

I will find Sophia earlier and bring her away from all the hardships so that she can grow up happily.

Unfortunately, there are no what ifs.

The next day, the entire family departed for Africa.

Carrying many bags, Celine walked ahead of everyone. Meanwhile, Linus and Cooper were dressed in business suits as they talked about their business as they walked. Sophia walked next to Linus and tugged Carmen along, while Anna and Callum walked behind them. Theo, Quinton, and Justin's family also tagged along.

Michael was leading Judge, who seemed to know it was going for a vacation as it trotted happily along.

Everyone seemed to be in high spirits, yet Michael was the only one with a heavy heart as he forced himself to smile like everyone else.

After they boarded the plane, Judge scoured around to look for its favorite spot, while Maisie pestered Michael for a hug.

When the plane was taking off, Michael found a quiet spot to rest since Sophia was having a conversation with Anna.

Something seemed to have gotten into Judge on this day—the dog was quieter than usual. It was not playful anymore as it sat next to Michael obediently with its nose sniffing around, as if it had detected something.

It was common knowledge that dogs had a strong sense of smell.

Perhaps Judge had detected a different smell.

Most likely it was the smell of death emanating from Michael.

Woof!

Judge suddenly moaned in a low tone and nudged Michael's hand, waiting for him to stroke its head.

When Michael stroked Judge, he suddenly realized that Judge's head was pretty comfortable—something that he had never realized before. Hence, he continued stroking Judge, who looked back at him.

Judge suddenly was not dumb anymore; its eyes looked humane and intelligent. Upon a closer look, one could see tears in its eyes.

Judge seemed to have realized something.

It had stayed with Michael for many years. In fact, the time that Judge spent with Michael was even more than Stanley, its 'biological father'. Anxious and sad, it nudged Michael's knees, as though it was pleading Michael to stay.

Michael gently patted its head. "So you are not dumb at all. Just playful."

Judge wagged its tail anxiously.

"Hubby, it's time for lunch!"

Sophia suddenly appeared. Seeing that Michael was stroking Judge's head, she was surprised. "Oh—did I interrupt you guys?"

Michael smiled and got up to walk to the dining area, not forgetting to hold Sophia's hand.

Meanwhile, Judge followed behind them, more clingy than usual.

A scrumptious lunch was placed on the dining table. As it was a private plane, they did not save on the food at all. In fact, they brought their personal chef, who had stayed in Michael's house for many years, along. Nathan grew up eating the food he cooked.

Worried that Sophia might not get used to the food in Africa, the chef insisted on tagging along to cook for her.

"Dear, this is your favorite eel! I also moved the eel from our house over there!"

Sophia scooped the dish onto Michael's plate while he also tried to return the favor, cherishing every moment they spent together.

Around the dining table, Cooper, who usually pulled a long face, seemed more gentle on this day. "Not to say that I'm being selfish, but Sophia's babies also have the Mitchell's and the Yard's blood in them. They can't belong to the Fletchers entirely."

"The two of them shall be the last. Sophia, don't try for another child anymore. Your health isn't very good, so don't force yourself."

It was very unlikely that Sophia could even get pregnant because of her health. It was already very difficult when she was pregnant with Carmen and it was a miracle for her to be pregnant again.

Even though Cooper said that he wanted a second grandchild, when Sophia had indeed gotten pregnant, he felt incredibly sorry when he saw she had to constantly take tonics and injections to stabilize the fetus. Now, her arms were full of injection scars.

Michael nodded and hummed in response.

When he spoke, he could not help but look at Sophia.

She's gone through too much for these two babies.

Between managing her figure during pregnancy and a smooth delivery, she chose to deliver her babies smoothly hands down. Hence, her slender figure was now replaced by a bloated body and her past figure of a young woman had disappeared.

After lunch, Sophia prepared to take a nap with Michael. Since her belly was already protruding, she lay down with her belly facing upward.

Carmen also climbed onto the bed and slept next to Michael, while Judge also decided to join the fun and slept beside her.

The three of them and the dog lay on the bed together. Carmen yawned and turned around, burying her chubby face in Michael's arms. In no time, she had fallen asleep.

Michael enjoyed watching Carmen's cute chubby cheeks that were flushed red.

