

## **YOUR GUISE 171**

### Chapter 171

Stupefied, Simon didn't anticipate such a request from Pearl.

"Is she... asleep?" His question was rather shocking.

Knowing that Simon was a humorous man, Pearl didn't say much but rolled her eyes. "She's in a vegetative state. Help me save her."

"Why are you asking for my help for such a simple illness? You can do it on your own, Pearl."

But Pearl replied absent-mindedly, "I never learned how to do it."

"What? I was so serious when I taught you. Ugh, you make me so sad..." Simon pretended to be crying, but it was rather puzzling and helpless for an old man like him to cry.

"Okay, stop crying. I'll book you a flight an hour later. You'll arrive in another four or five hours. Hurry up, or else..." Pearl let out a chuckle. "I'll never play chess for you again."

Her threat effectively eliminated Simon's objections. He promptly stopped his dramatics and agreed,

"Fine, I'll go and save her... Oh, how you torture an old man like me..."

Although Simon grumbled, he had no choice but to comply. He resigned himself to the situation and

hung up to pack his belongings.

Staring at the doctor nearby, Pearl raised her brows and asked, “Do you believe me now? If not, he’ll come and prove it himself later.”

The doctor had harbored doubts about Pearl’s confidence but was now convinced after witnessing the elderly man in the video call. All that was left in him was guilt.

“No, it’s okay... I’m busy. I’ll go now...” Feeling awkward, the doctor didn’t want to stay because he knew that he would be humiliated due to his inadequacy.

Although he had hoped to learn Simon’s extraordinary medical skills, his dignity and pride compelled him to leave.

“Alright, bye.” Pearl then glanced at Richard after the doctor had left. “Richard, that old man will come later, and your mother will be okay.”

Richard nodded, comforted by her words.

Simon came very fast and arrived four hours later, dragging a large piece of luggage to the hospital.

“Where is she, Pea?”

When Pearl saw Simon, she frowned. “Why are you wearing those ugly clothes again?”

Simon looked hurt as he pouted. “No, they’re not ugly. A local old lady said they made me look energetic. It looks like our tastes are different.”

“Fine, put your things down and examine the patient’s condition first.”

Pearl stepped aside and let Simon go to Susan.

Simon’s expression turned serious the moment he started his examination. He leaned over and carefully assessed Susan’s b\*dy, inspecting her neck, hands, and wrists. All traces of his usual smiles had disappeared.

“What do you think?” Contents belong to NovelDrama.Org

“It’s alright. It’s easy to cure her, but it’ll take some time.”

Speechless, Pearl asked, “Why did you frown then?”

“I’m just sad because I’ll have to stay here for a few days.” Simon’s mood soured. “I’d rather be playing chess. Ugh, I really don’t want to be here. This place reeks of disinfectant.”

His words made Pearl’s l\*ps twitch, but she held back her amusement and asked, “Are you going to treat her or not?”

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“Yes, of course. Alright, both of you, please step out. I’ll administer some injections and treatments to this lady.” Simon pushed both Richard and Pearl out of the room and closed the door.

Standing outside, Richard looked at Pearl with an unfathomable expression.

Pearl noticed his concern and reassured him, “Don’t worry. Despite Simon’s attitude, he’s dedicated to his work He’ll save

Missus Susan

Richard nodded but seemed to disregard her words as he inquired instead, “Are you planning to return to work at the company?”

“Going back to the company...”

Awkwardness filled Pearl when she recalled that she hadn’t informed Richard in person about her abrupt departure from the company the other day.

“Do I... have to go back?”

Richard replied gloomily, “I’ve been keeping the director’s position in the design department for you.”

His sincerity made Pearl nod firmly. “Okay, I’ll go back to work there.”

“I think Mister Simon needs some time to save my mom. I’ll help take your things back to the company now.”

Shocked, Pearl asked, “Do I have to go back today?”

