

Substitute B 641

Chapter 641: Serena Sterling Takes the Stage to Dance

"However," Melody added, "my little maid has a very high standard, not just any man will do, it depends on your capabilities. Whoever has the strength will win the beauty."

With Melody's words, the implication was those without money wouldn't suit her, but with money, she'd be more than willing.

The executives became emboldened. They promptly seized Serena's delicate arm, pulling her to sit beside them.

"Little beauty, come with me, don't be just a maid anymore, serve me well, and you'll live a life of luxury."

"Come on, don't deceive this little beauty. If your wife, the tigress, finds out you're hiding a mistress, she'll devour this little beauty. Little beauty, you're better off with me."

"Little beauty, you have such a good figure. With proper packaging, I can make you a big star. I'm a director and can tailor a movie just for you to ensure you become famous."

These executives reached out, trying to touch Serena's small hand.

But Serena evaded in time, furrowing her brows. Her bright eyes flashed with a sharp and icy light, sweeping those executives with a piercing glance.

The executives froze, unexpectedly taken aback by Serena's gaze.

When they thought about it, they found it laughable; how could they, men of wealth, power, and reputation, be intimidated by a mere maid?

The atmosphere grew awkward. At this point, one executive suggested, "Little maid, since you're here, why not join us for a game?"

"What game?" Melody asked curiously.

"Little maid, with such a good figure, why not entertain us with a pole dance?"

The executives wanted Serena to perform a pole dance on stage.

Serena didn't move; she had no intention of dancing.

"Gentlemen, it seems my little maid isn't willing to dance. Here's an idea, we shouldn't force anyone too much, at least give her a choice: let my little maid choose one out of two." Melody suggested kindly.

The executives exchanged a glance and thought of a fun game, "Alright then, if this little maid doesn't want to do a pole dance, she has to... choose one of us to kiss, hahaha."

Melody's eyes lit up; she found the game interesting too. "But there are so many of you, choosing anyone might offend the others. Who should she pick?"

"That's easy, we'll spin the bottle."

One executive took out a beer bottle, clearly a seasoned player of such games, spinning it on the coffee table.

Everyone held their breath, watching to see where the bottle would stop.

Soon, the bottle came to a stop, pointing at someone, and that person was... Hayden Crawford!

Hayden Crawford remained seated on the sofa, smoking a cigar. He hadn't spoken a word the entire time, only quietly exhaling smoke. When the bottle pointed at him, his handsome face showed no change in emotion. He merely tapped the ash into the ashtray.

Then he reclined his upright back into the soft sofa again, lifting his handsome eyelids slightly to look at Serena across from him.

Hiss.

Everyone inhaled sharply; they never expected this unlucky draw to fall on Hayden Crawford.

"It seems Mr. Crawford has a magnetic charm for women."

"Let's follow the game rules then, little maid, you're lucky. Now you have two choices: either get on stage and do a pole dance or go kiss Mr. Crawford."

"I bet the little maid will choose to kiss Mr. Crawford; it's such a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. But whether Mr. Crawford will push you away is another matter."

Serena was now given two choices. Under the current situation, if she didn't comply, she wouldn't be able to get away.

Serena lifted her bright almond eyes to look at Hayden Crawford, who, through the lingering smoke, was also gazing at her with his deep, narrow eyes.

Just moments ago, their disagreement had ended unpleasantly, and she had even given him a slap. Now his gaze was chillingly cold, devoid of warmth, with an air of superiority looking down at her.

Serena withdrew her gaze and stood up, moving onto the stage.

She had made her choice: she opted for the pole dance.

Oh my!

The executives were astounded; they truly hadn't expected Serena to not choose Hayden Crawford, the world's wealthiest tycoon, right at her fingertips, and yet she failed to appreciate it.

The executives watched Serena's departing silhouette with inexplicable admiration; she was truly valiant!

Hayden Crawford paused his cigar-smoking actions, his eyes dark like spilled ink, dangerous as an abyss; she didn't choose him!

She would rather do a pole dance than choose him!

This damn woman!

Melody had been holding her breath, not expecting Serena's luck to strike, with the bottle landing on Hayden Crawford.

Now that Serena chose the pole dance, Melody quickly linked arms with Hayden Crawford and laughed, "It seems my little maid prefers dancing."

Then, a hot DJ beat started playing. Hayden Crawford lifted his eyelids to glance at the stage, where Serena's soft white hand sensuously flipped her black hair back, beginning to move her hands and feet to dance.

She started with a brief, intense dance routine as a warm-up, then grasped the pole with one small hand, her slender body elegantly leaping, twirling around the pole like a blooming enchantress, moving gracefully.

The entire cabin exploded instantaneously, and the men stood up, whistling, and clapping bowls.

"Little beauty, look over here!"

"Little beauty, your feet in those high heels are gorgeous. Dare to let me kiss them?"

"Little beauty, get into my bowl, name your price. I'm ready to squander everything tonight!"...

The men shouted at Serena with excitement, overwhelmed by passion and hormones.

Hayden Crawford stared at the sultry red figure on the stage. A trained dancer with a slender and flexible body, Serena knew how to move. During spins, her legs parted in a perfect split, her red skirt covering just above the knee, tantalizingly elusive, captivating countless men.

Her figure was truly alluring, her heaving chest seemingly ready to burst through her dress. Her jet-black hair tucked behind her ear revealed a not traditionally pretty face, yet under the dazzling lights, she was vibrant and colorful, intending to mesmerize all men tonight.

Already in a foul mood, Hayden Crawford's handsome brow creased, exuding a chilling aura of dark malice.

Chapter 642: Fighting Others for Her

Ten minutes later, the electrifying pole dance came to an end, with Serena Sterling's creamy skin glistening with a sheen of sweat, like dew gliding over rose petals, tempting and alluring.

Wow.

The crowd erupted in cheers, utterly thrilled.

Standing on stage, Serena's captivating amber eyes slowly scanned the room, finally settling on that dimly lit corner where Hayden Crawford's tall and straight figure stood.

But she only glanced at him, quickly shifting her gaze away, dismounting the stage amid the commotion.

Oh my.

A few of the executives, watching from afar, were utterly astonished by Serena's beauty.

"I never expected this little maid to appear so pure, yet dance such a seductive and sultry pole dance."

"She's simply irresistible, makes me adore her endlessly."

"But this little maid has high standards, you see, she walked away without acknowledging us."

"This little maid is really interesting."

Hayden Crawford's deep, narrow eyes also landed on Serena's charming figure. Indeed, she was ethereal, pure, and enchanting, embodying a charm that captivated men completely.

Moreover, her standards were extraordinarily high, she hadn't even spared him a second glance.

Melody Ashworth was fuming, digging her nails into her palms. She intended to make a fool of Serena, but instead, Serena stole all the limelight with her pole dance.

Just then, one of the executives exclaimed, "Look, someone's surrounding that little maid."

Hayden Crawford glanced up to see a drunken heir appearing in front of Serena, blocking her path.

"Hey, beautiful," the heir leered at Serena, "your pole dance was amazing, I'll give you ten million to perform it again for me."

Serena had intended to leave, uninterested in entertaining these drunks and lechers, so she lifted her foot to walk away.

