

## YOUR GUISE 511

### Chapter 511

was overcome with anxiety as she had placed high hopes on the success of the drama. He feared that it might be ruined.

"Calm down. I know what to do," Pearl reassured her with calm confidence.

"Really, Pearl? But it's a real mess now. We won't be able to clear our name unless we can prove the novelist didn't plagiarize," Esther expressed her concerns, wondering how this situation had come about.

"Okay, just calm down. We'll wait and see how it goes. It'll be more beneficial for us if it's more popular." Pearl knew that Jenny wanted to enjoy her misfortune and wondered if the latter could still do so later.

Pearl, that post has gained more than a hundred million likes and shares now. They're airing Brilliance Entertainment apart with scathing comments!" Clem, who had been monitoring the data closely, was visibly distressed as he observed the flood of criticism.

Despite the turmoil, Pearl wasn't worried. She typed away on her laptop, unfazed by the

rounding commotion.

Pearl, the server of our social account is down. Oh, gosh! They're really canceling Brilliance

entertainment!"

esides, Esther lost half of her fans, and Hanzel had it worse. He lost thirty million fans.

he fans had turned hostile, leaving harsh comments and criticisms.

\*cking drama and f\*cking people. Get out of the entertainment circle!]

top making dramas and movies! How disgusting!]

'm sure you can't explain it since you do nothing about it. What a coward!]

low could I be so blind to like such a bunch of people!]

he fans of the novel also joined the fray, vehemently defending their beloved novelist.

jo! Lucifer won The Novella Prize. Lucifer would never plagiarize!]

his novel is unique! I've never come across anything like it. Don't you dare accuse it of agiarism just

because there's a vaguely similar story!]

've been reading Lucifer's novels for years. I can tell it's not plagiarized. Challenge me face- -face, and

I'll tear you apart if you accuse it again!]

:ther was at her wit's end. "I've got a private account. Do you want me to argue with them? hey're crazy!" She felt that those fans were over the line even if they had accidentally picked plagiarized novel.

Calm down. I think it's time," Pearl said as she stretched and began typing a response. She en posted it on her social media account, where everyone was eagerly awaiting her planation.

Dear friends, I'm sure you're aware of the ongoing issue involving Brilliance Entertainment. low me to provide you with an explanation...]

A wave of commotion erupted as readers delved into her response.

To everyone's astonishment, Pearl revealed herself as Lucifer, the acclaimed winner of The Novella Prize and the author of the novel in question. Unexpectedly, the novelist, actress, and sponsor turned out to be the same person!

While some people had initially criticized Pearl, they held back when they realized they were targeting a renowned novelist. The issue now mainly revolved around the novel fans, rather than the entertainment industry's concerns about plagiarism.

Some haters persisted with their accusations.

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The article clearly laid out the publication dates of all the novels suspected of plagiarism, along with their website information. It was easy to verify the authenticity of the claims.

Finally then did everyone realize that the publication dates of those novels were later than Lucifer's novel. As a result, those who had been quick to criticize fell into an awkward silence, and the server was no longer down. Many people might have logged out to avoid the embarrassment.

Meanwhile, both Esther and Hanzel's fan bases had been growing rapidly. The numbers were rising—ten million, twenty million, fifty million... The increase in their fans surpassed the original numbers by three percent.

Esther's eyes lit up. "Amazing! No wonder you didn't say anything earlier, Pearl. You were making your ultimate move! You found their publication dates. They can't deny it now."

"Yeah, it's a simple task for a hacker. Jenny is really dumb."