“Yes, I hope you can resume your duties at Waldorf Enterprises today.” Following that, Richard Contents belong to NovelDrama.Org

furrowed his brow, recalling the events of that morning. “I’d also prefer if you came back and lived with us tonight, rather than continuing to stay in that place.”

At a glance, Richard could tell that Raymond had some ulterior motives toward Pearl, and it was best if

Pearl stayed far away from Raymond.

Yet, apprehension gripped Pearl as she recollected what had happened at the Waldorf Residence. “But I...”

“No more ‘buts’ Come home with me.” Richard felt very uncomfortable at the thought of Pearl being close to Raymond.

His jealousy made Pearl think of Raymond. “What’s bothering you? Are you still worried about

Raymond?”

“I’m glad you know that.” Richard gave Pearl a cold look.

Snickering inwardly, Pearl forced herself to nod. “Okay, let’s go back now. Don’t worry about Missus

Susan because my

mentor can heal her alone.”

After a brief discussion, they returned to Waldorf Enterprises.

Sean had been managing Waldorf Enterprises these days because Richard rarely went to the

company. He had been performing commendably, seeking to prove himself.

“Pearl?” Sean was alarmed when he saw her. “Why did you bring Pearl here? Didn’t she leave?”

Although Dustan didn’t hold Sean in high regard, Susan treated all her sons equally. Of course, Sean

would have some prejudice against Pearl after Susan’s sudden accident.

“Pearl came back to work here,” Richard stated plainly without any explanation.

“Richard, have you forgotten what Pearl did the other day? That’s our mom! She’s in this condition, and

we don’t even know when she’ll wake up. And now you’re getting along so well with Pearl. How could

you do this when Mom was so kind to you?”

Sean lost control of himself and said angrily, "Richard, I let you take care of Mom because you wanted to, while I managed the company by myself. Why are you doing this?"

Richard didn't expect such words from Sean, as the latter had always been carefree. For a moment, he was rendered speechless.

Suddenly, Pearl stepped forward and stated calmly, "I didn't harm her."

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"You didn't?" Sean chuckled. "Who else could it be then?"

"Abby."

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Hearing that, Sean laughed sarcastically. "Abby? My mom practically raised her. How could it be her?"

"Whatever. You'll know when I find the proof." Pearl didn't intend to argue further with Sean, knowing that tarnishing Abby's image would not be easy.

"So, what do you want then? Are you trying to find evidence to prove your innocence?"

Richard cleared his throat, intervening to quell the impending argument. "Alright, that's enough. It's not Pearl's fault."

Sean, filled with disbelief at Richard's defense of Pearl, struggled to control his emotions. "Fine, I'll see how she'll find her so-called evidence since you believe her."

With that, Sean snorted and left.

When Richard caught sight of Pearl's sadness, he tried to comfort her. "Don't take Sean's words to heart. That's just how he is. He tends to say unpleasant things."

"Don't worry, I'm fine. I'll go to the design department now."

After bidding Richard goodbye, Pearl returned to the design department alone.

When the members of the design department saw her, they were filled with joy at first, but that enthusiasm soon gave way to an uncomfortable silence.

Baffled by their peculiar behavior, Pearl turned to a close colleague and asked, "What's going on? Why does everyone seem awkward around me?"

Her colleague looked around and lowered her voice, "You see, Miss Pearl, when you left, Mister Sean had Miss Abby take over your position since Mister Richard wasn't coming to the company lately."



“So, Abby is now the director of the design department?” Pearl couldn’t help but feel frustrated upon hearing that Abby had replaced her again. “Alright, I understand ”

Pearl entered her office and found Abby seated at her former desk, diligently at work.

Abby was rubbing her shoulders while keeping her head down. When she noticed someone standing nearby, she looked up.

Upon seeing Pearl, she smiled. “Hey, isn’t it Pearl? Why are you suddenly back to work?”

“Yeah, I returned to see who eagerly took my place after I left.”

