

Your Guise 1151

Chapter 1151

It was just like before—Mobius could date other women without any hesitation afterward. Esther always felt upset about this.

"But sooner or later, you have to deal with these things," Pearl said, gently patting Esther's head. "Feelings change. The best kind of love is like the love in a family, giving without expecting anything back." Esther nodded quietly, feeling convinced.

"Okay, Pearl. Thanks for talking today." Esther felt like a big weight had been lifted off her shoulders. She was no longer that scared of getting married.

"I'm happy to hear that. Don't worry too much. Just let things happen. They'll improve with time." They chatted by the lake for a while.

Suddenly, Esther's cheeks flushed.

"What's wrong?" Pearl noticed Esther seemed off.

"I'm fine. I just need to use the restroom..." Pearl burst into laughter. "I thought it was something serious. There's a public restroom not far. I'll show you." Esther shook her head. "No, it's okay. I can go by myself. I'll be quick." Pearl was worried since it was getting dark, but she let Esther be since it seemed she'd just insist on going alone.

Pearl waited without moving far, but Esther didn't come back after half an hour. She then tried calling her, but Esther's phone was off.

Feeling something was wrong, Pearl checked the restroom and found it empty. "Where did Esther go?" she wondered.

She called several times, but she received no response. Then, she realized that Esther might have gotten into trouble.

So, she rushed back to get Richard and James.

"What? Esther is missing?" James got upset. "Where did she disappear?" Richard asked calmly. "She went to the restroom alone. Then, she went missing," Pearl explained, feeling guilty for not accompanying her. After all, this might not have happened if she brought Esther there. James scolded her, "You knew she acts without thinking. Why didn't you go with her? We're in the wild. She's not strong and doesn't know how to defend herself..." Content belongs to ŚwNaturally, Richard "She's an adult defended Pearl.

Shouldn't she look after herself? And what about you, her fiance? Don't you have any responsibility in this?" S James was silent but started making calls to look for Esther. He hoped they'd find her close by since she hadn't been gone long.

Meanwhile, Pearl and Richard returned to the restroom to search for clues.

Then, Pearl spotted something on the floor. It was a cigarette butt.

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How could there be a cigarette butt in the ladies' restroom? Pearl was sure a man must have taken Esther. Maybe it was a crdone by many people.

Richard picked up the cigarette butt and looked at it closely. Then, he sadly shook his head. "This brand is found everywhere. It looks like we won't find much here." "No," Pearl said as she carefully wrapped the cigarette butt in a napkin. "We can check it for DNA. I have to find out who it is." Richard gave Pearl an admiring look. "Should we go get the test done now?" Pearl frowned. "No, going back now will waste too much time. I'll call Wayne to chere, and I'll give it to him to test. Let's keep looking for Esther." Richard looked at the floor. The floor was muddy because it had just rained. There were unclear footprints in the mud.

"This might be the culprits' footsteps." Pearl squatted down to look at the footprints closely. She had learned how to investigate from an experienced police officer abroad. So, she was sure that two tall men, over 180 cm, had taken Esther.

After they left the restroom, they saw tire tracks by the road.

"They must have waited for Esther in the restroom before taking her to a car by the road. Then, they drove off." Unfortunately, it was too dark, and Pearl couldn't tell if the car had gone east or west.

Richard looked both ways and said, "He must have gone west." Surprised, Pearl asked, "Why?" "If you go east, you'll reach the city. The city has many lights at night, and the roads are straight with few turns. There are also police checking cars. It would be easy to catch the bad guys there.

"But to the west, it's near the mountains." Pearl turned pale thinking about the mountains. "Could it be human trafficking?" Richard looked serious. "I think so." If they were dealing with human trafficking, they needed to act fast to save Esther.

"Richard, go get your car. We'll head west." However, Richard was worried. He thought someone might attack Pearl and her away like they did Esther. SW "Don't worry about me. I can defend myself. I'll be fine." et Feeling better, Richard got in his car, and they sped off. On the way, Pearl called James to tell

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Esther panicked. But she told herself that being afraid wouldn't help, so she took sdeep breaths to calm herself.

The man looked aroused at the sight of her heaving chest. "Dude, she's so pretty. Why don't we have our way with her right here?" He had never slept with such a beautiful woman, and if he could do so before he died, he would have no regrets.

