

MARRIAGE ON PAPER

Chapter 22

At St. Mary's Hospital, Ryleigh helped Damian settle the registration for his hospital admission. Damian was ready for the surgery. All he had to do now was wait.

Since then, Ryleigh had been coming back and forth from the Lev family residence to the hospital. She was exhausted every day.

Luckily, she held on until this big moment. Tomorrow, Damian could finally undergo surgery.

In the afternoon, the hospital was full of people. However, Damian was not in the ward at the moment.

Ryleigh asked around to find out where Damian was. A nurse told her that Damian went to the garden at the back of the hospital. He had wheeled himself

there without assistance.

There were a lot of people in the hospital, but Damian enjoyed spending time alone. No wonder Damian went to the garden to avoid the crowds.

Ryleigh followed the gravel path to the garden behind the hospital. Damian was standing at the end of the corridor; she could only see his back.

The sun was setting. The afterglow of the sunset shone on his shoulder. He was touching his forehead with his hand. It seemed like he was deep in thought. Ryleigh was content just by staring at him.

At the same time, she felt a sense of relief. She had been waiting forever for this moment to come. She did not want anything to go wrong.

Damian had been restless and emotionally unstable

ever since he was hospitalized. He was easily triggered, and he refused to talk to her. Ryleigh could only try her best to be there for him. The operation is getting nearer. Maybe he's anxious about it.

She walked carefully toward him.

She was afraid she would ruin this peaceful moment.

Damian turned his wheelchair around when he heard some footsteps.

Ryleigh was lost for words the moment she saw Damian turn around.

Damian was wearing a white shirt with a dark grey suit. He looked good in his outfit. He was not a model, but he should have been. He was basically the most handsome man alive.

At that moment, Ryleigh felt that nothing had changed between them. It felt like the first time they encountered each other.

Unfortunately, it was all in her head.

Damian said softly, "I've been waiting for you for quite some time."

Ryleigh suddenly realized Damian was dressed formally today.

"Damian, I'll push you back to the ward. It's cold outside." Ryleigh was worried.

"Come here." Damian smiled gently. "I have something to tell you."

Ryleigh walked slowly toward Damian. She squatted down in front of Damian, so they were at the same

eye level.

"I know my temperament changed drastically throughout this period of time. I'm sorry. Thanks for putting up with me." He continued in a soft tone, "I'm sorry for being timid. I should have accepted the reality sooner. I've thought things through over the past few days. I'm ready to face whatever comes, whether I can be able to stand again or not."

Ryleigh listened to what he said in silence. Her grievance was the maltreatment by Damian.

It had been two years. Finally, he's willing to face the truth.

Ryleigh was handling him with extra care all these years. She was afraid to break his fragile heart. She was suffering the whole time.

"Please don't cry." He wiped the tears that were streaming down her cheeks.

Ryleigh was surprised. She did not realize that she was crying.

She thought it was still worth it if two years of perseverance could make him become himself again.

Damian took out a blue velvet box from his pocket. He opened the box, a bright diamond ring was lying inside.

"I asked for help from the nurse. She went out to buy it for me."

Ryleigh realized Damian's watch was gone. So, he sold his limited edition watch in exchange for this ring?

"Ryleigh, would you marry me?"

Damian held her hand tightly, and he said sincerely, "I know that this proposal is too simple. I will try my best to give you everything I can in the future. I will make it up to you."

Ryleigh was at a loss.

She certainly hoped Damian could cheer up.

But she had no place to accept his proposal.

She did not want to disappoint Damian.

She did not want to hurt Damian's feelings the day before his operation.

She was having a dilemma.

Damian carefully unfolded Ryleigh's trembling hand.

Damian took out the ring and put it on her finger. "I will take it as a yes since you're not rejecting me."

Ryleigh came to her senses when the icy ring touched her finger.

No, no. I cannot marry him. It was not like this. I do not have romantic feelings for him. This is out of responsibility, not out of love.

She was taken aback. She simply wiped away the tears on her face. She was panicking. What should I do?

A sharp female voice pierced the silence.

"Ryleigh! What are you doing?"

Sophia accompanied her grandmother to the hospital. She walked around when her grandmother was getting treatment. Unexpectedly, she caught Ryleigh was having an affair.

Finally, I managed to catch her red handed!

I must expose Ryleigh's wicked side.

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