

YOUR GUISE 561

Chapter 561

Pearl was far from pleased with being labeled as a vixen and turned around, her anger clear on her face..

“It’s you!”

Katie! She was taken aback to see the person she had been looking for all along.

“You...” Katie was equally stunned. Once she recognized Pearl, Katie couldn’t help but wonder why she was there with Drew.

Drew picked up on the tension, realizing they might know each other. Curious, he inquired, What’s going on? Do you two know each other?”

Pearl nodded with a mysterious smile. “Yes, we have quite a history.”

“In that case, I’ll leave you to catch up. I have something to attend to right now, but I’ll be back later,”

Drew said, not particularly interested in reuniting with Katie, who had caused a scene when canceling their engagement.

But now, she behaved like his fiancée. Drew found it quite disgusting, so he made an excuse and left

the two women to talk alone.

Katie seized the opportunity, smirking at Pearl. "Well, well, it seems you've come here behind.

Richard's back. If he finds out you're gallivanting with another man, what will he thin

Previously, Jenny had asked Katie to help plot against Pearl, and Katie wondered when she would

have the chance. Unexpectedly, that chance has arrived.

Pearl, sipping her tea calmly, responded nonchalantly, "Oh please, You're worse than me." She then

casually glanced at Katie's slightly protruding belly, concealed beneath the hem of her dress. "I can't

possibly compete with you. You must be about two months pregnant by How."

Katie had tried to hide her pregnancy, but her belly betrayed her secret.

"What?" Katie was shocked that Pearl had discovered her pregnancy. She was livid. "Who told you?

What else do you know?"

Pearl maintained her composure. "How I found out isn't important. But, Miss Katie, you've slept with

another man behind your fiance's back, and you're carrying another man's child. That's why you're

trying to break off the engagement. If the Coopers were to discover this..."

Katie's face turned ashen as she realized the implications. She had concealed her pregnancy from

everyone, including her own family. If both the Sullivan and Cooper families learned the truth, she would be in deep trouble. The Coopers might not forgive her, and her own family would disown her.

“This is slander!”

Pearl ignored Katie’s denial and gave her a skeptical look. “A visit to the hospital for a checkup would settle this, don’t you think?”

Katie, panicked and desperate, hissed, “Even if you know, what good will it do? Do you really believe the Coopers will listen to you? No one can force me to go to the hospital if I refuse.”

project? I can provide the funding, and you can contribute your expertise. We can work together on something.”

Drew hesitated for a moment. “I have more than enough resources for my research.”

He was doing research because of his interest. Besides, his family had great business and wealth, so he didn’t need any funding.

Pearl persisted, dropping hints. “Your family’s wealth and earned resources are two different things.”

She blinked at him, silently urging him to agree.

Looking at her mischievous face, Drew smiled and was moved.

As Drew contemplated the proposal, a sudden cold laugh interrupted their conversation from behind. “I

haven’t canceled our engagement yet, but it seems there’s a vixen cozying up to my flance.”

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Katie gnashed her teeth and said humbly, “I’m begging you. Let’s go outside and talk.”

Pearl didn’t want to push Katie too far. After all, Katie was carrying Damian’s child, a friend of Pearl’s,

and she didn’t want Damian to suffer any consequences due to Katie’s anger.

Caught in a dilemma, Pearl relented. “Alright, let’s go outside.”

They left the hall together.

Once outside, Katie led Pearl to a secluded corner, blocking her from view. She fixed her gaze on Pearl

and demanded, “How did you find out? Who told you?”

Pearl raised her hands helplessly and replied, “Who else could it be? The baby’s father told me.

Katie immediately frowned upon hearing that Damian had told Pearl about that. She asked cautiously,

“How do you know him? What’s your relationship?”

Worried that they might be involved romantically, she wanted to clarify. After all, it was a very private affair. Damian might never tell anyone about that given his character.

“We’re cooperative partners, nothing like what you’re thinking.” Pearl couldn’t help but smile. because of Katie’s insecurity, cursing Damian for dragging her into this mess.

“Alright, there’s one more thing.” Katie said, finally smiling again as she saw there was no romantic involvement between Damian and Pearl. “I hope you won’t tell Damian about my fiance. I’ll promise you anything if you keep it a secret for me.”

Katie seemed to have gone to great lengths to secure a legal father for her child, or perhaps she genuinely loved Damian.

“Okay, you left Damian because you wanted to break off your engagement before he found out.

Otherwise, it would stop you from being with him.” Pearl’s guess wasn’t far off the mark, and she could sense it in Katie’s gaze.

However, she didn’t know that Damian didn’t care as much about Katie and her child as she thought.