The driver scolded him for thinking such things.

"Whatever. She looks so young and fresh." He touched her cheek and got even more excited because it was so soft. "She's the most delicate-looking person I've ever seen." "Enough, we have to go. Our client is waiting for us." The man gave up reluctantly but couldn't stop staring at Esther.

Esther felt disgusted when he touched her, but she knew she couldn't show how much she disliked it. If she made him angry, she might get killed.

When she looked at him with tears in her eyes, he got closer to her. His breath smelled bad.

"What's wrong, pretty girl? You don't like having your mouth covered, do you?" Esther nodded, looking really sad.

The man thought it might be okay to remove the cover from her mouth. They were in a car, far from anyone who could hear her scream.

And so, he removed the tape off her mouth.

Esther gasped and breathed in deeply, feeling a bit better.

"Who are you guys?" When Esther spoke, her voice was so soft it made the man almost forget he supposed to be the bad guy. "We're friends. We're taking you somewhere special." He couldn't help but touch her leg, getting excited by how soft she was.

"Ah, and where's that?" Esther pretended to be more scared than she was, but she was really frightened.

"A nice place. You'll see when we get there. Don't ask too much, or there might be trouble." The man laughed.

The driver couldn't stand it anymore and threw a pen at the man. "Be serious. We've kidnapped her. Cover her mouth again." The man, rubbing his head, complained, "She's just a weak woman, and she's so fragile. Why cover her mouth again?" "Better to be safe than sorry. We can't mess this up," the driver said.

Finally, the man understood the warning. He looked at Esther and thought "I'm sorry, but I have to cover her mouth again until we get there." Just as he thought she could do it, she realized she'd have to do it again. She could make a disappointed sound.

Chapter 1154

Esther looked at the rough mountain roads and started remembering stories she had read in .

These stories were about a young woman who was taken away and forced to marry an older man in a remote mountain village. She had a child with him and then was locked in with the pigs. The sad story made Esther feel very scared.

She worried that the sthing might be happening to her.

The man chuckled when he noticed her shaking. "Don't worry, everything's going to be okay." But his words only made Esther feel more anxious. She knew she was completely at their mercy.

She couldn't escape alone, so she hoped her friends, especially Pearl, would find her soon. She also really missed James at that moment.

She also regretted not staying close to Pearl. If Pearl had gone with her to the restroom, she might not have ended up in this situation.

The van kept going and finally entered a small, isolated village after driving for about five or six hours. It was dawn by then. When they arrived, they took Esther into the village as the sun was coming up. Eventually, they stopped at a house. The man picked Esther up with one arm, since her hands and feet were tied, and carried her into a room.

"Ah!" Esther accidentally hit her head on a doorfrbecause he wasn't being careful, which made her feel dizzy.

Then, she was thrown onto a dirty, cluttered bed with two other young women. She realized she wasn't the only one who had been taken. The other two also seemed to be college students, looking scared and younger than her. One of them started crying. "Please letgo. I'm rich and have a lot of money. I can pay you guys." "Be quiet!" an older woman snapped at her.

Esther looked over and saw the woman, who was probably in her sixties or seventies, looking very strict. "You can't choose what happens to you now that you're here," the woman said with a scary laugh.

That crying woman fell silent, and the older woman nodded, seemingly pleased.

"Soon, men will choose their brides from among you. Don't refuse them, or it will be worse for you," she warned. Esther felt even more afraid.

But the two women beside her were even more panicked. One tried to jump out of bed and run, but she couldn't get far because she was tied up. A gruff-looking man by the door kicked her back down.

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"I told you not to resist. If you do, it's going to hurt. Why couldn't you just listen?" The old woman bent down and harshly grabbed the woman's hair, causing the latter to groan in pain. Then, she pushed the woman back onto the bed.

She just cried quietly because her mouth was taped.

The old woman walked over to the two men by the door and grinned. "The women you found this are really something, especially the one over there. She's very pretty. I think we can sell her for 68 thousand dollars." Right away, one of the men thought that was too much. "68 thousand for one girl? Usually, they go for up to 13 thousand." "Have you ever seen a girl as beautiful as her here?" The old woman clicked her tongue. "I say we go higher. Maybe between 96 to 110 thousand." The man tried to laugh it off. "That's way too much. No one around here can afford that." He was wondering about making an offer himself since he was single. He could try to make things work and have Esther for himself.

