

Your Guise 1091

Chapter 1091

All I wanted was to get close to Pearl, hoping to persuade her to team up with me. Once everything worked out, I'd share smoney with her.

But little did I know, money meant nothing to her.

As expected, she ended up with Richard. Having those two together was a big trouble. I repeatedly hit walls and made mistakes. Then, I discovered a secret that I couldn't accept. The girl I used to like was a fake. That angelic girl was someone I had hated for a long time, so much so that I wanted to kill her.

Knowing this truth threw into a panic, and it took a long time to calm down. Eventually, I had to accept the fact.

Later, my thoughts became uncontrollable. I found myself drawn to her without even realizing it. It felt like I was meant to like her. I did all sorts of weird things for her. I even thought about kidnapping her so I could have her all by myself. Her smiles were too beautiful. I couldn't stand seeing her smile at other guys.

With my medical skills, I found an opportunity to take her abroad and separate her from Richard. I didn't expect her to take the bait.

Those days abroad were simply the best of my life. We were like an ordinary couple. I cooked for her and brought her gifts every day, and she stayed faithfully by my side.

One breezy evening, we sat in the garden and talked.

I could see admiration in her eyes. At least she didn't think I was all bad, right? I thought those times would last forever. But in the end, her mother ruined it all.

Her mother had fled overnight, and she cut ties with me. That was when I realized it was all just an illusion. It was time to wake up from the dream.

She was gone.

But I was in a bad mood then, so I returned hand fought with her, hoping she would notice me. Deep down, I knew this was messed up. All she saw in was disgust. I would feel content if I could get her to look at me, even for a second.

I knew I could be with her only if Richard disappeared from this world, so my ultimate goal was to take down Richard.

But I was too impulsive, underestimating Richard's ruthlessness and overestimating my abilities.

In the end, I ended up killing myself.

Watching the woman I had held in my heart for ten years flee from panic and run into Richard's arms left feeling incredibly sad. But at the time, I found solace. At least it proved she could be loved.

I had to terms with it. As long as she was happy, I'd be happy no matter who she was with.

I wish I had realized this sooner. I might not get to see her living in my final moments, I didn't happily with someone else. But even I her to forget me. I never meant to hurt you, Pearl. Please don't hate me.

Chapter 1092

Life was returning to normal, but there was a sudden emptiness without the constant . However, it seemed like this wasn't the end of it.

Esther showed up at Waldorf Residence, grabbed Pearl's arm, and shook it. "Pearl, tell what really happened back then." Esther hadn't been there and regretted not knowing what had happened that day. So, she took time to find out how the villain, Hugo, met his end.

Pearl's mouth twitched, but seeing Esther's eager eyes, she couldn't say no. "He killed himself." "What?" Esther gasped. "A guy like him really did that? I thought he'd go out guns blazing, taking everyone with him." ...Well, that did fit Hugo's style.

"I actually thought he had a thing for you before. I never expected him to pull a stunt like that." Esther looked at the scar on Pearl's face, her heart aching. "I can't believe he cut you with a knife." Pearl didn't know why Hugo had suddenly lost control. Deep down, she didn't think he would hurt her. But she did see confusion and guilt in his eyes.

"Alright, it's all over now." Although Hugo was a jerk, his death left a lingering discomfort. Even Richard was depressed for a while.

"What about Silas?" Esther couldn't understand why Silas, who was clearly at odds with Hugo, suddenly cto testify against him.

Pearl looked at her and slowly began to explain.

Silas... that was from a while back.

The day before Silas cto talk things over, he suddenly reached out to her. Silas was drunk and asked her to meet in a bar. Pearl was going to turn him down, but Silas said if she showed up, he would telther everything about Hugo. "I know you guys wanted to take down Hugo. If you want to, you must need my evidence." Silas's words were impossible to resist. Pearl drove to the bar and saw him passed out on the table. She went up and nudged him, but the next second, her wrist was grabbed from behind.

