

The Substitute Wife My Poor Husband is a Billionaire
Chapter 388: Lower Her Down

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The rooftop wasn't that big. It was only a few dozen square meters wide. The potted plants on the roof had become withered because of the heat. There was nowhere for Janet and Ethan to hide.

Moreover, it was rather windy today, making the fire even worse. Gradually, smoke was forming on the rooftop. Ethan knew that they couldn't wait any longer.

As the smoke increased, so too would the concentration of carbon monoxide within the area.

And by then, he and Janet would likely pass out on the rooftop due to excessive intake of carbon monoxide. It would take some time for the Larson Group's helicopter to arrive.

They couldn't wait for that long. Ethan walked to the edge of the rooftop and tied a roll of rope to the railing, which he had taken from the bathroom earlier.

"Janet, come here. I'll get you down from the rooftop using this rope."

Ethan helped Janet to the edge of the rooftop and tied the other end of the rope to her waist.

Dazed and dizzy, Janet stared at the crowd.

There were numerous people beneath the building, small as ants. Her vision was blurring, and her legs grew weaker by the second.

"Ethan, I... I'm scared," Janet stammered.

Ethan lifted her up from behind and gently put her on the edge of the rooftop.

He leaned close to her ear and said, "Listen to me, Janet. I know you're afraid, and of course, it's dangerous. Trust me, I won't resort to doing this if I have any other choice. The fire has spread to the rooftop. Our only option is to find a way down by ourselves. If we hesitate any longer, both you and I could perish here."

For a moment, Janet sobered up. She stared into his eyes through the thick smoke.

And in that instance, her vision blurred. She turned around, embracing Ethan tightly.

This was a fear that she had never experienced before.

Bitterly, she cried, "What about you?"

Ethan planted a kiss on her tear-streaked face.

"I'm strong enough to hold onto the rope by myself and go down after you."
Janet wiped away her own tears, still worried about him.

"I'm going to be fine," Ethan added.

He kissed her lips and smiled.

Thereafter, he double-checked the rope on Janet's waist and tied it more firmly.

"If you're feeling scared, make sure not to look down and try not to move as much. Just leave everything to me. Got it?"

After taking a few deep breaths, Janet closed her eyes and nodded.

As she held onto the rope tightly, Ethan lowered her bit by bit.

By then, the fire was approaching and the heat wave was burning all in its wake.

Ethan groaned in pain; his forehead covered in sweat. He felt a scathing pain on his back.

It was as if a red-hot iron bar was pressed onto his back through his shirt
But right now.

Janet was hanging in the air. He must endure the pain and lower her down as cautiously as possible, lest he dropped her.

Janet closed her eyes, daring not to look down.

She could hear Ethan's faint grunts of pain when she opened her eyes to see what was happening, all she saw was dense smoke.

The top floor and the rooftop continued to burn.

Soon, the rope approached the window.

But then, the fire coming out of the window ignited the rope.

While Janet was halfway down, the rope continued to burn. She felt as if it would break at any moment.

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Chapter 389: Still Trapped Up There

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Janet's heart skipped a beat and jumped into her throat when she heard the noise.

Ethan gritted his teeth.

Blue veins stood out on his arms because of the overexertion.

He courageously endured the severe burning sensation engulfing every fiber of his back while he slowly loosened the rope and

helped her down. It was still a fifteen-floor drop from where she was hanging and it was bone chilling.

As time ticked by quickly, Ethan felt not only pain, but mostly dizziness.

The smoke on the rooftop had become thicker and thicker.

He had already inhaled copious amounts of toxic carbon monoxide.

He couldn't keep himself from coming apart at the seams even if he wanted to do so.

Janet's hands were trembling, even her lips.

She tried hard and pressed her feet against the bricks of the small ledges that were between every floor as she went down in an attempt to reduce the weight on the life-saving rope so that Ethan could bear less pressure.

If she relaxed for even a mere millisecond, she might have gone into a free fall and dragged Ethan down with her.

But at this time, there was no other way to save themselves.

Ethan could only grit his teeth and speed up.

Although the life-saving rope was fire-resistant, it might eventually be burnt to ash from being exposed to the fire for so long.

Janet suddenly felt like she was being let down to fall when she heard the knot in the rope cracking, and she unconsciously screamed in utter panic.

As the descending speed gradually increased, the life-saving rope finally reached its limit and broke.

All of a sudden, Ethan felt like all weight had been lifted out of his hands.

He looked down nervously when he heard Janet's scream and he felt his heart skip a beat.