Jenny suddenly sneezed while reading Pearl's complaints and preparing to revel in Pearl's misery. "What's going on? The heater is on. Why did I sneeze?"

le rubbed her nose and wondered why she felt a sudden chill. After waiting for a long time,

e logged onto her social media account to observe the chaos surrounding Pearl and illiance

Entertainment.

owever, she discovered that most of the negative comments had disappeared. Some people

d deleted their comments on their own, while Pearl had secretly removed the rest.

nny was baffled. "What happened?" An intense anger boiled within her as she interrogated

meone.

le person, noticing Jenny's fury, stammered, "Miss Jenny... You'll understand once you eck out Pearl's

social media account."

ice Jenny perused Pearl's social media account, she found Pearl's explanation to be flawless. le

accusations could no longer tarnish Pearl's reputation.

ill in disbelief, Jenny was jolted by another piece of news—a video. It featured a man and a oman

intimately involved in bed. The woman was blushing and reclining on the bed, while e man kept

thrusting. Their private parts were blurred out, including the man's face, but the oman's face was in

high definition.

ne video immediately garnered the attention of all netizens because the woman in the video. as Jenny,  
the top celebrity of Fame Entertainment.

ne scandalous video stirred up a frenzy of discussions and judgments.

nny was stunned upon seeing the video, and a piercing scream escaped her l\*ps. The sound hoed  
through the entire building of Fame Entertainment, where everyone could hear it.

enny is doomed. She looks so pure but turns out to be such a slut!]

fow disgusting! I'll never watch her movies again!]

[The Melody of the West, right? It's revolting! I'll never watch it again!]

The viewership of The Melody of the West plummeted by fifty percent after the video was exposed, and  
its ratings hit an all-time low. If this continued, it might be canceled shortly after its release.

"Pearl! It must be Pearl's doing again!" Jenny seethed with malice. She would never let Pearl off the  
hook.

But before she could seek revenge, the president of her company approached her.

"Oh, Jen. Your reputation is in shambles now. We have to suspend your work to minimize the

damage.”

It was extremely difficult to raise an excellent star, but they had no choice but to... let Jenny go.

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never appeared in public again after that day. Moreover, *The Melody of the West* was canceled due

to its low viewership and being deemed a waste of resources.

Consequently, the central TV station requested the removal of all of Jenny's work from that day onward, citing her

tarnished morality. Consequently, all the actors who had once collaborated with her harbored resentment

toward her.

Meanwhile, Pearl rose to become the most charming lady in the country thanks to her

performance in the drama. She achieved the status of the top star, even though she had never

intended to enter the entertainment industry.

Pearl was feeling quite lucky. Besides, that director fulfilled his promise. He sent her the film and signed

the contract.

Without hesitation, Pearl delegated the film project to Clem. If there were any funding issues,

they could be resolved through the finance department.

However, Pearl couldn't help but wonder about one thing. On the day of the drama's cancellation, it seemed that Richard had been preoccupied with something else, unbeknownst to her.

Furthermore, he had been acting mysteriously these days.

Richard had been staying at Waldorf Residence instead of her villa lately. She wondered how Richard was faring and decided to give her a call.

When she dialed Richard's number, it was answered promptly.

"Hello, who is it?"

To Pearl's surprise, it was Richard on the other end of the line.

Startled, she nearly dropped her phone. "Be honest with me, Richard. Why are you using Fifi's name?" An ominous feeling filled her, as if her beloved daughter had been taken away, and he was completely unaware.

Richard hesitated before speaking, sounding ambiguous and guilty. "Well... She's in the hospital, and I'm taking care of her."

"The hospital?" Pearl quickly put aside their personal relationship. "What happened to her? Give me the address. I'll come over immediately!"



nce Hanzel could no longer hide it, he provided the address.

'hen Pearl arrived, she found Feather lying in a hospital bed, looking indifferent. Hanzel sat earby, peeling an apple for her.

Here you are, Pearl."

earing Hanzel's words, Feather tried to sit up. "Miss Pearl..."

at Pearl gently pressed Feather back down. "Alright, why are you in the hospital? Are you ck?" Worry filled her eyes, making it difficult for Feather to explain.

caring her throat, Feather finally spoke, "I'm okay, I was poisoned, but I'm almost recovered now. I'll be discharged tomorrow."

Pearl turned to Hanzel. "I want an explanation."

