YOUR GUISE 41



Gnashing her teeth, Pearl controlled the steering wheel as she unfastened her seatbelt. The twists and turns of the road made it difficult. She then stood up and leaped, falling into Richard's arms.

He grunted.

"You okay?" Pearl was anxious.

Richard shook his head and slowed the car.

When the gas ran out, Pearl's car stopped all of a sudden and flew into the air. It then smashed into the ground and broke into pieces.

When Richard and Pearl got back to the starting line, Mobius was a bundle of nerves. He had heard the glant explosion. He rashed over and asked, "What happened? I heard an explosion from the southwest. Did the car blow up?"

Richard helped Pearl out of the car and explained, "Pearl's car suddenly ran out of gas."

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He then instructed Mobius to get some people to handle the ruined car.

With her gaze lowered, Pearl pondered. She then said, "I think someone did it on purpose." Richard was of the same opinion. The cars here were inspected daily and would never have an oil leak age problem. Richard and Pearl went to the monitoring room to get yesterday's surveillance footage and found that it had been erased. Someone must be behind this." They were vexed as they failed to find the culprit. Richard suggested heading home to avoid more accidents. "Okay. Just let me use the ladies first." Pearl nodded and walked toward the washroom. Once she was inside, she called Wayne. "Help me investigate the surveillance footage at the door of Death Valley fro m the last two days and find anyone who looks suspicious." She then left with Richard and Mobius. When Pearl got home, she found people decorating the place with balloons. She learned that it would b e Mobius' eighteenth birthday the next day. After some thought, she went to the mall to get him a gift. Knowing that he

loved car racing, she decided to buy him a racing suit but failed to locate anything satisfactory after loo king around She asked the shop assistant for the rare and collectible racing suits. The shop assistant showed her th e most expensive racing suit after gaining the manager's permission. However, another person snatche d the suit before Pearl could touch it. "This is good. I'll take it." The shop assistant awkwardly explained, "But Miss Abby, this lady was the one who requested it..." Abby ignored the shop assistant and pulled a long face. "I told you I want this. Didn't you hear me?" "But" Abby scolded the shop assistant, "No more buts. This mall belongs to my family. Unless you want to get Her threat made the shop assistant glance at Pearl nervously. Pearl said indifferently, "I got here first. I'm sure you won't snatch my things, will you, Abby?" "So what if you came first? I always get what I want, Pearl." Abby sneered. She was certain to get this s

Richard

Pearl got closer and glanced at the suit, asking Abby condescendingly, "Do you really want this suit?" Laughing arrogantly, Abby looked at Pearl. "This belongs to my family. I can have it whenever I want." "I'll let you have it if you really want it." Pearl chuckled, but she was not about to let Abby off the hook Chapter 42 Abby attended Mobius' birthday party as the Waldorfs had invited her. After unwrapping Abby's gift, Mobius screamed in surprise, "This racing suit is so cool! I love it! Thank you, Abby!" Smiling, Abby said, "You're welcome. It wasn't very expensive either." She then threw Pearl a smug gla nce. Pearl's gift came in a much smaller box. "That seems like a very half-hearted gift, Pearl..." Abby appeared conflicted. After unwrapping the box, Mobius saw a car key inside. "I love this car! There's only one of these cars i n the world. It's priceless! You're so magical, Miss Pearl. Why do you seem to have everything?" Mobius was ecstatic. This gift was far more precious than all the other gifts combined. It made Abby fee

I that her gift was unpresentable.

"I knew Flores Firms is rich and powerful. You even looked down on such a gift, Abby" Pearl mocked. Abby glared at Pearl, then hung her head. Richard's gift was the last, and Mobius was very curious about it. There was a property contract placed in a square box. "I know you like Death Valley. You're now an adult, and starting today, the place belongs to you." Richard's gift filled others with surprise too. In comparison, the gifts that Sean, Hugo, and Hanzel boug ht were not very dazzling Dustan instructed someone to drive Abby home after the party ended, but she suggested after looking at the weather, "Can I get Rick to send me instead? It's a bit dark outside, and I'm scared." Richard tactfully turned her down. "I'm sorry but I can't. I have some work to handle." "Oh..." Abby smiled awkwardly. "Forget it then. I'll head home on my own." This filled Susan with displeasure. "Rick! Abby's asking you to send her home, so do it."