But another drunken executive jumped out, "Hey, beautiful, I'll give you thirty million to have dinner with me tonight."

"Who do you think you are? Ever heard of first come, first served? This little beauty is mine, I'll pay fifty million for a night with her."

"You dare snatch the woman I've laid my eyes on? Do you want a fight?"

The heir and executive were both drunk, eyes only for Serena, tensions boiled as both prepared to brawl.

Melody Ashworth was consumed with jealousy watching this scene. Despite having Serena's stunning face, the spotlight remained fixated on Serena. No matter past or present, she was always the supporting act.

Melody looked at Hayden Crawford beside her, "I told you, my little maid is incredibly charming. Look, those two men are ready to fight over her."

Hayden Crawford pressed his thin lips together, his hawk-like eyes dark and brooding, fixated on Serena.

"Come with me, beautiful!"

"You're mine, beautiful!"

Then, both the heir and executive reached out, grabbing Serena's delicate wrists simultaneously.

Serena's delicate skin quickly turned red where she was grasped, and she furrowed her elegant brows.

The heir pointed angrily at the executive, "Let go of her, now!"

"You let go of her!"

The heir threw a punch directly at the executive.

The two men began fighting, and Serena was pushed aside, staggering unsteadily, about to fall.

At that moment, a strong arm looped around, grasping her slender waist, pulling her into a warm, muscular embrace.

Who is this?

Serena lifted her bright eyes, and the next second, Hayden's handsome face came crashing into her vision.

Hayden Crawford had come!

Serena's pupils contracted, he actually came!

The heir and the executive, now furious with the interruption, charged at Hayden, fists raised, "Let go of the beautiful one or else we'll waste you!"

Seeing them charging, Serena's heart clenched, "Watch out!"

Hayden cradled Serena in his arms, gripping the heir's wrist with a decisive twist, then kicked the executive's lower half, swiftly taking the pair down.

The two men howled like pigs being slaughtered, "Someone, come quickly, waste this guy, and you'll be richly rewarded."

This private yacht was filled with prominent figures, and drunk, the heir and executive didn't recognize Hayden, though they had many bodyguards with them.

Suddenly, a bunch of bodyguards rushed in, grabbing bottles from tables and charging at Hayden.

Serena's bright pupils shrank as she quickly clutched Hayden's sleeve, her face innocent and worried, Mr. Crawford, you're in trouble!

"...

Hayden pulled her to the side, his deep narrow eyes bursting with a murderous, bloodthirsty aura, "Stay put, don't move!"

Oh.

The bodyguards rushed in, and Hayden, with agile posture, fought them off. Serena had never seen him fight before, each of his moves was seamless, leaving the opponents defenseless.

If Serena were a little younger, she might find herself screaming like a fan girl over his handsomeness.

The scene was chaotic, beer bottles flying everywhere; many were fleeing, while Melody stood in shock watching Hayden. Known globally for his wealth and bearing, she'd never seen him fight for a woman before.

Just as she'd finished speaking, he had risen, striding towards Serena.

Now he was fighting for her!

At that moment, Leah Thorne walked in, taken aback by the chaos, hurriedly searching for Serena.

Just then, a furious bodyguard swung a bottle towards Leah's head, causing her pupils to shrink.

At a critical moment, a clean, fair hand reached out, securing her waist, pulling her into an embrace.

Looking up, it was Justin Xavier.

Justin appeared calm and elegant as ever, yet his dark eyes were chillingly cold as he glanced at the bodyguard, "Wanna keep fighting?"

The bodyguard, intimidated by the aura Justin exuded, trembled violently, "S-sorry."

The bodyguard directly smashed the beer bottle against his own head.

Justin coldly watched the blood trickle down from the bodyguard's head before pulling out his phone to make a call, slowly giving instructions, "Shut all the ship's doors, anyone daring to cause trouble here, deal with them accordingly!"

Chapter 643: He Kissed Her

Serena obediently stood in the corner, not daring to move because in this melee of men, it was best for her to protect herself first and not be a burden to Hayden.

At this moment, a bodyguard swung a wine bottle at her, causing Serena to shiver; she silently touched the silver needle at her waist.

But then her vision went dark, and a clean, fresh masculine aura enveloped her, holding her securely in a protective embrace.

"Bang" echoed as the wine bottle shattered.

Serena looked to see that Hayden had arrived. Now, the black sleeve on his arm was torn, revealing a long gash that was shocking to behold.

He had protected her just now.

He was hurt!

Serena's breathing trembled, her heart gripped tightly as if by a giant hand. She quickly pressed her small hand against his bleeding wound.

Looking at the woman's pale face, Hayden's tall figure was hidden in the dimness, covered in a bloody hostility. He coldly curved his lips, "Are you satisfied now, with so many men fighting over you?"

"..."

Serena was momentarily speechless.

At that moment, the yacht's security and the people Justin Xavier called in all stormed in, quickly stabilizing the scene. Justin Xavier knocked down two bodyguards and ran over, "Hayden, are you okay?"

"I'm fine." Hayden pressed his thin lips together, then forcefully clasped Serena's slender wrist and dragged her away.

...

Hayden's strides were large, and Serena stumbled as she followed behind him. They arrived at the room's doorway when Hayden kicked open the door and pulled Serena inside.

Serena hadn't yet stood firm when he dragged her into the bathroom, pushed her against the sink, then turned on the cold water to wash her small, alabaster wrists.

What was he doing?

What madness was this?

Serena quickly furrowed her brows and began to struggle.

However, the differences in strength between men and women were vast. Hayden's long fingers forcefully gripped her, making her unable to move. He focused on scrubbing her wrists as if trying to wash off a layer of skin.

Hayden felt utterly disgusted.

Just thinking about her two arms being held by those two drunken young heirs and executives filled his chest with a bloodthirsty rage.

For some reason, he couldn't stand other men touching her, not even a small hand.

He knew he was acting abnormally and was doing his utmost to suppress it, but still, it was no use.

He couldn't endure it.

Serena had sensed his temper; at this moment, she should not provoke him, so she remained quiet, letting him fuss.

A few minutes later, Hayden finally stopped. He took two steps forward and directly pressed her against the porcelain wall, using two long fingers to grip her small chin forcefully, staring coldly at her, "Didn't I warn you not to flirt outside, or don't you understand?"

Flirt?

Serena quickly shook her head, I did not!

"Heh," Hayden let out a low, dangerous laugh from deep in his throat, "Then why don't you do a split for me now, how about that?"

"..."

Serena's circle was relatively clean, but she had heard plenty. It was said that many wealthy people in high-end clubs would pick girls and throw heaps of cash at them, making them do splits.

The wider the girls spread their legs, the more they satisfied those men's perverted desires.

Serena stared blankly at the man in front of her, suddenly realizing that although this man did not indulge with women, he understood all the ways of seducing them.

She suddenly remembered an article she had once seen in a magazine that evaluated a truly mature man at 30—not only rich and powerful but also possessing eyes that could see through women.

Such a man was an ultimate prize, fulfilling a woman's every fantasy about a man.

Serena couldn't deny that she was undeniably drawn to such men, who beneath their elegant and noble facade could perfectly interpret the reckless evil charm of men, as mesmerizing as a poppy.