Hanzel blinked and, sensing Pearl's icy tone, decided to tell her the truth. "I happened to want to meet you on the day Feather was poisoned. I called her and happened to save her."

He chose not to divulge the specifics of the poison, fearing that Pearl might misinterpret his intentions and cut ties with him.

“What kind of poison was it?” Pearl was determined to get to the bottom of the matter.

Feather blushed and struggled to find the words, unable to meet Pearl’s gaze.

“Answer me.”

Realizing that it was difficult for Feather to explain, Hanzel decided to come clean. “It was knockout powder with some poison mixed in.”

Pearl was shocked by this revelation. Now she understood why Hanzel had gone missing and why she couldn’t reach Feather that night.

“Then you two...”

Hurriedly, Hanzel clarified, “No, nothing happened between us. Don’t overthink it. We’re innocent.”

Embarrassment tinged Feather’s cheeks as she added, “That’s right, Miss Pearl. He drove me to the hospital that night. Nothing happened between us.”

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“That’s great.” A long sigh of relief escaped Pearl.

She understood Hanzel’s feelings well. If he had casually slept with Feather, it would have been a great loss and a source of grievance for Feather.

“I’m going to meet Richard and discuss something with him. Rest well.”

As Pearl was about to leave, Hanzel stopped her. “Are you going to talk to him about your engagement, Pearl?”

Shocked, Pearl asked in return, “How did you know?”

“Of course, I know,” Hanzel replied with a bitter laugh. He continued, “He made it known to everyone so the whole family is aware of it.”

Pearl was taken aback. Richard seemed to be quite good at boasting.

With a helpless smile, Pearl decided to confront Richard and demand an explanation later.

After Pearl left, Hanzel was lost in thought.

Observing him, Feather ventured to ask, “Hey, do you like Miss Pearl?”

Hanzel couldn’t help but burst into laughter. “Is it that obvious? Even you’ve noticed?”

Feather bit her lip, trying to probe further. “So, was it because of her that you... didn’t sleep with me?”

Surprised by the question, Hanzel glanced at Feather, who had looked away.

“No, I felt that I couldn’t ruin your reputation.” Hanzel was an honorable man and wouldn’t take advantage of someone.

“Why didn’t you try to win her over then?”

“How? I can’t compete with Rick.” Hanzel sighed in resignation. “She doesn’t have feelings for me, and I’m not as exceptional as Rick. It’s only natural that she prefers him.”

“No, I think you’re pretty good.”

Feather’s words brought a smile to Hanzel’s face. His handsome appearance, coupled with his cheerful eyes and bright smile, made for a captivating sight.

Even though Feather typically lacked desires, she found herself momentarily stunned.

“Alright, let’s not dwell on that. By the way, do you like peaches? I can cut them into small pieces for you...”

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Pearl went to the president’s office at Waldorf Enterprises.

Richard was engrossed in reading a document. When he noticed Pearl’s arrival, he pushed the document toward her. “You’ve come at the right time. Take a look at this and see if you spot any issues.”

Suppressing her fury, Pearl delved into the intricate clauses, which soon gave her a headache.

“I don’t see any problems with it.”

Richard frowned. “There’s an unfair clause that favors the company, but you missed it. What’s wrong with you today? You seem absent-minded.”

Frustrated, Pearl sneered and punched him. “How could you say that? Did you announce our upcoming engagement to your family?”

“I did that to cut down the number of my unnecessary rivals,” Richard explained himself confidently and righteously.

“Rivals? Are you talking about Hanzel?”

Richard gave her a sidelong glance. “I’m glad you figured it out. But I’m pretty sure he’s given up on you now. He’s probably too embarrassed to still have feelings for you.”

As she pondered this, Pearl suddenly recalled the events of that day. “Were you aware of everything that happened between them?”

Richard lightly tapped the tip of her nose. “You were incapacitated by that drug the other person gave

you, so you missed everything.”

“How far had they gone?” Pearl widened her eyes.

Richard smiled wickedly and leaned in closer. “Well, naturally, they only reached the step we haven’t reached yet.”

