

rituals and routines

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by Anonymous

Summary

Sometimes toddlers could be...well toddlers.

And even though their sweet little sunshine was the most perfect little pup to ever walk the earth — according to her papa — she was not immune to showing them just exactly how much of a toddler she was.

Or the one where Sofia melts down because of minor inconveniences and her papa and daddy make it better.

Notes

See the end of the work for [notes](#)

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And even though their sweet little sunshine was the most perfect little pup to ever walk the earth — according to her papa — she was not immune to showing them just exactly how much of a toddler she was.

The terrible twos were upon them even though Sofia was three and half and they came in waves. Hayden joked that it hit Shane and Ilya a little late, they thought somehow it had skipped them all together. Sometimes they never knew when Sofia was going to turn into what Shane called her hulk mode.

Her fits would mostly happen whenever she was with her papa and daddy but that didn't mean her grams and gramps hadn't been subject to them yet.

Yuna had talked Sofia down from a meltdown whenever she didn't get a mermaid barbie from the store earlier which she had one already — David had went back inside to get it, not wanting her to cry over something they could easily fix.

That was only the beginning.

They took her to get some ice cream her favorite treat before games and also a tradition that they had formed since Sofia was a year old. She got to pick out her own toppings, which ice cream she wanted (usually superman) and requested rainbow sprinkles to go on top. The older she got, the more toppings she piled on it specifically gummy bears.

However, today the ice cream shop was out of gummy bears which to a toddler was like telling them that Bluey was canceled.

So the aftermath of that fallout fell on grandma and grandpa.

"I can go run next door and grab some gummy bears." David whispered and Yuna cut him a look that would turn someone to stone.

"No, she will be alright. David, she's three. You remember when Shane used to do this too." Yuna knew her husband meant well but they weren't going to let their granddaughter throw a fit over gummy bears.

"Oh! But we do have gummy worms. Would gummy worms be okay?" The girl behind the counter dug a big bag of gummy worms out of the stock room with an apologetic smile.

Sofia sniffled, wiping her eyes seconds away from another meltdown until she spotted the gummy worms. "Mm worms is okay." She finally spoke up in a quiet voice, trying to hold her big emotions back after having cried over the gummy bears — it melted her grandparents hearts instantly.

"Sweetie, you were having big emotions because of the gummy bears being gone, huh?" Yuna crouched down when the worker began making her ice cream getting the go-ahead to use the worms.

This definitely reminded her of when Shane was little he always wanted things to be a certain way, his ice cream order, the way he put on his clothes, the order in which he put his toy cars — all of these things were present with Sofia. It only made her patience grow with the pup, remembering how little she was and how big her emotions were.

Sofia nodded, wiping her eyes with the back of her hand with a hiccup.

"It's okay to be upset about wanting something and not getting it. Having big feelings is okay, Sof." Yuna reached down to pick Sofia up, placing the pup on her hip before taking the cup of ice cream, thanking the girl behind the counter.

"Thank you for worms and ice cream, gram." Sofia finally spoke up, her little voice wavering but she was trying her best to be grateful for the sweet treat. The three walked over to a spot in the parlor and sat down to eat their ice cream, Sofia still looked a little down but she wasn't having a meltdown so they were in the clear — for now.

The girl from behind the counter grabbed a stuffed ice cream cone with googly eyes and walked over to where they were seated and handed it to Sofia with a warm smile. "Here you go, this is Icey our mascot he's part of a new promotion, if it's okay I want her to have it as an apology for not having any gummy bears."

"That's so sweet of you, thank you." Yuna smiled, watching Sofia put the stuffed animal beside her in the chair to feed it some of her ice cream.

After ice cream, it was time to get going to make it in time for warm ups and so that Sofia could see her daddy and papa before puck drop. It was also a tradition for her to give them both a hug to give them *extra* good luck for the game.

So excited, she was practically vibrating in her carseat the entire way over to the arena, Sofia kept talking about how she was going to see her papa and daddy at the hockey. That was what she called their job — the hockey.

"Grams, gramps! We are almost to the hockey!" Sofia peered out her window with bright eyes fueled by the slight sugar rush from the ice cream they had earlier. The scenery that passed by was very familiar to her, she knew it very well and had memorized it.

"We sure are, are you ready to go give papa and daddy a hug?" David chuckled craning his neck to look behind him at the wiggly toddler in her seat. She was about to bounce out of her seat if they didn't get there sooner than later.

"Mhm! I miss them! I wanna show them Icey and I wanna give them biggest hug ever. It will be *this* big!" Sofia stretched her arms as wide as she possibly could to convey how big of a hug she would be giving her parents.

Traffic was a little tricky but they had made it just in time for puck drop. Yuna helped Sofia out of her carseat and it was like her legs were moving at super speed as soon as she hit the ground, already pulling her grandma along with her on a mission.

As they rounded the corner, they bumped into Troy and Harris.

"Oh there's my favorite girl!" Harris grinned big, holding his arms out for Sofia as he crouched down for a hug. She of course ran full force at him, wrapping her little arms around his neck. "Harris! I come to see daddy and papa but I happy to see you. Mwah!" She nodded, kissing his the top of his head like her papa did to her.

If Harris' heart wasn't mush already it was now. Sofia was always the sweetest, she took after — well he wasn't really sure who she took after in that department.

"Well I'm a little hurt, Sof. I don't even get a hug?" Troy feigned a look of hurt, folding his arms in exaggeration against his chest making Sofia giggle.

"O-kay, you get hug too!" Sofia hugged Troy's leg and he leaned down to scoop her up into a big hug making her squeal happily. "No, no! I gotta see papa and daddy you gotta put me down!"

