

Your Guise 1141

Chapter 1141

Besides Claude, Pearl was the only one who knew so much. So, Claude must have spilled the truth.

"Alright. Since you know everything, I'll drop the act." Claude looked pale, but his words only made things more infuriating. "I just don't want Santiago to get away with it." "If you don't want him to get away with it, there are plenty of ways. Why harm my mom?" Pearl couldn't contain her anger.

Claude was getting agitated. Looking stern, he raised his voice, "Santiago has always been cautious. I've never seen him care so much about someone. Your mom's the only weak spot he has after all this time. Why wouldn't I use that? Do you know what he says about my mom? He called her a whore, a woman who sleeps around!" Having grown up hearing such things, Claude's temper became erratic. He couldn't stand seeing how much Santiago cared about Pearl's mother, so he came up with this plan.

"So you decided to target an innocent woman, huh?" Pearl could understand how he felt but couldn't condone his actions. "Well, I..." Claude lost his senses, knowing he was in the wrong, and couldn't say anything.

They remained silent for a long time.

Finally, Claude broke the silence. "How's your mom?" Pearl replied irritably, "She's fine for now." "That's good... Please tell her I'm sorry. I know this is my fault. If you need anything, just come to me, and I'll do my best to help." "I don't need any help, but since you're willing to admit your mistake, I won't hold you accountable." Pearl found it hard to be harsh with Claude.

"I'm really sorry." Claude regretted his actions but didn't know how to explain it to Pearl.

Seeing him like this, Pearl recalled her conversation with Richard earlier.

"Actually, Claude was the one who told about this," Richard said.

"Claude?" "Yeah, I received a call from him today, and he told about Saule being kidnapped." "How did Claude know about this?" "I'm not sure," Richard responded.

"And then?" "He said you might go rescue her yourself, so he told to find you as soon as possible." * As Pearl recalled that conversation, she sighed while looking at the silent man before her. "Luckily, you realized your mistake early. They might have found later if it weren't for you. "This might be his way of trying to make up for what he did in the past. But it's still a bit late..." Claude said this with effort, his eyes showing a complex mix of feelings. "Alright, stop beating yourself up. Santiago will probably find out about what you did soon," Pearl said.

If she could figure it out, how could an intelligent man like Santiago not know? Thinking of how Santiago had seduced Claude before, Pearl felt that he would probably be all the more furious this time. Claude belongs to English. "It's okay. No matter how he punishes this time, I'll accept it."

Chapter 1142

Before Pearl could say anything, a furious shout from Santiago came from behind.

"What have you done, you bastard?!" Pearl turned around, but before she could react, Claude received a hard slap across his face, instantly causing it to swell and redden.

"If I hadn't interrogated those people from the Jesseltons, I wouldn't have known that my son has the audacity to hurt someone!" Claude wiped the blood from his mouth and chuckled lightly. "You're this mad only because the person is your beloved, right?" Back when he was abroad, he got into a fight and nearly killed the other guy, then he compensated with a few hundred thousand dollars. Santiago didn't even bat an eye.

Now, Santiago slapped Claude just because he had hurt the person he cared most about.

"How dare you! You're not even sorry!" Seeing another slap about to land, Pearl quickly stepped in. "Claude has indeed gone too far this time, but he has admitted his mistake and made up for it." Santiago sighed. "You're too forgiving. If it were me, I'd have beaten him to death!" Pearl awkwardly smiled. "Well, you slapped him already. Consider that a lesson to him. He's injured and still weak now, it's best not to lay a hand on him." Santiago heard about his injury and took a good look at him. Indeed, there was a visible wound on the back of his head. But he was so mad he just went straight to demanding answers and didn't even think about it.

"These are just minor injuries. It's nothing serious." Santiago snorted. "I know these minor injuries are nothing to you." Claude fell silent again, and the room became so quiet they could hear a pin drop.

