

## SUBSTITUTE BRIDE: UTTERLY PAMPERED BY HER BILLIONAIRE HUSBAND

### Chapter 6: Chapter 6: Fight Me? You?

At this moment, Serena Sterling suddenly opened her eyes on the bed.

Cox was stunned; wasn't she supposed to have been drugged and sleep for a couple of hours? Why was she awake now?

"Little beauty, how... how did you wake up?"

A sly and playful smile appeared in Serena's bright eyes. "If I hadn't woken up, how could I witness such a wonderful show?"

"You..."

Serena reached out and waved her hand, Cox only felt a strange fragrance. Soon, his body went limp, and he collapsed directly onto the carpet.

Cox's hands and feet were tied with hemp ropes, and he was entirely powerless. He could only look at Serena fearfully, who was smiling innocently, "Little... little beauty, what are you up to? Why don't you untie me, and we can play nicely?"

Serena raised her delicate eyebrows, looking harmlessly pure, "Cox, see what this is?"

Cox looked over, and Serena held two meaty bones. "You... what are you doing with the meaty bones?"

"Oh dear, Cox, Lillian Sterling didn't tell you? The Sterling family has a big wolf dog, incredibly fierce, it loves eating meaty bones the most."

Cox was nothing but a pervert; he had lusted after Serena for a long time; a country bumpkin married to a half-dead man. Wasn't it all his for the taking?

But now, looking at Serena, Cox's scalp tingled. He couldn't stop trembling. "What... what exactly do you want?"

Serena moved her small hand downwards, then stuffed the two meaty bones into Cox's pants. "Cox, the game has begun. In a while, the big wolf dog will come in. You better be careful not to let it bite the wrong place and sever your lifeline."

"No, little beauty, little grandmother, I'm sorry, let me go... that's too vicious, it's not a joke, it could be fatal..." Cox was so terrified that cold sweat poured down his face, he would have knelt down to Serena if he could.

Serena walked over and opened the room door, and the big wolf dog, smelling meat, dashed inside.

Ah!

Cox screamed repeatedly.

...

Lillian was downstairs, waiting for good news when the room door upstairs suddenly opened, and Cox, pulling up his pants, clumsily ran down.

Lillian was startled, "Cox, what happened to you?"

Cox was so frightened he nearly rolled over, tears streamed down, he threw the meaty bones harshly at Lillian, snarling, "Lillian, look what you've done, this isn't over!"

Cox ran away, furious and afraid.

What happened?

Lillian quickly went upstairs and entered the room.

Inside the room, Serena was sitting in a chair leisurely enjoying tea, she raised her eyes, her bright pupils landing on Lillian's shocked face, "Aunt, you've arrived?"

Serena had been waiting for her!

Lillian was stunned, she knew the plan had been exposed, but how could it be? Serena had consumed the drugged bird's nest right in front of her eyes.

Where did it go wrong?

"Serena, you knew all along that the bowl of bird's nest had issues, didn't you just go along with it?" Lillian asked.

Serena curled her lips in a cold smile, "I just wanted to stay and see your methods, Lillian, such childish tricks, you're somewhat disappointing."

Lillian snorted, her face twisted, her eyes filled with venom. "Serena, I won't banter with you, Cox left enraged just now, now I will grab you and send you to Cox's bed to make amends! Come on!"

"Yes, Madam."

Five or six black-clad bodyguards quickly arrived, each one robust and formidable.

"Serena, these bodyguards are highly paid professionals, can you handle them?"

Serena's pupils suddenly turned cold; she had been waiting here, fearing nothing?

"Go, grab her for me!"

At Lillian's command, one bodyguard flashed to Serena's side, reaching out directly to grab her.

Serena quietly placed her small hand on her waist...

But the next moment a large, well-defined hand reached out, gripped the bodyguard's wrist, and gently twisted.

With a snap, the bodyguard's hand was broken.

Then the bodyguard with the broken hand was pushed back by a fierce force; several bodyguards collided and fell to the ground instantly.

Serena swiftly lifted her gaze, her sight invaded by a tall and charming figure, Hayden Crawford had arrived.

"How come you're here?" Serena was surprised.

Hayden spoke in a low, magnetic voice, devoid of emotional fluctuation.  
"Looks like I missed a good show."