Katie, on the other hand, saw her baby as her most powerful bargaining chip and was willing to do whatever it took to be with Damian.

“Dame does want to be with me. So, I have to handle everything perfectly to be with him.” Katie took a step back and composed herself. “Since you’re his friend, I believe you’d be willing to help me keep this a secret and help us be together, right?”

Katie began to leverage the relationship between Pearl and Damian.

Pearl understood what was happening but was willing to protect Damian’s child. She nodded, “ Alright, I won’t tell Damian for now. I don’t need anything from you either. But I hope you won’t play any tricks on Damian. If you do anything bad to him, I won’t let you off lightly.”

Katie tensed up again at Pearl’s warning. Despite Pearl claiming she wasn’t interested in Damian, she still warned Katie against hurting him.

Suddenly, Katie recalled the photo she had once seen in Damian’s wallet—it was Pearl.

Quietly, Katie began plotting, realizing that she might need to work with Jenny to eliminate Pearl. It seemed like the safest course of action and a win–win situation for her.

Chapter 563

At first, Pearl wanted to tell Damian about the situation once she returned to Enswood. However, she had second thoughts due to Katie’s predicament.

After the birthday party, Reese helped Pearl with all the necessary arrangements and booked their flight tickets for the next day. Pearl returned to Enswood accompanied by Reese and Drew.

Upon her arrival in Enswood, Pearl rushed to the hospital where Richard was admitted. Drew joined her, curious to meet Richard.

They hailed a cab to

City hospital and inquired about the location of Richard's ward. Upon arrival at the door of his room, they heard sobbing from inside. Pearl's heart skipped a beat as she entered the ward and found Richard lying pale in his bed.

Susan and Mobius were seated nearby. Susan appeared devastated and beside herself with grief.

"Aunt Susan, I... I'm back!" Pearl said, deeply moved.

At the sight of Pearl, Susan rushed towards her, embracing her and bursting into loud sobs." Oh,

Pearl... Rick has been in a coma for ten days. Even the best doctor I could find hasn't been able to wake him up. What should I do if I lose him?"

Susan's anguish brought tears to Pearl's eyes. "It's alright, Madam. I'll save him no matter what. He's my fiance."

With her eyes closed, Pearl suppressed her pain and tears. After taking a deep breath, she said, "Let me take a look at his condition. After the check-up, I'll figure out how to save him."

Pearl donned a surgical gown and gloves before examining Richard's injuries. She couldn't help but feel her heartache deepen as she discovered the extent of his injuries.

Not only had Richard suffered a broken back, but his body was riddled with injuries, and he had even aspirated water. Given the severity of his condition, surviving the accident was itself a stroke of luck.

"Aunt Susan, Rick has sustained severe internal and external injuries, including damage to his heart.

But don't worry. I'll contact my mentor, Simon, right away. I'll ask him to come and help us. I'll do everything I can to help save Rick. You don't need to worry," Pearl assured

Susan.

Susan's fears were somewhat alleviated by Pearl's reassurance, and she stopped crying. She then noticed a man standing nearby, wearing a cap and a mask.

"And who might this be?"

“This is the man who saved me. His name is Drew Cooper,” Pearl explained.

Drew removed his mask and greeted Susan with a warm smile. “Hello, Madam. I’m Drew Cooper.”

Susan became flabbergasted. “You’re... Sean?”

Drew had anticipated this confusion. He shook his head and clarified, “No, Madam. I’m not Sean. I’m

Drew,”

Susan found it hard to believe. “You look so much like Sean. If you hadn’t told me, I’d think you were

him. Oh, yes, there’s a tear-shaped birthmark at the corner of Sean’s eye, but you don’t have it. Yes,

you’re not him.”

“Madam, may I ask when your son was born?”

“Eighteenth of March in the year 1999.”

Drew’s eyes lit up as he realized the uncanny coincidence. It was also his birthday. Sean was indeed

his older brother.

The

The thought excited him. “What a coincidence! Our birthdays are the same. My mother was pregnant

with twins at that time, and my brother didn't survive. If the timing is right, I'd think that Sean and I are twins..."

Drew marveled at the coincidence, but Susan's heart turned cold. She couldn't believe in such a coincidence.

She recalled her pregnancy and the check ups, which had confirmed she was expecting only one child.

She couldn't afford to lose another son, especially with Hugo's betrayal and Richard's critical condition weighing heavily on her heart.

Chapter 564

Susan's emotions were a jumble, but Pearl attributed it to her concern for Richard.