Looking at Sophia, who was sleeping next to him, her cheeks were also chubby and pink.

They are equally adorable!

Michael looked at his wife and daughter seriously, thinking that every second of looking at them was a bonus.

Meanwhile, Judge stared straight at him, as though it was bidding farewell to him.

Suddenly, Sophia, who had already fallen asleep, opened her eyes and exclaimed, "Oh!"

As Michael was drifting off, he was shocked by her sudden exclamation so he quickly asked, "What's wrong?"

Sophia had a look of stunned joy on her face. "T-They are moving..."

With trembling hands, she flung the blanket away to reveal her belly; something really seemed to be moving within.

What a strange feeling!

Sophia was caught unguarded by this pleasant surprise. Equally happy, Michael stretched out his hands and caressed her belly.

Through Sophia's skin, he felt the presence of his unborn children. Even though they were still very small, they were moving playfully.

In that instant, tears welled up in his eyes but he tried hard to control his sobs.

I'm sorry babies, but Daddy can't be by your side as you grow up.

With one hand caressing his unborn children and the other hugging Sophia while Carmen slept beside them, Michael had never felt happier in his life.

When the plane was preparing for landing, Sophia woke up to see that Michael was still sleeping.

"Wake up, dear. We are preparing for landing."

Unfortunately, Michael did not reply. He was still sleeping peacefully with a slight smile on his lips. Yet, a drop of tear still lingered near his eyes.

Judge howled as it nudged Michael's hands with its mouth. However, Michael could not open his eyes and respond anymore.

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“Dear?”

Sophia nudged Michael a few times but there was no reply. He continued to sleep peacefully, as if he was dreaming happily; perhaps he was already together with Sophia in his dreams.

His dream might be so beautiful that he could not bear to wake up.

After making sure that he would not wake up for the time being, Sophia finally released the pain and despair she had been holding in for the past few days. Unable to hold back her tears anymore, they gushed out of her eyes. She tried to keep her sobs minimal so that she would not wake Carmen up.

A few days ago, Justin told her about everything.

It was only at that moment that Sophia realized Michael was dying. Everyone knew about it but they had hidden it from her.

This was also Michael’s wish—he wanted to leave peacefully and he did not want Sophia to wait for him, so he refused to enter cryogenic sleep.

Theo supported his decision. After all, he experienced the indescribable helplessness and despair after he woke up from his cryogenic sleep, so he did not want his son to follow in his footsteps.

Cooper too did not stop him, as he did not want his daughter to wait for a man who was half-dead for the rest of her life.

Hence, it was Michael’s final wish to leave peacefully and with dignity.

However, Sophia did not want this.

How can he be so selfish, leaving alone just like that?

I will not let him die!

Hence, she planned out the entire trip with Justin—she suggested the trip to Africa and when Michael boarded the plane, they would feed him sleeping pills for him to fall unconscious. After they landed, they would put him into cryogenic sleep right after they reached Michel Castle.

I can't let him die!

Sophia choked on her sobs. After wiping her tears off, she quickly asked Justin to enter the room.

He had already dragged out the cryosleep chamber that was placed on the plane. They had made all the preparations and had put an adequate amount of sleeping pills in Michael's food so that he would have a good sleep.

After he had fallen asleep, they would immediately initiate the cryogenic sleep.

When he woke up, he would be reborn.

Standing at one side, tears streamed down Sophia's face relentlessly as she watched Michael being placed into the chamber. It was as if she was standing on a cliff, watching her beloved standing on the opposite cliff.

Cold air gushed from the abyss, taking all warmth from her. Because of the fog in the mountains, she could not even see his face clearly.

Is this how everything ends?

Quinton also entered the room to help them. When they lifted him up, even his hands were trembling.

I'm the one who pushed Michael down the abyss of death.

It's all my fault!

On the other hand, Carmen had already woken up. When she saw Justin and Quinton putting Michael into the cryosleep chamber, she rubbed her eyes sleepily and asked in confusion, "Mommy, why is Daddy being placed in there?"

Sophia wiped the tears from her cheeks. However, as soon as she did that, another stream of tears flowed down her cheeks as she forced a smile at Carmen. "Daddy is going somewhere far, far away. Carmen, you have to be a good girl, okay?"