Santiago cleared his throat. "If there's nothing else, I'll take my leave as there's still work to be done." He looked intently at Claude. "I've silenced those people. Just stay here and get better." Once he was gone, Pearl sighed. "Mister Santiago actually cares about you. Otherwise, he wouldn't have dealt with those guys, fearing that they'd drag you down." What those people did was illegal. Claude would end up in jail if he got dragged into it.

"I know." Claude didn't seem pleased. He still needs a successor. If anything happens to me, all the effort he's put into training over the years would be wasted." Pearl smiled, not denying it. "With around now, do you think you can still be his successor with peace of mind?" Claude was surprised. "You're interested in this?" He wasn't interested in the Savary family's fortune. He had just been raised with the idea that he was the future successor.

But it didn't seem too bad if he had to give it up and let Pearl take over.

"Of course not. I mean, didn't you say that Santiago likes me? So if I were to return to the Savarys, do you think he'll let inherit their estate?" "Whatever." Claude honestly didn't care.

Seeing his reaction, Pearl almost laughed. "Why do I have such a stubborn brother? Geez... What I'm saying is Santiago has other heirs in mind. He's not concerned about his efforts in raising you being wasted. He protected you today because he really cares for you as his son." Claude was stunned.

"Also, don't be too hard on him. If I were in his shoes, I'd slap you for what you did too." Pearl rolled her eyes.

A slap would be letting him off easy, wouldn't it?

Chapter 1143

"You've experienced that yourself, right? I remember someone's beloved being pushed into the lake back then, and a scandalous video leaked after that," Pearl pointed out.

Despite Claude's reputation for seeking revenge, he was not quite remorseful. How foolish.

But Claude thought Pearl had a point.

Speaking of Sabrina, Pearl couldn't help but ask further, "So, have you made up with Sabrina?" Claude rubbed his temples, feeling defeated. "You've really taken on the role of a sister, huh?" "Of course. Aren't you my little brother?" Pearl raised an eyebrow, a curious look in her eyes. "Anyway, how are things between you two? Is she still giving you the cold shoulder?" Claude's face showed a hint of annoyance. "Yeah, she's got someone else on her mind now. How could she be with me?" He wondered how long she would like that man. Right now, she was all about making sure that James stayed single, which annoyed Claude.

"You mean James?" Pearl blurted out the name, slightly surprising Claude.

"How did you know it was him? Did Sabrina tell you herself?" "I guessed." "Yeah, she thinks she's hiding it well, but everyone knows about her feelings for James." Pearl shook her head. "No, Esther has no clue." Esther was just clueless, and everyone knew it.

Claude glanced at her and asked, "Can you get an ice pack?" Pearl jokingly held out her hand. "You gotta pay up if you need to do something for you." Feeling helpless, Claude said, "I just asked you to help find an ice pack. If you don't want to, I'll call the nurse." Why was his sister so money-minded? She was nothing like him.

Pearl chuckled. "Of course, I care about this stuff. So you better recover soon, then go hand take over the business. Otherwise, I'll snatch your position as the heir." Claude could only silently complain. "I don't care about those things at all." "Well, I do, but I don't want to deal with it." Pearl stretched lazily.

"Alright, enough talking. I'll give you the ice pack." With that, Pearl left the room.

Not long after leaving, she unexpectedly saw a little boy who looked familiar around a corner. Her eyes widened when she saw him, and she couldn't help but be surprised. This little boy looked exactly like Richard! How could there be someone in this world who looked so much like him? Curiosity pushed her forward. As soon as she got closer, the boy's mother covered.

"Hey buddy, what are you doing here? Mommy has been looking for you. Let's go home."

Chapter 1144

Pearl initially suspected the child might be Richard's but quickly dismissed the idea as absurd. There was no way Richard could have fathered a child with someone else.

Besides, the child looked about three years old, and Pearl had known Richard for four years. Richard was deeply engrossed in his work in their first year of acquaintance. He wouldn't have had time for another relationship.

However, the child's striking resemblance to Richard made Pearl ponder further.

In the end, Pearl mustered the courage to approach the child and spoke softly, "Excuse me..." The child's mother seemed to recognize Pearl. Fear flashed in her eyes when she saw Pearl.