But right now, what did he mean by this?

Serena suddenly understood his ambivalent feelings for her. Could it be that... he had fallen for her?

Serena's delicate eyelashes fluttered as she anxiously observed him.

Hayden also felt he had said too much; he couldn't yet accept his feelings for a young maid.

He quickly released his grip on Serena.

Serena held onto his injured right arm, indicating that she wanted to bandage it for him!

...

They returned to the room. Hayden sat on the edge of the bed while Serena stood before him, bending down to remove his blood-stained black shirt, using an alcohol-soaked cotton ball to clean his wound.

Looking at the ghastly wound, Serena's heart trembled. This injury was sustained saving her, and her watery, clear gaze was filled with tears. "Does it hurt?"

Hayden's handsome face, hidden in the dim yellow light, remained expressionless as he lightly groaned, "Yes."

He said it hurt.

Serena pouted her rosy lips and blew gently on his wound.

So childish.

Hayden watched her, recalling the other day in the villa room when she crawled on his back, her small hands tenderly stroking him, blowing gently.

In the depths of Hayden's eyes, a hint of softness emerged. Driven by emotion, he pulled his impressive long legs together, trapping her between them.

He...

Serena quickly grabbed the fabric around his shoulders with her small hands to prevent herself from falling, but now she was wedged between his legs, him sitting, her standing, their breaths intertwining.

Hayden looked at her, slowly raising his large hand to cover her mouth and nose, leaving only her clear, captivating eyes to turn around blackly.

Her clear eyes were stunning and alluring, giving him an oddly familiar feeling.

Not looking at her face, just these eyes made Hayden feel moved.

"Who are you, really?" Hayden asked softly.

Serena's heart skipped a beat; her guess seemed confirmed. He... had fallen for her, or at least she was different to him.

Otherwise, he wouldn't be jealous.

Otherwise, he wouldn't fight for her.

Otherwise, he wouldn't show such confusion in front of her.

Serena's heart melted into a mess, placing all her bets on him. She hadn't won yet, but at this moment he already made her feel satisfied.

Serena lowered her head and quickly pressed a kiss on his thin lips.

Hayden's pupils contracted; she actually kissed him!

Though it was just a fleeting peck, her lips were fragrant and soft, carrying the girlish aroma he liked.

Hayden clasped her slender waist, pulling her down onto his lap.

Chapter 644: Pinning Him Down

Now Serena Sterling slumped down on his lap, lifting her bright eyes to look at him.

Hayden Crawford extended his large hand, his long fingers weaving into her hair, then he slowly lowered his head, letting his lips fall onto her eyes.

He was kissing her eyes, over and over again.

Serena wrapped her arms around his fit waist, letting him kiss her, as the dim light bathed them in intimacy and tenderness.

After a while, Hayden's lips traveled downward, slowly approaching her red lips.

Closer and closer, almost touching.

But just at that moment, Hayden suddenly opened his eyes, as if he regained his senses, and immediately pushed Serena out of his embrace.

Serena stood up, and Hayden strode toward the window, one hand on his hip, struggling and disordered, "We can't, you should leave."

He wanted her to leave.

Serena could understand him, he had fallen under Melody Ashworth's Bewitching Technique and didn't recognize her. He didn't want to betray.

Thus, his uncontrollable attraction to her made him feel guilty, something he could not accept, unwilling to take that final step.

He was the one suffering the most now.

Serena glanced at him, then really turned and left.

Now the room was left with only Hayden Crawford, who felt the need to calm down, to really think about what he was doing.

He loved Serena, so why did he feel so strongly for a mere maid?

Just then, with a click, the door opened again, and someone walked in.

Hayden didn't turn around, just pursed his lips, "Didn't I tell you to leave? Why have you come back?"

The person behind didn't speak but came over, soon two small hands hugged his fit waist, a soft woman's body pressing tightly against him from behind.

Hayden closed his eyes, his Adam's apple bobbing up and down. He was a normal man, with physiological needs, and since leaving Aethelgard, he hadn't touched a woman.

Twice now, he had felt strong physical reactions to that little maid. Just now, he wanted to kiss her, push her onto the bed...

Hayden lowered his handsome eyes, feeling his throat burning as if it had swallowed embers. The small hands at his waist slowly climbed upward, stirring up fire all along the way.

Hayden quickly grabbed the small hand, wanting to pull the person behind into his arms fiercely. He didn't want to suppress himself anymore. He had to admit, he was defenseless against that little maid.

But the next second, he suddenly opened his eyes, because this small hand felt wrong!

Hayden immediately turned around and saw Serena Sterling's breathtaking little face.

Melody Ashworth had come, blinking playfully at Hayden, calling out sweetly, "Mr. Crawford~"

The desire in Hayden's eyes immediately dissipated, replaced by clarity, "Why are you here?"

"I came to see you. Just now, I saw you got hurt and was worried."

Hayden looked at this stunning face, the one he fancied, but something felt lacking, like a moment ago, he was burning with desire, but now he had none. This issue he had noticed long ago, his body had no reaction to this woman in front of him.

They say the body's reaction is the most instinctive, the most honest.

Hayden reached out to push Melody away, his handsome features cold and indifferent, "I'm fine, you should leave."

Melody felt as if she placed her warm face against a cold ice block, her smile stiffening. Earlier, this man had fought with passion for Serena Sterling, yet now he pushed her away coldly, what did he want?

Melody quickly huffed in irritation, "Hayden Crawford, let's break up!"

Hayden turned his head, looking at Melody with a deep, displeased tone, "What nonsense are you making now?"

"I'm making nonsense? Hayden, look at what you've been doing recently. You've already been drawn away by that little maid beside me. You even fought for her just now, but you're so impatient with me, only cold and perfunctory. Instead of this, we might as well break up, and you can go find that little maid!"

Hayden also noticed the changes in his emotions; he increasingly didn't want to be with this woman in front of him. He furrowed his strong eyebrows.

Melody saw he still didn't come to console her, feeling stuck in a dilemma. She wouldn't break up with him.

But she felt his heart was gone, taken by Serena Sterling, this feeling of losing control made Melody uneasy.

Melody took the initiative to approach, hugging Hayden's firm waist, "Mr. Crawford, you weren't like this before. Is it because... we haven't been together for a long time, how about... we sleep together tonight?"

Melody was slightly anxious; she felt she had to cook the rice to be done and make it a fact.

Hayden barely restrained himself from pushing the woman in his arms away, as he repeatedly told himself this was the woman he loved deeply.

Then Melody pushed, and they both fell onto the soft bed.

Melody reached to undo the black leather belt around Hayden's solid waist.

But she couldn't undo it. The next second, her hand was held down by a large palm.

Melody quickly looked up at him, "Mr. Crawford, what's wrong with you? Do you not really love me anymore?"

Melody moved slightly, and the bell of charm immediately emitted an enticing sound.

Hayden lowered his eyes briefly, then let go, allowing her to continue.

The opportunity had arrived!

Delighted, Melody quickly undid Hayden's belt.

But soon, she froze.

Melody looked down his muscular chest, her gaze stopping below his waist, there, soft, dormant in a large mass.

He had no response.