But 68 thousand dollars was way out of his budget! Besides, this area was remote and not very modern. The people were poor, making a living from farming or keeping animals. Being considered rich here meant having a few thousand dollars saved up, so asking for 96 to 110 thousand dollars for marriage was just unthinkable.

The man sighed, feeling defeated because the old woman was set on her decision. Even though Esther seemed like a possibility, he gave up the idea.

Then there was noise outside. The old woman, Reina, went to open the door. A few people were waiting.

"Miss Reina, I heard you got pretty young women again. Is one of them really pretty?" "I heard about the college girls. I'm really interested. Could I get one?" "I'll pay 13 thousand dollars. I want the prettiest one!" Reina lightly covered her lips and chuckled. "Alright, they're inside. Calm down. Just pick one by

one." She let in a few men with higher status first. They looked over the three young women like they were just products on the shelf.

Esther watched the men carefully.

The man on the left looked nice and smart, unlike the others who seemed sneaky and cruel. One could tell they weren't good people, and their yellowish teeth were O nauseating. Esther sighed inwardly. She hoped that the village leader would choose her, as she felt she might be treated better by him. Maybe she would even find a way to escape.

Reina treated the nicely dressed man with more respect, sitting close and smiling at him. "Mister Finnegan, I didn't expect to see you here." "People say we can cbuy a wife, right? I thought I'd get one too," said Finnegan Fox clearly.

Reina panicked at Finnegan's arrival, since he was the secretary sent over by the higher-ups. She wasn't how he found out, but she was. relieved when he seemed interested.

She eagerly showed him awomen. "I thought you weren't into this. But you're here to pick a wife. Well, these women just arrived. They're all quite lovely, especially the one over there. She's very pretty."

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Finnegan slowly turned to look at Esther, who was on the far left.

"Right? Just look at her nose and eyes. She's absolutely lovely. I bet her family has a lot of money. If not, they couldn't have raised such a refined girl." Reina then leaned in and whispered to Finnegan, "I bet she'll give you a great tin bed." Esther shuddered to hear that.

Finnegan just nodded, not showing any emotions.

The other men felt left out because Reina was giving Finnegan all her attention. "Miss Reina, we know you like Mister Finnegan, but it's not fair to ignore us." They were also interested in Esther, finding her very attractive. Next to her, the other two women seemed less striking.

Reina glared at them, annoyed by their complaints. "Ridiculous. Mister Finnegan gets to choose first. You'll just have to wait." But since these men were important and had influence, Reina had to tread carefully, needing their support for future plans. She returned to Finnegan with a smile. "Mister Finnegan, you see..." Slowly, Finnegan pointed to the one in the middle. "I want her." Esther felt her hopes dashed. She thought Finnegan was different, but it seemed she might end up with snasty old man, which scared her.

The other men whistled happily. "Good choice, Mister Finnegan! Now it's our turn." However, take Woman he'd chosen.

Inst the didn't rush to , he added, "And I also elthe one on the far He wanted to get two women.

Reina and the other men were shocked. Even Esther couldn't understand what was going on Finnegan seemed to be challenging societal expectations by manying two women. Reina smiled awkwardly, as if she were being put in a difficult position. She nervously tried to explain, "Oh, Mister Finnegan. That's not how it works." She was worried, noticing the other men's unhappy looks "Usually, everyone picks one. We believe in being with just one person at a time. And there are other men waiting," she added, hoping Finnegan would understand her point. The other men, feeling their chances slipping away, lost their patience.

"Finnegan, you're still young. Don't be greedy and give others a chance." "If you take two, what's left for us? It wouldn't be fair." Finnegan showed no fear or any desire to compromise. "I want both of them," he said firmly.

Esther was moved. She didn't expect him to choose her as well.

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However, Esther felt really sorry for the woman standing on the far side.

She glanced over. The woman in the middle seemed nervous but had a strong look in her eyes.

But the woman on the far side was shaking a lot. She looked so scared she might pass out.