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Esther was brimming with excitement as she practically dragged Pearl to a wedding gown store, their first destination. With their engagement approaching, trying on engagement gowns made sense, saving them valuable time.

Esther quickly spotted a gown she adored—a long, white dress with an elegant train. It garnered plenty of admiring remarks from her. “Wow, this gown is absolutely stunning. I love it, Pearl. Can you hold my bag? I’m going to try it on right now!”

Beaming, Pearl nodded and reached for the gown. However, her hand was harshly smacked away, causing her quite a bit of pain. She withdrew her hand, only to find that someone had snatched the gown.

Pearl glanced over to see Jenny, whom she hadn’t encountered in quite some time.

Pearl was well aware that Jenny had been sidelined from her career—it was common knowledge. When she noticed the exhaustion on Jenny’s face, which makeup couldn’t completely conceal, she couldn’t help but mock her. “Hey, Miss Jenny. What’s going on with you? Are you trying to make trouble for others just because things aren’t going well in your career and love life?”

Jenny’s expression changed as Pearl touched a sore spot. “What nonsense are you talking about? You didn’t buy this gown, and everyone has an equal right to it. Do you not understand that? Why accuse me of causing trouble?”

Pearl was surprised by Jenny’s newfound eloquence.

“We were the first to choose this gown. Don’t you know the concept of ‘first come, first served’?”

Esther was fuming and had half a mind to punch Jenny’s annoying face. She thought Jenny was just a washed-up has-been with no right to act high and mighty.

Jenny scoffed. “Well, I’ve got the gown now, and there’s no one else here. Your words hold no weight.”

“How dare you!”

Pearl tried to calm Esther down. With a smile, she suggested, “You’re absolutely right. Without any concrete evidence, we can’t dispute this apart from the store’s surveillance system.”

“So, what if there’s a surveillance system? It’s mine since I have it now.”

At that moment, the sleepy shop assistant woke up and was alarmed by the commotion. She wondered what had unfolded before her eyes.

Pearl snorted. “Fine, let’s settle this by offering a higher price. Let’s see who’s willing to pay more for the gown.”

Naturally, Jenny was reluctant, well aware that she would be outmatched. Even when she was a top celebrity, her wealth paled in comparison to Pearl’s. Of course, the entertainment industry couldn’t match the business world in terms of income.

“No, I disagree, since you definitely earn more than me.” It would be foolish for her to accept Pearl’s challenge.

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“In that case, how about we compete in something else? Why not test our understanding of fashion design?” Pearl proposed.



Jenny felt suspicious, not entirely sure what Pearl had in mind. However, she had attended numerous fashion events and endorsed numerous high-end brands, feeling confident in her ability to outdo Pearl in this regard.

Besides, she knew Pearl had studied jewelry design abroad, seemingly unrelated to fashion design.

Therefore, she thought she had a strong chance of winning.

“Okay, let’s do that.”

Pearl let Jenny speak first.

Jenny’s eyes sparkled, realizing that being the first to speak would give her an advantage and allow her to set the tone. “This gown exudes a gentle aura akin to moonlight, with pearl accents around the chest area, adding to its overall gentleness. It’s most suitable for someone of a gentle disposition.”

She implied that Esther, who was known to have a fiery temper, was ill-suited for such a delicate gown.

“Oh? I beg to differ.” Pearl smiled as she stepped forward. “I have a different perspective.”

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“What do you mean?” Jenny’s expression turned icy.

“Although this gown has an elegant design with glittering jewels, the pearls around the chest area are shattered. This suggests that the gown isn’t intended for gentle individuals. Instead, the designer hopes that the wearer can bring out its elegance and superiority.”

Pearl’s statement clarified the purpose of the gown while subtly criticizing Jenny. She was well aware of Jenny’s background, which she found to be somewhat lacking in elegance and nobility coming from a slightly popular business family.

In contrast, Esther always maintained a sense of decorum even when upset, never crossing the line or resorting to vulgarity. Swearing aside, of course.