The man lifted his head, looking at her with a smile. "Gotcha. I didn't drink that much." Pearl frowned, trying to pull her hand away, but he held on tight. "I didn't chere to play games with you." Silas suddenly lowered his head in frustration and smiled at her. "Is that how you see me? Not a single good impression?" "Silas, what's wrong with you?" Silas stumbled to his feet, his smile fading. "I'm fine. I just can't bring myself to hate you. Why are you so gentle with me?" She wouldn't have cto the bar tonight when she could have rejected him without a second thought, not believing a word he said. Then he might have been able to stop thinking about her. Pearl was at a loss for words. "I've turned you down, but you didn't acceptat." She sighed. "Silas, I'm married. I've never led you on, so there's no reason for you to be upset withlike this."

Chapter 1093

Silas staggered a little, feeling like he had drunk too much and couldn't quite stand steady. "I know you've never really looked at me, always treatinglike a kid." "Aren't you?" Pearl sighed deeply.

Silas suddenly moved closer to her, easily towering over her. He could easily hold her in his arms. "You know, Pearl, if I wanted to do something to you right now, you wouldn't be able to resist at all." He teasingly blew into her ear, tickling her and causing her to tremble involuntarily.

"I know, but I believe you won't." Silas's face turned pale. "Why wouldn't I?" Pearl smiled bitterly. "I know that even though you've done sstrange things, you wouldn't be able to do that to me. Didn't you have the chance to hurt me? But you never did." Silas suddenly seemed relieved. He let her go, his expression unreadable. "I finally understand why I like you. After all, how could a believer turn against their god?" After saying this, Silas smiled and pulled out a USB flash drive from his pocket. "Inside is all the criminal evidence against Hugo. You'll be satisfied," he said, then tossed the device into her hands.

Silas looked deeply into her eyes, his smile unusually warm. "When you meet him, I'll be there too. I'll testify against him in person, not for anything else, but to see you happy." * As the memories faded, Esther, curious about Pearl's long silence, asked, "Why so quiet, Pearl? What's the deal with Silas?" Pearl snapped out of her daze, her eyes indifferent. "It's nothing. He just suddenly cto his senses and turned over a new leaf." "It seems Elijah raised him well. At least he didn't let that jerk do anything bad." Esther breathed a sigh of relief.

As the two were engrossed in their conversation, suddenly, a soft voice sounded beside them.

"Pea." Pearl looked at Gigi and smiled. Her eyes were calm but seemed to say a lot. "What is it?" "I'm here to say goodbye," Gigi said, lowering her head. After what she had done, she felt she couldn't continue living by Pearl's side. She despised herself and felt unworthy of being Pearl's sister. S "What do you mean?" Pearl asked, astonished.

"I've discussed it with Dame. He's willing to send abroad to study, and I promised to work for him when I return to repay the money..." This was actually an excellent plan for Gigi.

Pearl stood up, straightened Gigi's wrinkled shirt collar, and softly said, "Then you should live well abroad. If you encounter any problems, you must tell me. I'll always be your sister." These words made Gigi burst into tears. "Pea, do you really not hate BAO me? I leaked the information to the media, drugged Aunt Saule, and even colluded with Hugo to steal information about Waldorf Enterprises... I've done so many things. Why don't you hate me?" Even Esther was taken aback by this revelation. "Gigi, why you-" "I don't hate you. I'm just disappointed," Pearl said, watching her cry, feeling more heartbroken than disappointed.

Gigi knelt to the ground with a thud.

Chapter 1094

"Pea, I know you must be mad at right now. If you hate me, I'll never show up in front of you again..." After Beah passed away, Pearl was the closest person to Gigi. Even though she messed up, Pearl never blamed her and always treated her like a sister.

But Pearl knew things couldn't be fixed.

"You've treated like a sister. How could I blame you?" Pearl sighed. "Even though you really messed up this time, at least you're willing to change. How could I abandon you?" Gigi looked up with tears in her eyes.

"I want to thank you. At least you told everything in time." Pearl smiled faintly. Gigi reached out to her that night before Hugo died.

With tears streaming down her face, she recounted the entire process of betraying Pearl and Hugo's plans for her and Waldorf Enterprises. In the end, Gigi said, "I don't expect you to forgive me, but I hope you won't get hurt because of anymore." Gigi was a kind girl; she just took the wrong path. Pearl didn't want to make a big deal out of it. After all, Gigi was clean. "Thank you, Pea." "You're welcome. If you run into any trouble there, be sure to let me know." Gigi nodded, hugged Pearl with tears in her eyes, and then left.