Fortunately, Janet was safe. The firefighters below had already laid out a rescue cushion under them to prevent Janet from hurtling headlong into the ground.

Thankfully, she had landed right on target on the cushion.

With his hands grabbing the handrails, Ethan couldn't hold on any longer and passed out.

Closing his eyes, he was still thinking that Janet was not far from the ground now and that she should be safe.

When Janet fell on the air cushion, she felt a sharp pain all over her body, as if her bones had broken.

Ignoring the pain, she staggered to her feet and looked up desperately at the rooftop.

The life-saving rope was burned, and there was absolutely no way for Ethan to escape.

At this time, a loud sound came from the rooftop. The fire on the rooftop could be seen from the ground. Frightened, Janet shouted at the rooftop, "Ethan!" However, there was only the sound of burning coming from the rooftop now that the fire had grown so big. Seeing that there was no response from Ethan, Janet was about to lose her mind completely. She hurriedly said to the firefighters, "My husband is still up there! Please save him!" One of the firefighters had no choice but to answer, "Our vehicles are still stuck out here; we had to carry the rescue cushion in ourselves just now. Janet suddenly felt desperate. She pushed the people standing in front of her out of her way and was about to rush upstairs to save Ethan herself. "Hey! Calm down, miss. It's too dangerous!" Everyone around rushed to stop her dead in her tracks, "Janet! Ethan risked his life to save you!" Laney lived on the lower floor and she had already run down before the fire spread. She now grabbed Janet's wrist and said in a softer tone, "Calm down. Even if you rushed up, you won't be able to save him; you will only get yourself killed." "Let me go up there! Laney, Ethan is still up there, fighting for his life!" Janet broke down and cried. She couldn't calm down even a little and kept shaking her head, trying to struggle out of the grip of the crowd.

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Chapter 390: Saved

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The fire seemed to grow bigger with every passing minute, and the smoke mingled with the clouds in the sky. It was a serious fire accident, and the people gathered around gasped in fear. At that moment, a helicopter with the Larson Group's logo broke through the smoke and hovered above the rooftop. The rope ladder rolled down, and the rescuers climbed down. Several men in bright orange suits jumped off the rope and saved Ethan, who had passed out.

The sound of the propeller gradually reached Janet's ears. Seeing the helicopter parked in an open space near the neighborhood, she immediately rushed over. Ethan's face was covered in soot, and there were multiple burns on his body. He was unconscious. The blood from the wounds soaked his shirt. All the residents swarmed around him, and some kind-hearted person called 911. "He is severely injured."

"Don't worry, young lady. The ambulance will arrive soon!" Tears streamed down Janet's cheeks when she realized what Ethan had been through. She wiped the tears off her face and escorted Ethan to the ambulance along with the firefighters.

Laney saw Janet's swollen ankles and realized she must have hurt herself when she fell on the air cushion.

"You should treat the injury on your ankles first." Janet shook her head fiercely. She forced herself to calm down and got in the ambulance with Ethan.

"Please go to this hospital." Janet gave the address of Frank's hospital. The driver didn't refuse. He knew it was a high-end private hospital, and the equipment there was much better than those at public hospitals.

As soon as they arrived at the front gate of the hospital, Janet saw Frank standing there with a dozen medical staff as if they had been waiting for a big shot.

Frank ran over as he watched his people wheeled Ethan into the hospital in a stretcher bed. His face turned grim when he saw Ethan's conditions.

"Take him to the OR and call the attending doctor of the Dermatology Department right away."

Frank hurriedly ordered the nurse. Then, he and a dozen doctors pushed Ethan into the operating room and began treating him.

Janet clenched her fists and anxiously paced outside the door. Her swelled-up ankles had turned red. Laney couldn't help but feel sorry for her. She went to the nurse and got some ointment for Janet.

"You don't have to keep staring at the door. He is right inside there and won't go anywhere." She grabbed Janet's arm and helped her sit down.

"The doctors are treating him now."

Although Janet was sitting on a chair, her eyes were still fixed on the door of the operating room.

"Ethan is seriously injured. He said he would get out of the place safely with me." Tears welled up in her eyes as she thought about it.

Laney wasn't good at comforting people. She hadn't even cried once after becoming an adult.

All she could do was sit beside Janet and accompany her. Some doctors came out of the OR, and then more went in. The next afternoon, the light of the operating room finally turned green.

Frank walked out, his face taut with exhaustion. Janet's heart sank when she saw the expression on his face.

"Doctor Watson, how is Ethan?" She hurriedly ran over and asked him.

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