"No more buts. Are you trying to make me angry?" Susan clutched her chest and gasped for breath. " Y

"But Mom..." Richard stayed where he was.

ou'll give me a heart attack one day!"
Left with no choice, Richard agreed to send Abby home.
Sitting in the passenger seat, Abby lowered her gaze and said shyly, "Thank you for the ride, Rick."
"No problem. I consider it a duty." Richard kept his eyes on the road.
Stunned, Abby bit her I*p. "But Rick, you liked me very much when we were young. You always held my
Richard frowned. "I was being, and you're younger than me. Of course, I should take care of you."
"But 1" Abby suddenly turned to him, her eyes watery. "But I love you very much. I've been in love with
almost ten
years."
Surprised, Richard asked, "What?"
"You've had my heart since the first time we met. Have you never noticed? I thought you would marry m
it's my dream to marry you one day."
Her passionate confession failed to move Richard. "You should pick someone else, Abby." "No!" Chapter 43

"Abby, please understand it's impossible between us." Richard looked cold. "I think it's best if we cut co ntact if you insist on behaving this way." When they arrived at the Flores residence, he told her to get out and left without another word. A hatred burned within Abby as she watched him speed away. 'It must be because of that b*tch! Other wise, Rick wouldn't be so cold toward me. You will pay for this, Pearl!" It was one o'clock in the morning when Richard got home. Pearl coincidentally came downstairs for wat er. When she saw him rush into the house looking exhausted, she teased, "You're finally home, Richar d?" Richard asked in answer, "Why are you still up?" "I just came to get so some water. Did you think I was waiting for you to come home?" Her words vexed him. "Go to bed early. I want you to come with me to sign the contract tomorrow." He went to his bedroom without waiting for an answer. Richard and Pearl woke up early the next morning to head to the hotel as the business partner they we

re meeting was usually

punctual. Lawson Enterprises, their new business partner, specialized in jewelry, and they were only inf
erior to Cerubleu. Chet Lawson, the vice president of Lawson Enterprises, came to discuss the contract
with Richard and Pearl. He kept glancing at Pearl out of the corner of his eye while reading the contrac
t.

"The contract's good. Did you draft this, Miss Pearl?" Chet smiled suggestively while staring at Pearl.

Although she felt disgusted, Pearl nodded. "Yes, I did. Please tell me if there's anything you're dissatisfi

ed with. We can discuss it "

Chet placed his hand on Pearl's. "You seem really friendly, Miss Pearl. How about we have a meal toge

ther and discuss the project further?"

Richard angrily stared at Chet's on Pearl's. He then quietly pulled Pearl into his arms. "You can discuss

the project with me, Mister Chet. I understand Pearl's thoughts as she's my fiancee."

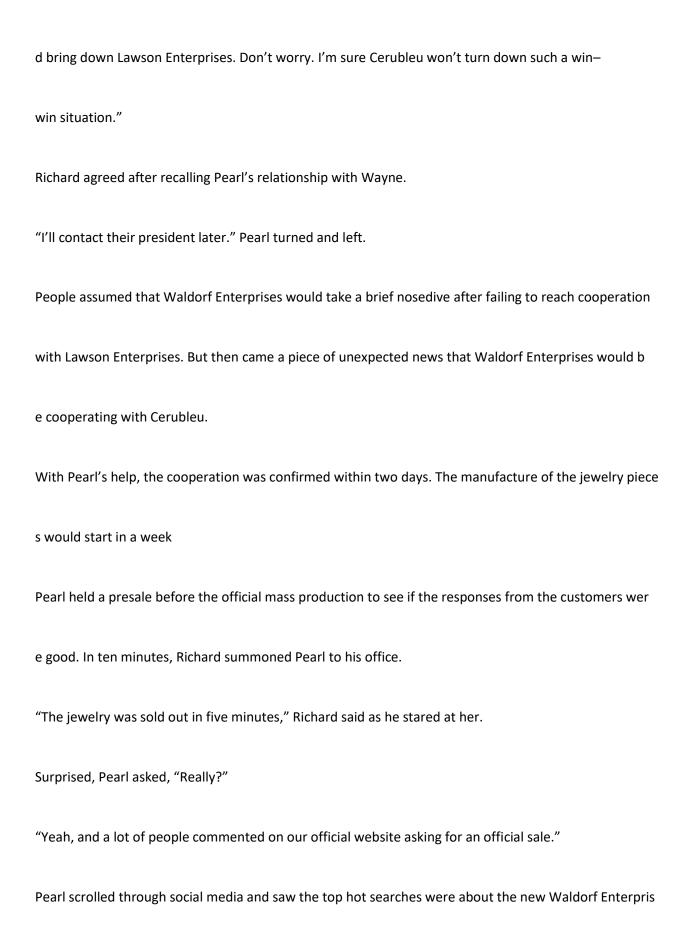
His remark made Pearl's eyes go wide with shock. When did she become his fiancee?