“So, this gown suits Esther more than you.”

The Sanders family didn’t flaunt their wealth, but they were affluent and influential.

Jenny had been unwise to repeatedly provoke Esther.

Satisfied, Esther was pleased to have her friend on her side and see Jenny being criticized simultaneously, effectively killing two birds with one stone.

Jenny furiously pointed at the shop assistant and demanded shakily, “Tell me, which looks better in this gown?”

who do you

“I think... it’s Miss Esther... Also, Mister Richard added four million five hundred thousand dollars to his membership card before they arrived.”

Pearl smiled, appreciating Richard’s indirect assistance during this crucial moment.

“How dare you! You’re ganging up on me. I’m going to report this to the media and have the public condemn you!”

Her threat nearly made Pearl burst into laughter. “Well, you can do that, but it’s unnecessary.”

Jenny lifted her chin in arrogance, assuming Pearl was afraid. “Oh, you’re scared. In that case, be sensible and give me the gown.”

“No, I’m not scared, but I designed this gown. I can revoke its selling rights at any time.”

Jenny’s face darkened as a result. “What did you say? You designed this?” Though she was surprised,

she was skeptical due to Pearl’s numerous similar claims in the past.

“Yeah, I designed this. Do you think I’d lie to you?”

However, it was a rejected piece. The genuinely exquisite items were displayed in Cerubleu's underground exhibition hall at the headquarters, untouched and unworn, tailored specifically to Pearl's measurements, making them unattainable for most people.

"Why didn't you mention that you designed it earlier? Tsk, I'm sure you're lying."

Coldness gleamed in Pearl's eyes. "Miss, can you get your boss?" She smiled at the shop assistant.

Most of the shop's customers were from the upper echelons of society, which made Jenny question whether Pearl was indeed the designer.

She began doubting herself again. But running away now would be futile after making such a statement. All she could do was wait for the boss.

Before long, a charming man emerged from the back room, easily identifiable as a foreigner with his blue eyes and maroon hair.

"Oh, my dear Pearl. Why have you graced my wedding boutique with your presence? Are you getting married? I must share this unfortunate news with the world. Oh, the horror!"

Enraged, Pearl gnashed her teeth. "I'll have you thrown out of this shop if you make those comments

again, Harvey.”

“Okay, I’ll stop teasing you.” Harvey Torres casually smoothed his hair. “Are you here to buy a wedding gown? I have plenty of new arrivals to recommend.”

“No, that won’t be necessary. I just need you to confirm one thing.” Pearl chuckled. “Did I ask you to help me sell this gown?”

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Harvey took a closer look at the gown and nodded. “Yeah, you did. This gown is quite popular, but I held off on selling it in hopes of getting a high offer.”

Initially, Jenny was disappointed to discover that both Harvey and Pearl were acquainted, and it seemed they were not willing to sell the dress to her. After all, her intention was merely to take something away from Pearl; she didn’t genuinely like the gown.

She took a deep breath, ready to leave.

“Don’t go. Didn’t you say you wanted to buy this gown?” Pearl blinked in confusion.

“I’ll let you have the gown instead. I don’t want it.”

Harvey frowned. “What’s wrong? You changed your mind so quickly. Didn’t you take my shop

seriously? It's fine if you don't want to buy it, but please register your name here. You don't have to come to my shop anymore."

He wanted to ban her from his shop.

Covering her mouth, Esther snickered. "Why don't you buy it, Miss Jenny? The boss is angry."

While Jenny did desire the gown, she stopped competing for it after Pearl gave her a look.

"You guys!" Jenny trembled with wrath. She had lost her income due to her recent work suspension.

Having to spend so much on a gown she didn't even like was...

All thanks to Pearl.

Jenny glared fiercely at Pearl before taking out a card and handing it to the shop assistant. Fine, I'll buy it."

After the shop assistant swiped the card, she looked uncertain. "Miss Jenny, there isn't enough balance on your card..."