Hearing that, Abby kept her head down as if she was being scolded. “No, it wasn’t my choice. Sean asked me to take over your position because he felt that it couldn’t remain vacant. If you’re unhappy about it, I can talk to Sean and ask him to return the position to you.

”

Pearl chuckled. “No need, it’s unnecessary. I don’t have the habit of snatching things back from others.”

“Pearl, I...”

A male colleague nearby, seeing Abby on the verge of tears, felt compelled to protect her and rebuked

Pearl, "Why can't Abby take this position? Are you the only capable one, Pearl? Besides, you left first.

Abby came later to fill your role. She didn't steal it from you. Why do you belittle her like this?"

Pearl flashed him a smile and distracted him. "Have you ever heard of the story of the blind men and

an elephant?" Contents belong to NovelDrama.Org

For a moment, the man didn't understand her and wondered what it was.

Abby felt elated when the man defended her, but her joy quickly turned to anger when she noticed the

man being captivated by Pearl. She couldn't fathom why all the men seemed to fall under Pearl's spell,

and she longed to disfigure Pearl so she couldn't enchant anyone else.

"Alright, thank you for your concern, sir. I know that Pearl is just having a hard time accepting it, but it's

fine." Abby gently nudged the man's arm, feigning shyness

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"If Richard finds out that you're so close with another man..." Pearl couldn't help but be amused by

Abby's pretentious and catty behavior.

Pearl's words filled Abby with a lingering fear. Subconsciously, Abby forcefully pushed the male

colleague aside.

“Abby, why...” Suddenly, the man felt like he was being a k\*ss-\*ss, and he wasn’t pleased to be disliked even after defending Abby. Contents belong to NovelDrama.Org

“I didn’t mean it that way, Mister...” Abby started to explain herself, but the man didn’t want to hear it and left in a huff.

“Okay, let’s stop here. Richard might overhear if you continue. Oh, by the way, I actually came back to the office with him today.”

Suddenly, Pearl’s eyes lit up as she waved at someone behind Abby. “Richard.”

Abby sneered. “Quit lying. I know he’s in his office, reviewing contracts, and he won’t be here.”

“No, I’m here.” A familiar voice sounded behind Abby, causing her to break out in a cold sweat.

She turned around, visibly flustered when she saw Richard’s expressionless face. “Rick, I don’t think you heard what I just Said...”

Calmly, Richard said, “I heard everything.”

“No, that’s not what I meant. The man helped me, so I...” Abby attempted to explain herself, but

Richard appeared disinterested.

He walked over to Pearl and, with his head lowered, asked, "Sean informed me that he appointed Abby as the director of the design department, is that true?"

His tone was so intimate that it filled Abby with envy, as if he were whispering sweet nothings to a lover.

"Yeah, but it's okay. I don't need this job." Pearl seemed indifferent, as the role of a design director didn't hold much interest for her.

Moreover, she had deliberately contradicted Abby earlier due to her own emotions. After all, Abby had gone to great lengths to irk Pearl, and Pearl was determined to show her displeasure.

"It's not the same." After a brief pause, Richard's tone softened. "Would you like to be my personal secretary instead? Your salary will double, and it's not tiring at all."

"Huh?" Pearl hesitated instinctively. "I'm not used to that because I've never been anyone's secretary."

Reluctance crept in as she didn't want to work tirelessly for him.

Richard smiled, sensing her reservations. "I won't bully you. I just want to offer you an easier job."

He felt that having her as his secretary would be pleasant, especially since she couldn't become the design director. Additionally, it would bring her closer to him.

"No, I don't need that."

Meanwhile, Abby stood nearby with an exaggerated gaping expression. She couldn't understand why

Richard was speaking to Pearl so gently and even offering her the role of his secretary.

In the past, Abby had begged Richard for a long time to become his secretary, but he had remained unmoved. Now, he wanted to make Pearl his secretary instead.

"What's going on between you and Pearl, Rick?"