Esther watched her leave and clicked her tongue. "I don't get it. Why be nice to her after she's betrayed you like that? If it were me, I'd have chewed her out and kicked her out a long time ago." "Well, you're still young," Pearl said, tapping Esther's head lightly. "So stop talking nonsense. It's all in the past. By the way, how's it going with James?" She knew that Esther didn't cover today just for this matter. As soon as Pearl finished speaking, Esther chuckled. "You know too well. I've been getting along pretty well with him lately, but his mother..." Esther looked troubled, which made Pearl think James's mother was being difficult. She couldn't help but frown and say, "Is his mother giving you a hard time? If his family isn't treating you right, you can dump him anytime. Esther, you deserve better. If his family dares to criticize you, dump him." Esther quickly shook her head, indicating Pearl had misunderstood. "His mother didn't treat badly. In fact, she's been a little too nice." Esther lowered her head, fidgeting with her fingers, her face turning red. "His mother wants us to get married soon and have grandchildren... But I think it's too soon, so I haven't agreed yet. But his mother has been misunderstood. She thought James was seeing another woman and didn't want to get married. Now they argue every day." Thinking about these gave her a headache. Agnes actually liked Esther more than she had imagined.

She thought that James's family would be very critical of her, a former celebrity. Even though she was the heiress of Sanders Group, the Sanders and the Crawfords were like heaven and earth. There was simply no comparison.

But Agnes didn't dislike her and even treated Esther better than her own son. It made her feel overwhelmed.

Pearl chuckled. "That's great, isn't it? I thought you were dealing with sreal trouble."

Chapter 1095

"Agnes is planning to haveand James get engaged this weekend..." Esther felt helpless. She was busy filming and didn't have much free time, but Agnes insisted they get engaged soon.

Pearl was surprised. "Engaged? Is it that urgent?" "Yeah, Aunt Agnes said we should get engaged soon to make sure everything goes smoothly." Simply put, she feared losing out on having Esther as her daughter-in-law.

Esther took out an invitation card from her bag. It was simple yet fancy. The words [Engagement Party] were printed in gold embossing.

"I'm here to give you this invitation. You have to cthis weekend." Esther blinked, looking eager.

"Sure, I'll be there." Pearl smiled and then saw James coming in, looking a bit dusty.

He nodded and greeted Pearl, then turned to Esther. "Why didn't you tellyou were coming here? I wouldn't have found you if I hadn't asked your assistant." He sounded calm, but his voice had a hint of reproach.

Esther stuck out her tongue, looking smug. "I chere in a hurry to talk to Pearl. She just went through something a few days ago, and I haven't comforted her yet." Although she knew Pearl didn't seem to need such comfort, she was just presumptuous. But as her best friend, she needed to help her feel better.

"Alright." James chuckled. "I'm here to pick you up for dinner at my place. My mom said she wants to see you." Esther looked worried. "It's the weekend. Besides, I've had dinner at your place five times this week." "My mom really wants to see you. She says she won't eat well if she doesn't see you." James shrugged, feeling helpless.

"Well..." Esther sighed deeply. "But every time I go to your place for dinner, Aunt Agnes piles my plate with so much food. I've gained three pounds already. Today, Lisa even scolded me, saying that as an artist, I should manage my figure better." "Then I'll ask her to make you slow-fat meals." Although James felt terrible for her, he knew it was part of her job. He couldn't stop her from chasing her dreams, so he had to find ways to let her eat more. "Okay!" Esther jumped up from the couch. "James and I have to go for dinner now, Pearl. I'll come back to hang out with you when I can." Pearl nodded with a smile. "Okay." "Let's go. Sabrina's waiting for us," James said, picking up Esther's coat from the couch.

Speaking of Sabrina, Esther winked mischievously at Pearl. "Let me tell you, Pearl, James and his childhood sweetheart are so interesting. Their love story is like something out of a book. I'll tell you all about it when I have time." Pearl chuckled. "Okay." Suddenly, Esther seemed to remember something. "But I feel like her boyfriend looks familiar. I think I've seen him somewhere." Privacy

Chapter 1096

The engagement party was this weekend. Pearl and Richard arrived at the place early, while Esther and James welcomed guests at the door, smiling a lot.

When Esther saw Pearl approaching, she hurried over, holding up the train of her dress, and said, "You're finally here, Pearl." "You look beautiful today." Pearl smiled back and hugged her.