"I don't know you. Please stay away from us," she said. Then, the woman grabbed the child's arm, ready to pull him away.

"I mean no harm, I just wanted to ask a question," Pearl said, feeling helpless.

However, the woman quickly interrupted, "I told you I don't know you. Please don't harass us, stranger." The woman's words were firm, but Pearl couldn't shake off the fear she saw in her eyes.

The child looked up, slightly surprised, and asked, "Mommy, who is this lady?" "She's nobody, just a stranger." Finally, under Pearl's stunned gaze, the woman grabbed the child's hand and hurriedly left.

This encounter almost confirmed to Pearl that the child was somehow related to Richard. The woman's look indicated that she knew Pearl, but she seemed terrified of being recognized by her. Besides, she protected the child as if she feared that Pearl might snatch him away.

Pearl was baffled. She usly bumped into the door returning to the wo with the ice pack. SW "I can't believe you hit the door freven when you're walking. How clumsy." Pearl didn't have the energy to banter with Claude then, as the incident replayed in her mind. Seeing Pearl lost in thought, Claude couldn't help but ask, "What's wrong? You look distracted." "I ran into someone out there." Claude was curious. "Who was it?" Pearl hesitated, a complex expression flickering in her eyes. "A little boy who looks a lot like Richard." Claude's eyes widened in surprise. "Really? Did Richard cheat on you and have a kid?" "And that boy looks about three years old. He can even talk." Claude clicked his tongue. "I'm sure that's his kid. After all, when you first met, he didn't care much about you.

so it's normal for him to fool around outside." Pearl knew Claude was just teasing her, but those words only made her more uncomfortable.

Chapter 1145

What bothered Pearl the most was their previous child, who had to be aborted due to health reasons. It had always been a painful memory for her.

Now, a little boy who resembled Richard so much suddenly appeared, and she couldn't help but wonder if he was somehow related to Richard.

Pearl didn't believe Richard would cheat on her, but given the current situation, she couldn't shake off her doubts without evidence. Seeing Pearl upset, Claude refrained from making any sarcastic remarks. "Alright, now that you know, why not ask him about it? See what he has to say. If he admits it, then you can decide what to do. If he denies it, then find out the truth." Claude's advice seemed like the only feasible solution at the moment. Pearl nodded, her mind racing. "In that case, I'll head back first." Claude waved casually. "Talk it out when you get back. Don't jump to conclusions. Once suspicion arises, accusations will follow, which won't be good for your relationship." Pearl stared at him, surprised at how insightful he was.

* Richard had yet to return when she returned home. Only Susan was there.

As Pearl stepped inside, she saw Susan standing by the cabinet, lost in thought. She approached cautiously and noticed the tears in her eyes.

When Susan saw Pearl, she quickly snapped out of it and smiled gently. "Pearl, you're back. Sit down and have a rest. I'll cook for you in a while." "Don't worry, Mom. What are you looking at here?" Pearl was curious and scanned the cabinet filled with certificates and trophies.

"All these awards belong to Hugo," she said.

Hugo's had been absent for several months, so hearing it mentioned again now brought sadness.

Pearl looked at all the certificates and awards. She hadn't expected Susan to have set up a cabinet for him.

"Hugo has always had a proud personality and likes to be different.

ne That's why, while others keep their awards in their rooms, his are displayed in the living room where everyone can see them," Susan explained with a faint smile, reminiscing. "Sadly, Hugo will never cback." O Pearl also felt deep regret over Hugo's death. But now that he's gone, dwelling on it would only increase her sadness and pain.

Pearl tried to comfort Susan, "Don't be sad, Mom. Perhaps Hugo is happier and more at ease now." "You're right." Susan wiped a tear from her eye. "Hugo had always been competitive. I hope he can relax and be free of deceit on the other side." Pearl sighed inwardly. Nobody wanted to compete with Hugo alt this texcept for him, especially with Richard. He always wanted to outdo Richard but never fulfilled his wish until he died. "Alright, it's not good to always bring up these sad things. You went to the hospital, right? How's your mom?" Susan learned this from Richard earlier and was now mainly concerned about Saule's health She was shocked to find out Pear was Saule's daughter. After patiently listening to Richard's explanation, she learned that Pearl had another biological father.

