

The Substitute Wife My Poor Husband is a Billionaire
Chapter 386: Trapped

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Ethan immediately closed the door. He ran into the bathroom to wet the towels, which he then draped over Janet and himself

"What would cause this fire? There's no one else on our floor, and I'm pretty sure the 21st floor is empty as well..."

Janet coughed, her eyes tearing up from all the heavy smoke she couldn't fathom why this was happening.

Their apartment was on the top floor, and no one else lived beside or below their unit. The fire had escalated at this point, and a dark cloud of smoke spread through the corridor, turning the place into a hot oven.

"Shh, it's okay," Ethan comforted her.

"Someone must have called 911; the firefighters should be on their way. They'll be here soon."

His face was glistening with sweat, with drops trickling from his chin.

"I'll go and check how bad it is out there. Let me see if we have a way to escape on our own. Stay here and watch yourself, okay?"

Make sure you don't get burned."

"Ethan!" Janet grabbed his arm in a vise-like grip.

"Be careful."

He hiked up her towel over her head and said, "I will. Don't worry."

With that, Ethan pulled the door open and disappeared into the dark.

As the fire had come from the floor below, the stairs were naturally out of the question.

They couldn't take the elevator, either. Judging by how fiercely the fire raged, Ethan figured that this was no accident.

Moreover, their neighborhood had always been commended by the community for its fire safety measures.

This disaster was definitely intentional. He was sure of it.

Meanwhile, Janet had been staring at the clock on the wall since Ethan left.

It had been almost ten minutes, and he still hadn't returned.

Feeling restless and panicked, she opened the door and screamed into the burning hallway.

"Ethan!"

A tall figure soon emerged from the thick smoke and pushed her back inside their apartment.

"I told you to stay put, didn't I?" Ethan rasped.

"Save your energy. We're going to have to make a run for it."

"I was worried about you!"

Janet wailed, feeling aggrieved.

Ethan's face had black patches from the ash in the air, but it did nothing to conceal his good looks.

He still looked dashing as ever, despite the severity of their situation.

He grabbed her by the wrist and pulled her into the bedroom, closing the door behind them.

Then, he took out his phone and dialed 911.

After a brief conversation with the emergency responder, he looked to Janet and considered their options.

There was only one option left.

Without another moment's hesitation, Ethan called Garrett.

"Send a helicopter over," he ordered as soon as the line connected, no longer caring about having his identity exposed Janet froze, stunned at what she had just heard.

She turned to Ethan, but he had already dashed into the bathroom and was dousing his body with water.

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Chapter 387: Extreme Urgency

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Just then, a sizable crowd of onlookers from the neighborhood gathered in the open space downstairs the crowd raised their heads and looked at the Inp Mon which way engulfed by shirt black clouds of smoke

A member of the property management's voice was amplified loudly by a loudspeaker "Everyone, be quiet! Keep calm Keep a safe distance from the fire we have called the fire department and the firemen will be here shortly!"

"Why did the fire seem to start at the top floor? What about the people on the top floor?"

"Have all the people on the lower floors managed to evacuate? If you are fine, come and report to me!"

People were all talking and shouting over one another. It was a scene of utter chaos.

The fire had started on the penultimate Moor of the building Fortunately, the residents below that floor were not trapped and had

escaped to safety Only Ethan and Janet were still caught in the fire since they lived on the top floor, The siren of the fire engine could be heard approaching quickly, but only the sound of the siren could be heard, and there was no sign of the fire engine itself.

Someone in the crowd peered around and saw that the fire engine had actually stopped just near the building, The firefighting access was originally unimpeded.

Now there was a big truck parked at the entrance, which completely blocked the way of the fire engine.

What's more, this high-end community's pedestrian system was separated from the vehicle system.

Except for the firefighting access, the fire engine had no way to approach the apartment building from the ground, The property manager was so anxious that he shouted, "What's going on?! Where is the driver of that truck? This is a matter of life and death. We don't have a second to waste here!"