He had no physiological need.

Melody was shocked, her face turning completely pale, she looked at Hayden, "Mr. Crawford, you...?"

Hayden pressed his thin lips together, forming a cold, sharp arc. He got up, left the bed, and strode to the windowsill.

He pulled out a cigar, holding it in his lips, bent his tall frame slightly, and cupped his hands to shield from the wind as he lit it.

Slender fingers held the crimson flame, he furrowed his sword eyebrows and began to puff out clouds of smoke.

Melody stood behind watching the man's imposing back, the night wind blowing his black shirt with a flutter, his form mingled with the outside night, cloaked in cold frost, like an emperor high above.

She deeply adored this man.

Earlier she thought the opportunity had come, ecstatically surprised, only to be hit by a blow.

He had no physical reaction, how was she to cook the rice, to become his empress?

Chapter 645: Hayden Crawford's New Flame and Old Love

Melody Ashworth suddenly felt an unprecedented sense of defeat. After all, she was also the most beautiful and noble princess in The State of Westria. There were plenty of men who liked her, and she had never doubted her charm. But now Hayden Crawford had no interest in her at all.

The atmosphere in the room was silent and oppressive.

Hayden Crawford was smoking. Behind a cloud of smoke, his sword-like eyebrows tightened into a "chuan" shape, cold and displeased. His body's changes were too obvious, completely uncontrollable. Just now, facing that little maid, his body temperature was scorching, aroused. Little did he know that when this woman touched him, he had no reaction at all.

This was his beloved Serena Sterling. What was going on with him?

Earlier, when she toppled him over, he held a testing attitude. He was never willing to admit that he was drawn to that little maid. Perhaps he had been away from Serena Sterling for too long and was feeling lonely, which was why he reacted. So, he let her undo his belt.

Now it seemed he had to admit and even accept the fact that the woman in front of him had no allure to him, and he had feelings for that little maid.

That little maid's clear eyes, breath... they were all familiar and alluring to him.

"Hayden Crawford, you..." Melody Ashworth didn't know what to say. She felt a sense of crisis because she thought she was about to be abandoned.

At that moment, Hayden Crawford extinguished the cigarette stub in the ashtray with his fingers, turned around, and said profoundly, "Go out."

...

Serena Sterling went back to her room to change clothes. When she came out, she happened to see Hayden Crawford's door open, and Melody Ashworth coming out of his room.

Serena Sterling's steps paused, and she looked at Melody Ashworth.

Melody Ashworth also naturally saw Serena Sterling. Seeing her now, Melody wished she could pounce on her and make her disappear. She was hiding behind the ordinary maid's face but still attracted Hayden Crawford, stirring his heart.

At this moment, a tall and handsome figure stepped into view, and Hayden Crawford also came out.

"Mr. Crawford," Melody Ashworth quickly clung to him, wrapped around Hayden Crawford's sturdy arm, and coquettishly uttered, "I'm hungry. Let's go eat something."

Hayden Crawford lifted his gaze and immediately saw Serena Sterling standing in front, who was also looking at him.

Their eyes met, Hayden Crawford calmly averted his gaze and nodded warmly at Melody Ashworth, "Okay."

The two walked away.

Serena Sterling stood alone in place, lowering her long lashes.

Just then Melody Ashworth seemed to remember her, quickly speaking out loud, "Little maid, why are you standing there in a daze? Hurry up and come over!"

Melody Ashworth was in a bad mood, her tone harsh, genuinely commanding Serena Sterling as a mere maid.

Serena Sterling lifted her foot and followed them, trailing behind the two.

The three arrived at a luxurious restaurant, where a lovely woman approached, "Hi, Mr. Crawford, long time no see."

Serena Sterling raised her head and swiftly recognized the woman before her as Lida, Hayden Crawford's former Nth partner, the oil tycoon's daughter.

When Serena Sterling had just returned to the City of Aethelgard from Alani, Leah Thorne had showed her the tabloid news about Hayden Crawford, who at the time was dating Miss Lida, and was photographed by paparazzi spending a night at her chamber and not coming out.

Unexpectedly meeting Lida here, Serena Sterling glanced at both Melody Ashworth and Lida, feeling like new and old flames were gathering together.

Melody Ashworth knew Hayden Crawford had been involved with many women over the past three years, but she didn't know who they all were. So she looked at Lida in confusion, "Who are you?"

Melody Ashworth had an inherent hostility towards beautiful women, so she glared at Lida, her gaze unfriendly.

Lida curved her red lips and hooked her arm around Hayden Crawford's other strong arm, "Mr. Crawford, why don't you tell her who I am."

With both women clinging to Hayden Crawford, it seemed a big scene was about to unfold.

Melody Ashworth was instantly furious. If dealing with Serena Sterling wasn't enough, now another rival had appeared, completely disregarding her. "Hayden Crawford, who is this woman, another vixen seducing you?"

"Tsk tsk," Lida said, looking at Hayden Crawford. "Mr. Crawford, is this the woman you can't forget? Initially, I was curious about what kind of woman had captured your heart, making me lose miserably. But now, seeing her in person, I'm shocked. Mr. Crawford, you don't have great taste here."

Hayden Crawford glanced at Lida, expressionless, and withdrew his arm from her hands, "Miss Lida, are you done playing?"

Lida showed a hurt expression, "Mr. Crawford, you're still so cold-hearted. Regardless, I was your ex-girlfriend."

Ex-girlfriend?

Now Melody Ashworth realized who Lida was—just one of the women Hayden Crawford had passed his time with over the last three years. Melody Ashworth immediately assumed the stance of the main woman, "Miss Lida, how shameless are you? You and Hayden Crawford have broken up, so why are you clinging now? No matter how you pester Hayden Crawford, there's no place for you here."

Lida always wanted to see what the woman Hayden Crawford spent three years longing for looked like. Now, with Melody Ashworth bearing Serena Sterling's stunning face, she was indeed captivating, but when Melody Ashworth spoke, she seemed to mismatch the beauty of that face.

Lida looked down on Melody Ashworth a bit.

At that moment, Hayden Crawford pursed his thin lips, "Weren't we going to eat? Let's sit over there."

"Yes, sure." Melody Ashworth replied sweetly.

Hayden Crawford took Melody Ashworth to sit at a window seat.

Lida, noting Melody Ashworth's arrogant demeanor, snorted and stomped away on her high heels.

After getting rid of Lida, Melody Ashworth looked at Serena Sterling and haughtily ordered, "Little maid, you have no sense of perception at all. Come over and serve me my meal!"

Serena Sterling walked over.

Melody Ashworth pointed to the dining area, "I want some fruit now. Go and get some for me."

Serena Sterling said nothing, obediently going to get the fruit.

"Now I want some dessert, go get me some dessert."

"Now I want a steak, go get me a steak."

And thus, Serena Sterling was sent back and forth by Melody Ashworth several times, her legs feeling sore from running, yet Melody Ashworth showed no sign of stopping and even planned to order more.

At this moment, Hayden Crawford looked up, noticing Serena Sterling standing quietly by the side. Though silent, she held her small waist straight, exuding a calm and ethereal demeanor.