"I'll step out and call my mentor. I'll ask him to come as soon as possible," Pearl said, then left the ward, making her way away from the commotion before dialing Simon's number.

Simon didn't immediately recognize Pearl's voice since she was using a different contact number.

"No, I'm not going. I've retired, and I won't go saving people again... Hey, don't move your knight there.

You should just watch the game instead of offering your opinions. Stop talking to him!"

"Simon, are you going mad from playing chess? You didn't recognize my voice!" Pearl gritted her teeth.

Simon claimed he had retired, but she knew he was living abroad and spending his days playing chess with others. How could he lie to his own disciple?

Simon eventually recognized Pearl's voice and chuckled. "I apologize, Pearl. I was in the middle of a chess game. Can you wait for a bit

"I have an urgent matter now. I need you to come to the city hospital in Enswood in three hours. The faster, the better."

Simon appeared slightly annoyed. "You can't do this to me, Pearl. I haven't finished this game yet. Am I at your beck and call all the time? 1-

"You have two hours, fifty-eight minutes, and forty-six seconds," Pearl interrupted. She could hear the wind blowing on Simon's side.

Had he rushed off so quickly?

Pearl's lips twitched. Perhaps she had been too harsh on the old man in his sixties.

"Fine, I'll play chess with you when I have the time."

Simon's mood improved. "Okay, don't break your word!" Compared to the other elderly chess players downstairs, Pearl was the opponent Simon truly desired.

Checking the time, Pearl received a text from Simon two and a half hours later.

[Come pick me up at the hospital entrance.]

However, Pearl decisively sent Simon the ward number instead.

[Come on your own.]

With that settled, she returned to Richard's ward.

Richard's time was running out, which was why Pearl had urgently called Simon. Considering her own abilities, she couldn't fully heal Richard or help him recover completely.

She remembered that Simon possessed an Elixir Pill, and she needed to get it.

When Simon opened the door, he was greeted by Pearl's cheerful face.

"Hello, Mentor..." Pearl approached Simon and took his bags. "It must have been a long journey. You must be tired. Sit down and rest..." She then handed him a glass of water considerately.

"So, what do you want from me now, Pea?" Simon had grown accustomed to her schemes.

"Alright, no beating around the bush. I need your Elixir Pill."

“Pfft!” Simon spat out his water in surprise.

Chapter 565

Simon was dumbstruck by Pearl’s sudden request for an Elixir Pill.

“How can you just ask for an Elixir Pill like that?” Simon turned away. “I could consider helping you with something else, but I can’t give you that.”

“Why not?” Pearl frowned in confusion.

Simon sighed deeply. “Because I only have one left. I used one of my remaining two pills to save your life three years ago. I have only one left. I can’t give it to you.” He was heartbroken, wondering how Pearl could ask for such a valuable item so casually.

“But it’s a matter of Richard’s life. I’ve checked on him, and he’s on the verge of death, with less than a month to live!”

Simon grew serious. “Less than a month? Let me take a look.”

After examining Richard, Simon realized that Pearl was telling the truth.

“But I only have one Elixir Pill left. If you use it on him, your own illness...”

Pearl smiled bitterly, recalling something. “I’ll be fine. We can always get more medicine. I still have

another year, so don't worry. We'll find a way. But if we don't save Richard now, he'll have only one month left."

She would not stand idly by and watch Richard die.

"Alright, I won't stop you since you've made up your mind." Simon took a deep breath and looked sorrowful.

He retrieved a black pill from his medical kit and placed it in Richard's mouth.

However, Richard seemed to sense something amiss and refused to swallow the pill, keeping it in his mouth.

"Ugh, he seems to have sensed it and doesn't want to take it. How rare!" After a moment of shock, Simon added, "But if he keeps it in his mouth for too long and the pill dissolves, its effects may be greatly reduced..."

Pearl quickly stepped forward. Ignoring the shocked gazes around her, she lowered her head and kissed Richard's lips, using her tongue to force the pill down his throat. Richard resisted, but Pearl persisted.

Everyone was shocked as they found it impudent to do that kind of thing in front of so many people.

But Pearl ignored their gazes and used her tongue to force the pill down into Richard's throat. However,

Richard was still reluctant.

As time passed, the pill became smaller. Eventually, Pearl had no choice but to chew up the remaining piece of the pill and feed it to him as it slipped into his throat.

Although the effects were not as effective as expected, it was the best she could do. Richard was forced to swallow the pill.

Everyone anxiously waited for him to wake up.

But Richard remained motionless, as if he had stopped breathing.

Even Simon began to doubt the effectiveness of the pill. "What's wrong with this pill? It should take effect in three minutes. This is strange..."