Many people couldn't stand idly anymore.

They also tried to contact the driver to move the truck, but sadly no one recognized this truck and they had no idea who to call.

"Damn it! There is no phone number left on the truck either. We have no way of contacting the driver!"

"Then we have to wait for the tow truck!"

"God knows when the tow truck will arrive! Besides, this truck is too big to be towed. It's also impossible for the fire engine to forcefully hit a way out!"

The property manager was wholly overwhelmed by anxiety. He was very clear about the fact that the resident of the top floor was a big shot.

However, there was such an unexpected situation at the critical moment of rescue.

The manager wiped the cold sweat on his forehead and nervously watched the thick smoke billowing from the top floor.

Ethan and Janet were blocked into a corner of the rooftop. The surrounding area was as hot as the surface of the sun, and the heat was almost unbearable.

The floor under their feet was so hot that they could hardly stand.

Janet was sweating profusely.

Her face was red and her hair had curled from the heat, Ethan observed the rooftop calmly.

He couldn't just sit still and wait to be burnt to death. He had already called for the firemen, and there should have been many people calling the police outside.

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Chapter 388: Lower Her Down

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The rooftop wasn't that big. It was only a few dozen square meters wide. The potted plants on the roof had become withered because of the heat. There was nowhere for Janet and Ethan to hide.

Moreover, it was rather windy today, making the fire even worse. Gradually, smoke was forming on the rooftop. Ethan knew that they couldn't wait any longer.

As the smoke increased, so too would the concentration of carbon monoxide within the area.

And by then, he and Janet would likely pass out on the rooftop due to excessive intake of carbon monoxide. It would take some time for the Larson Group's helicopter to arrive.

They couldn't wait for that long. Ethan walked to the edge of the rooftop and tied a roll of rope to the railing, which he had taken from the bathroom earlier.

"Janet, come here. I'll get you down from the rooftop using this rope."

Ethan helped Janet to the edge of the rooftop and tied the other end of the rope to her waist.

Dazed and dizzy, Janet stared at the crowd.

There were numerous people beneath the building, small as ants. Her vision was blurring, and her legs grew weaker by the second.

"Ethan, I... I'm scared," Janet stammered.

Ethan lifted her up from behind and gently put her on the edge of the rooftop.

He leaned close to her ear and said, "Listen to me, Janet. I know you're afraid, and of course, it's dangerous. Trust me, I won't resort to doing this if I have any other choice. The fire has spread to the rooftop. Our only option is to find a way down by ourselves. If we hesitate any longer, both you and I could perish here."

For a moment, Janet sobered up. She stared into his eyes through the thick smoke.

And in that instance, her vision blurred. She turned around, embracing Ethan tightly.

This was a fear that she had never experienced before.

Bitterly, she cried, "What about you?"

Ethan planted a kiss on her tear-streaked face.

"I'm strong enough to hold onto the rope by myself and go down after you."

Janet wiped away her own tears, still worried about him.

"I'm going to be fine," Ethan added.

He kissed her lips and smiled.

Thereafter, he double-checked the rope on Janet's waist and tied it more firmly.

"If you're feeling scared, make sure not to look down and try not to move as much. Just leave everything to me. Got it?"

After taking a few deep breaths, Janet closed her eyes and nodded.

As she held onto the rope tightly, Ethan lowered her bit by bit.

By then, the fire was approaching and the heat wave was burning all in its wake.

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Chapter 389: Still Trapped Up There

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Janet's heart skipped a beat and jumped into her throat when she heard the noise.

Ethan gritted his teeth.

Blue veins stood out on his arms because of the overexertion.

He courageously endured the severe burning sensation engulfing every fiber of his back while he slowly loosened the rope and

helped her down. It was still a fifteen-floor drop from where she was hanging and it was bone chilling.

As time ticked by quickly, Ethan felt not only pain, but mostly dizziness.

The smoke on the rooftop had become thicker and thicker.