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Placing his hand on Pearl's shoulders, Richard asked nonchalantly, "What do you think?"

"You can't do this. Aunt Susan wishes you to marry me, not Pearl. What will she think if you do this?"

She's still in a coma at the hospital. How could you be with the person who pushed her down the

stairs?" Abby's voice turned sharp as she refused to accept the situation. Contents belong to NovelDrama.Org

"I've told you a long time ago that I'm not interested in you. Don't attempt to manipulate me by

mentioning my mother or trying to push all the blame to Pearl.” Taking a step forward, Richard sounded impatient. “Don’t you think it could have been you who pushed her, Abby?”

But Abby continued with her act. “Do you really think I could do something like that? I would never harm Aunt Susan, Rick. She’s been so kind to me. How could I-

“Just stop. Don’t ruin my last good impression of you.” After that, Richard pulled Pearl to his office, leaving Abby behind with her fear and anger.

Pearl leaned against the office table with curiosity. “Why did you suddenly speak up for me today, Richard? Haven’t you always believed it was my fault?”

“I know you didn’t push my mom down the stairs.”

“Why the sudden change of heart?”

Richard looked out the window at the traffic outside and said, “The other day at the hospital, you were so eager to prove it wasn’t your fault. You took care of my mom and even asked Mister Simon to come all the way from abroad. If you were the one who pushed my mom down the stairs, I don’t think you would have acted that way.”

He added, “Plus, most importantly, I trust you. My long-standing trust in you won’t be swayed by others’

one-sided accusations, and my heart will always be on your side.”

Warmth overwhelmed Pearl. She didn’t expect that Richard would take her side without any conditions.

“What are you thinking, Richard? Do you really want me to be your secretary?”

Richard looked at her and asked, “Why not? Isn’t being my secretary a good job?”

“But I’ve never been a secretary before. Why are you so sure everyone wants to get close to you like Abby does?” Pearl rolled her eyes, clearly annoyed.

“Abby won’t remain the design director for long.” Richard kept his head down, his frustration hidden.

“Once I find evidence of her harming my mom, she’ll pay for it.”

Pearl nodded in understanding “Okay, I’ll bite the bullet and be your secretary for a few days.”

“Good. Start by making me a cup of coffee, no sugar.” With that, Richard settled into his office chair and started reading contracts.

“So fast, huh?” Cursing, Pearl went out to the coffee machine with Richard’s cup.

However, as Pearl left his office to fetch the coffee, she overheard Sean's gossip.

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"Did you guys hear? Our vice president signed a contract with Lawson Enterprises, but it looks like this contract is going to cost the company a lot of money!"

"Really?"

"Yeah, I heard it from the vice president himself the other day. He told me it was an accident. He got drunk at a party and was forced to sign it. But he hasn't informed the president about it yet. Maybe he's afraid of getting scolded."

"But isn't Lawson Enterprises our enemy? Why would he so readily sign a contract with them?"

"No, it wasn't easy. He put in a lot of effort to secure the contract. Maybe our president is so impressive that Mister Sean wanted to prove himself by making a big deal with a major group like Lawson Enterprises. Surprisingly, Lawson Enterprises tricked him like this..."

"Alright, that's enough. Get back to work quickly. Let's not let him overhear us."

The group dispersed, leaving Pearl brewing coffee.

When she looked up, she saw Sean, who was also preparing coffee nearby. It seemed that Sean had



heard their conversation, and he was as white as a sheet.

Pearl could empathize with his feelings. He had worked hard to prove himself, but he was now being framed due to his naivety. Accepting such a situation would be difficult, especially when others were gossiping about him behind his back

“Sean,” Pearl began, but Sean interrupted her rudely before she could say anything else.

“Do you want to laugh at me too?”

For a moment, Pearl was puzzled by his question and asked with confusion, “Why would I laugh at you?”

“Didn’t you hear what they were saying over there?” Sean sneered. “Why are you pretending?”