"Mister Finnegan, I've always respected you because you work here as the secretary. Please don't act shamelessly!" Finnegan slowly rolled up his sleeves, exposing his muscular arms. He was almost as tall as

a door. Nobody dared mess with him, so he could make people listen to him as soon as he arrived in the village.

"I don't get it. Can you say that again?" Finnegan seemed really angry.

The other men with him were skinny and short. When they saw Finnegan getting ready to argue, they let out a sigh. They didn't want to fight.

"Fine, you can take two. But the woman on the far right is mine." Finnegan didn't say anything back.

"But... Mister Finnegan, these two women are quite expensive. Are you sure you can afford it?" Although Reina respected him because he was the secretary, she had to ask about the money.

It was because... Finnegan didn't look rich. His clothes were simple and faded from washing too many times. His house was also very plain.

But then, he pulled out a card from his pocket and gave it to Reina. "I have 150 thousand here. Is that enough?" "That's a lot!" Reina was very happy and couldn't stop her heart from racing. Mister Finnegan, you're so generous. For that amount, I'll give you the third woman for free not just two!" For her, it was all about the money. It didn't matter who took the women.

Finnegan raised his brow. "In that case, I'll take all three women." Reina kissed the card. "Sure, they're all yours." The other men refused to accept it. "Miss Reina, you said he could only have two. The other one was supposed to be ours!" Suddenly, Reina changed her demeanor. She said harshly, "Yes, I did say that. But money talks. If you have 150 thousand dollars like Mister Finnegan, you can have all three women." The men didn't know what to say. 150 thousand dollars? They couldn't even afford 27 thousand.

They were just farmers. They et couldn't pay so much. They'd have to sell everything they owned to afford a wife like that, and then they'd have nothing left. Content. belongs to englishSo, they looked at each other and left the room, disappointed.

Reina put the card away and walked over to Finnegan. "Mister Finnegan, should I send these three women to your place?"

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"No, just untie them. I'll take them home," Finnegan said, then glanced at the woman on the far side who had passed out. He frowned, changing his mind, "Actually, forget that. Helpsend that woman hfirst." Reina responded with a bright smile, "Okay, I'll do what you say." Then, like a scene from a dream, someone untied Esther and the woman next to her, setting them free.

"Thank you," Esther muttered.

The woman beside her, however, just stood up quietly without saying a word. She moved her wrists slightly, then stopped, her calm demeanor unwavering.

Esther took a moment to really look at her. She had short hair and an effortlessly charming presence. There was something familiar about her, but Esther couldn't quite place it.

"Alright, follow me," Finnegan said shortly, without showing any reaction to Esther's thanks.

He led the way, showing them his back as they followed him to his place in silence.

Finnegan's house was noticeably cleaner and brighter than the others in the village, likely a perk of his role as the village secretary. Although Esther had never been in such a hbefore, it was clear that Finnegan was a no-nonsense kind of person.

Inside, the house was modest with a few rooms. Finnegan turned to them, his gaze icy. "What are your names?" Esther, more inclined to follow rules, introduced herself first, "I'm Esther Sanders." The woman next to her added, "I'm Amelia ian " Her confidence contrasted with Esther's nervousness. Finnegan pointed to two rooms. "You can choose any of these. You'll be staying here for now." Esther was touched by his unexpected kindness. Hesitantly, she asked, "And your nis...?" "That's not your concern," Finnegan replied coldly, leaving Esther puzzled and a bit sad. His response seemed filled with surprise, coldness and perhaps disdain. Content belongs to ŚwWith his duties as the secretary calling him away, Finnegan left them to settle in. Esther and Amelia were left in the house, along with the woman who was still unconscious. Noticing Esther's lingering gaze on Finnegan, Amelia teased, "Don't tellyou've fallen for him?" Esther shook his head. "No, I just want to remember his nand thank him properly once I leave." Amelia looked surprised. "Eh? Do you think you can leave?" Esther felt an unexplainable optimism, feeling she might leave very quickly.

Chapter 1159

It seemed Esther found a sense of security in the company of the seemingly distant yet kind-hearted secretary.

"I guess we could if we really put our effort into it," she replied.

Amelia couldn't help but laugh at Esther's naive statement. "Alright, Miss Esther, my comrade. Keep working hard." "Why aren't you scared? The girl next to you was shaking like a leaf." Esther couldn't hide her curiosity.