Chapter 646: He Didn't Touch Any Woman in These Three Years

Compared to Serena, Melody Ashworth seemed sharp and mean.

Hayden Crawford furrowed his handsome brows slightly. He gave Melody Ashworth a light glance, "Enough, if you keep eating like this, you're going to gain weight."

Just as Melody was about to ask Serena to bring her some foie gras, she suddenly heard Hayden's indifferent, magnetic voice. Her pupils shrank. Did he... did he just say she would gain weight?

He actually said she'd gain weight!

Melody looked at Hayden in disbelief. Wasn't it said that Serena was the love of his life, his little angel? How could he abandon his gentlemanly demeanor and say the word "fat" to a girl?

Serena lifted her bright eyes and looked at Hayden. Clearly, she hadn't expected him to speak up on her behalf.

Now, Hayden was also looking at her.

Their eyes met, and Hayden's mind flashed back to when she sat on his strong thigh in the room, hugging his neck and kissing him...

Hayden felt he was going crazy; he must have been enchanted by this little maid!

Feeling irritable, Hayden got up and left the place to get some fresh air.

...

Serena also went out; she wanted to find Leah Thorne, but when she reached a corner, she heard a familiar voice—it was Lida.

Lida was saying, "Mr. Crawford, I had already given up, but seeing that Serena beside you, I reignited my fighting spirit. I want to be with you."

Mr. Crawford?

Could it be that Hayden came out for air and ran into Lida?

This man really attracted admirers everywhere he went.

Serena sneakily peeked out and indeed saw Hayden's tall and handsome figure inside. He was with Lida.

Lida reached out, tugging on Hayden's sleeve, looking at him with admiration, "Mr. Crawford, you liked me too, didn't you? Even if just a little bit, or you wouldn't have been with me. You once looked at me tenderly, held me..."

Serena's delicate fingers curled. She knew he had dated many women in those three years, but she never imagined those scenes. Now, hearing about his intimate actions with those women made her heart feel as if stung by a bee.

A while back after falling from the tribe, he had told her, if those women were all pretend...

Turns out, it was only hypothetical.

Those women weren't pretend at all.

Serena felt she was too naïve; he even locked her in the closet to listen to his amorous cries with other women. How could that be fake?

Serena's expression dulled, lowering her long lashes, then she turned to leave.

Just then, Hayden's indifferent, cold voice reached her ears, "No, I don't like you, not even a bit."

Serena paused.

Lida shook her head, unable to accept this fact, "How could that be, Mr. Crawford? You must have liked me, even though... even though you were always inattentive when with me. I always felt like you were looking at another person through me. Don't you remember? You even praised my manicure for being pretty. You looked at my hands often. Look, I still have the pink manicure. It's your favorite, isn't it?"

Serena turned back to look, and she saw Lida's manicure. She was very familiar with it because she had done the same manicure before!

That time, Leah took her to the mall for a manicure, and it was this pink one that Lida wore.

Could it be... Hayden was interested in Lida because... this manicure was the same as hers?

Lida really liked Hayden, "Mr. Crawford, you've looked at me tenderly, held me, and even visited my boudoir, but we never did anything, even when I threw myself at you, you never wavered. The night reporters caught us, you just smoked all night in my apartment. Who would believe it? After all, for three years, Mr. Crawford has had a reputation as a philanderer, but I know you never had physical relationships. You didn't just not touch me; you never touched any woman."

Serena's slim body shuddered, her bright pupils contracted fiercely. Is... is this how it is, truly...?

He never touched any woman?

Lida continued, "Mr. Crawford, I know you have a woman in your heart you can't forget, deeply buried there, a place no one can replace, not even time. That's why I gave up. After our breakup, I know you had several girlfriends, but I never envied them. I knew they, like me, couldn't enter your heart or have you."

"Only that woman you can't forget makes me jealous. I think I lost to her alone, but just now, I saw that woman. She's so superficial, apart from a stunningly beautiful face, I don't know what depth she has. Mr. Crawford, open your eyes and take a good look. That woman isn't worthy of you."

Serena hadn't expected to hear the whole truth here. Was this the truth of these three years?

The women he dated were all imply shadows of her. In the three years she was gone, he remained in place, searching for her silhouette in the vast sea of people.

Lida was right, Serena meant to Hayden Crawford what time couldn't erase, an irreplaceable intimate lover.

In these three years, he never forgot her for even a second.

In these three years, he never betrayed her.

He had always been her... Mr. Crawford.

Serena's bright eyes suddenly turned red, a layer of shimmering mist covered them. In Alani for the past three years, she had been through much, feeling lost, confused, and full of bitterness and grievance.

But now, everything had been smoothed over, and Serena suddenly felt it was worth it.

Time flies, colors fade, yet he and she remain as they first met, irreplaceable.

Faced with Lida's heartfelt confession, Hayden remained expressionless. Any other man would find it hard to refuse Lida's passionate advances, but Hayden remained unmoved.

Hayden lightly pressed his thin lips, then coldly pulled his sleeve free from Lida's hand. At this moment, he looked up, his hawk-like sharp eyes suddenly darting towards the door, "Who's there? Come out!"

Hayden was quite alert; he had already noticed Serena.

However, there was no movement by the door; that person did not come out.

Hayden swiftly furrowed his handsome brows, strode over, reached out his broad hand, and grabbed the slender arm of the person by the door, pulling hard.

Chapter 647: He Held Her and Called Out "Serena

A slender body fell directly into his arms.

Hayden Crawford looked down and saw a familiar small face nestled in his arms, now covered with sparkling tears.

It was Serena Sterling.

It was her!

She... was crying.

Serena hadn't expected to be discovered so quickly. She hadn't even had time to wipe the tears from her face before being pulled out, and now she was crashing into his arms. She immediately raised her bright, wet eyes to look at him.

Hayden also looked at her, watching her long, butterfly-like eyelashes tremble in panic. Her eyes were full of tears, glistening and utterly captivating.

Hayden's heart was struck hard. He asked in a deep voice, "Why are you here, what... happened to you?"

When one feels aggrieved, they should not be asked about it because the grievance intensifies. The crystalline tears in Serena's eyes fell "plop plop" like beads falling off a string.

She cried even harder, and Hayden felt a taut hand grip his heart tightly, his heart aching immensely. He glanced outside, "Did someone bully you again? Is it your master troubling you?"

Lida stood to the side, recognizing Serena Sterling. Wasn't she that little maid?

Now Serena Sterling and Hayden Crawford were together, there was a noticeable height difference between the two. Hayden lowered his handsome gaze and spoke softly to her, his voice seeming to carry a cautious tenderness and pampering.

Serena continued crying, shedding tears in front of the man. Lida suddenly had an illusion as if these two people were their entire world, one that nobody else could intrude upon.

Lida was utterly shocked. She had seen all sorts of indifferent facets of Hayden Crawford but never this soft attempt to comfort a girl.

It turns out he can be gentle, but his gentleness was solely reserved for that person.

Seeing her continuing to cry, Hayden raised his large hand and, with rough fingertips, helped wipe the tears off her face, "Don't cry anymore, or else, we won't be a little maid anymore..."

"..." Serena suddenly laughed, amused by his clumsy attempt at comforting, as he thought she was bullied into tears by Melody Ashworth.