Sophia's voice was like a small spark that could extinguish anytime amid the strong wind.

Carmen seemed to realize that something was going on because a long time ago, Woody had gone through the same thing. After he fell asleep in a rectangular chamber, he was not seen since.

"No!"

Carmen started sobbing loudly and heartbrokenly. Upon seeing this, their nanny quickly brought her out.

Carmen's cries had alerted Theo and Cooper. Even though they were not aware of Sophia's plans, when they saw Michael in the cryosleep chamber as soon as they entered, they immediately understood what was going on.

Cooper knew very well that if Sophia knew what had been going on, she would definitely make this decision.

It was highly possible that she would be waiting for him for the rest of her life.

"Darling, why do you do this to yourself?"

Theo also had a conflicted expression on his face. After all, he clearly knew what this meant. After Michael woke up, everything would be different. His father would be older and his son might even be older than himself, while many of his friends might already be dead. Such feelings were suffocating and lonely, as if he had been abandoned by the entire world.

Theo did not wish his son to take the same decision as him.

If Michael was only asleep for a decade, it was still alright. However, if he was asleep for decades, Sophia might not even be here after he woke up and all his friends and family would have left him.

How much despair will he feel when that time comes?

Sophia, however, kneeled before them gently and raised her head to look at both Cooper and Theo with tears gushing down her cheeks. "Dad, I can't let Mikey die just like that! Father, I beg you! I don't want Mikey to die..."

Theo shook his head with apparent pain on his face. "But this is too cruel to Mikey. What if you are not around when he wakes up? Have you ever thought about the pain he would experience?"

Even though devastated, Sophia had a firm look in her eyes. She had already thought through all the possible consequences.

I shall be the selfish one this time!

She would rather stay lonely for half her life in exchange for Michael to be alive decades later.

"Father, if Elizabeth knows that you are still alive, she will still be very happy to hear that."

With that, Theo was at a loss for words. In that instant, tears welled up in his eyes as well.

Yes... If Elizabeth knows that I'm still alive, even though we can't be together, she will surely be happy for me.

After all, staying alive is better than everything else.

To Theo, him being alive was a suffering. However, to the people who loved him, his revival was a pleasant surprise.

A lump formed in Theo's throat and he did not utter another word, quietly agreeing to Sophia's actions.

With tears streaming down Anna's face, she helped Sophia up, while Cooper also looked pained.

Since Sophia had already made this decision, the rest of her life would be spent waiting for a person who might not even be alive.

However, if he put himself in her shoes—if Anna was the one laying in the cryosleep chamber—he would make the same decision as Sophia.

If Michael was dead right now, all of Sophia's happiness would be gone. After all, there was nothing more painful than watching the person she loved die in front of her. This pain might even accompany her forever.

However, if she knew that there was a possibility for Michael to wake up in the future, at least she would still look forward to living; there was still a slight chance.

Cooper wiped his tears and patted Sophia's shoulders. "Go ahead. I give you my support."

Sophia nodded and turned around to look at the cryosleep chamber. Quinton and Justin had already made the necessary arrangements and they used the medical apparatus to guide Michael into deep sleep. After they pushed him to Michel Castle, he could fall into cryogenic sleep immediately.

Through the glass of the chamber, Sophia looked at Michael. He was still as attractive and dashing as he always was in her memories. At this moment, a gentle expression was etched onto his handsome face with a slight smile on his lips, as if he had sunk into a sweet dream that he could not wake up from.

He had probably reunited with Sophia in his dreams and he might be living in this dream for decades. Perhaps he was living the life he had always wanted in his dreams, yet he thought that was the reality the entire time.

On the other hand, Sophia, who was living in the current reality, might need to wait for him for decades.

She might even have to wait until she grew old and died.

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In the end, Michael successfully entered the cryogenic sleep that would sustain his life. The situation of his health would remain the same until they could find a way to cure him. Once they did so, he would be woken up from his sleep for him to start the treatment.

However, the future held too many uncertainties—the technology for cryogenic sleep was still in its infancy stage. Even though the field had been researched by a few groups decades ago, the majority had failed. So far, only Theo and Albert were the successful cases, though the latter only entered cryogenic sleep for a short period of time. Hence,

strictly speaking, Theo was the only case of being successfully cured after he slept for a long time.

