

Substitute B 428

Chapter 428: She Murmurs Mr. Crawford's Name in Her Dreams...

What?

This mysterious phone number is a non-existent number?

Hayden Crawford's thin lips formed a cold arc. The phone number that had just sent him a message became non-existent in the next moment. It was the first time someone could disappear without a trace right under his nose in such a short time!

Who is this person?

The person who sent this message must also be connected to Serena Sterling. Could it be that this mysterious person is related to Serena Sterling?

Just then, there was a "knock, knock" at the door, someone was knocking from outside.

Hayden Crawford pulled himself out of his thoughts, "Enter."

With a "click," the bedroom door slightly opened, and a small head peeked in. Serena didn't come in; she stood at the doorway, her clear eyes peering through the crack at his handsome face, her dark pupils swirling.

Hayden Crawford took long strides to the door and looked down at her, "Why are you standing at the door, why not come inside?"

Serena had already changed into her pajamas, wearing a pink fluffy pajama set with bunny ears on the hood, looking both pure and playful.

She reached out her slender, white hand and handed his white shirt to him, "Here, I'm returning your clothes."

She had initially worn his white shirt, but now that she had her clothes, she changed and returned the shirt to him.

Hayden Crawford extended his large hand, grabbed her slender wrist, and pulled her into the bedroom. With a "bang," he closed the door and pinned her against the wall with his hands on either side of her. "I asked why you didn't come in. Afraid I'd eat you up?"

This person!

Because of his approach, Serena's delicate back could only press against the wall. She tried to lean back to move further away from him, "This is your bedroom. As a man and woman alone, we need to maintain distance. I'll be staying here for a while but in the guest room."

"What do you mean, don't want to sleep with me?" Hayden Crawford raised his eyebrows, his expression showing a hint of displeasure.

"... Sleep together? Who wants to sleep with you, Hayden Crawford, be serious!" Serena responded, reaching out to push him away, wanting to leave.

Though displeased, Hayden Crawford did not force her, knowing that sooner or later, they would end up sleeping together anyway.

Hayden placed the bunny ears hat over her small head and played with the bunny ears with a mischievous smile, "What's this, did you know I like it?"

Serena's petite face flushed red immediately. She looked up to see his rolled-up white shirt sleeves revealing his muscular forearms, the expensive men's steel watch on his wrist, exuding a strong masculine aura. Yet this man was teasingly playing with her bunny ears, and even though she swore she was pure, he added a hint of... playfulness.

Serena immediately swatted his large hand away with a "slap," "Hayden Crawford, why are you always so flirty?"

Back in Bayside, she wore pajamas with a tail, and he insisted on pulling her tail.

She had no intention of pleasing him, just liked that style of pajamas herself.

"Always?" Hayden's hand paused in mid-air, "Have I pulled your bunny ears before?"

"..."

Serena's heart skipped a beat. Her clear eyes suddenly lifted, gazing at him in shock. Could he have... guessed something?

Ever since he questioned her about her ex-husband's identity at the research base, Serena couldn't shake the feeling that he suspected her ex-husband was him.

"Why are you looking at me like that?" Hayden asked, watching her with a playful and inquisitive gaze, "Did I say something wrong? Was it your ex-husband who liked to pull your bunny ears?"

"..."

Serena stared into his profound eyes. They carried a gentle amusement at her expense but also concealed a sharpness deep within, making her unsure of what he truly saw.

Feeling a bit flustered, Serena reclaimed her bunny ears with her small hands, opened the door, and ran.

She ran away.

A hasty escape.

Hayden Crawford stood there, one hand in his pocket and the other holding the white shirt she had just returned. At that moment, he was convinced. He was her ex-husband!

Her first love had been with him!

She loved none other than him! Completely his.

Hayden brought the white shirt up to his nose, inhaling the lingering scent of sweet, youthful fragrance. The shirt she wore retained her lingering fragrance.

Hayden's throat bobbed a couple of times as he walked into the shower and took a cold shower before putting on the white shirt.

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As night fell, Hayden Crawford hadn't gone to bed yet. He was holding a thin notebook, searching for information.

The screen displayed an enigmatic flower vine, like the one over Serena Sterling's heart—vividly red and nearly bewitching.

He'd been investigating this flower for days, without involving Corvus or Silas, taking it upon himself to investigate.

Soon, an all-English dialogue box popped up, sending him a line which translated to: This flower is called the Imperial Maiden Flower.

Hayden's handsome features, illuminated intermittently in the dim light, appearing mysterious. He typed back, asking, "What is the Imperial Maiden Flower?"

The answer came: It's said there's a secretive kingdom ruled by a queen, where every queen possesses unrivaled medical skills. They are born with an Imperial Maiden Flower, a symbol of supreme status and power.

Hayden Crawford furrowed his brows, "Where is this kingdom located?"

The response indicated that the kingdom vanished at the edge of the world, and only each princess can find their way home.

Hayden paused momentarily, then declared, "I want to find that road!"

Closing the notebook, Hayden got up and left his bedroom, heading to Serena's room.

On the soft bed lay a small curled figure. Serena had fallen asleep, her cheeks rosy in slumber, her lashes like little fans framing her peaceful face.

Hayden sat at the bedside, his long fingers gently pinching her cheek affectionately.

In her sleep, Serena instinctively leaned into his palm and rubbed against it, murmuring, "Mr. Crawford..."

She was calling... Mr. Crawford...

Hayden paused, Mr. Crawford...

Was there another side to him?

What story did she share with Mr. Crawford?

Hayden Crawford knew it was another side of himself. He shouldn't be jealous, but sitting by her bedside and hearing her call for Mr. Crawford in her dream made him madly jealous of himself.