Esther then whispered, "Remember the guy I told you about? The one who looks familiar? Well, he's here today." "Oh?" Pearl didn't know what she was getting at, so she wondered why Esther kept mentioning this person. "Come with me, and you'll see." Esther asked James to look after the guests, while Richard was deep in conversation with a group of people.

Pearl followed Esther. In the backyard, Esther pointed to a gazebo not far away and said, "See that guy? Doesn't he look familiar?" Pearl followed her finger and was surprised by what she saw.

Claude, with his distinct slanted eyes, looked sharp in a white suit. He wore a diamond earring that sparkled a little in his right ear. He was chatting with a friend, who was also handsome but slightly less so than Claude.

Claude glanced over, perhaps noticing the gaze on him, creating a slightly eerie atmosphere.

Pearl quickly turned her head. "Who is he?" "He's Claude. James told he comes from a prominent family. Rumor has it that he even has royal blood from Mernaut in his lineage..." So, he was of mixed race. No wonder he was so good-looking. But his looks weren't the biggest surprise.

What shocked Pearl was that this guy had almost the eyes as hers. They were expressive yet distant. However, his nose bridge was higher, and his profile was sharper.

"He looks so much like you, Pearl. When I first saw him, I didn't pay much attention, but later on, I realized he looks almost exactly like you, including his personality. I didn't know you're the Lover granddaughter of the Jordans, I wouldn't have believed this..." Esther was scatterbrained. There were many things she hadn't had the chance to tell her, such as that her biological father had someone else.

Now, although everyone in Enswood knew that Pearl often hung out with Richard, no one dared to criticize them openly due to the Waldoffs and her means. In private, she has long cursed their illicit love. But now, she couldn't explain until she found her biological father. Otherwise, they would suspect her of forgery even if she showed everyone the DNA test proving she and Richard were unrelated. However, Esther's unintentional move now unexpectedly provided Pearl with a clue. Pearl felt she had to meet this man.

She was about to get closer to take a look when suddenly, there was a splash from the river.

"Someone fell into the water!" People seemed to be playing on a small boat on the lake, but one person couldn't keep their balance and fell off the boat. They were screaming, but no one came to the rescue.

Chapter 1097

The man in the gazebo just looked away, showing no intention of helping.

Seeing the splashes gradually diminish, Pearl didn't hesitate and jumped in.

Esther yelled, "Pearl!" Pearl swam to the middle of the lake, grabbed the woman struggling in the water, and swam back to shore with her.

But then, as the cold water hit her, it triggered a reminder of her past miscarriage. Her face went pale, her waist ached, and she could only watch helplessly as the woman slipped from her grasp.

As Pearl held her, she felt the woman's slightly bulging belly. Pearl knew she was about three months pregnant.

Ignoring the water she swallowed, she shouted, "She's pregnant. Help her!" The cold lake water made her throat ache.

Hearing the word 'pregnant,' the man in the gazebo quickly jumped into the lake and rescued the unconscious woman. Claude glanced at her pale face as he passed by Pearl, looking surprised. He then freed up a hand and pulled her to the shore. Claude's strong arms safely rescued both of them.

At this moment, the staff arrived, and the private doctor was ready to give them first aid.

The doctor from the Sanders knew Pearl and was about to treat her, but she pointed to the unconscious woman and said, "Help her first. She choked on water. Her condition is more critical." The doctor understood and squatted down to examine the woman.

Pearl couldn't help but add, "She's pregnant. Please check if the baby is okay." At this point, the assistant handed Pearl two towels, and she gave one to Claude. He turned to her, took the towel, and said softly, "Thanks." "I should thank you. If it weren't for you, I might have died." Pearl smiled, wringing out the water from her hair and carefully drying herself off.

Luckily, she wore a black dress today. Otherwise, she might have been embarrassed being all drenched. "Thank you for saving, Pearl. Don't worry, my private doctor is competent and will definitely get Sabrina out of danger. Both of your clothes are wet, and you can't wear them anymore. There are spare clothes prepared for you in the villa. Pearl, you can wear mine. And Claude, if you don't mind, James has a new suit you can wear." Seeing Pearl safe and sound, Esther sincerely thanked Claude.