Amelia gave Esther a once-over and smiled. "You could say the sfor yourself." Esther was expecting that question. So, she showed her palm, marked with her nails.

Amelia looked at Esther admiringly. "You were so nervous but didn't faint. That's pretty amazing." Esther heaved a long sigh and sat on a wooden stool.

Amelia stared at Esther for a while, then screamed, "I got it. You're Esther!" Esther, puzzled, looked up. "Didn't I tell you my nearlier?" "No, I just remembered. You're famous, right?" Esther nodded. Being famous didn't matter much here. No one in the secluded mountain village knew her.

But Amelia seemed even more excited. "Fantastic! I have an even better idea now. We're going to make it out of here!" Esther remained nonchalant to Amelia's sudden burst of enthusiasm. But then she sensed something amiss. "How do you figure we'll get out?" Amelia looked awkward and hesitant. "Well, because..." Esther smiled at Amelia knowingly. "I know. You're a cop." Amelia was caught off guard. "How could you tell? I thought I hid it well." Esther shook her head. "You weren't very discreet." That made Amelia feel defeated. "What do you mean?" "You were too calm, which was weird. But we could say you're just brave. Then, when Mister Finnegan chose you, you weren't surprised. Most women would be thrilled to be selected. "When we got here, you said I was your comrade. That's something a police officer might say. It didn't make sense towho else would say that.

"Finally... you said we were going to be saved. That means you must have a team ready to help." After piecing everything together, et Esther felt smarter, but she didn't let it get to her head. Instead, she looked conflicted. "So... what brings you here?" Content belongs to ŚwIt was clear Amelia had infiltrated the place.

Amelia looked around, then closed the door and windows. "Alright, I'll be honest with you. I'm an undercover cop from the criminal investigations unit. I'm here to bust this place." Esther nodded in understanding. "So, Finnegan picked you because you're a cop!"

Chapter 1160

Esther's loud voice made Amelia panic.

"Shush!" Esther realized too late that they were in the village, where people might overhear their conversation.

"So, what's your plan?" Esther felt better knowing Finnegan was on her side, working as a spy with her.

"I can't share it right now. It complicates my job since you figured out I'm a police officer," Amelia explained, cautious even though she trusted Esther's innocence not to spoil her plans.

Esther nodded, understanding, and dropped the subject.

After a while, Finnegan cin, puzzled by their knowing smiles.

"Mister Finnegan, she found out I'm an undercover cop." Finnegan wasn't surprised. "She's always been smart. It's no surprise she guessed." Esther was worried by his comment. "What do you mean? Do you know me?" Finnegan glanced at Amelia, signaling her to leave, then turned back to Esther. "Don't you remember me?" He closely looked at Esther's face, searching for hints in her expression. However, she only seemed confused. This made him feel a bit disappointed.

"Have we met before? If you tellyour name, maybe it'll ring a bell," Esther said, giving an awkward smile. "It's been so long, I can't really place you." "Did I know you previously? Why don't you tellyour name? Maybe I can recall who you are." Esther cracked an awkward smile. "It's too long ago. I really can't remember who you are." Finnegan's face lightened up a bit. "I'm Finnegan Fox." Finnegan...

Suddenly, Esther's memories flooded back.

Back in middle school, there was this boy everyone thought was so cool and smart, named Finnegan. He wasn't as sharply handsthen, still growing into his looks, but he was definitely good-looking.

They didn't really talk much back in those days, so Esther had almost forgotten him. She never would've guessed he'd turn out to be so charming.

"Oh! So it's you. I wouldn't have guessed you'd be a secretary here." Finnegan gave her a cold look. "And I didn't see you becoming a famous star." Esther raised her chin proudly. "Well, why not? I've always had a knack for it." That pride reminded Finnegan of the young Esther he remembered. He chuckled and asked, "How did you end up getting kidnapped?" Fortunately, Esther bumped into him. If it were someone else, it could have been much worse.

"I'm not sure myself. I was at the lake with my friend and boyfriend, went to the restroom, and then, boom, everything went black." Finnegan's mood seemed to drop. "Oh, you have a boyfriend?" "Yeah, we've been dating for a good while," Esther replied, not noticing the change in Finnegan's expression. "Anyway, what's the plan? I tried asking Amelia, but she said you'd fillin."