“No, I just wanted to ask about the contract you signed with Lawson Enterprises. How did they manage to swindle tens of millions out of the company?”

At the mention of that, Sean turned beet red.

“I only signed a land contract with them, but they gave me subpar land. That’s why the company suffered losses... I just can’t believe that the piece of land turned out to be substandard. I distinctly remember checking the inspection report, and there was no indication of any issues. How did this

happen?" Sean couldn't comprehend why this situation had happened unexpectedly.

"You know that Lawson Enterprises has always been our enemy. Collaborating with such shrewd old men is really risky. Plus, Richard wasn't around--"

"Oh, Richard. You're talking about Richard again. Don't tell me this world can't work without him. Ever since we were young, everyone has used him to overshadow me. We're both Waldorfs, but is he really that good? Am I really that bad?"

Richard had forever been the pride of the Waldorfs. Even when he made mistakes, people regarded them as mere slip-ups and never questioned his competence. However, the same leniency didn't apply to Sean. Contents belong to NovelDrama.Org

"No one used Richard to diminish you, but you've been using him as a benchmark for yourself. Or maybe he's influenced you too much." Pearl sighed. "I understand that Richard is indeed more accomplished, but he's not perfect. He has his own flaws. You don't need to put so much pressure on yourself, Sean. It's already commendable as long as you give it your all"

Stunned, Sean realized it was the first time someone said that kind of thing to him.

“So, don’t look down on yourself. Now, can you tell me what happened?”

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but I

“I received a sudden call from the president of Lawson Enterprises that day. He said they wanted to

collaborate with us, initially declined because I knew about our longstanding rivalry with them.

However, Mister Chet persisted and made several offers, eventually pressuring me into agreeing.

“After that, I personally inspected the land they were offering. Mister Chet explained that they were

short on time to deal with the land and decided to transfer it to us due to our company’s relatively

strong financial position. I never expected the land to turn out like this. I couldn’t have imagined he

would deceive me in this manner...” Sean expressed his regret.

“Alright, I have a general idea now.” Pearl rubbed the place between her brows. She couldn’t help but

feel that Sean lacked sensitivity. “I’ll get in touch with them in a few days and try to return the land to

them.”

Pearl’s words shocked Sean. At that moment, he couldn’t help but feel that he didn’t possess the same

courage and determination as Pearl, despite being the vice president of Waldorf Enterprises. Guilt

washed over him.

“Okay, we’ll see how it goes.”

Suddenly, Sean recalled something and asked in a daze, “Pearl, my mom...” Contents belong to NovelDrama.Org

“She’ll recover soon. I’ll inform you when she wakes up.” Pearl realized that she had been here to

make coffee for Richard. Checking the time, she realized she had taken too long.

Immediately, she rushed back to Richard’s office.

“What happened? Why did it take you half an hour to make a cup of coffee?” Richard frowned at Pearl.

Awkwardly, Pearl cleared her throat. “Oh, I got a little distracted.”

“By the way, I want to discuss something with you.” Richard picked up a report on the desk and placed

it in front of Pearl. “I just learned that Sean signed a contract with Lawson Enterprises during my

absence and lost us 65 million dollars.”

“Maybe he’s just not very perceptive. You just need to teach him a little bit.”

It was beyond Richard’s imagination that Pearl would throw in some nice words for Sean, and it made

him jealous. “Why? You don’t want me to scold him?”

“He’s your brother, not mine. Feel free to scold him if you want, it’s not my business.” Shrugging, Pearl wasn’t willing to meddle in their affairs.

“The main issue now is how to recover that 65 million dollars. It’s actually Lawson Enterprises’ fault, so we can’t let them off the hook easily.”

Leaning forward, Pearl asked, “What’s your plan?”

“I’ve got a plan, but I need your help.”

Instinctively, Pearl covered her chest. “Don’t tell me you want me to seduce that old guy?”

“Of course not,” Richard said, looking shocked. “Why would you think that?”