Lillian never expected someone would suddenly intrude into the Sterling family; she examined the man beside Serena, dressed in a white shirt and black pants, tall and handsome with striking features, his swift and fierce moves earlier revealed a detached, unperturbed demeanor.

As Mrs. Sterling, Lillian was well-acquainted with Bayside's affluent circles, she had never seen such a character.

Just now Vanessa mentioned Serena kept a kept man, could it be him?

"Serena, is this the kept man you're keeping?"

Kept man?

Upon hearing these three words, Hayden furrowed his handsome brows, seeming somewhat displeased, he looked at Serena, "Kept man, you told her that?"

Serena straightened her back, waved her small hand, "I'm innocent, I didn't say anything."

But Lillian couldn't wait any longer, "What are you standing there for? You can't handle a kept man, hurry up!"

Some bodyguards attempted to approach, but Hayden slightly lifted his eyelids, looking down on them with a distinct gaze, "Fighting me, you?"

The bodyguards felt a chill and fled in panic.

Lillian quivered with rage; she had never seen such an arrogant kept man, someone who lived off a woman, yet carried himself like a high-ranking elite, moving freely within the Sterling household.

It was truly a once-in-a-lifetime sight.

With her high-paid bodyguards scampered away, Lillian could only stand helplessly in place, staring.

Hayden looked at Serena, "Staying for dinner? Let's go."

"Oh, sure."

Serena swiftly followed Hayden out, and as they passed Lillian, she whispered, "Next time bring out your best, I'm waiting, don't let me mock you."

"..."

Lillian was so outraged she nearly spat blood.

...

Inside a luxury car, Serena looked at the man beside her. He appeared focused, his demeanor elegant and noble, not showing any trace of the recent fight.

At this moment, Hayden glanced sideways, "What if I hadn't come?"

Serena smirked, "I can fight too, even if you hadn't come, I could have handled them."

Hayden recalled her background, abandoned in the countryside at nine, ostracized and bullied by other kids, called a wild child without parents.

The ability to fight was probably developed then, coupled with her medical skills; she had calmly handled the scar-faced man on the train, these bodyguards naturally posed no challenge.

"Girls shouldn't fight; fighting is a man's job."

"I don't like relying on others, but Mr. Crawford, thank you for just now."

Looking at her sincere eyes of gratitude, Hayden raised an eyebrow slightly, "You're thanking me like this?"

Serena paused, "Then how would you like me to thank you?"

Hayden's gaze dropped from her bright eyes to her red lips hidden beneath the veil, "Don't you understand the way women thank men?"

## **Chapter 7: Chapter 7: Mrs. Crawford Who Supports You and Me**

What does he mean?

His gaze lingered on her red lips, as if hinting at something. The best way for a woman to thank a man is, of course, with a flying kiss.

Serena's heart skipped a beat, her snow-white earlobes blushed red, "I don't understand."

After speaking, she turned her head to look out the window, ignoring him.

Hayden watched her avoidance. She is smart, lively, independent, not dependent on others, and unwilling to easily give her heart, but a nineteen-year-old girl is truly a blank slate in matters of love, unable to bear even a little teasing from a man.



The red light came, the luxury car stopped, and Serena leaned against the window and saw Bayside's most famous cake shop.

"Want some cake?" Hayden's low, mellow voice echoed in her ear.

Serena's bright eyes showed a hint of sadness as she softly said, "My mom used to take me to that shop often to buy cakes."

Hayden turned the steering wheel and parked on the roadside, "If you want some, go buy it."

...

This cake shop in Bayside is an old name, particularly popular in elite social circles, and always limited in sales every day.

Since childhood, Serena loved eating cake. Her mom often took her here to buy it, those were the best memories.

It's been ten years, Serena hasn't been here in ten years.

Her eyes became a bit red, but she didn't want the man beside her to see, "Um... you wait here for me, I'll go to the bathroom."

She went to wash her face.

Hayden watched as the girl disappeared, earlier he noticed she was close to tears, truly a little girl who hadn't grown up.

He stepped into the cake shop on his long legs.

Coincidentally, Vanessa was also in this cake shop, along with her friend Zoe.

Zoe pulled Vanessa, "Vanessa, earlier you said Serena, that country bumpkin, is keeping a pretty boy, is it true?"