"Okay, okay go see them then. They're boring anyways." Troy teased as he sat Sofia back down, ruffling her hair. The pup made an angry little face as she tried to fix her hair by herself. Yuna shook her head, fixing Sofia's hair for her.

Sofia heard her papa's voice before she saw him as they neared the ice, her legs taking off with a mission in mind— taking her to her papa and daddy.

"Papa! Daddy!" Sofia squealed, her eyes nothing but bright and full of love for them. "I missed you!" She was immediately swept off her feet by her papa who couldn't wait to see her either.

They were both in full gear and Sofia tugged at her papa's helmet, motioning for him to put it on her. "I wanna wear it!"

Ilya of course complied, if she asked him to give her the moon he would. She had them wrapped around her little finger, though Yuna had no doubt that there was any place they would rather be.

"Ahh look you are fierce. I think maybe you should take my place tonight, you can play with daddy but you must protect him, he is trouble." Ilya grinned, matching Sofia's identical expression. She giggled and shook her head, the helmet bobbling with each nod.

"Yes I will protect daddy! I say, put me in game coach!" Sofia put her hands on her hips, realizing she had forgotten all about Icey however, that's where her grandma came to the rescue.

"Oh what's that?" Shane took the stuffed ice cream cone from his mom.

"That's Icey, Sofia got him because she was so patient today." Yuna explained, proud of her granddaughter for holding it together this far given her whirlwind of toddler emotions.

Sofia nodded again, the helmet falling off which of course made her frown. "Yeah I was almost sad about not having gummy worms but I was okay." She added, giving up on

reaching for the helmet. Ilya picked it up and placed it back on his head when they got the go ahead from Wiebe that warmups were about to start.

"Okay sweetheart you can go sit with grams and watch us during warmups okay?" Shane took Sofia into his arms and gave her a squeeze. She wrapped her arms around his neck and wouldn't let go like a baby koala when normally she would go right back to her grandma — she refused.

"No!" Sofia shook her head adamant on staying with her daddy and papa. She was *not* going anywhere else. And neither were they.

This time Ilya tried, brushing some of the stray ringlets from Sofia's chubby cheeks. She still had that baby look, it was fading but still there and it made the alpha crumble like a cookie every time.

"Sofushka, if you let us go play papa will score goal for you and point to you. You can cheer so loud for us and if we win, you get double ice cream." Ilya bargained, having to hide the smirk that itched at the corner of his mouth when he caught Shane's eyes narrowing at him — it was definitely the promise of more sweets that had earned him that look.

But he didn't say it because he knew Sofia *might* just go for it.

"B-But is not fair!" Sofia was having a hard day in her opinion, she wanted her papa to make her some hot chocolate and they could build a castle — pillow fort — and play princess and dragon.

She didn't understand why she couldn't have what she wanted especially when she couldn't have what she wanted all day.

It broke Shane's heart, it was all he could do not to give in— he knew that if *he* was feeling this way Ilya was probably five seconds away from yanking his gear off and calling it a day before their game had even started.

"Sofi, we promise first thing as soon as we're done we'll come get you. Even if papa smells like a foot we'll come get you and take you for more ice cream, does that sound okay?" Shane swallowed the lump in his throat, blinking back matching tears that had formed in Sofia's identical eyes staring back at him.

A few seconds had passed and finally Sofia relented, nodding as she wiped her tears with the back of her hand but she didn't need to for the other ones because her daddy was already wiping them away for her.

"We will win this for her." Ilya left no room for argument and the rest of the Centaurs got the message loud and clear.

The Centaurs shut out the Las Vegas Aces 3-0, Ilya of course got a goal as promised with an assist from Shane. The other two belonged to Troy and Bood. They did it as promised and won the game for Sofia.

During Ilya's celly he pointed at Sofia who of course yelled out, 'That's my papa! He gave me a goal!' which of course made the group sitting next to them laugh. It was also on the highlight reel — Harris put it on their instagram page titled 'Papa power!'

And as promised, Ilya and Shane showered *very* quickly because Shane didn't feel like getting ice cream out smelling like a foot.

Sofia was patient, she got to keep her papa's milestone puck that he received for his 700th goal.

It would go on her little shelf in her room that they had been adding to since before her birth. It had a tiny Stanley cup replica to commemorate the day the Centaurs won a cup on the day of her literal birth, there was a mini Centaur plush, her miniature sticks were hanging above the shelf and of course now this puck.

When Ilya and Shane caught up with Sofia and his parents, Ilya crouched down and pointed to Sofia's little purse that she brought with her to every game. "Do you want to put your new puck in purse?"

Sofia looked like her papa had just told her that she was getting a pony — she had been talking quite a bit about getting one. She had a plan they could leave it at Harris' farm and she would feed it apples.

But it was a puck which for today would be the equivalent to that feeling.

"My puck! Papa you win it just for me, huh?" Sofia grinned from ear to ear, hugging it close to her chest.

There wasn't a feeling that could quite come close to describing what Shane felt when he watched his alpha and their pup interact like there was no one else around but them. Like they had their own little language.

"Yup is just for you, now let us put it in your pocket and we'll go get some ice cream. Let me guess you will get superhero with gummy bears." Ilya already knew what Sofia wanted as they walked to the car, their tired looking pup on his hip and Shane's hand intertwined in his own.

Despite being tired from her emotional rollercoaster of a day, Sofia continued to chatter the entire way there just to keep herself awake.

She missed her papa and daddy when they played but treasured the time they were together like it was gold.

End Notes

💌 another shoutout to bequeerious for this idea! thank you so much for throwing this one out there <3 sofia is a toddler and like most toddlers she has tantrums from time to time even if ilya thinks she can do no wrong LMAO anyways here ya go! hope you guys enjoy 💖

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