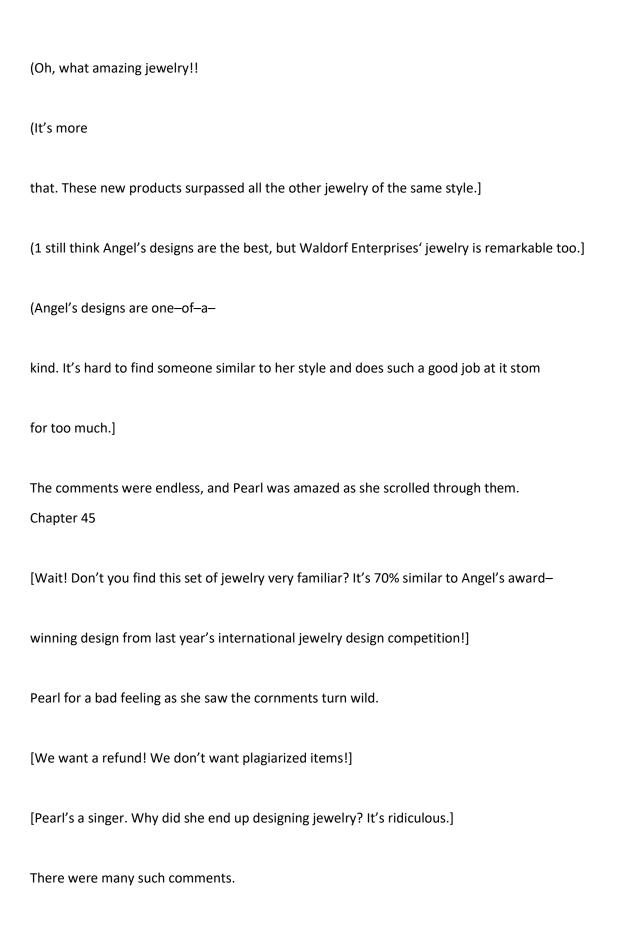
But she kept silent as she did not want the old pervert taking advantage of her to sign a contract.

Chet's face sank. "I didn't know you two were engaged."









The phone in Richard's office suddenly rang. He answered, then frowned. After
ending the call, he explained, "We suddenly got a mass cancellation."
Pearl remained calm. After a long while, she suggested, "Tell Sales to start selling First Sight."
Her confidence boosted Richard, and he called the sales department.
This was followed by another uproar on social media.
[What happened? It's okay if the new
products resemble Angel's designs, but this is plain plagiarism. It's outrageous.] [Waldorf Enterprises is
disgusting.]
[Drive that designer out! Don't let her ruin Waldorf Enterprises' reputation!]
Pearl was bombarded with endless criticism. Reading the comments, Richard frowned. Pearl smiled at
his worried look.
Trust me, mak
Waldorf Enterprises' first foray into the jewelry market a smashing success."
A jewelry sale was set to take place in the afternoon but it became a press conference because of the c

