

Substitute B 348

Chapter 348: The Key to the Forbidden Ground

The last sentence from Serena Sterling, "as long as you're happy," made Yvonne Knight and Anabelle Rathborne change their expressions instantly. It felt like they had punched through cotton.

"Chief, if there's nothing else, I'll head to my D Station first." After saying this, Serena turned and left.

Anabelle watched Serena's graceful figure fade into the distance, clenching her teeth in anger. She hated how Serena could remain so calm and collected, as if she were the audience and Anabelle was the clown performing!

"Annette," at this moment, Yvonne held her back, "Serena coming here isn't a bad thing. At least whatever she does is within our sight. Think long-term and don't waste time on her. What you need to do now is to show results and make yourself better."

Anabelle calmed down. She knew she didn't need to deal with Serena; with her grandfather and mom around, Serena couldn't cause much trouble.

Here at the academy, should she still be wary of Serena?

"Got it, Mom. I'll head to A Station now." Anabelle left with Tiana Ford.

...

Serena went to D Station. It was an abandoned place full of dust and garbage; it would take a whole day just to clean it up.

Without any complaints, Serena took off her coat, rolled up her sleeves, and started cleaning.

As soon as she moved a chair, she was choked by a face full of dust. Coughing twice, Serena felt a bit embarrassed.

"Hahaha," at this moment, Anabelle stood by the door and laughed joyfully, "Serena, how long are you going to clean alone? How about this; if you beg me sincerely enough, I might consider helping you out."

Anabelle's A Station had the most advanced setup, with even three janitors assigned, so she could easily make fun of her here.

Serena didn't pay any attention to Anabelle, leaving her ignored at the door. She perfectly illustrated the meaning of "thinking too highly of oneself" for Anabelle.

Anabelle got angry again.

At this moment, footsteps were heard from behind; someone was coming.

Anabelle turned to look and saw Zane Crawford!

Zane, with his tall and handsome figure, walked ahead, followed by his top-notch medical team. These elites, wearing blue lanyards and holding brooms or mops, walked in with the most stylish stride, instantly becoming the most eye-catching scene at the station.

Wow, oh my god, it's Academician Crawford!

Academician Crawford came with his team to our station!

Oh, my god, Academician Crawford brought his people to clean for Serena Sterling; he's really doting!

The people at the station gathered around, looking at Zane with admiration.

Zane entered D Station with his team, and Serena looked up, her long eyelashes fluttering slightly, "Zane, why are you here?"

"Sister-in-law, stop, how can your hands hold a rag like this? Quickly give me the rag!"

"Sister-in-law, I'll wipe the chair for you, please have a seat!"

"Sister-in-law, leave this to us. You just need to have some tea with our boss and chat about love!"

Zane's medical team consisted of a group of incredibly intelligent young medical geniuses who all called Zane their boss, making Serena naturally their "big sister-in-law."

Serena was stunned to be called "big sister-in-law," the rag snatched from her hands, and she was placed onto a chair, only able to look up at Zane's handsome face in awe and whisper, "What's... going on?"

Zane removed his outer suit, revealing a white shirt underneath. His elegance in a white shirt looked particularly attractive. He gazed at Serena, "You won't mind that I acted first and reported later, right?"

"What?"

Zane leaned closer, his cool lips curving into a soft smile, "I've already made our relationship public, Serena. I couldn't wait to introduce you to everyone around me."

Serena froze, instantly lost in Zane's deep, affectionate gaze, "I..."

"Don't say anything," Zane cut her off, "Now I ask and you answer. You're X, right?"

Serena looked at Zane but didn't speak.

Zane had already gotten the answer he wanted. She was X. X was her!

Five years ago, he went abroad for a top academic forum. Because of all the news blackouts, he returned only after the virus was controlled.

By then, she had isolated the virus, found its source, and vanished from the public eye.

When he got back, he saw her detailed work on virus dissection, utterly impressed.

Turns out she was X!

Zane's lips curved into a smile, his clear black eyes showing a trace of melancholy, "Serena, I could have met you first, but we missed each other time and time again."

Serena didn't know what to say. Some things couldn't be forced; some were destiny. When she was just born, the first one she met was... Hayden Crawford.

"Zane, there's something I want to ask you. Do you know if there's a treasure chest hidden in this academy or any mysterious places where such a thing could be kept?"

"A treasure chest?" Zane looked at her, "Is this why you insisted on entering the academy, breaking into this dragon's lair?"

This place was full of danger for Serena; she was far too bold to have ventured alone into the Knight family's territory.

Serena nodded, "Yes, I'm looking for a treasure chest."

Zane thought for a moment, "I've never heard of a treasure chest in this academy. However, there is indeed a mysterious place here."

Serena's eyes lit up, "Where?"

Zane held Serena's small hand and led her to the window, pointing out towards the backyard of the station, "See that dark red door?"

Serena saw it, a dark red door that looked like something out of a decades-old mansion, standing still and emanating a mysterious and eerie aura.

It felt like something was drawing you in yet making you afraid.

"That door has always been locked, never opened. No one has ever gone inside; it's the forbidden area of the academy, guarded by wolves."

Serena's heart suddenly started pounding wildly. She felt it; she sensed her mom's presence here.

The treasure chest must be behind that door.

"Zane, do you know where the key to the door is?"

The dark red door was locked, requiring a key to open. She needed to go in!

"Serena, you can't go in. It's said that the forbidden area is cursed, that those who enter never come out. Though I don't believe in such superstitions, walking in there would only mean feeding the wolves."

Serena's lips curled into a smile, "Zane, I don't want to die, but I must find the treasure chest."

Looked into her determined eyes, Zane spoke after a pause, "The key is with Yvonne Knight."