If the cryogenic sleep failed or there was a huge change in the future, no one knew what could happen. After all, one was simply unable to predict the future.

Take Theo for example—he would never have thought that the entire world had changed after he woke up. Cethos had nuclear weapons and no one would attack the country's borders anymore. However, his beloved woman killed herself because she thought he was dead. Apart from that, his illegitimate son had hurt his twins. He had never even dreamed of such events. Similarly, Michael could also encounter some events that he did not even dare to daydream about.

For those who experienced cryogenic sleep, it would be just a short and sweet dream. However, once they were awake, they would feel as though they had been detached from the entire world. They would reckon that they were transported to an unfamiliar yet cold and parallel world which was filled with pain and despair. No one knew how long Michael would sleep or what would await him when he regained consciousness.

Theo moved to Michel Town to stay with his son at all times; he thought that it would help Michael if he saw a familiar face when he would wake up. He was just unsure whether he could wait until that day to arrive.

Taking the opportunity into their hands, the medical research professionals carried out a complete body check up on Michael and realized that his body was full of toxins that corroded his internal organs. His bodily functions were deteriorating and he would not have long to live.

The current level of medicine was unable to cure him, but the professionals proposed a few backup plans—one of them was organ transplant since both Quinton and Theo's organs were compatible with him. However, with a 0.01% probability for Cade, both Michael and Sophia had rejected it many times. They did not want to use a life in exchange for another one.

There were still many treatment methods, but the available technology was not advanced enough to enable it. An example would be self-healing organs or organ regeneration—those only existed in fiction and time was needed to conduct many clinical trials before the methods could even be tested. All in all, what they needed was time, but how long do they need? It was something no one could confirm.

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis and Virs-18 were both being researched for at least five years, yet the cure for AIDS was not even available at that point in time. To revive Michael, they could require a year or two, ten years, decades, or even the hard work of a few generations... No one knew how long he had to sleep before he could be revived.

However, Sophia would not throw in the towel. It was only until late at night that she unwillingly left the cryogenic center. Michael had already been there for around half a month. As a result, she had left everything else to accompany him for the same stretch of time as well. His cryosleep chamber was right next to Cade's. Both of them were waiting from some unknown chances of being revived.

As Sophia stood outside the cryosleep chamber, she saw Michael, who was asleep, through the clear glass. He was completely in the state of being in a cryogenic sleep—all of his metabolism as well as his breathing and heartbeat ceased to function as blood ceased flow within him. He was hidden in the blind spot of time that simply did not apply to him anymore.

To him, everything had stopped—like the pause button being pressed on a movie. However, to people outside the cryosleep chamber, every second was real and unbearably long.

As Sophia looked at the pale Michael who was no longer breathing, she broke down in tears again. The tears that she thought were dry streamed down her face once more. We've been through many hardships to have what we have today. Why does everything still have to end like this? Is it because we are not fated to have true love in our lives? He once waited for me for three years until all of his hair had turned grey—and I finally returned. Now, I'm the one who's endlessly waiting for him without a fixed ending date for this, but I will not give up. I will keep waiting for him, even until I grow old and die. After I'm gone, my children will continue to do so. If there's a next life, I'm willing to wait for him as well. One day, he will have to return.

In the midst of her thoughts, another person came to stand next to her.

In a white robe, Quinton had already stood beside her for a long time, but she did not notice him as she was only looking at Michael. Of course; how would she notice me? Even if Michael isn't here, she won't notice me as well. Even after I erased her memories and personally took care of her while making her think that she loves me, I could lie to myself and Sophia, but I can't run away from the truth.

Quinton silently looked at her. Sophia was devastated. Her eyes were red with blood and tears, but she was still holding on for the sake of her children. For every drop of her tear, his

sin ran deeper. However, she had already shown the greatest forgiveness. After all, everyone else knew that he was the culprit.

Both of them stood next to Michael without any exchange of words.

It was late at night when Shae asked Sophia to take a rest so that she would not affect the development of the babies inside her. It was only until then she obliged. As Quinton watched her leave, he thought that her weak body seemed to have hidden a huge amount of power and stubbornness. At the same time, she had already experienced a lot.