ommotion. Everyone was eager to know how Waldorf Enterprises would handle it. Raising their camera s, the reporters were eager to catch every detail. Pearl said into a microphone, "This jewelry design is a set-" Someone interrupted her. "We want to know why you plagiarized Angel's designs. Don't you have any i nspiration of your own?" Pearl looked at the camera and replied, "I didn't plagiarize anything. The female reporter did not believe Pearl. "There's a comparison chart on the Internet, First Love and F irst Sight resemble Angel's awardwinning designs. First Sight is clearly a plagiarized product. How are you going to explain this?" Pearl looked at the reporter's smug expression and raised her brows. "Maybe I am Angel." "Nonsense. Angel never appears in public, and she's studying abroad. How could you possibly be Ange Pearl was amused by the reporter's livid expression. "What if I can prove that I'm Angel?" Angel had never appeared in public, so how could the reporter know that Pearl was not Angel? The reporter scoffed. "You're going to prove it? How? I'

impossible that you're Angel."

Shaking her head, Pearl took out a gold pen from her pocket that was inlaid with a large diamond. Some

Someone took a closer look and found the official logo of the competition engraved on the pen. "She rea

Chapter 46

The woman looked scared. "L.."

Pearl smiled kindly. "You should check things first before giving such an accusation, Miss."

People were shocked because Angel, the famous jewelry designer, was actually Pearl from Waldorf En

terprises. Everyone was taking pictures. This piece of news was as shocking as Pearl's suspected plag

iarism.

Pearl changed the topic. "I made this jewelry set for couples. The men wear 'First Sight' and the wome

n wear 'First Love'. It's about love that grows with time, a love that lasts."

Consequently, the press conference ended successfully. After the event, they posted on their website t

hat the jewelry was all sold out that night.

People online were upset they didn't buy it.

[Oh no! Why did I even hesitate on buying it? This is Angel's design!]

[Yes, I want it too. Waldorf Enterprises has to start their official sale sooner. I need to buy it or my wife



But he was not completely honest. He really wanted to know more-

he was starting to like her now. Suddenly, the lights turned on at the stairs. Hugo was standing there, sm he caught them flirting with each other in the middle of the night. Richard quickly said, "I'm going to slee "You're such a busyb*dy, Hugo." She ignored his question. "My mom wants Rick to marry Abby. Liking him won't be easy." Pearl said confidently, "There's nothing I can't do if I want to." "I see." Hugo's smile turned into a grin. Chapter 47 Pearl turned around and looked at Hugo. His smile seemed different from when she first met him. In her room, she called Wayne. "Did you find the culprit?" "Yeah, the IP addresses of those who slandered you are in the Flores Residence. It's most probably Ab by's doing. Also, I found. a weird person in the surveillance footage of Death Valley. The last person he called was Abby." "So, it's Abby... Let's show everyone the truth online tomorrow. An eye for an eye..." Pearl said coldly. "Will do." Wayne immediately handled it.



"Who else would do this to me? I know you always hated me..." Susan stepped in, frowning. "Delete the online posts, Pearl. Clear this up!" She didn't want her future daughter-inlaw to have a bad name because it could also harm the Waldorfs' reputation. Pearl stared at Susan. "What if Abby really did those things? Susan was firm, "Abby is a good person. She's always been a good kid, so of course she would never d His statement earned him a cold glare from Pearl. "So, you think I just made things up?" Pearl thought Susan's denial was unfair, but it really hurt when Richard repeated Susan's words. She realized she was just an outsider, not accepted by the Waldorfs, including Richard. He had never a Since that was the case, she decided to reveal the true evidence Chapter 48 Pearl posted all the evidence on the Internet, and everyone was talking about it. In the end, Abby's deeds were confirmed, and her failed attempts to harm Pearl became the hottest top ic of the year. As the young lady of Flores Firms, this incident made the company's shares plummet rap

idly.