Serena looked at his impeccable handsome face and suddenly lunged forward, her small hands tightly hugging his sleek waist.

She knew.

She knew everything.

She finally understood.

Her fragrance was soft as jade, causing Hayden's tall body to stiffen suddenly. He slowly lifted his hand, wanting to embrace her slender frame, but his fingers curled up, his large hand fell back down to hang by his side.

Hayden pressed his thin lips together, "Let go, someone will see us any minute now."

No!

Serena not only refused to let go but hugged him even tighter, burying her face deep in his chest, and nuzzled against him like a spoiled little kitten.

Hayden's whole being felt softened, he gently closed his handsome eyes. Hayden Crawford, come on, admit it, you've fallen for this little maid.

Everything about her felt so familiar, as if their souls were perfectly synchronized, making him unable to resist.

At this moment, Serena stood on tiptoe and boldly kissed his handsome cheek.

She kissed him again.

Hayden looked down at her.

Serena wasn't afraid, she stood on tiptoe and gave his handsome cheek another firm kiss.

This time, she marked both sides, making him hers.

Serena blinked playfully, looking at him with agile yet seductive eyes, her expression falling into Hayden's sight was unparalleled, he curled his thin lips.

Lida watched throughout, those two were being intimate, completely ignoring her presence, yet she witnessed their intimacy firsthand, as if arrows pierced her heart.

She had never kissed Hayden Crawford because Hayden never gave her the chance to get close. For the women he didn't care for, he wouldn't let them even touch him.

And now, him with this little maid?

Lida knew she had truly lost this time; she wasn't defeated by anyone but rather... gave up on Hayden Crawford.

Lida ran off with red-rimmed eyes.

Serena watched Lida run off; she was determined to pluck every blossom of attraction away from him, ensuring she would never let him slip through her fingers again.

Serena stretched her small hands to embrace Hayden's neck, and this time, she stood on tiptoe, shy yet bold, giving his thin lips a kiss.

She didn't close her eyes but observed his reaction.

In fact, Hayden didn't close his eyes either; he lowered his handsome eyes to gaze at her, neither avoiding nor initiating, allowing her kiss.

Serena didn't have much experience being proactive, her small face slowly flushed red and then slowly backed away.

Forget it...

But the next second, her slender waist tightened directly, as Hayden's strong arm wrapped around her, ruthlessly pulling her into his embrace.

He lowered his eyes and directly covered her red lips.

Serena's eyes widened, looking at him with shock and panic, this time, he closed his eyes, his kiss more fierce and intense than ever before.

Serena's small hands clutched onto his strong arm, feeling his muscles harden piece by piece. Soon, she felt short of breath and realized he had vigorously seized all her fresh air.

The tail of Hayden's narrow eyes was already covered in a seductive crimson, the girl in his arms making him unable to let go, slowly succumbing.

His thin lips landed on her snowy earlobe, uttering a low voice, calling out a name, "Serena..."

In a state of turmoil, he softly called out Serena.

The girl in his arms suddenly stiffened.

Hayden also stopped the kiss, he opened his eyes, only to find the girl in his arms looking at him in complete shock...

Hayden quickly pressed his thin lips; he didn't know how he could have uttered "Serena" to her. His heart, what he wanted, desired, and longed for was always his Serena; just now, the intense feeling of about to melt made him think the girl in his arms was Serena.

Hayden's passion scattered a few rationalities. Just then, a voice suddenly sounded by his ear, Melody Ashworth's voice, "Hayden Crawford, where are you? Hayden Crawford!"

It turns out Hayden Crawford hadn't come out for so long, Melody Ashworth had come looking.

Hayden quickly released Serena, his voice low and husky, saying, "Sorry."

Then he turned and walked away.

He left.

Serena stood in place, staring blankly at his departing figure. Just now, he actually hugged her and called out "Serena," indicating that he was close to breaking through the Demon Bell Charm Skill from The Merfolk Clan and recognizing her true identity.

The ancestor of Westria couldn't escape the Demon Bell Charm Skill back then, but she believed Hayden Crawford certainly could.

Serena also turned and left.

Chapter 648: Life Is More Than Jealous Rivalry

Melody was looking for Hayden Crawford, but she couldn't find him. Soon, she spotted Serena Sterling leaving, and at that moment, Melody was quite sure that the two were together just now.

This is outrageous; the two of them are already openly having an affair right under her nose!

Melody was very angry, but she had no solution, so she took out her phone and dialed a number.

Quickly, the phone on the other end picked up, and Consort Willow's voice came through, "Hello, Melody, how have things progressed between you and Hayden Crawford recently? Is everything going smoothly?"

"Mother Consort, I've encountered difficulties here; Hayden Crawford is very indifferent towards me, and he's been attracted to Serena Sterling again."

"What? Didn't you use the demon bell on Hayden Crawford?"

"Mother Consort, I used it, otherwise Hayden would have recognized me long ago. This man is harder to control than we imagined. Even though I've changed my face with Serena Sterling, we can't exchange bodies or temperaments, and Hayden is consistently attracted to Serena. His gaze always follows her. Now that I think about it, we were wrong; we shouldn't have let Serena follow me. This wasn't tormenting her, but it's been tormenting me all along," Melody stomped her foot.

On the other end, Consort Willow's expression was very serious, "No man has ever broken through the demon bell charm skill from our Merfolk Clan. Could Hayden Crawford be the first one?"

"I don't know, but Mother Consort, hurry up and think of a way. We can't just sit and do nothing."

Consort Willow pondered for a moment, "Since that's the case, then there's no need to keep Serena Sterling. If she dies, Hayden Crawford will be yours."

Melody's eyes lit up; this real and fake Serena, not interesting at all. She wants this world to have only her whether it's the real Serena or the fake one!

Then, Hayden will always be hers!

"That's great, Mother Consort, I was thinking the same. We need to plan a clever strategy, preferably to use Hayden Crawford's hand to remove Serena. That way, even if Hayden breaks through the demon bell charm one day, he'll be devastated when he realizes he killed Serena with his own hands."

Consort Willow nodded, "Alright."

...

At this moment, on the private yacht, the little master Caden Crawford hadn't gone out; he stayed in his room, orchestrating everything outside.

Little Caden Crawford sat back in his black leather office chair, with a laptop in front of him, which showed surveillance footage.

Every corner of this private yacht is equipped with surveillance, allowing little Caden Crawford to completely monitor the situation outside from here.

Riley Sutton stood behind little boss Caden Crawford, watching Melody on the surveillance making a call, promptly speaking out, "Little boss, this person finally showed her true colors, she really isn't the real Miss Serena."

Little Caden Crawford grunted, his delicate face cold and indifferent, "Now this fox is desperate and will probably lash out soon."

"Little boss, to prevent future troubles, should we take her down now?"

Little Caden Crawford raised a small hand, "No, right now Mommy is still in a passive position, and we're unaware of the situation, which might put Mommy in danger. Also, haven't you noticed? Every conspiracy is like divine help, aiding Daddy in recognizing Mommy sooner. We should let them play their tricks quietly."

Riley Sutton's eye muscles twitched; if Melody and Consort Willow knew their entire plan is seen as a circus in little Caden Crawford's eyes, they might feel...