“I’m sorry...”

The simple and gentle words instantly disappeared into the huge space of the cryogenic center. I wonder if Sophia heard that and whether she has truly forgiven me...

Quinton resigned from his teaching job at Bayside University even though he was promoted to a full-time employee. He then joined Michel Medical Group and devoted himself to a research project for organ regeneration.

Sophia quickly delivered the boy-girl twins through C-section—it was fraternal twins. However, there was a shadow of her and Michael in them. Unfortunately, he could not even take a look at them. Based on the previous agreement, one of them took the last name of ‘Johnson’ while the other carried the name ‘Mitchell’.

That decision was not to fight for both families’ family fortunes; it was just that even though Cooper and Anna had four children, one was in cryogenic sleep while the other two were bachelors. The remaining child, Sophia, was the most ‘productive’ one as she gave birth to three children in two pregnancies. It was enough to repay everything they had done by naming the children with their last names.

After giving birth, Sophia dived into her work. She continued working on her luxury brand business and she was also the person-in-charge of Cethos for Ronney Group. Meanwhile, she was also head of the Michel Medical Group in Cethos.

Anna and Cooper moved to Villa No.1 in the Imperial, but Sophia still stayed at her own place. The lights of Villa No. 8 were lit every night and Michael’s daily items were changed every month, as if they were waiting for him to return home at any time.

As years passed, there was still no breakthrough in the research. However, Sophia continued to wait. Even after Carmen had grown up, she firmly believed that even if she herself became old, Michael would still return one fine day.

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Throughout the period that Michael was placed in cryogenic sleep, Sophia threw herself into work to distract herself. She devoted all of her time to her career and her children; in fact, she did not allow herself to have any free time. I'll recall his name whenever I'm free. Those two words make me feel suffocated.

During the winter in the second year of his cryopreservation, she followed Daniel to inspect the Remote Mountains Health Club Villa that they collaborated together. While they were in the area, they took the opportunity to visit Dragon Mountain. Once upon a time, I used to feel relieved whenever I'm here. Now, I am just like a lamb, who has lost its way because I'm back, seeking answers here. .

The Dragon Mountain no longer looked as shabby as before. There were currently countless joss sticks burning at the temple with hundreds of devotees gathered around to pay their respects too. Unfortunately, the first monk master had passed away.

She left the area without achieving what she had set out to achieve. In the end, she continued living like a lost lamb.

Soon, it was the fifth year of Michael's cryogenic sleep and time swiftly passed by. Sophia had celebrated her 35th birthday.

Many things happened in the fifth year. For example, Carmen was preparing to pursue her studies abroad alone.

She had always received the best education available since she had elite private tutors. Therefore, she had the best options for her studies. She started junior middle school when she was 11 years old and now, she finally received the admission letter from Eton College.

Cooper started to line up to apply for a spot in Eton College the year he found out about Carmen's existence. On top of that, he simultaneously fought for the rights of female students to be enrolled into the college.

Due to the combined powerful influences of Cooper and Carmen's three families and thanks to the support from a large number of people eager for change, the administration of Eton College finally accepted female students in secret after many years of tradition. She was part of the first batch and they only took one class of female students with less than twenty girls.

The enrollment quota of less than twenty female students had been selected through thousands of candidates. Upon learning that Eton College was accepting female students, the local noble families tried sending their daughters into the college and even the aristocrats abroad tested the waters too.

After enduring countless rounds of interviews, Carmen succeeded to secure a seat. She had worked hard and tirelessly for the spot in the college apart from her family's support.

Despite her petite figure, Carmen knew early on about the importance of self-importance. Throughout the years, she had continued to operate her store on Amazon while developing her talents and potential in different fields. Her store was now operating like a proper business.

She stopped being involved in movies and reality shows, which was most probably due to her boredom. It was time for her to transform from a young idol to a straight-A goddess.

The interview for Eton College was much more difficult compared to the kindergarten interview that she had in the past. Furthermore, the college would inspect the family situation and background beforehand. Fortunately, Sophia had already obtained a postgraduate degree from Bayside University, so she did not weigh her family down.