With a sly smile, Pearl touched her nose. “Just a thought.”

“I want you to ask Mister Chet out, and we’ll use an attractive person as bait. Yes, Mister Chet is ruthless, but he also has some other weaknesses.” Nonchalantly twirling a pen in his hand, Richard continued, “Of course, I’ll find someone else to be the attractive person.”

“Why do I have to be the one to ask him out?”

Paused, Richard asked, “Because I want him to think that you’re the one he’s meeting.”

“When should I do that?”

Shaking his head, Richard replied, “No rush. Let’s wait for my mom to wake up first.”

Just then, Simon called Pearl. Hearing the commotion and shouting on the other end of the call, she

frowned. “What’s going

on?”

It sounded like there was a fight or argument happening in the background.

“What’s happening over there?”

Simon seemed to have realized that he had dialed Pearl’s number and immediately replied, “A couple

of men suddenly barged

in and tried to take this woman away...”

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Pearl didn’t catch what Simon said next as she urgently informed Richard about the crisis. Together,

they rushed to the hospital.

When Pearl entered the ward and saw the mess, she called out, “Where are you, Simon?”

“Over here!”

Suddenly, Simon crawled out from under the bed. "I'm here."

The floor was scattered with several men, visibly trembling. One of them attempted to rise but struggled to do so.

"Who are they?"

"I have no idea. They tried to attack me, but thankfully, I know some martial arts, or I'd be in trouble."

Terribly frightened, Simon patted his chest.

"You know martial arts?" Pearl was surprised, considering Simon's typical activities involved wine and chess, leaving little time for martial arts training.

"I gave them some injections. It might take them half an hour to recover."

"But why did you hide under the bed?" Pearl assumed Simon had sought refuge there to avoid danger.

"I was worried that if someone walked in and found me alone, they might think I was the attacker. I'd be long gone if they called the police." Covering his eyes, Simon sobbed while sneakily glancing at Pearl, who seemed indifferent to his tears.

Relief washed over Richard when he noticed that Susan was safe in her bed. "Thank you for your

assistance, Mister Simon. If it weren't for you, my mom might have been in danger."

Realizing that Pearl wasn't alone with him, Simon ceased his tears and smiled awkwardly while rubbing

his head. "Well, I enjoy helping people, and since you're Pearl's friend, her friend is my friend."

"How's my mom doing, Mister Simon?"

Simon nodded with satisfaction when Susan was mentioned. "Your mom is stable, but she hasn't

regained consciousness yet. She should wake up within twelve hours."

"Thank you, Mister Simon."

"You can go now since you've treated her." Pearl smiled. "I've already booked your flight, and you can

leave tonight."

Simon's smile faltered. "What do you mean?"

"Let me repeat myself. You can go back tonight. I'm sure Leo from downstairs misses you very much

since you've been away for eight hours." Pearl maintained her composure and flashed Simon a bright

smile.

"You're so heartless, asking me to leave after using me." Simon, wiping his tears, grabbed his luggage

and began to leave. Contents belong to NovelDrama.Org



“Oh, right.” Pearl stopped Simon as he walked away.

“What is it, Pea? Can’t bear to see me go, can you? I knew it. You care about me. That’s why you

suddenly realized your mistake

”

“My silver needles are getting a bit old. Just give me yours.” Pearl not only didn’t care about Simon, she

was even plotting against him.

That realization hit Simon hard. With a sob, he decided not to trust Pearl anymore.

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Ignoring Pearl’s words, Simon wiped away his tears and left.

“He’s like that sometimes. Don’t be scared, Richard.” Pearl turned to Richard with an awkward smile.

“It’s fine. He seems... pretty cute.”

Richard couldn’t bring himself to say anything negative about Simon, considering he had saved Susan.

However, Simon’s behavior was rather baffling...

“Alright, we’ll stay here tonight to wait for her to wake up. We can’t afford any more accidents since it’s

the last day.”

Richard nodded. "Okay."

