Chapter 8 Fellow students , I stood here when I was twenty , performing for the New Years

His Mistress My Nightmare Novel

Chapter 8

That night, I became an instant sensation.

gala .

I remember thinking if Im this good now , imagine what III be in the future! I believed I would become a world renowned pianist .

I paused , then smirked , But instead , I became a devoted wife and mother , a rose blooming for someone else .

Vibrant , lush , beautiful , but only for others to admire .

A murmur spread through the audience .

Some female students whispered among themselves, Marriage is a graveyard.

If Grace hadnt got married , she wouldve achieved her dreams long ago .

Antonios expression shifted .

He locked eyes with me, unblinking.

He knew exactly what I meant .

I continued, I spent eighteen years as that rose.

Now , Ill still be a rose , but this time .

I bloom for myself . With that , I took my seat and began to play .

The hall fell silent , with only the music owing.

I poured my soul into the piece .

This performance meant more to me than even the Van Cliburn International Piano

Competition .

but the ones I had grown myself. When the nal note faded , thunderous applause erupted .

In my minds eye, I saw roses blooming, not the ones Antonio and I had planted together,

I bowed in thanks and strode off the stage, never sparing Antonio a glance. Troy was waiting for me , holding a bouquet of roses .

I went viral . The internet was powerful.

Someone uploaded a video of my performance, and suddenly, I was everywhere.

Netizens all called me First Love . They said rst love transcended age .

I watched the video but didnt feel a thing . The updo and white dress were not that special.

It was all about feelings .

And now, I still did.

I was baf ed .

Kau nan

You are the real

that woman .

chuckled.

Eighteen years ago , I had looked like this .

Out of the blue , Emilia showed up .

Kaufman came home , he had a huge

updo or wearing a white dress! Emilia was positively gloating.

nally came to his senses .

rst love .

She came to congratulate me . You are the rst love! So beautiful! After Mr.

Why? T No idea! But I think Mr.

ght with Irene! He even forbade her from doing an

for dinner . She nearly exploded.

Dinner ? No , you should storm back in there , kick Irene out , and take back control ! I

Why would I go back? To be a rose blooming for someone else? No thanks.

Emilia sighed in frustration and stormed off .

He smiled and gently placed one on my head.

Silly girl , dont get sunburned .

Except ... I felt nauseous .

I really wanted to throw up .

forcing another smile .

up Grace , Im sorry .

I ignored her , focusing on my roses .

Im busy planting roses , I said , rolling up my sleeves and heading to the backyard .

Irene is nothing but a pretentious copycat, a cheap stand- in! She seemed to really dislike

Why should I care about any of it? I nodded in acknowledgment and invited Emilia to stay

The rose saplings were ready. I must plant them one by one .

Halfway through , someone took the small hoe from my hands . I turned my head , only to see Antonio standing beside me . He was dressed in a white shirt and holding two straw hats .

We had cach worn a hat , laughing under the sun and planting roses side by side . Chapter B Now , the scene repeated itself as if nothing had changed .

Years ago , when we had planted roses together , he had been just like this -wearing a

white shirt and holding two straw hats he had fetched from nowhere .

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head . I gagged , quickly stepped back , and yanked the hat off my he Antonios smile froze , He

stood there stif y , taking a moment to compose himself before picking the hat and

I realized the rst love I could never let go of was right in front of me . Compared to you , Irene is a joke .

The moment you stopped caring about me, my life lost its meaning.

He said earnestly, Your performance shook me to my core.

He took two steps forward, eyes gleaming.

I didnt understand why until I saw you play.

years ago ... You were my rst love all along .

Irene was nothing but a hollow imitation .

I sent Irene away .

Even our son never liked her.

phone and called the police .

And on our son too .

Just come home .

lled with deep affection . His gaze was

Will you come back to me? Will you play for me again? Play his ass! I pulled out my

When I saw your updo and your white dress, it was like looking at you from eighteen

Antonio wasnt fazed . Instead, he chuckled indulgently, Still mad? Thats on me.

We wont be apart ever again . Chapter B I ignored him and continued my call.