Chapter 1146

"My mom's doing fine now, but..." Pearl hesitated, and Susan immediately asked, "What's the matter? But what?" Seeing Susan's anxious expression, Pearl decided not to tell her. She would wait until Richard cback that evening to tell her. "It's nothing serious, just swork delays these past few days," Pearl casually lied, deceiving Susan.

Susan immediately looked stern. "What kind of work matters more than your mom's health?" "I got it, Mom." Susan sighed and said, "Bring your mom over when you have time. I have something to discuss with her." There was guilt in her eyes when she said this, perhaps still thinking about things that happened decades ago.

"Okay." * When Richard returned, he noticed that Pearl had no intention of talking to him and that her tone was indifferent. He found this strange.

After dinner, they returned to their room, but Pearl sat on the bed and refused to talk.

"What's wrong? Why have you been in a bad mood since you cback from the hospital?" Richard suspected something had happened there, so he patiently asked, "Please tell me." "I met someone at the hospital today who looks a lot like you," Pearl spoke slowly, carefully observing his face.

Richard paused for a moment, then smiled. "There are so many people in the world who look alike, so it's normal to meet someone like that." "He's a three-year-old boy." Richard's expression changed. "Do you suspect that's my son?" Pearl didn't say a word, but her silence revealed everything.

Richard almost laughed in disbelief. "We've only known each other for four years. Do you think I had a child with another woman when I first met you?" "That's not what I meant..." Pearl tried to explain, but Richard pulled her into his arms before she could.

"I know you just had a miscarriage, and I understand that must be hard for you." Richard stroked her hair gently, trying to comfort her. "I promise that I've only been with you and have never been involved with any other woman." After spending so much time together, how could Pearl not know Richard's character? She just missed the child who was never born.

"We'll have children when you get better." Pearl nodded quietly and wrapped her arms around his waist.

* The following day, news about the Jesseltons quickly spread online revealing Mister Howard's shocking and scandalous actions. The Jesseltons became the center of attention. Since almost everyone from the Jesseltons had been taken to the police station, there was no one to deal with the aftermath. Madam Pamela was alone in the isolated manor, with a crowd of protestors and reporters at her entrance. "Madam Pamela, is it true? Did the Jesseltons really do that?"

Chapter 1147

"Madam Pamela, were you involved in those events?" "Has everyone but you been taken to the police station?" "The Jesseltons have done so many awful things. How are you still alive?" "Should we break the door down and drag that woman out to let off steam?" Pamela was so scared that she didn't dare open the door. Through the window, she could see the dense crowd, which made her feel tight-chested. She knew that everyone would harass her if she went out now.

However, those who threatened to break the door down eventually made a move.

Hearing the door banging, Madam Pamela was so scared that she trembled. She looked around and finally decided to go upstairs. But as soon as she reached the top of the stairs, the door was flung open.

"Madam Pamela is at the stairs!" Seeing the crowd rushing at her, Madam Pamela closed her eyes tightly and jumped from the stairs.

With a bang, everyone stopped and quietly looked at where the sound came from.

Blood flowed out from the top of her head, looking rather gruesome.

After about a minute, someone reacted and called 911, but it was too late. Madam Pamela had passed away.

Hearing this news, Martin, who was in prison, broke down and lost his mind. Winona was devastated, too. She committed suicide by hitting the wall in prison on a sunny afternoon.

As the last of his lineage, Mister Howard saw his daughter-in-law granddaughter, and son meet tragic ends. His son's insanity added to his distress, leading to a fatal heart attack in a fit of anger. With the deaths of three family members, the Jesseltons saga came to a close.

* Over the weekend, Esther suggested they go fishing at the lake, and she convinced Pearl to join.

Pearl couldn't refuse, so she went along. Richard and James joined them, traveling together and chatting as they made their way to the lake.

