

Substitute B 94

Chapter 94: Let Go of Her Hand, Let Her Leave

Serena Sterling is no longer here.

Hayden Crawford quickly opened his eyes, the drowsiness from earlier completely gone, and memories of last night slowly flooded his mind.

Last night, he had an attack, and then he left her behind in the bed.

The metallic sweetness of her blood and the fragrance of a young girl's scent were like opium, making him addicted and obsessed, until he pressed her lips...

Hayden suddenly sat up and then got out of bed. He looked around the large room, the wardrobe, the bathroom... she was no longer in sight.

"Serena..."

Did she leave?

She must have left.

Last night, he couldn't remember how many wounds he inflicted on her, and in the end, he did such despicable and shameless things. The gloomy, fierce, and bloodthirsty side of him made even himself feel disgusted and frightened; how could she not?

Last night, she must have been hurt a lot, must have been terrified, so she left.

Will she come back in the future?

Hayden took out his phone and found Serena Sterling's number. He wanted to call, but his fingers ultimately couldn't press the call button.

...

Hayden took a cold shower and then went downstairs. Mrs. Crawford came forward, "Hayden, you got up late today. Why did Serena leave so early? I heard from Beryl that Serena seemed to have left at around five o'clock in the morning. Did you two have a fight?"

Hayden pressed his thin lips, "Grandma, we didn't fight."

"That's good. Girls need to be coaxed, especially when Serena is so sweet and gentle, very easy to coax. Why don't you give her a call later, take her out for a candlelit dinner."

She's really so sweet and gentle...

So easy to coax, so easy to deceive.

Tenderness and affection overflowed from Hayden's handsome brows and eyes, "Grandma, I think I won't call Serena anymore."

Mrs. Crawford paused, "Why?"

"Before meeting Serena, I never thought of myself as abnormal. But after meeting her, I've never been so acutely aware that I'm ultimately not a normal person. While I can still let go, just let her leave, otherwise..."

Otherwise, he feared that his control and possessiveness over her would exceed his control, and he would stop at nothing to keep her by his side.

He's really sorry for letting her see such an unbearable part of himself last night.

He cannot let himself go further.

Although, if now even she is to be lost, then his condition...

"Grandma, having you by my side is enough, I'm going to the company." Hayden hugged his grandma and then turned and left.

Mrs. Crawford watched her grandson leave, letting out a heavy sigh; in the end, she's old, how many more years can she accompany him?

Her presence hasn't made him better, because it's not enough with just her company. Her Hayden has never experienced love since childhood; he's very lonely.

He needs a girl to let him love and be loved.

But his health...

Mrs. Crawford's upright, vigorous back suddenly bent down with this sigh, showing some signs of old age.

At this moment, Beryl hurried downstairs, whispering with a face full of joy, "Old Madam, I just went to tidy up the young master and mistress's room, and I found the bed sheets need washing!"

What does that mean?

Mrs. Crawford looked at Beryl, and the previously hunched back suddenly straightened again, appearing several years younger, "Are you serious?"

Who is Mrs. Crawford? The Crawford family is the top noble business family in Aethelgard. She's been in charge of the Crawford family for decades; whether the plum blossom on the wedding night handkerchief is real or fake, can't she tell?

Younger generations acting out dramas, she would just turn a blind eye.

But the growing feelings between Hayden and Serena, she could see those clearly.

Beryl patted her thigh, her old face red, "Of course it's true, not only do the bed sheets need washing, I see the pillows also need changing."

The servants of the noble families pay particular attention to this; if the masters share a room, soiled bedding must be replaced.

"This little rascal!" Mrs. Crawford said, equally pleased and vexed, "He says let go early or let go late, how does he bully a fine young lady and then decide to let go, really impressive!"

Saying this, Mrs. Crawford went into the dining room, "Beryl, I'm hungry; I want to eat!"

"Alright, Madam."

Mrs. Crawford ate two bowls of millet porridge, was about to continue eating, when the phone at Orchid Court rang.

Butler Felix brought the landline over, reporting with a panicked expression, "Madam, it's a call from the lady of City of Aethelgard."

Mrs. Crawford looked at Felix with disdain, "What's the panic, look at you being all cowardly, I'll take the call."

Mrs. Crawford picked up the phone, "Hello, Zelda, you called me?"

Far away in Aethelgard, the lady of the Crawford family chuckled accommodatingly, "Mom, without urgent matters, I'd never dare disturb you during your retreat in Bayside. It's just... my son Zane Crawford once agreed upon an engagement with the daughter of an old acquaintance, and now Zane is of marriageable age, could you return Zane's engagement token to me? Without the engagement token, we can't find Zane's fiancée..."

Mrs. Crawford heavily clapped her chopsticks on the dining table, "Zelda Willow, what do you mean, are you accusing me of stealing Zane's engagement token, are you saying I'm a thief?"

As she said that, Mrs. Crawford gave Butler Felix a look, see that, don't be afraid next time.

Butler Felix secretly gave Mrs. Crawford a thumbs up.

"Mom, you've wronged me, even if you lent me a hundred guts, I wouldn't dare call you a thief, but..."
Zelda's tone changed, becoming much more assertive, "I've already had the old surveillance footage restored, the footage clearly shows mom entering Zane's room taking the engagement token!"

Mrs. Crawford's expression changed, can't hide it, it's still exposed.

Thus, Butler Felix witnessed a dramatic performance, "Zelda, you see, it's all a misunderstanding isn't it, I'm not a thief, I didn't take Zane's engagement token, get my son on the phone, I'm a mother with a bitter fate, I'm old and I don't expect you to look after me, I'm just here in Bayside awaiting the end of my days, yet you still come to bully me. Otherwise, why don't I just die today, I don't want to live anymore."

On the other end, Zelda quickly ended the call seeing Mrs. Crawford's tears and snot acting up, "Mom, just assume I didn't say anything, goodbye."

Listening to the "beep beep" busy tone, Mrs. Crawford quickly brought herself together, she tossed the phone back to the dumbfounded Butler Felix, "What are you looking at, this is what I call strategy, able to be flexible, didn't I scare Zelda away?"

Butler Felix, "..."

Mrs. Crawford continued eating her millet porridge, Zane is Hayden's younger brother, Zelda Willow is Hayden's stepmother, the engagement token was indeed taken by her, but she's not returning it, because she already used it.

Serena Sterling is the daughter of the Crawford family's old acquaintance, the fiancée of second young master Zane Crawford.

However, she is now Hayden Crawford's wife.