Carmen simply packed her luggage and left the home which she lived in for the past eleven years to further her studies abroad...

In any case, Sophia started to pack her daughter's luggage while nagging her along the way. It was obvious her heart was breaking for her daughter. My dear baby is leaving for such a far place for the first time to attend boarding school. She does not have any family there. I just can't help but feel worried despite sending somebody over to look after her daily needs.

On the other hand, Carmen seemed annoyed as she commented, "Mom, I'm leaving to pursue my studies. It's not like I am going to war. I will not end up dead, so you do not have to worry about me. Here, have a look! I'm already using sanitary pads. I am a big girl, which means I am no longer a baby."

Sophia felt even more desolated when she heard that. My daughter is all grown up now; she's even using sanitary pads these days.

Carmen left swiftly and from then on, she left her home for many years to make a living outside.

Within the same year, Linus and Callum still remained single while Sophia's twins had a growth spurt too. By the end of the year, Cade regained consciousness.

After five years, the drug for treating GvHD was finally developed. The moment he woke up from his cryogenic sleep, he found himself coming face-to-face after opening his eyes with Sophia and Anna, who had bloodshot eyes.

"Mom?" Cade, who had just woken up, was emaciated. After being in cryogenic sleep for such a long time, it was natural for the body to be especially frail. Hence, he needed a certain amount of time to recover before he could receive treatment.

He looked at Anna and Sophia before asking, "Mom, Sophia, hasn't the cryopreservation started?"

From his point of view, he had merely lost consciousness temporarily, so he felt that he quickly woke up from his sleep. He did not realize that time was so cruel and elusive.

It was not until he noticed the fine lines etched across Anna's face as well as Sophia's longer hair and matured expression that he finally realized five years had already passed.

In the end, Cade was injected with the latest drug and his body made a swift recovery.

He felt the vast changes of the world after he fully recovered. After he left Michel's Castle, he returned to Ronney City, where he met Callum, who was once ten minutes older than he was. However, Callum was now older than Cade by five years. I can't believe time has quickly passed by.

With Cade's return, they brought him up to date with current affairs to ensure that he was informed about what he had missed throughout the five years. He returned to the Ronney Group to continue as one of the twin directors with Callum.

Unfortunately, Michael still did not regain consciousness.

Furthermore, there was not much breakthrough in the medical field technology. Hence, they needed more time.

Sophia stood in the middle of the cryopreservation center while observing Michael, who was deep asleep. She seemed calmer and more grounded without having the initial heart-wrenching despair and suffering from the past. Nevertheless, under her calm façade, she harbored a seed of hope—deep down in her heart. I will never give up.

In the same year, the cryopreservation project caught the public's attention. Michel Medical Technology Company was the first to commercialize cryopreservation. Besides, there were many successful examples within the enterprise, so their business continued expanding. They were racing against the God of Death, and the company had repeatedly won.

However, many people lost hope on cryopreservation because they chose to accompany their family. They wanted to face death calmly and gracefully.

The Academy Award Winner, Taylor, had disappeared from the public's eye for five years. It was similar to what happened many years ago—the news of his death spread like wildfire. In any case, his agency remained mum and they refused to release any information about him.

The agency was convinced that once the fervor of the news had passed, his passionate fans would disperse as expected. However, five years had passed, but there were still large groups of fans checking on the return of their idol, Taylor, by visiting the social media platforms and his fan page.

Unfortunately, they heard nothing about him.

Sophia did not expect many people to continue waiting for him even though five years had passed. It's a shame that I have no idea what to say to his fans, which is why I choose to remain silent. Five years is a long time for different things to happen, but these are all insignificant to me. Sometimes, time seems to fly, but at times, it seems to crawl as slow as a snail.

During the seventh year, Quinton suddenly lost his mind and he resigned from Michel Medical Technology Company.

During his youth, he injected large amounts of stimulants to help with bodybuilding. Recently, the side effects were becoming more apparent. Initially, they were just normal headaches, but gradually, he had short-term memory loss and periods of insanity. In fact, he started experiencing hallucination. After a proper course of treatment, his condition finally stabilized.

However, he lost a portion of his memories—and it was a rather huge chunk of it.