Abby first thought Pearl was just guessing about what she did, but Pearl had real proof. And so, her perfect image, which she had worked so hard to build, was now destroyed. Plus, she could end up in legal trouble too... Susan was very shocked and said, "Abby. I never knew you could do something like this." She never thought Abby could be so cruel, even though she'd known her since Abby was a baby. Pearl looked at Abby and smiled. "You tried to hurt me at Death Valley and spread rumors about me on the Internet. Why did you do all that, Abby?" Abby knew she could no longer clear her name. Crying, she explained, "I'm sorry. My friends told me to do these things to keep Rick for myself. I did them because I love him so much. I know I was wrong..." Pearl remained calm, inwardly amused. "So, because you love Richard, you thought it was okay to drug him and sleep with him?

Abby stopped crying and stared at Pearl—a sudden bad feeling hit her.

Richard's expression darkened. "You're the one who drugged me, Abby?"

For a moment, Abby was struck speechless. She realized that explaining herself would come off as me re excuses because the Waldorfs had already sided with Pearl after seeing the evidence. They would n ever listen to her now.

With her head down, Abby was filled with despair.

Pearl said, "This doesn't concern me, and please don't get on my back again." She was about to leave the house when Susan suddenly stopped her.

Pearl turned around. "What's wrong, Madam?"

Susan spoke up hesitantly, "Pearl, I know Abby did wrong. But she did it because she loves Rick too m uch. Let me say sorry on her behalf. Can you... please delete those posts online? I don't want Abby's r eputation to be ruined."

Susan had liked Abby for a long time, and Abby had always treated her with genuine kindness. She rea Pearl scoffed. "So, you're saying her mistakes are understandable, but I was forced to leave your house Was Pearl such a pushover?

Feeling awkward, Susan sighed and said slowly, "I'm begging you, please?"

However, Pearl glanced at Abby coldly. "I wouldn't have messed with her if she didn't mess with me. She

Pearl then left and ignored Susan's apology. Even though Susan was sorry, Pearl knew the Waldorfs would still help Abby. She felt cold when she sa Chapter 49 People no longer saw Abby as the kind girl she once was, and the Waldorfs were upset with her. Abby stayed away from Pearl, the Waldorf Residence, and the company for a while. Pearl thought Abb y was lying low and reflecting on her mistakes, maybe even trying to better herself. One day, as Pearl left work and headed to the underground parking lot, she felt something was off, Suddenly, a bunch of strong guys tried to grab her. Pearl fought back, hitting one with her bag and tried to escape. Although she was good at martial arts, she couldn't defeat so many people. But she was tripped when she almost reached the entrance. When she looked up, It was Abby who had done it. The other men went over and tied her up. Abby slowly lifted her head, looking cruel. "Oh, Pearl. I've been waiting here for days. Now I've got you.

She laughed out loud. "I'll never let you off the hook. I wouldn't have done this if you had

behaved yourself. But you pushed me into this mess. You know, I've been feeling so embarrassed latel
y, especially in front of the Waldorfs and Rick!"
Clenching her fists tightly, Abby sneered.
Pearl, on the other hand, stated calmly, "You only got what you deserved-"
Abby was so mad she slapped Pearl, cutting off her retort. The latter's face became red and swollen.
"Shut up! None of this would have happened if it wasn't for you! Rick used to be so nice to me, but he h
asn't even smiled at me since you arrived. Everything has changed since you came to the Waldorf Resi
dence. Weren't you living a good life in your village? Why did you come back? Tell me why!"
Abby's anger escalated when she saw Pearl's indifference. She grabbed Pearl's neck and
dug her nails into Pearl's skin.
"Why aren't you saying anything, Pearl? You think you're better than
me? I'm going to make you suffer for ruining my reputation!"
Pearl knew she needed to stay calm and not provoke Abby further. All she could do was endure Abby's

torment.

After venting her anger, Abby felt much better. She waved and instructed the men to take her away.
They blindfolded Pearl and threw her into a van.
After a rough one or two-hour ride, they reached a remote and desolate location.
Pearl's heart sank when she realized how carefully Abby had planned this, making it impossible for her t
One of the men grabbed Pearl's hair and dragged her into a run—
down house. Pearl winced as her shoulders hit the wooden bed inside.
Three men stood guard outside the house while the other four entered. Seeing Pearl in bed gave them w
is. This'll be fun!"
Another added, "I've never slept with someone this beautiful. Tsk Miss Abby is so nice to introduce us Chapter 50
The leader glared at them and said slowly, "Miss Abby said she needs to be alive. But she didn't say w
e couldn't have some fun. What a pretty babe"
Everyone burst into laughter.
Pearl never imagined Abby would go this far. She stared at the men coldly and chuckled. "Do you even
know who I am?"

