

## **Substitute B 471**

Chapter 471: Hayden Crawford Collapses

He embraced her, and Serena woke up.

In his arms, she slowly opened her eyes, those clear eyes of hers were clean and dry, without tears, but also missing the usual bright and dazzling charm.

"Why sleep on the balcony when there's a perfectly good bed? Hmm?" Hayden asked in a low voice.

"With you holding me, I can't sleep."

Her soft voice uttered a few words, causing Hayden's step to falter. He curved his thin lips dryly from the high fever, now with a sense of self-deprecating loneliness. Is this how much she repelled him?

When he holds her, she can't sleep.

So, she secretly snuck off to sleep on the balcony alone.

Hayden gently placed her back on the bed, then raised his hand to ruffle her beautiful hair, "Serena, what would you like to eat? I'll have the cook make it for you."

Serena looked up at Hayden, "Have you imprisoned me again? Am I not allowed to leave again?"

Outside, it was all his people, guarding 24 hours a day. Because last time she used a needle, disguised herself, and escaped, this time the bodyguards outside were extremely cautious, never giving her a second chance.

"Serena, Aethelgard is in turbulent times right now; you can't go out during this period. Outside, Titus Ashworth is watching like a hawk. If you go out, you'll fall into his hands. If he takes you back to The State of Westria, it will be troublesome."

Serena had already thought about it. Currently, with Hayden in front and Titus Ashworth behind, they had her trapped here completely.

Escaping from here would require wings to fly.

She never thought she would be in such a predicament, unable to move an inch.

She must go out.

She must leave.

Serena lowered her long eyelashes and said nothing.

Her current silence made Hayden frown slightly. He knew her too well; she would find a way to break the current predicament and escape.

She was too smart.

Hayden sat by the bed, pressing his handsome face against her slightly cool cheek. "Serena, look at me. I feel a bit unwell."

Serena quickly noticed his burning body temperature. He had a high fever, at least 42 degrees.

"Hayden, you have a fever."

"Yes." Hayden held her, clinging to her. His low and hoarse voice carried a hint of gentle coquettishness, "I'm the patient now, and you're the doctor. You need to take care of me."

It was as if a feather lightly stroked her heart, creating ripples upon ripples. The Hayden she knew was strong and domineering, capable of everything, but now he was sick, hugging her weakly and acting coy, asking her to take care of him.

Serena could guess that the stab wound she inflicted on his heart last night wasn't treated in time. He then got caught in the rain, and the wound became infected.

"Hayden, you should go to the hospital. I'm a bit tired and will wash up first." Serena got up and walked to the bathroom.

"Serena!" Hayden reached out with his large hand to grab her soft little hand. "I really feel unwell, stay with me, don't be so cold to me, okay?"

Serena's fair eyes rimmed red again. She couldn't stay any longer. She feared she wouldn't hold her ground and surrender the next moment.

Pain prolonged is worse than short pain.

"Hayden, we're over. It's you who can't end it." With those words, Serena forcefully withdrew her hand from his palm.

Hayden felt an emptiness in his hand as she withdrew it and entered the bathroom, shutting the door.

Watching her slender figure disappear from his sight, Hayden curved his thin lips forlornly; then, he stood up and walked out.

In the living room, he paused. His distinct hands pressed against his left chest as sweat broke out on his forehead from the pain.

"Young Master, are you okay?"

Corvus quickly stepped forward. He tore open Hayden's shirt, revealing the wound on his left chest, now festering with a mix of red and white flesh, looking horrifying.

"Young Master, you need to go to the hospital immediately."

Hayden pursed his pale thin lips as he walked out. He needed to cherish his body and would not allow himself to collapse.

But after only two steps, his vision suddenly went black, and the tall man of 1.87 meters fell directly to the ground.

This was the first time in his life that the leading business magnate of Aethelgard collapsed.

With a rumbling sound.

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Serena lost her freedom and was confined in the apartment. Hayden didn't return after leaving yesterday.

At night, as Serena prepared to sleep, a string of soothing phone ringtones sounded; a call came in.

Serena pressed a button to answer, "Hello."

"Miss Sterling," Corvus's voice quickly came from the other end, "You should come to the hospital quickly. Young Master was admitted yesterday, but his high fever hasn't receded and he's still unconscious."

Serena quickly furrowed her delicate brows. This time his illness was so severe.

"You should look for a doctor; it's very late. I won't go over now."

"Miss Sterling, you can't be so heartless. Who do you think is to blame for Young Master's condition? Even in his coma, he's been calling your name."

He was calling her name in his unconsciousness.

Serena's slender white fingers quickly curled up, tightly gripping the phone.

"Miss Sterling! Hello, Miss Sterling!"

Serena didn't say anything and directly ended the call.

Serena lay on the soft large bed, closing her eyes to sleep, but she tossed and turned, completely unable to sleep.

He had slept on this bed, and it seemed like the quilt and pillow still carried his scent.

It was already winter; Serena's hands and feet were cold with no warmth under the blanket. At this particular moment, she missed his strong and warm embrace very much.

Serena's mind was filled with him, filled with Hayden's handsome face.

She abruptly sat up, then got out of bed, took a thick down jacket from the wardrobe, wrapped it around her, and opened the apartment door to leave.

"Miss Sterling, you can't go out." The black bodyguards at the door quickly stopped her.

Serena was about to speak when a shadow suddenly appeared from nowhere; it was the elusive Silas.

Hayden had left Silas here to protect Serena.

Silas waved his hand to let the black bodyguards retreat, "Leave it to me."

"Yes."

Serena glanced at Silas and then took the elevator downstairs. She ran to the street and hailed a taxi straight to the hospital.

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Serena arrived at the hospital and found Hayden's VIP hospital room, just ready to enter.

At this moment, a doctor's voice came from behind, "Mrs. Crawford."

Serena thought the "Mrs. Crawford" was calling her, so she instinctively turned around.

She saw the doctor and also saw Anabelle Rathborne standing next to the doctor.