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Jenny's face flushed with anger. "Then I don't want it!" She snatched her card back and stormed out in frustration.

Esther was thoroughly enjoying herself. "This is hilarious! I'm so relieved to see Jenny having such bad luck." She would have been even happier if Jenny had faced more misfortune. After all, Jenny had often bullied them, and now she was reaping what she had sown.

Pearl touched her chin. "Harvey, your gowns here aren't that great."

Harvey was shocked. "What are you talking about? How could my products compare to yours?"

He got to know Pearl by accident and earned the right to sell the wedding gowns she designed, which was a great advantage. Yet, Pearl's current criticisms left him feeling disheartened and powerless.

"Okay, forget it. We're leaving." Pearl then pulled Esther out of the shop.

Baffled, Esther asked, "Aren't we here to choose wedding gowns? I think the quality of the gowns here is good, especially the ones you designed. They're beautiful." She genuinely liked the gowns.

However, Pearl rolled her eyes. "Silly, there's something even better for you, which is why I

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asked you to come along. Don't worry, I'll make sure you have a stylish engagement."

"No, I'm getting engaged, not married," Esther corrected Pearl, blushing.

“It’s not that different. When you’re ready to get married, I’ll design an elegant and magnificent wedding

gown for you. How does that sound?”

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Esther was practically jumping for joy. She hugged Pearl’s neck and kissed her on the cheek excitedly. “Yes! Thank you, Pearl!”

“Don’t get your drool on my face!”

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Pearl took Esther along to try on wedding gowns, and by the time they finished, it was already

afternoon. However, Pearl didn’t find any gown she liked.

After dropping Esther off at her home, Pearl returned to Waldorf Residence.

During dinner, Mobius felt that more than one person was staring at him, but when he looked around

the table, no one was looking at him in particular.

Smiling, Pearl served Richard a bowl of mushroom soup and asked, “Do you think Esther’s blind date

is reliable, Rick?”

Richard replied confidently, “Absolutely. I can vouch for Justin’s character. He’s always had feelings for



Esther, and I'm certain she'll be very happy if she marries him."

When Esther was mentioned, Mobius' expression changed, but he seemed to be unaffected by the news.

Pearl was eager to see how long he could hold himself back. "When are they meeting each other?"

Richard sipped his soup and answered calmly, "Tomorrow afternoon. If things go well, they might even get engaged on the same day as us."

"Yeah, I'm sure Este will be very happy."

The discussion grew more animated, with Dustan and Susan chiming in, offering their blessings and implying that Mobius had let them down and that Esther deserved someone better.

Mobius' eyelids twitched. "Why are you guys so weird today?" He couldn't understand why they were discussing blind dates and how he had disappointed them.

"Don't you know, Mobius?" Pearl responded. "Este is going to meet Justin tomorrow to discuss their marriage. The Newton family is powerful and influential, which makes it a great match for her."

Mobius frowned. "But Esther doesn't like him."

“People can grow to love each other over time. I didn’t like Richard at first, but now I do.”

Mobius’ face became gloomy. “Esther won’t do that.”

“Why not? She and I went to Harvey’s wedding gown shop today and bumped into Jenny. You can

check it out if you don’t believe me. Esther

She

as so envious when she looked at weddi “as been eager to get engaged for a while now.

go well.”

gowns today. Their blind date will probably

Once Richard finished dinner, he wiped his mouth and stood up. “I’ll take care of some work for

tomorrow first, and then I can accompany you.’

“Okay.”

As Pearl left with Richard, Mobius became restless. He looked at his parents and asked in disbelief,

“What’s going on? Did you all conspire against me?”

“What do you mean? You’re so dumb. Do you really think you can get what you want by sitting around

and doing nothing? Did I teach you that?" Dustan rolled his eyes at Mobius before heading upstairs with Susan in his arms, leaving Mobius standing there alone, dumbfounded.

The next morning, Pearl got ready and left with Richard.

