

Substitute B 345

Chapter 345: Entering the Academy of Sciences

Serena Sterling could feel that Jude Crawford loved his two sons, so when they were in Bayside, he couldn't allow her presence. But now, knowing she was Seraphina Linden's daughter, and given that Seraphina and Isabelle Willow were two renowned beauties of the City of Aethelgard, he wanted to use her to find Isabelle. So he set aside his sons and allowed her presence.

This means that in Jude Crawford's heart, Isabelle Willow was far more important than his two sons.

For the first time, Serena truly realized that Jude Crawford was deeply in love with Isabelle Willow.

It's been many years since Isabelle disappeared. Her son, Hayden Crawford, is already 28 years old. Serena couldn't quite comprehend what kind of deep love it was that could withstand the ravages and strength of time, keeping this king-like man forever stationed here, perhaps at the place where they first met.

Yet, if there is such deep love, why hurt her?

Years ago, while pregnant with a second child, Isabelle Willow took a knife and cut open her own belly to extract the baby—how tragic was that?

If not driven to a dead end, how could Isabelle Willow bear to leave her son Hayden Crawford and leap into the sea, never to return?

Is Isabelle Willow really still alive?

Could Isabelle's disappearance back then have anything to do with Mom?

If Isabelle Willow is still alive, why doesn't she come back and find Hayden Crawford?

Why did Jude Crawford, loving Isabelle so much, marry Zelda Willow and have Zane Crawford with her?

No woman can accept infidelity in marriage, a betrayal of the flesh.

Serena thought she'd gain something by visiting the Crawford family today, but battling wits with the deeply scheming Jude, she stood no chance. Instead, she found things even more shrouded in mystery.

However, Serena knew and confirmed that all the answers to her questions were here.

Where does her mom come from?

Where is her mom now?

Who is her biological father?

All of it, all, all the answers are in the City of Aethelgard!

At this moment, Zane Crawford walked over, "Serena, why are you standing here?"

Serena snapped back to reality, her bright eyes falling on Zane Crawford's handsome face, and smiled gently, "Oh, just ran into Uncle, had a brief chat."

Zane's cool black eyes glanced in the direction Jude had disappeared, "What did my dad say to you?"

"Nothing much, just some casual talk. Zane, will you take me home? It's getting late, and Dad and Mom are still waiting for me at home."

Zane looked at Serena's eyes, sparkling with intelligence and radiance. She was always like this, brave and independent, capable of coming up with numerous ways to solve problems on her own.

She never thought to rely on him.

When would she rest her little head on his shoulder, seeking his protection?

Zane warmed his thin lips into a curve and then extended his fair, beautiful hand, "Come, Serena, I'll take you home."

Serena placed her delicate, small hand into his palm, and Zane held it tightly, guiding her home.

Just then, Hayden Crawford emerged from the washroom, standing gloomily and coldly by the carved railings on the second floor, his downcast eyes staring at the two below.

His deep, narrow eyes quickly landed on the tightly clasped hands of Zane Crawford and Serena, his gaze like poisoned ice, eager to rush down and tear the two apart.

She had bluntly refused him earlier, and he was still aching faintly. She didn't care about his body at all, turning away and leaving with another man instead.

Hayden's large hands supported the railing, exuding a determined and ominous cold light; he was set on having her.

She might not want to accompany him to bed, but sooner or later, she would indulge on his bed!

In fact, Hayden quite hated this out-of-control state within himself; his emotions were always drawn by her. Now he found the reason—he was just a normal man, already tempted by her beauty. The more he couldn't have her, the more he reminisced, so why not simply sleep with her? Perhaps once he did, he'd grow tired of her quickly.

Men have flaws, always craving something new, and Hayden eagerly anticipated the day he would grow bored of her, then he could discard her outright!

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Zane Crawford took Serena home. In the silver Maybach luxury car, Zane asked, "Serena, do you really not want me to help you get into the Academy of Sciences?"

Serena fluttered her lashes mysteriously, "There's really no need for help. I have a way to get in, and once I do, I'll ask Academician Crawford to take care of things for me!"

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The following day, at the Academy of Sciences.

Anabelle Rathborne and Tiana Ford entered the Academy of Sciences together. They were selected in the qualifying competition, and today was their first day officially joining the Academy.

Many people surrounded them enthusiastically,

Annette, congratulations on joining the Academy! From now on, you'll be our junior sister.

Annette, if you have any questions, feel free to ask us. We'll all help you.

Anabelle, the Rathborne family heiress, was now also Hayden Crawford's fiancée. The Academy director, Old Man Knight, was her grandfather, giving her a natural aura. From her first day at the Academy, she was already adored like the moon among stars.

Of course, she was used to it. She was born to be a cherished little princess.

Anabelle raised her sweet red lips, "Brothers and sisters, besides us three selected, is there anyone else joining the Academy today?"

"No," they replied.

Anabelle and Tiana exchanged glances, and Anabelle chuckled, "Tiana, you can rest assured now. The Academy is my grandfather's domain. Serena said she'd come to the Academy to find us soon, but clearly, she was bluffing us. She can't get in!"

Tiana was relieved too. It seemed she had overthought it; Serena wasn't as formidable as she imagined.

Suddenly, a scream echoed in their ears, "Look everyone, it's Academician Crawford, he's back!"

Anabelle looked up to see a silver Maybach luxury car driving into the Academy, stopping in a parking space. Then the car door opened, revealing the tall and handsome figure of Zane Crawford.

Today, Zane Crawford wore a fitting and exquisite black suit. Such a refined and cool person in formal attire looked exactly like a protagonist in a manga, to the extreme of elegance. His aura was cool yet brilliant, capturing the hearts of all the girls in the Academy.

Zane stepped out, and without looking sideways, he took his private assistant to the medical research institute.

Just then, Zane's cold black eyes suddenly glanced over, his indifferent gaze sweeping over Anabelle to Tiana before withdrawing from everyone's sight.

Anabelle and Tiana froze, touched by his earlier icy look.

Now that Serena was Zane's fiancée, while he was away, Serena must have faced some grievances. Zane's earlier look meant - he'd noted all their doings in his little book, and they better be careful!