They'd probably cry uncontrollably.

At this moment, "Ding-ling," little Caden Crawford's phone rang, someone was calling.

Little Caden Crawford pressed the button to connect, and a playful child's voice quickly came from the other end, "Hello."

It's little Pip.

The two little bosses started the call.

Little Caden Crawford leaned his small, innocent body back into the soft chair. Despite being only three years old, he held an air of a domineering CEO, "Daddy and Mommy's development is all under control; you can rest assured."

"Alright, with you in charge, I'm naturally at ease," little Pip giggled sweetly.

Little Caden Crawford quickly scoffed, "Don't play games with me, remember, once I've dealt with those villains, I'll pack you up and send you home."

"...Big bro, you and Daddy should have some life pursuits. Life's not only about immediate troubles, but also about peace and love~"

Little Caden Crawford pursed his small lips, "Who's your big bro, don't call me that."

"You are my big bro, big bro, big bro, big bro!" Little Pip called out several times.

Riley Sutton felt his little boss's entire aura had turned cold; little Caden Crawford's face showed that he would temporarily endure it for a few days, and then he directly hung up the call.

...

The trip on the private yacht is over; everyone has returned.

Soon, Melody brought Serena Sterling to The Manor of the Ninth Spire; now Serena Sterling is already the Crown Princess Consort to Axel Ashworth, and they're here for dinner.

Axel Ashworth personally came out to greet them, "Princess of Alani, please come in."

Melody gracefully replied, "Thank you, The King of Nine Peaks."

At this moment, Axel saw Serena Sterling behind Melody, his gaze lingered longer on Serena.

Melody discreetly watched this scene; indeed, Serena's charm is great, attracting men everywhere she goes. The King of Nine Peaks, Axel Ashworth, probably also likes... Serena?

Melody suddenly came up with a brilliant idea to ruin Serena tonight, she immediately smiled and said, "The King of Nine Peaks, this is my personal maid Cherie, you wouldn't not recognize her, would you?"

Axel looked at Serena, "I do recognize, though after a few days, Lady Cherie seems to have changed quite a bit."

Axel rose to fame as a teenager, was titled the Prince of Nine Pearls, and is a man with great wisdom and foresight; he immediately noticed the difference in Serena Sterling.

Melody quickly said, "The King of Nine Peaks, could it be that you've taken a liking to my maid? If you have, I will let her be your concubine."

Concubine means bed warmer; in the Westria royal family, these princes and nobles have concubines when they come of age. Kyle Ashworth is addicted to women, but Axel Ashworth isn't very lustful and has no women in his manor.

Axel withdrew his gaze, "Princess of Alani, you're joking; how could I make you part with your personal maid? Let's go inside."

"Alright," Melody followed Axel inside.

Serena watched the two leave; she was really speechless with Melody. Melody always thinks about finding men for her wherever she goes, as if she's even more anxious than her Mommy!

Chapter 649: Her Ingenious Scheme

The Manor of the Ninth Spire was bustling tonight, and the chef had already started preparing dinner.

Axel Ashworth arrived at the back garden, where a person emerged—it was Rosalind Newman.

Since the Warren family's father and daughter had pledged allegiance to the Manor of the Ninth Spire, Rosalind had stayed here. Now, Rosalind looked at Axel, "King of Nine Peaks, are you interested in the Princess of Alani?"

Axel replied, "Why do you say that?"

"I've interacted with this Princess of Alani before. She's extremely intelligent, especially skilled in scheming. Her wit is probably unmatched by any man, and coupled with her stunning beauty, such a woman probably can't be resisted by any man in this world."

Axel stood with his hands behind his back, looking up at the full moon overhead, "Precisely because of this, the Princess of Alani is very dangerous. We should best not get involved."

Rosalind looked at Axel, this man wielding great power, reigning over the entire State of Westria. He only mentioned that the Princess of Alani was dangerous but didn't say whether he was interested in her or not.

Since the Princess of Alani arrived in the State of Westria, she had several confrontations with Axel, and Axel's admiration for the princess was certain.

Since he didn't want to say, Rosalind changed the subject, "King of Nine Peaks, we've been searching for the true master who possesses the red-child bloodline, but ever since the last lead was cut off, we haven't found anything. Are we just supposed to wait?"

A sharp light flashed in Axel's dark eyes, and he curled his thin lips, "The last incident with the old palace maid was very strange. I've been investigating in secret, and I discovered that one person's shadow kept appearing throughout the whole event."

"Who?"

Axel slowly uttered a name, "The Princess of Alani."

Rosalind showed a look of surprise, "Why would the Princess of Alani get involved in the matter of the old palace maid?"

"Perhaps...what the Princess of Alani is truly involved in is the matter of the true master possessing the red-child bloodline of the State of Westria. I suspect that the princess already knew the whereabouts of the master before us, or, the true master is by the princess's side."

Although Axel cooperated with Serena Sterling, he was always wary of her, given the unresolved ties between Westria and the ancient country of Alani.

"King of Nine Peaks, if that's the case, what are your plans? Could it be... tonight is a trap dinner, and you're testing the Princess of Alani?"

Axel nodded, "That's right."

Rosalind didn't ask further. Axel had already invited the Princess of Alani tonight, so he must have a strategy. She decided to watch quietly.

At this moment, a charming voice rang out, "King of Nine Peaks, so you're here."

Melody Ashworth came with Serena Sterling to find him.

Axel quickly stepped forward, "Princess of Alani, you're looking for me?"

"Yes, actually, it's nothing much, but my little maid lost her voice due to throat damage. I wonder if the King of Nine Peaks has any miraculous remedy that can help my little maid speak again," Melody said with a smile.

Axel's gaze fell on Serena, "You, can't speak?"

Serena looked at Axel with her bright eyes and then nodded.

"Well then, in my study, there's a pill specifically for treating the voice. I'll take you there now."

Before Serena could speak, Melody quickly nodded, "Sure, then I'll trouble the King of Nine Peaks. Little maid, quickly follow the King of Nine Peaks."

Serena looked at Melody, with a bright and intelligent light flashing quickly in her eyes. Melody's behavior was unusual tonight, as if she was eager to send her and Axel away. She wondered what Melody was planning.

At this, Axel said, "Cherie, come with me."

Serena had no choice but to follow Axel.

As they left, Melody swiftly curled her red lips and returned to the living room.

In the living room, a maid was preparing to take two cups of tea upstairs to the study when Melody stopped her, "Are these teas for the King of Nine Peaks?"

The maid nodded, "Yes, Princess of Alani."

"Oh, then let me take them. I'm planning to go up to see the King of Nine Peaks."

"Certainly, Princess of Alani." The maid handed the tea to Melody and left.

Melody quickly went to a secluded corner, peeking around furtively. Seeing no one around, she immediately took out a packet of medicine and poured the contents into the tea.

This was a love potion from the Merfolk Clan; she intended for Axel to drink it.

Axel seemed to have mixed feelings about Serena Sterling. Since that was the case, she decided to play matchmaker and facilitate a union between Axel and Serena.

Once they became involved, she wanted to see if Hayden Crawford would still want Serena.