While sitting in the car, Pearl was applying makeup and asked, "Do you think Mobius will follow us? He's surprisingly good at keeping his emotions in check."

Richard calmly glanced at the rearview mirror and replied confidently, "Look behind us."

Sure enough, a car with a license plate belonging to the Waldorf family was right behind them, making no effort to hide.

Pearl criticized, "Why didn't he choose a less conspicuous car if he wanted to follow us discreetly? He's so stupid."

"Maybe he wants to do something big instead of hiding." Richard knew Mobius well. Mobius could be vengeful, and now someone else was trying to steal his woman. He wondered if Justin could take the beating.

As they continued to ponder their thoughts, they arrived at their destination and saw Esther waiting nearby with Justin standing behind her, looking tall and slender in casual clothes.

## Chapter 520

It was the first time Pearl had met Richard's legendary best buddy, Justin. She had heard that he was a lawyer and appeared to be quite sophisticated.

He didn't look any less impressive than Mobius, especially with his tall nose bridge and stylish gold-rimmed glasses, which added to his charm. Unfortunately for Justin, he wasn't Pearl's type.

However, Justin's image quickly crumbled the moment he started talking. "Why do I feel like this meeting won't bring me anything good, Richard?" His frown made him look almost teary-eyed, completely different from the initial impression he had given.

Pearl couldn't help but chuckle. "I'll invest 680 thousand dollars in your law firm."

Immediately, Justin's eyes lit up. "Really? Don't break your word."

"Of course not." Pearl continued smiling. "What's wrong? Didn't Mister Joseph Newton give you money? Why are you so poor?"

Justin's earlier demeanor was completely gone as he explained, "You see, I'm the only grandson of the Newton family, and my grandfather wants me to inherit the family business. But I've always wanted to be a lawyer. So, I'm rather short on funds, and I can only rely on Rick."

“Couldn’t you come up with another solution?”

“I did consider selling Newton Group to Waldorf Enterprises in exchange for capital to manage my law firm. But when I mentioned it to Grandpa, he got so angry that he threatened to set my law firm on fire.

So, I stopped bringing it up.”

Pearl couldn’t help but think Justin was silly and naive. Thankfully, Esther wasn’t interested in him; otherwise, she might feel like stabbing him.

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After a brief chat, the four of them entered the restaurant.

On the surface, it looked like they were on a blind date, with Pearl and Richard playing the roles of chaperones. Justin appeared smitten with Esther, who blushed and seemed content with his company.

Pearl glanced at Richard. “Why isn’t he here yet?”

Richard cleared his throat and gave her a knowing look. “I guess he hasn’t seen any signs of intimacy between them. They need to make it more convincing.”

Pearl decided to give Esther a subtle hint. Esther stood up and reached for Justin’s hand.

“Esther!” came an angry roar that stopped her.

Mobius approached, his cold demeanor radiating intensity, and he held Esther’s hand tightly while giving Justin a fierce glare. “Why did you go on a blind date behind my back? Did you forget who your boyfriend is?”

Justin trembled and lost his smile. He couldn’t understand why Mobius was glaring at him like that. He was only doing it for the money and had no romantic interest in Esther whatsoever. Moreover, Richard had talked him into it with a promise.

Mobius appeared ready to punch Justin in the face, causing the latter to close his eyes in fear, fearing his handsome face would be ruined and he’d no longer be able to attract women.

But the anticipated punch never came. Justin cautiously opened his eyes and saw that Richard had blocked Mobius’s punch.

Angry, Richard demanded, “You’re not marrying her. Why do you care who she’s marrying?”

Mobius roared furiously, “Who said I’m not marrying her?”

“When?” Richard asked.

Mobius looked at Esther’s cautious expression, and his heart skipped a beat. “I can marry her anytime

she wants.”

Pearl grinned. “Okay, mission accomplished. Let’s celebrate!”

Richard smiled as well. However, Justin wiped away his cold sweat; he was not thrilled at all. It was at

that moment that Mobius realized it had all been a setup.