Luckily, no one disturbed them that night.

The following morning, Richard felt a slight movement in his hand while he was still asleep. Being a light sleeper, he woke up instantly.

He felt the warmth in his hand and noticed Susan's fingers curling, moving slightly in his hand. She didn't open her eyes but continued to move her fingers rhythmically.

This movement also roused Pearl from her slumber. When she saw Susan's fingers moving, she was surprised. "She's going to wake up."

Susan's eyes fluttered abruptly, and then her eyes slowly opened. "I..."

Her throat was parched from not having a drink for several days, and she felt an intense thirst as if she might suffocate at any moment.

"Water..."

Pearl quickly poured a cup of water and helped Susan take a sip. "Madam, are you feeling better now?" Contents belong to NovelDrama.Org

Susan's jumbled memories seemed to resurface when she saw Pearl. She recalled the day when her dear Abby had suddenly shown a strange expression and tried to harm her. Now, she remembered that Abby had actually pushed her down the stairs.

"I... I'm okay." She couldn't forget the firm grip that had saved her when she was about to fall down the stairs. Surprisingly, the person who had wanted to rescue her had turned out to be Pearl.

"You're a good person... I've accused you wrongly..." When Susan made that statement, Pearl's innocence was proven.

"Mom, it was Pearl who saved you." Richard was filled with guilt, thinking about how he had defended Abby and taken her side.

"Ah... It was my fault, Rick I wrongly accused Pearl and treated her poorly. It was my mistake..." Susan held Pearl's hand and tears welled up in her eyes.

"It's alright, Madam. You need to rest and take good care of yourself. We can talk more when you're feeling better," Pearl consoled Susan gently, but just as she spoke, someone opened the door.

"Rick, I'm here to see Aunt Susan..." Abby entered with a basket of fruits but stopped short when she realized that Susan had regained consciousness.

Abby's expression changed dramatically. "Aunt Susan, you're... awake?"

"Yes, Abby. Why do you look like that? Is something wrong?" Susan regained her composure and asked Abby while smiling.

"No, of course not. It's a good thing that you're awake. I..." At that moment, Abby stammered, and she regretted coming there. She wondered why Susan had suddenly awakened, as Hugo had sworn that Susan would never wake up.

"Alright, don't worry. I know what you're afraid of." Calmly, Susan sipped some tea and inquired,

"Wasn't I kind enough to you, Abby?"

After all, she had been navigating the upper-class society for decades and hadn't imagined that she would be treated like this.

Now, she had lost all her positive impressions of Abby, and her familiarity with Abby had been replaced by vigilance.

"Aunt Susan, I.."

Pearl was amused by Abby's continuous trembling. "Just admit it, Abby. You'll just get tired."

Aggrieved, Abby kept her head down. "I really don't know what you're talking about, Pearl. I'm just here to see Aunt Susan. I'll leave if you don't want me here. There's no need to treat me this way."

Certainly, everyone understood the hidden meaning behind Abby's words. She was too ashamed to stay and wanted to sneak away.

"Don't rush off, Abby. Why would you want to frame Missus Susan? You told me she practically raised you. Aren't you grateful for her?"

Abby didn't expect Pearl to be so direct. She panicked when Pearl looked so serious. "No, I didn't do it.

It was you who pushed her down the stairs. It has nothing to do with me!"

She still tried her best to defend herself at that moment.

"You're still unwilling to admit your mistake? Don't regret it if you're not forgiven then." Pearl turned to Susan and smiled. "Tell us, Madam. What happened that day?"

"It was Abby who pushed me down the stairs!"

Wide-eyed, Abby demanded, "Do you have any evidence?"

"Evidence? We have an eyewitness right here. What more do you need?" Pearl narrowed her eyes, realizing that Abby was becoming unreasonable.

Sneering, Abby said, "Is everything you say the truth? I have a witness to prove my innocence too."

"Alright, go ahead and get one. If you really find your so-called evidence, I'll apologize to you and never step into Enswood again."