Quinton was packing his luggage when Sophia dropped by to send him off. Upon noticing her, he smiled. “I am leaving to work as a volunteer teacher. Sophia, please remember to visit me often.”

He has forgotten his identity and everything that he did as the Phantom Wolf. However, after waking up, he still remembers that he’s getting ready to work as a volunteer teacher in the mountains.

It was then when she realized that volunteering as a teacher in the mountains had always been his dream. He had kept it a secret for many years without bringing it up.

After losing his memories this time, he was only able to hold onto the deepest obsession in his heart. That was most probably why he demanded to leave once his body recovered.

As of now, his body function had deteriorated and he was no longer the agile, skilled assassin he used to be. He was almost like an ordinary human being, so he was no longer a threat. Sophia found a primary school within a poverty-stricken mountainous area to send him there.

Quinton left in excitement. After arriving in the area, he sent her photos on a daily basis.

He seemed to have become the legendary Professor Clark, who was well-loved by both teachers and students alike in Bayside University. It almost felt as if nothing had happened during those past few years.

Unfortunately, bad news arrived in the ninth year of Michael’s cryogenic sleep. There was an earthquake at the school where Quinton was working. He was still in class during the

disaster, so he sent all of the children to safety. Initially, he could have saved himself, but he returned to the school to save more of them. In the end, he was buried in the collapsed roof.

He was at the brink of death by the time they rescued him, but he used his body as a shield to protect two children. He used his life in exchange for their lives.

Unfortunately, he did not survive the accident.

When Sophia received the news of his death, it was accompanied with a message of his last words and a pair of his corneas.

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Those were Quinton's pair of corneas.

Although he was suffering from amnesia, he learned about the past from others and that included the fact that Michael was still in cryogenic sleep.

Hence, before his death, Quinton donated his corneas to Sophia because he owed her his sight.

She lost her eyesight because of him and she had been using a pair of artificial corneas ever since.

Now, they no longer owed anything to each other.

In reality, she had a pair of usable corneas for a long time. They belonged to Anne, but she had never used them.

Two years ago, Anne was involved in an accident and rejected cryopreservation moments before her death in the hospital. On top of that, she specifically donated her corneas to Sophia.

In that way, even in death, Anne would be able to use her eyes to look at Cooper every day.

He did not even respond even after learning about her accident. While holding onto her last breath in the hospital, she finally passed away when she received news that he and Sophia had agreed to accept her corneas.

Nevertheless, Sophia had never used the pair of corneas. Instead, she returned them to Anne's parents.

However, Sophia accepted Quinton's corneas this time. After replacing her artificial corneas with the donated ones from him, she regarded her reflection in the mirror. She felt as though he was just beside her. I've long forgiven Quinton, but Michael might not wake up forever...

Within the same year, Carmen returned from Eton College during her break to visit Mark at the Fletcher Residence. Medical technology has recently improved by a great length. He had an especially strong will to survive and he was physically active. Hence, he was full of vitality. Somehow, he was able to make a full recovery in the few times that he was critically ill. He succeeded in surviving up until now. In fact, he vowed that he would not die if Michael did not live.

Sophia followed her to the Fletcher Residence. Upon arriving there, she saw Quinton playing chess with Mark.

Upon hearing their voices, he turned to look at them with her eliminated, hand-me-down artificial corneas. His eyesight was clear and with a sharp gaze.

Previously, he lied to Sophia because he merely sustained a serious injury when he was admitted to the hospital. He survived the ordeal, but he claimed to have passed away. The Fletcher Family proceeded to remove Quinton's existence to officially include him as Hope Fletcher in their genealogy record system. Since then, he moved into the Fletcher Residence. A living person is not allowed to donate their corneas and even if I were to donate mine, Sophia might not accept them. That is why I spread rumors that I've passed away and I even donated my corneas before my death. Furthermore, since I didn't have a salary as a volunteer teacher, I had no savings in my pocket. Artificial corneas are pricey and a pair would have cost me hundreds of thousands. In fact, a pair of good quality ones would cost millions. In the end, I had no choice, but to use the hand-me-downs from her. In any case, I am grateful that I have my eyesight. Currently, the Fletcher Family has arranged a job for me and it's a steady nine-to-five job. Besides, I've connected with the Clark Family. The Clarks just assumed that I'm lucky to have survived all those years ago, but my face has been destroyed. Later, my biological paternal family found me. To sum it up, I am just Hope Fletcher right now, whereas Quinton Clark, the Phantom Wolf, has completely vanished. The earthquake has put an end to the complicated and evil deed.