Pearl suddenly realized that the woman who fell into the water was James's childhood friend, Sabrina. Then Claude should be the male protagonist of this love story.

She couldn't care less about gossip right now. It would be okay if this woman accidentally fell into the water. If not, she must be trying to start trouble at Esther's engagement party. Pearl's eyes turned cold. She turned to her assistant and said, "Find out who was on the boat in the lake today." Claude was stunned. He didn't expect her to have such a meticulous idea, and it coincided with his.

Earlier, he had noticed a slight resemblance in the lake. They were both remarkably alike, almost like she was the female version of him.

Could all this be more than just a coincidence?

Chapter 1098

"How should I address you?" Claude knew she was Pearl as her name was all over the news. Anyone could recognize her, but he still asked politely.

Pearl smiled, her eyes bright and teeth white. "Pearl Leighton." "I'm Claude Savary." After exchanging pleasantries, Esther was afraid that Pearl's body couldn't handle the cold, so she quickly had someone take them to get changed.

Their rooms were across from each other. Before entering, Pearl gave Claude a sharp glance.

Once they had changed, Claude waited for her by the door, as she had expected. He had one hand in his pocket and smoothly pulled out a cigarette, which looked even more slender between his fingers. "Mind if I smoke?" "I think you might have more on your mind than just smoking, Mister Claude." He glanced at her, then put the cigarette back, saying, "You're smart, Miss Pearl. You probably already know why I'm here." "I don't. Care to explain?" She didn't like beating around the bush, but he seemed intent on playing games, which annoyed her.

"You're good at seeing through things, Miss Pearl. Surely you understand what I mean?" Claude brought up Hugo.

But Pearl didn't want to discuss Hugo with him. Her expression turned cold, and she frowned slightly. "If you can't be straightforward, we're done here." She smiled and turned to leave, but he stopped her.

"I won't keep you any longer." Claude stepped forward, standing before her with his gaze fixed on her face. "Have you ever doubted who you really are, Miss Pearl?" S Although Claude had never heard of

having any sisters or illegitimate daughters his father might have, the moment he saw Pearl, he felt a strange sense of familiarity. His intuition had never failed him. Pearl shrugged. "Of course, I've had my suspicions, but for now, I don't have any evidence." Since they would meet anyway, she didn't mind saying something.

"If you're free, let's get a DNA test together," Claude said casually, "there might be a surprise." Before Pearl could respond, hurried footsteps were heard in the corridor. Someone suddenly hugged her.

The familiar scent filled her nostrils, and Richard said, "Why are you so careless? You always rush to help others in trouble. Your health isn't great. What if something happens to you?" Richard was very worried about her. He scanned her from head to toe, finally relieved to see that she was fine.

"Looks like the rumors are false. Although you two seem to have divorced, your relationship is still strong," Claude remarked. Pearl blushed, unable to explain.

"Nice to meet you, Mister Claude." Richard nodded at him but had no intention of shaking hands. The man seemed interested in Pearl, which annoyed him.

"Don't get wrong, Mister Richard. I am not interested in your wife, but I do have one request."

Chapter 1099

Claude gave Pearl a long look. "I hope you can give an answer by three o'clock tomorrow afternoon, Miss Pearl," he said before turning and leaving.

"How do you know someone like him?" Richard knew a bit about Claude too. He realized Claude was no simple man, especially since he had recently returned to the country. How did they even meet? Pearl shook her head. "I barely know him. We just met today, but there's something." "What is it?" "I think I might be related to him," Pearl replied, watching Claude's graceful exit with deepening interest.

* Although Sabrina's fall into the water caused a stir, the engagement party proceeded smoothly.

However, there was a sudden commotion when Esther began her vows. Halfway through her speech, Esther heard laughter around her, and her expression changed.

"Excuse me, miss. Do you have something to say?" She had always had a hot temper, and hearing someone disrespect her at her engagement party raised her anger.

"Not really," a young woman replied confidently under the crowd's gaze. "I'm just curious, how could someone from a background like yours marry into the prestigious Crawford family? It's like someone from a modest background marrying into high society and thinking they've become royalty, isn't it?" After saying that, she swirled the wine in her glass with a hint of regret. "It's a pity that someone forcibly took away someone else's marriage and still doesn't realize it. How funny." "She must have been put up to it by someone," Pearl thought, looking at the calmer woman beside her.