Esther eagerly set up her fishing rod, James got the bait ready, and Richard scoped out the best spot for fishing.

James, a fishing enthusiast, confidently said, "I might just win this fishing contest today." "Why? I might reel in more fish than you," Esther teased, determined to outfish him. So, she earnestly began fishing.

Pearl and Richard exchanged a smile and settled in at their fishing spots.

Esther was the first to catch a fish, She beamed with pride as she showed off her catch. "See! I told you not to jump to conclusions too early." When James glanced at her and then focused on his fishing.

"You're no fun. I'm sure I'll catch more fish than you," Esther said, determined to catch up.

13 Half an hour later, James's fishing rod twitched. He gently hooked it and a big, fat fish fell into the bucket. Not only that, this fish was even bigger than Esther's. S Esther was anxious all of a sudden. Despite her efforts, she couldn't catch another fish.

Chapter 1148

"There are too many people in this spot, so the fish are swimming to you. You're sitting where the current flows. If any fish come, they'll definitely bite your hook first," Esther confidently explained, thinking she had mastered ssecret.

She then stubbornly changed her spot and started fishing again.

After three quiet hours, Esther was getting sleepy. Suddenly, she woke up to find three people standing around her, all with faint smiles.

"Weren't we fishing? Why are you all here all of a sudden?" Esther had just woken up, thinking she had just dozed off. But when she checked the time, three hours had passed.

"I haven't caught a single fish, have I?" she exclaimed.

James shrugged, a faint smile on his lips. "You've been asleep here for so long. Even if there were fish on the hook, they've probably all eaten the bait and left." "What? I'm going to lose?" Esther drooped her head in disappointment. But then she saw James walking over with his bucket and pouring all his fish into hers.

"It doesn't matter. I'll give you mine. Consider yourself the winner." Esther didn't feel it was unfair. Instead, she smiled happily. "Fine. I won anyway!" Feeling content, they decided to grill the fish by the lake that evening.

James and Esther were in charge of setting up the barbecue, while Pearl and Richard went to gather firewood. Near the lake, there was a small, not-so-dense grove.

The two walked deep into the forest, and Richard held Pearl's hand tightly, afraid she might get lost. After collecting plenty of firewood, they were about to head back when Pearl suddenly saw a familiar figure standing before her.

Pearl squinted slightly, and when she saw the person clearly, she exclaimed, "It's her!" Richard also looked over and saw a young woman standing before them with a child.

"They're the ones who I met in the hospital the other day, the little boy who looks a lot like you and his mother," Pearl explained. Richard frowned. "Should we go say hi?" He was also curious about the little boy Pearl said looked like him. How similar could he be? "Sure." Pearl nodded.

But as soon as they approached, the woman noticed them. She panicked and prepared to run away with the kid. Pearl felt even more puzzled when she saw the woman about to run away again.

Richard acted quickly and grabbed the woman's arm. "Who are you? Why did you run when you saw us?" The woman lowered her head, trying to cover her eyes with her hair.

"I don't know you. I'm afraid of meeting people in a place like this, so I wanted to run." It was hard to tell the truth from her words. Pearl stepped forward and asked, "Do you remember me?" The woman shook her head, denying, "I don't know. I'm not sure who you are. Stop asking questions." The little boy beside her frowned.

"Mom, you're hurting me." Due to panic, the woman unhealed red marks on the little boy's arm. Pearl found it all very strange. They hadn't met before, so why was this woman so scared and eager to run when she saw her?

Chapter 1149

The woman was surprised and angry when Pearl first met her. But now, seeing Richard, she seemed to have a hint of fear and inexplicable affection, which she couldn't understand.

Only when the little boy spoke did Richard finally look at him. At first glance, the resemblance between the little boy and himself was uncanny, startling him.