Sophia's heart was still and tranquil in the tenth year that Michael was in cryopreservation. It seemed that she was mentally ready to spend the rest of her life alone. Even if I can't witness him waking up, my next generation will continue the fight. I'm sure that he will wake up one day. I will be happy even after death as long as I know that he will wake up. Michael might blame me for being cruel, but this is the only thing I can offer him.

The project had some development that year—there was a breakthrough in the project for stem cells of the deciduous teeth and it had the clinical trial phase. Unfortunately, the results were not as promising since the effects were not good enough. Its application on medical treatments was still premature, so more time was needed.

Carmen was also 16 years old and she had completed her studies in Eton College too. She enrolled in one of the top-five universities in the world and even started to study hard for her doctorate.

Compared to an ordinary person, her speed was considered as fast. However, for such a high-achieving family, it was merely the norm. Furthermore, some could even comment that she was a late bloomer. In any case, her current progress was a result of Sophia's insistence for her to slow down.

She is still a child, after all. Carmen needs to spend time with her peers to grow up in a healthy manner. She should date and experience puppy love, at the very least... If she were to procure her degree and join the family business at such an early age, she would be surrounded by sleazy old men in their twenties and thirties. Well, that wouldn't be puppy love anymore because they will be taking advantage of her.

Unfortunately, Carmen had high expectations, so she was not interested in her peers at all. The ones she was interested in were not within her age range. Hence, she set aside the issue of dating; instead, she focused on studying to obtain her degree and certificates to the point where she even abandoned her online shop.

Sophia once had high hopes for Bailey and she even collaborated on some projects with him throughout the years. Nevertheless, Carmen had been pursuing her studies abroad. Hence, Sophia did not have the chance to match-make the two of them, which was an annoying issue for her.

It was also in that year when Sophia brought Carmen and Celine to dig the time capsule that they buried ten years ago.

Sophia was already aware of Michael's illness when they buried the item, but she endured her pain to proceed to hide the time capsule. Initially, I wanted Michael to leave something for me as a token of remembrance. Unfortunately, he did not make an effort. Besides, it's been ten years and everybody has forgotten what they've buried. I only remember that Celine has a huge stash of delicious snacks.

"Nate! Please open this because I'm sure that it'll stink! All the food must have gone bad!" Sophia beckoned Nathan while instructing him to harrow out the time capsule.

Ten years had passed by and Nathan, who was once a quiet and distant teenager, turned into a cold youth who spoke little. He quietly picked up the hoe to dig the spot that contained the buried time capsules.

On the other side, Sophia's other two children were cheering him on.

The 26-year-old Nathan had turned out different than before. He inherited a tanned, bronze complexion from his ancestors, which made him look especially handsome. Among a sea of conventional, fair-skinned and good-looking young men, he stood out because he looked especially stunning. In addition to that, he did not join the army when he came of age and instead chose to be in the business world. After Michael had been placed into cryopreservation, Nathan joined Asco International to be involved in their administration. Currently, he was the director and he combined Justin's security company and Asco International. Nathan had been doing very well, indeed.

Surprisingly, after opening the time capsule, Sophia noticed that they did not smell as bad as she expected. No food was in Celine's time capsule, but there were many small gifts inside. There was a small present in Carmen's time capsule too. However, Sophia also noticed that there was a letter in her time capsule.

She stared at the yellowish envelope while looking at the words—"Dear Wife, Sophia Edwards"—in a daze. Did Michael put this in?

Carmen opened the present to see a broken lipstick inside and immediately burst into tears. Dad gave me this! When dad was placed under cryopreservation, I was only 6 years old and I'm already 16 now. My childhood memories are getting blurry now and I can't even recall the feeling of having a father. I didn't expect to receive the lipstick that he gave me ten years ago.

Sophia took the letter and left without saying a word.

That night, she took a flight to leave Cethos and headed to the headquarters of Michel Medical Technology Company in Africa.