Pearl's harsh words pushed Abby into desperation. Thus, Abby had no choice but to brace herself and make a call.

Before long, Hugo walked in, clad in his white coat.

A fleeting, scheming glint passed through Hugo's eyes when he realized Susan had awakened, but he quickly put on a gentle smile. "Mom, you're awake."

When Susan saw Hugo, warmth filled her eyes. "I just woke up. Oh, by the way, why did you suddenly come over?"

"Abby called me and said you woke up. That's why I came to see you."

“Are you Abby’s so-called witness, Hugo?” Pearl, upon seeing Hugo, confirmed the conspiracy between him and Abby.

“Witness? What witness?” Confused, Hugo ignored Abby’s pleading look.

Abby immediately grabbed Hugo’s hand and said, “I asked you to come and vouch for my innocence, Hugo. You know I would never push Aunt Susan down the stairs, right?”

Being a germophobe, Hugo quickly withdrew his hand, overcome with disgust. “I didn’t see it myself, Abby, and I have no concrete evidence. How can I be your witness?”

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Hugo’s words were logical and impeccable.

Yes, he was right. After all, he had nothing to do with that incident. Abby asked him to come just to hide her panic and expected that he could bring her hope.

But Abby didn’t anticipate that Hugo would harm her instead, even though he had been helping her.

“What do you mean, Hugo? Didn’t you promise to always help me?”

Abby’s composure shattered, a stark contrast to the calm she felt moments ago when she thought

Hugo was on her side. Now, incredulity filled her as Hugo had refused to testify for her.

“I don’t think we’re that close. Plus, everyone knows that you like Richard, and we’re just acquaintances. Even if you claimed that we grew up together, we didn’t meet each other much. Why should I vouch for you?”

“No, you conspired with me to frame both Richard and Pearl. You can’t do this to me now, or else I’ll expose everything about you!”

Facing away from everyone, Hugo didn’t hide his fierceness as he glared at Abby. His voice, cool and steady, was enough to intimidate her. “Do you have any proof? You’ll pay for your schemes, Abby.”

Finally, with a push from his hand, Hugo nearly made Abby sl\*p and fall.

“Is there anything else you want to say?” Pearl’s laughter was unmistakable in the silence of the room.

“I...” Abby stammered faintly. No one heard her.

Out of the corner of her eye, she spotted a fruit knife on the table, and her l\*ps twisted into a sinister grin. In a swift move, seized the knife and held it against Susan’s throat.

She chose Susan because it was a little difficult to approach Richard and Pearl, given their alertness.

“Abby, what’s gotten into you?” Richard’s voice trembled, struggling to grasp Abby’s sudden breakdown.



she

“I’ve loved you for years, Richard. Why did you fall for Pearl as soon as I returned? You all sided with her against me, even trying to push me out. She’s deceived everyone, and now I’ve lost everything!

This is all your fault!” Abby’s voice echoed with a dangerous edge, her focus solely on her vengeance.

She wanted to kill Pearl and everyone in front of her.

Frowning, Richard made up his mind when he saw that Abby was about to slash Susan’s neck. He softened his tone and said, Abby.”

Hearing her name spoken so tenderly by Richard, Abby hesitated. “What did you say?” she whispered in shock.

“Abby, let’s get married.”

Abby couldn’t hold back her tears. “You’ve finally said it...”

While she was distracted, Hugo lunged and snatched her knife, giving her a kick. In the tussle, the blade sliced his palm.

Seeing the blood, Pearl quickly tore a strip from a bedsheet and wrapped it around Hugo’s wound,

securing it tightly.

‘Be more careful next time. Make sure that’s treated properly, or it could get infected,” Pearl advised  
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Hugo.

For a moment, Hugo wondered if she truly cared about him, and he looked at his hand in a trance.

When reality snapped him back, he called the security guards over.

Defeated, Abby slumped to the ground, tears clouding her vision.