One of them replied mockingly, "Yeah, you're our darling, and we'll give you a great time later.."

But another man, who seemed to know more, said, "You're Pearl Leighton, the Waldorfs' future bride. A nd a singer too.... Tsk."

Pearl's voice turned sharp. "And you think the Waldorfs won't come after you for messing with me?"

The man just shook his head and smiled helplessly. "They'll break off the engagement when your reput

ation is ruined. You're not family yet. Stop overthinking and just relax and enjoy-"

Pearl raised her brows and smiled, a hint of mischief in her eyes. "But do you know why I haven't marri

ed into the Waldorf family yet?"

Knowing that Pearl could not escape, he said curiously, "Tell me about it."

Pearl let out a deep sigh. "It's because I have AIDS. I didn't pass their health checks, that's why they're

keeping me at a distance. Since I'm dying, of course the Waldorfs don't want any of their sons to marry

me."

Looking down, Pearl kept a sorrowful expression, as if she was really suffering.

The man looked doubtful. "Really? AIDS?" What a bummer if they couldn't enjoy themselves with such

in GPS. Once pressed, Wayne would be alerted to her location. Given the remote location, she hoped

Wayne would realize she was in trouble and come to help.

Time dragged on as Pearl waited in silence. At night, one of the men came in and gave her a piece of b read,

Frowning, Pearl asked, "Can you untie me? I really need to use the restroom." She made a pained expr ession, pretending she had been holding it in for a while.

The man hesitated. "No, I can't let you run away."

Pearl widened her eyes. "But I'm just one

woman, and you're here watching. Plus, do you really want this room to smell? You don't want that, righ

t, handsome boy?"

She could tell the man wasn't the sharpest tool in the shed. When she added a compliment, calling him

"handsome," he seemed to melt a bit..

"Fine," he said, "but come right back. If you try to escape, the punishment will be worse."

Pearl flashed her best charming smile in response, bewitching him.

She had barely stepped out of the room when another man stopped her. It was the leader, and he was f

urious to see her untied. He demanded, "Who did this?" The man stepped forward with his tail between his legs. "It was me-" His boss slapped him. "B*stard! How could you believe everything she said? What if she runs away?" After that, Pearl was tied up more tightly, and someone else was keeping an eye on her. Pearl knew she couldn't escape by herself. She needed someone to rescue her. Meanwhile, Richard noticed Pearl wasn't home. Alarmed, he called Wayne, "It's quite late, and Pearl ha sn't returned home. Is she with you?" His tone was cold. Anxious, Wayne explained, "She sent me the address of an abandoned house in the south of the city. I think she's in trouble." Richard's gaze was cold when he heard that. "I'll go there now. You call the police. We'll meet up there." "Okay, I'll text you the full address." Richard drove fast. When he arrived, he saw the brightly lit abandoned house with two men guarding the Confirming she was alone in the roo

he opened the window and went in, landing softly beside Pearl.

"Richard?" Pearl exclaimed in a hushed tone. She wondered why he knew her location and came to her Richard didn't have time to explain. Besides, she was tied up very tightly, leaving him no choice but to at A few minutes later, he managed to free her, and she rushed to the window with Richard. However, just "She's escaping! Catch her!"

The men chased her relentlessly, and unexpectedly, Pearl sprained her leg.

Breaking out in a cold sweat, she frowned. "Go ahead, Richard, or they'll catch up to us.

But Richard ignored her and carried her. "Keep quiet if it hurts."

Pearl felt a surge of anxiety as the shouts behind her grew louder. "Go now. At least one of us escapes.

Richard looked down with a serious and gentle expression. "I'll never leave you behind, Pearl."