Vanessa sneered disdainfully, "Of course it's true, I saw it with my own eyes. That pretty boy drove Serena home."

"Nowadays pretty boys are expensive, Serena just returned from the countryside, where would she get the money to keep a pretty boy?"

Vanessa said, "Pretty boys are essentially gigolos, divided into levels. Those top-tier ones, handsome, well-built, are worth a fortune in a single night..."

At this moment, a deep, magnetic voice sounded by the ear, "Manager, give me a cake."

This voice is just too nice!

Vanessa and Zoe's attention was drawn; they immediately saw Hayden.

Now Hayden stood tall and handsome beside the counter, dressed in a white shirt and black trousers, long legs, a model-like physique, just standing there, lighting up the place instantly.

Oh my, this man is way too handsome!

Zoe was already captivated, she quietly tugged at Vanessa's sleeve, "Vanessa, is this the kind of top-tier man we were talking about?"

Handsome, well-built, skilled...

Vanessa had never seen such a handsome man; it is said the best clothes hangers for men are the combination of power, wealth, and status. Hayden's elegantly noble, restrained demeanor made him the best-looking man in a white shirt and black trousers, without equal.

Vanessa's heart raced.

Then Zoe whispered again, "Vanessa, could Serena's kept pretty boy be like this man?"

"What nonsense are you saying!" Vanessa glared at Zoe, "Someone as poor as Serena, the pretty boy she keeps must be the lowest level, ugly and fat. If she can keep someone of this caliber, then I'll call her 'Auntie!'"

Vanessa absolutely refused to believe Serena's kept pretty boy could be a top-tier man like the one in front.

At this moment, the manager apologized, "Sorry sir, the last cake has already been bought by those two young ladies, today's cakes are sold out, you can come earlier tomorrow to buy."

The last cake was bought by Vanessa.

Upon being named, Vanessa's heart pounded rapidly. She quickly stepped forward, excited and shy, looking at Hayden, "Sir, do you...want to buy a cake? I can give this cake to you, but...can we exchange WeChat first?"

Vanessa had already fallen for this man, so she couldn't wait to make the first move.

She had excellent conditions, youthful and pretty, with many boys pursuing her. Strangely, she was so nervous when she took the initiative to talk to this man.

In Vanessa's heart full of anticipation, Hayden didn't even cast her a glance, not even a sideways look. He simply took out his Black Gold Card and handed it to the manager, "Then have the master baker work overtime to make me one."

The manager immediately saw Hayden's Black Gold Card, with a gold letter "Lu" on the card's surface.

Lu, in Bayside, was a widely known surname.

The manager nearly instantly guessed the identity of the man in front, cold sweat streaming down his forehead; Bayside's all-powerful, storm-shaping big figure had descended upon a small cake shop.

"Sir...Sir, please wait a moment, I'll have the master baker specially make one for you."

The manager ran into the kitchen.

Vanessa and Zoe looked a bit dazed, why would the manager specially make a cake for this man?

They were both waiting in line.

This must be VVIP treatment at this cake shop.

Hayden was waiting; he casually picked up a business newspaper and read it.

Vanessa was thoroughly ignored, it made her embarrassed. She reached out to adjust her strap dress.

"Oh, I'm dizzy." Vanessa pretended to be dizzy, her whole body falling towards Hayden's arms.

She closed her eyes, hoping to land in the man's arms.

But the next second, with a thud, she directly fell to the ground.

It turned out Hayden dodged to the side, and Vanessa performed a faceplant.

At this moment, a clear and beautiful voice sounded from above, "Vanessa, why are you giving me such a big bow?"

Vanessa looked up and saw Serena.

Serena had arrived, her bright eyes staring at Vanessa's faceplant pose, playfully batting her long lashes.

Vanessa was completely flustered; she quickly and in embarrassment got up, "Serena, why are you here?"

Vanessa showed an expression of disbelief, how could Serena be in the cake shop? When she left, Cox had already gone into the room.

What happened?

At this moment, Hayden walked forward, naturally extending his strong arm to wrap around Serena's slender waist, "Why did you take so long?"

Her waist was truly just a palm's width, so slender.

Vanessa and Zoe sharply inhaled, Serena and this man?

"Serena, who is he to you?" Vanessa quickly asked.

Serena smirked, "Didn't you say he's my kept pretty boy?"