He had already inhaled copious amounts of toxic carbon monoxide.

He couldn't keep himself from coming apart at the seams even if he wanted to do so.

Janet's hands were trembling, even her lips.

She tried hard and pressed her feet against the bricks of the small ledges that were between every floor as she went down in an

attempt to reduce the weight on the life-saving rope so that Ethan could bear less pressure.

If she relaxed for even a mere millisecond, she might have gone into a free fall and dragged Ethan down with her.

But at this time, there was no other way to save themselves.

Ethan could only grit his teeth and speed up.

Although the life-saving rope was fire-resistant, it might eventually be burnt to ash from being exposed to the fire for so long.

Janet suddenly felt like she was being let down to fall when she heard the knot in the rope cracking, and she unconsciously screamed in utter panic.

As the descending speed gradually increased, the life-saving rope finally reached its limit and broke.

All of a sudden, Ethan felt like all weight had been lifted out of his hands. He looked down nervously when he heard Janet's scream and he felt his heart skip a beat.

Fortunately, Janet was safe. The firefighters below had already laid out a rescue cushion under them to prevent Janet from hurtling headlong into the ground.

Thankfully, she had landed right on target on the cushion.

With his hands grabbing the handrails, Ethan couldn't hold on any longer and passed out.

Closing his eyes, he was still thinking that Janet was not far from the ground now and that she should be safe.

When Janet fell on the air cushion, she felt a sharp pain all over her body, as if her bones had broken.

Ignoring the pain, she staggered to her feet and looked up desperately at the rooftop.

The life-saving rope was burned, and there was absolutely no way for Ethan to escape.

At this time, a loud sound came from the rooftop.

The fire on the rooftop could be seen from the ground. Frightened, Janet shouted at the rooftop, "Ethan!"

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Chapter 390: Saved

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The fire seemed to grow bigger with every passing minute, and the smoke mingled with the clouds in the sky. It was a serious fire accident, and the people gathered around gasped in fear.

At that moment, a helicopter with the Larson Group's logo broke through the smoke and hovered above the rooftop.

The rope ladder rolled down, and the rescuers climbed down. Several men in bright orange suits jumped off the rope and saved Ethan, who had passed out.

The sound of the propeller gradually reached Janet's ears.

Seeing the helicopter parked in an open space near the neighborhood, she immediately rushed over. Ethan's face was covered

in soot, and there were multiple burns on his body. He was unconscious.

The blood from the wounds soaked his shirt. All the

residents swarmed around him, and some kind-hearted person called 911.

"He is severely injured."

"Don't worry, young lady. The ambulance will arrive soon!" Tears streamed down Janet's cheeks when she realized what Ethan

had been through. She wiped the tears off her face and escorted Ethan to the ambulance along with the firefighters.

Laney saw Janet's swollen ankles and realized she must have hurt herself when she fell on the air cushion.

"You should treat the injury on your ankles first." Janet shook her head fiercely. She forced herself to calm down and got in the ambulance with Ethan.

"Please go to this hospital." Janet gave the address of Frank's hospital. The driver didn't refuse. He knew it was a high-end

private hospital, and the equipment there was much better than those at public hospitals.

As soon as they arrived at the front gate of the hospital, Janet saw Frank standing there with a dozen medical staff as if they had been waiting for a big shot.

Frank ran over as he watched his people wheeled Ethan into the hospital in a stretcher bed. His face turned grim when he saw

Ethan's conditions.

"Take him to the OR and call the attending doctor of the Dermatology Department right away."

Frank hurriedly ordered the nurse. Then, he and a dozen doctors pushed Ethan into the operating room and began treating him.

Janet clenched her fists and anxiously paced outside the door. Her

swelled-up ankles had turned red. Laney couldn't help but

feel sorry for her. She went to the nurse and got some ointment for Janet.

"You don't have to keep staring at the door. He is right inside there and won't go anywhere." She grabbed Janet's arm and

helped her sit down.

"The doctors are treating him now."

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