

Substitute B 141

Chapter 141: Hayden Crawford Called Her "Baby"

Serena Sterling felt a flutter in her heart under his gaze, her long eyelashes trembled as she boldly stretched out her small hand and grabbed his slender index finger...

The scene seemed to revert to twenty years ago, the first time Hayden Crawford saw Serena Sterling. At that time, Serena Sterling was still in swaddling clothes, a powdery-soft little dumpling. Seraphina Linden and Isabelle Willow, these two legendary women, stood in the warm room of Jill. Seraphina, lively and innocent, was saying something cheerfully, making Isabelle's stunning yet melancholic eyes burst into a smile.

Hayden Crawford stood beside the cradle when Isabelle Willow walked over gently and stroked his head, "Hayden, what do you think about her being your little bride in the future?"

In the cradle, Serena Sterling looked at him with her big glossy eyes, waving her tiny hands, and managed to grab his slender index finger.

She held it tightly, unwilling to let go.

Serena Sterling opened her small mouth and laughed. She had no teeth yet. Hayden Crawford's handsome face suddenly turned red, and he turned around, returning to his room.

As he left, he heard Seraphina's pleasant voice talking to the swaddled Serena Sterling, "Come on, behave yourself, little brother has been teased away by you."

Isabelle Willow softly laughed, "That's my first time seeing Hayden blush."

The past was vividly clear, yet Hayden Crawford did not know that the girl beneath him was his little bride from back then. Serena Sterling was equally unaware and teased him, "Your little bride grabbed you like this, didn't she? Mr. Crawford, shouldn't you thank me for helping you relive your old memories?"

Hayden Crawford noticed that she tended to get jealous whenever "little bride" was mentioned, but he loved her jealous look, her captivating eyes slightly upward, revealing a touch of youthful charm.

"Mrs. Crawford, your spirit is itching again, isn't it?" His slender fingers settled on the buttons of her nightdress, intending to undo them one by one.

With a "slap," Serena Sterling hit his restless hand away, pushed him aside, and tried to escape. "Mr. Crawford, don't act rashly!"

Hayden Crawford grabbed her slender ankle and pulled her back. They rolled on the bed for a while, and the wooden bed began to creak.

At this moment, a cough suddenly came from next door, "Cough, cough!"

Serena Sterling froze, quickly stopping her movements. She forgot it was a dormitory here, and the soundproofing wasn't good. The neighbor next door must have misunderstood something.

Oh my!

Serena Sterling's beautiful face instantly turned bright red, like a cooked shrimp. Embarrassed and annoyed, she used her small hands to cover her face.

With this commotion, Hayden Crawford's previously furrowed brows were completely relaxed, in a great mood. He hugged the soft, boneless body in his arms and lifted her hands from her face.

Serena Sterling punched him lightly, muttering, "It's all your fault. You don't have to work here, but I see these people every day. How do I face them after this?"

Hayden Crawford curled his thin lips, "What are you afraid of, Mrs. Crawford? Doesn't everybody know by now that the man in your room is me? Besides, we're married legally."

"..." Serena Sterling didn't want to talk to this shameless man. She changed the topic, "What about your aunt, why doesn't she like you?"

"Women like my mother had many admirers around them, including...my uncle..."

What?

Serena Sterling felt a bit gossipy, "So what happened? What's the story between your mom and dad, and your stepmother Zelda Willow..."

Serena Sterling felt like he was just telling the prologue and hadn't gotten to the exciting part yet. Her curiosity was piqued, itching to know more.

Hayden Crawford turned over, pinned her slender wrist above her head, then went to unbutton her nightdress, "I've spoken enough today, Mrs. Crawford. We should turn off the lights and sleep."

Serena Sterling felt her buttons being undone, her skin, smooth as jade, seemed chilly coming into contact with the air. Her pupils contracted slightly, and she wanted to resist but found herself immobilized by him.

"Mr. Crawford, if we're going to sleep, just sleep. Don't use sleep as an excuse to misbehave. Let go of me!"

Hayden Crawford kissed her forehead, his lips sliding from her eyes over her nose, landing on her charming lips, "Shh, Mrs. Crawford, don't make a noise, or the neighbors will hear."

The sly and shameless man, Serena Sterling, held her breath in fear, not daring to move or make a sound, only staring at him with her watery eyes.

Hayden Crawford buried his handsome face in her hair, his voice hoarse, "Let me see if you've grown up, darling~"

Serena Sterling quickly closed her eyes, almost melting into his magnetic and enchanting "darling," realizing he was truly an expert at sweet-talking...

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Two days later, Shania handed a gift box to Serena Sterling, "Serena, this is for you."

Serena Sterling glanced at it. It was a gift box sent by Iris Crawford.

Iris Crawford had called her, asking for her address, saying she wanted to send something important. Serena Sterling didn't want Iris Crawford to know she was currently at Privy, to prevent her from enthusiastically rushing over, so she borrowed Shania's address. Unexpectedly, Iris sent the item so quickly.

"Serena, what's inside?" Shania curiously asked.

"I don't know either, let's open it and see."

Serena Sterling opened the gift box to find a beautiful evening gown inside.

"Wow, this dress is gorgeous," Shania exclaimed.

Iris Crawford had sent a nude-colored long dress adorned with countless crystals, exquisite and mesmerizingly beautiful.

Iris Crawford came from a noble background, her taste was naturally impeccable.

There was also a note on top: Serena, you are welcome to come tonight.

Tonight was the dinner party, and Iris Crawford had been eagerly inviting her over.

Serena Sterling thought for a moment, then took out her phone to send a WeChat message to Hayden Crawford, "Mr. Crawford, I have a gathering to attend tonight, is that okay?"

At that moment, Hayden Crawford emerged from the CEO's office, preparing to take a VIP elevator out. He was going to attend the dinner hosted by Iris Crawford. Their grandmother was quite interested in the genius girl matched with Zane Crawford, eager to immediately finalize their marriage.

Hayden Crawford did not take Serena Sterling to the dinner. He did not want her to interact with anyone from the Crawford family, did not want...her to learn about his undesirable past.

Upon receiving the message, Hayden Crawford replied: "You can go, but you're not allowed to wear short skirts, keep a safe distance from the men, and you must text me by eight o'clock; I'll pick you up to go home."

Serena Sterling responded, "Alright, thank you, Mr. Crawford!"

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The dinner was held in an opulent hotel hall, and Yasmine Sterling, having carefully dressed up, arrived quite early.