Melody thought she was incredibly clever as she carried the tea upstairs.

...

Upstairs in the study.

Axel handed the pill to Serena, "Cherie, take this pill, and your voice should improve soon."

Serena accepted the pill, looking gratefully at Axel.

Axel couldn't help but glance at Serena a few more times. He remembered Cherie, but today she seemed different, carrying an air of refined intelligence.

"King of Nine Peaks." At this point, Rosalind stepped in.

Axel approached, and Rosalind whispered in his ear, "Just now, the Princess of Alani poured a packet of medicine into your teacup downstairs."

Axel immediately pursed his thin lips.

Serena couldn't hear what the two were discussing, but she sensed it was about Melody. She hoped Melody wasn't foolish enough to try anything at the Manor of the Ninth Spire. Axel had achieved fame at a young age, wielding great power, and for Melody to cause trouble right under his nose was asking for death.

At this moment, the study door swung open, and Melody walked in triumphantly with the tea, "King of Nine Peaks, please have some tea."

Rosalind quickly retreated, while Axel watched Melody expressionlessly, his gaze falling on the two cups of tea, "Alright, Princess of Alani, please go ahead."

Axel and Melody sat on the sofa, each picking up a teacup and taking a sip.

Melody watched Axel covertly, remembering the cup she had spiked, and now Axel drank it.

This was going to be interesting. She only needed to wait for the effects and for Axel to get entangled with Serena.

At that time, she would record a scandalous video and send it to Hayden Crawford, or let it spread online, ruining Serena. Melody felt that her plan was brilliant, marveling at her own cleverness as she went upstairs with the tea.

Chapter 650: The Real and Fake Little Maid

Serena stood aside watching, she quickly furrowed her brows, because she had already guessed that the problem lay in these two cups of tea.

Could it be that Melody tampered with the tea?

Melody sat proudly on the sofa, waiting for Axel to have a reaction, but after waiting and waiting, Axel sat calmly, showing no reaction at all.

What's going on?

Melody began to be suspicious. The sedative potion of the Merfolk Clan was quite potent, just like the Demon Bell Charm Skill, no man could resist it.

According to her calculations, Axel should have shown the effects by now.

Melody found it very strange and realized something was off with herself because she felt very hot; her body temperature was rising rapidly, unbelievably scorching.

She couldn't help but reach for her collar, when Axel's low voice came to her ear, "Princess of Alani, what's the matter? Are you feeling hot?"

Melody directly met Axel's deep eyes, he was watching her quietly, as if he had seen through everything.

This was bad.

Melody felt a pang in her heart; the two cups of tea had been swapped, and she drank the cup with the potion!

Oh my God.

Melody opened her mouth in shock; she couldn't believe she had drunk the tea with the sedative potion herself. It seemed Axel had guessed most of it, and this was the Manor of the Ninth Spire; would she be able to leave?

"King of Nine Peaks, I feel it's too stuffy here; I'd like to go outside for some air." Melody quickly stood up and left without looking back.

Serena was speechless; she had also guessed that Melody tried to drug Axel but ended up being turned against her. What a pig teammate!

Axel had already figured everything out but didn't expose it, instead, he secretly switched the tea and watched coldly.

Serena also followed her out.

Melody and Serena had left, and that's when Rosalind came in, "King of Nine Peaks, what kind of scheme is the Princess of Alani up to? The Princess we know is extraordinarily intelligent, and wouldn't stoop to such lowly methods like drugging; I'm really surprised."

Axel elegantly took a sip of tea, "I just observed the Princess's complexion, this doesn't look like any proper medicine."

"The Princess of Alani actually gave you this kind of potion; what is her intention?" Rosalind couldn't even recognize this Princess anymore; her impression of Serena always stayed at that one night under the pear blossom tree when she reached out her delicate hand to remove the black cloak from her head, revealing a stunningly beautiful face, blooming with elegance.

"Don't worry, her intentions will soon become clear to us," Axel said indifferently.

...

Melody quickly ran outside, her face was now burning red like a boiled shrimp, feeling increasingly hot.

Now that she was affected by the potion, what should she do?

Her legs weakened, and she fell directly to the ground.

That's when Serena arrived, looking down at her sharply with her bright eyes, "Melody, what stupid thing have you done now?"

"Serena, you can speak now?"

Serena touched her throat; the pill Axel gave her was indeed a miracle drug, she could talk immediately after taking it.

Over the years, Axel had power extending far and wide, with countless rare treasures in his manor; it's no surprise at all.

"Melody, did you drug the King of Nine Peaks, trying to frame me with him, and now you've brought harm upon yourself? How are you going to end this? Do you know how you will die? You will definitely be stupid to death!" Serena said sarcastically.

"..." Melody wanted to retort, but she couldn't; thinking carefully, she truly was stupid enough, she could only reluctantly accept this reality, "Serena, stop making sarcastic remarks from there, we are currently in the Manor of the Ninth Spire; I can't leave, and you'll be doomed too!"

At this moment, Axel's voice came from outside, "Princess of Alani, are you okay?"

Axel was at the door.

Melody immediately showed panic; she looked at Serena as if seeing a lifeline, "Serena, what should we do? Quickly think of something."

Serena didn't want to care about Melody at all, but she had been planning with Axel for a long time, and couldn't let Melody ruin her big plan.

Serena squatted down, reached out, and directly tore off Melody's human-skin mask, then swapped faces with her.

Soon, Melody turned into Cherie, and Serena reverted to her own stunningly beautiful face.

"Stay here, I'll go deal with the King of Nine Peaks," Serena instructed, then left.

Melody was still sitting on the ground, quickly hearing the sounds of conversation between Axel and Serena from outside, then the two left together.

Finally safe.

Melody let out a big sigh of relief, feeling incredibly embarrassed at her current state.

At this moment, Melody looked up, there was a huge mirror in front of her, and she saw her current face in it, which was Cherie's face.

Suddenly, Melody had a clever idea; this time she really thought of a brilliant plan.

Wasn't Hayden interested in this little face; she could continue pretending, now she was going to pretend to be a maid.

Hayden didn't have any physical reaction to her face as Serena, but he had a strong reaction to the maid; she didn't manage to play the true and false Serena well, so she would play the true and false maid.

This time Melody wouldn't believe it; she wouldn't believe Hayden could recognize it.

Just right, she was under the influence of the potion and needed someone to save her; when Hayden came, she would passionately cling to him, could Hayden refuse?

Melody quickly took out her phone and dialed Hayden's number.

The melodious ringtone rang once and was picked up calmly, Hayden's magnetic voice slowly came through, "Hello."

"Hayden, quickly come and save me, I'm at the Manor of the Ninth Spire, I'm drugged, feeling so hot!" Melody shouted in panic.

Over there, Hayden's breathing paused, "I'll be there soon."

After hanging up, Melody thought for a while and dialed another number, this time to Consort Willow.

Consort Willow quickly connected, "Hello, Melody."

"Mother Consort, listen to me, I've encountered a rare opportunity; send someone to infiltrate the Manor of the Ninth Spire immediately and use the Demon Bell Charm Skill on Axel. Meanwhile, I'll be with Hayden, and Serena can make things happen with Axel in the next room as well; this would be really interesting!"