"What's the little boy's name?" The woman looked down at her toes and said, "That's the child's privacy, I can't tell you." Pearl patiently explained, "You don't have to worry. We're not bad people, and we won't do anything to him." After that, Pearl squatted down, her voice gentle as she asked the child, "Hey, can you tell your name?" But the woman suddenly went crazy, pulling the boy behind her. "I told you not to ask the child's name, didn't you hear me?" Seeing her panic, Pearl stopped asking. But now, it was almost certain that this woman had a problem. Richard noticed it as well and asked, "Alright then,

we won't ask about the child. What's your name?" The woman was nervous and uneasy when talking to Richard, but not as fierce. "I'm... I'm..." The woman couldn't say her name, so she kept silent, and they all stood there in a stalemate.

"I'm just curious about a few things, so I wanted to ask you." Pearl smiled slightly trying to ease her tension. "But I hope you know that if I really want to find out about you, I can easily do so." The woman seemed to know Pearl's abilities, and she was scared by this, trembling even more. "I'm Miranda Frost.

Her words sounded familiar, and Richard tried to recall it. But in the end, he couldn't remember. "Why did you run when you saw us?" Miranda's voice sounded timid. "I wasn't running, I was just nervous and shy." The little boy beside her snorted disdainfully "You're lying, Mom.

"You've never been like this in front of others. You used to boldly introduce to others," he spoke without reservation, bluntly revealing the truth. Miranda's eyes narrowed. "Why are you lying?" Miranda was on the verge of tears. "Please don't make things difficult for me. I really don't know anything, and I have nothing to do with you." The more she emphasized, the more it revealed. Having studied psychology, Pearl understood that this woman probably hadn't spoken truthfully. "How about we stop asking and let her go?" Richard didn't say anything, tacitly agreeing to this.

The woman immediately felt relieved, thanked them, and quickly left with the child.

Richard looked puzzled. "Why did you let her go?" "I suspect she's lying about what she said, even about her name. I secretly took the little boy's picture. We'll find out soon enough," Pearl said. Looking at the picture, her curiosity piqued.

Chapter 1150

Pearl and Richard returned to find James had already set up a fire and started a fire with the wood they had gathered.

"Where have you guys been? Why are you back so late?" Esther hurried over, concerned that something had happened to them. After seeing that everything was fine, she sighed in relief. "Next time, don't go so far to pick up firewood. We have enough wood here." Pearl nodded and smiled. "Got it." They all sat around the fire, chatting and eating as it burned brightly.

Richard raised a can of beer to James and asked, "So, when are you two planning to tie the knot?" Esther blushed. "Marriage is a little too soon for us. We're not in a hurry. I'm focused on my career, and James just recently started his law firm..." "I didn't say it's too soon," James interjected, his tone cool.

"At twenty-two, it feels quite early," Esther admitted, a little afraid of marriage. "Besides, I'm not ready yet." "Don't worry. I'll give you the tyou need," James assured her, then dropped the subject.

Sensing the tension, Pearl suggested, "I noticed a beautiful spot by the lake earlier. How about we all head there later to enjoy the view?" "I have sthings to take care of, so I'll pass for now," James replied, his tone slightly distant.

Richard wanted to go with Pearl but suddenly received a work call he couldn't avoid, so he had to step ne aside to take it. In the end, only Esther volunteered to join her at the fake. Sitting by the lake, Esther absentmindedly kicked stones into the water.

Sensing Esther's concerns, Pearl, like a caring older sister, moved beside her and held her hand. "Can you tellwhy you're hesitant about marriage?" Esther remained silent for a long time.

She felt that her mother hadn't been et happy after getting married, always living with worry. Her parents had been respectful but distant, which made her fear that marriage would extinguish the spark in her O relationship. So deep down, she was afraid of marriage. She hoped her future marriage could be as joyful and fulfilling as her current relationship.

"I feel like people change after getting married," Esther struggled to explain her thoughts. "After my parents got married, my dad et changed a lot. My mom used to be so happy when they were dating, but after they got married, everything changed. She had to be a good wife, and everything she did was restrained." "Well, dating offers more freedom since marriage comes with responsibilities. Romance is important, but so is reality." Esther looked down, remaining silent.

"Do you lack confidence in yourself, or is this about James?" Esther sighed. "I don't believe in feelings. I think they change."