She realized this woman was being used as a pawn. The woman next to her probably had a thing for James.

When the woman next to her heard this, she looked slightly embarrassed. She pulled the arm of the other woman who made the sarcastic remarks and advised "We're at an engagement party. Don't say things like that, it might upset them." "Fiona, who will look out for you if I have to care for their feelings? It was agreed long ago that you're the daughter-in-law of the Crawfords." Right after she spoke, there was a big commotion.

Fiona turned pale, as if she had been treated unfairly. "I didn't... Alright, please stop," she replied, looking like she was extremely embarrassed.

The woman held Fiona's hand and spoke confidently, not realizing she was being tricked. "I know you're shy and don't like to talk much, but don't worry. We're best friends. I'll help you." She was from the Bishop family, a family so important that even James's father had to be polite to her. James also had to explain himself to her for everything he said.

"But..." "Enough with the 'buts.' I've told you, just stay here and relax. I'll stand up for you." Chloe stood straight, walked to the middle of the stage proudly lifted her chin, and asked, "Excuse me, Miss Esther. Shouldn't you say sorry for taking someone else's husband?" Esther felt really angry inside, but she couldn't show her anger since it was her engagement party.

Suddenly, someone clapped their hands.

Chloe was furious and turned to look at the person who had messed with her.

Pearl covered her nose, her eyes full of disgust and ridicule. "Based on what you said, Miss Chloe, could you apologize to me? I find your ugly face offensive too."

Chapter 1100

"What do you mean? Who are you calling ugly? You better explain." Chloe's expression changed. "I have no problem with you, miss. There's no need for you to attack me."

She had been spoiled since she was a child, and no one had ever called her ugly before. The woman in front of her was much prettier, and she couldn't find anything to criticize about her, which frustrated her.

Pearl crossed her arms and casually glanced at Esther on the stage. "Then what's your issue with her? Why are you attacking her?"

Chloe was stunned. She couldn't come up with a response.

"Today is their big day. If you insist on causing trouble here, don't blame Cerulean for not treating the Bishops well in the future."

In other words, if Chloe dared bully her friend, Pearl would not do business with the Bishops in the future.

Chloe wasn't entirely clueless. She knew a thing or two about the business world. She had heard her father mention the collaboration between Cerulean and their family.

In other words, Pearl wasn't someone she could easily offend. But she had said she would stand up for Fiona, and it was awkward to back down now.

At a loss for words, Chloe could only stand there,embarrassed.

"Well, I..."

Seeing that things weren't going well, Fiona didn't want to miss this opportunity, so she quickly stepped in to cause more trouble. She cleared her throat, acting like she was struggling to say what bothered her. "It's alright, Clo. I know you're doing this for me to let me vent, but there's really no need for this. It's their big day. I know what they said embarrassed you, but if you ruin this engagement party..."

Chloe was always hot-tempered and cared a lot about her reputation. Hearing what Fiona said to her, she couldn't hide her frustration when she realized everyone could see her embarrassment.

"No way, I've got to help you out today." Putting her family business aside, Chloe said, "There's no need to threaten me with this, Miss Pearl. The Bishops don't need you as a partner."

"If that's how you want it, you can count the Wadorfs out too." Richard, who had been quiet, spoke up to support Pearl. His cold gaze fell on Chloe, almost swallowing her whole.

"Uh..." Chloe hesitated, unsure how to respond.

She had now offended two parties. Panicked, she wondered if it was worth offending Richard and Pearl for Fiona.

Before she could decide, James, who had been helping guests nearby, noticed the situation and walked over with a glass of wine.

Seeing James in a white suit today, Chloe was speechless. Although she claimed to stand up for Fiona, she acted out her unspoken feelings.

She had a crush on James even before Fiona did. But she knew James wouldn't be interested in someone like her, and she also wasn't as important as Fiona. Instead of helping others, she preferred to support her friend.

"Causing trouble at my engagement party, huh?" James's eyes were calm, showing no emotion.

Chloe thought James wasn't serious about the engagement, so she boldly said, "James, I... I know you actually have feelings for Fiona. Someone like Esther is not worthy of you. S-So I'm speaking up for you..." Talking to someone she had feelings for made her stammer.

James smiled a bit, his voice calm but strong. "So, should I be grateful to you?"