Pearl frowned. "Didn't you make this? Don't you remember how long it takes for it to work?"

Simon blushed and stammered, "I... Maybe I got it wrong..."

Suddenly, Richard started coughing.

"

Pearl turned to see Richard, who had been lifeless moments ago, discreetly sitting up and covering his mouth to cough.

Susan and Drew were still talking. When Susan heard the cough, she turned around abruptly." Rick, you're awake!"

Richard managed a faint smile. "Yeah."

As Pearl looked at Richard, tears welled up in her eyes. "Richard..."

But when Richard turned to look at Pearl, his expression gradually turned aloof.

Chapter 566

Pearl was stunned by Richard's strange behavior. He was now cold and distant, leaving her feeling helpless. "What's the matter, Richard? Are you angry with me? I told you I didn't jump into the sea on purpose-"

"Miss Pearl, we're not particularly close. Why would I be angry with you?" Then, Richard covered his mouth and began to cough vigorously once more.

Pearl looked at Simon with confusion, not knowing what was happening.

Simon's expression darkened. "I suspect it might be a side effect of the drug. It seems like Richard may

be experiencing memory loss..."

"Memory loss? But he just called me Miss Pearl and knows who I am!" Pearl hadn't expected this outcome. She would have preferred if Richard had been angry with her or scolded her rather than having no memory of her at all.

She turned to look at Richard with incredulity. "Do you know who I am, Richard?"

Richard nodded. "Yes, I do."

"Then do you remember what happened between us?" Pearl found it hard to believe that Richard had forgotten their past together. After all, he remembered everyone, including her name. How could he have forgotten the moments they shared?

After a brief hesitation, Richard answered, "Yes, I do."

Pearl's initial shock turned into surprise. "Really? You still remember what happened between us..."

However, her surprise quickly faded. It was evident that Richard's love for her had disappeared. He was cold, as if their past experiences had meant nothing to him. His feelings for her were gone.

Simon was equally shocked. "I don't think it's memory loss. He seems to have forgotten his love. It's

weird that my pill caused this..."

But Simon's words didn't make Pearl feel better. Silently, she stared at Richard and asked in a cold and disappointed tone, "Do you still love me?"

Richard himself was baffled. He knew Pearl was his fiancée and remembered their past, but he felt no emotional connection to her anymore. He answered honestly, "No, I don't."

Pearl understood that it wasn't Richard's fault, as he didn't choose to forget his love for her. But still, it broke her heart.

Taking a deep breath, she forced a smile. "That's okay. I don't mind as long as you're willing to be with me. We can work through everything else slowly." She was willing to do whatever it took to help

Richard remember their love.

Richard, sounding like an emotionless robot, replied, "Okay." Although he no longer had any feelings for her, he felt obligated to stay with her since she was his chosen fiancée.

Pearl couldn't help but feel deeply hurt by his indifferent response.

Susan was worried, but Drew was angry. "He's already forgotten his love. Why do you still

want to be with him? Are you just seeking trouble for yourself?"

Chapter 567

Pearl bit her lip. "I believe he'll remember." His feelings for her were genuine, so she had faith that he wouldn't forget his love for her forever.

Drew sneered and glared at Richard, who had become somewhat gloomy. "You know you'll be miserable if you keep dating him. He doesn't love you. Even if he stays with you, all you'll get are his half-hearted responses. If you don't believe me, just ask him!"

Richard wanted to call Drew "Sean" but held himself back

Despite Drew's striking resemblance to Sean in appearance, their personalities, temperaments, and expressions were quite different. Richard felt a surge of anger at Drew's criticism but couldn't bring himself to be truly mad at him.

"I'll try my best to meet your conditions," Richard replied calmly. He vowed to make an effort to meet

Pearl's expectations.

Pearl's face drained of color, looking worse than Richard in his hospital bed.

"Okay, got it. You should rest now." With that, Pearl turned to leave.

Once Pearl had left, Drew fixed a cold gaze on Richard. "Richard, I'm warning you. Pearl rushed back from abroad to see you and did everything she could to save you. Don't be ungrateful, or you'll regret it!" He then opened the door and went after Pearl.

Pearl ran to a garden outside, took a deep breath, and let out a deep sigh. The stark contrast in Richard's behavior left her feeling heartbroken, and she couldn't hold back her tears.

The sunlight was dazzling, and Pearl couldn't help but cry uncontrollably as she crouched down on the ground.

When Drew joined her outside, he found Pearl sobbing with her shoulders shaking. Heartbroken, he approached her, gently patting her shoulder. "Don't cry, Pearl. He doesn't deserve it."

Pearl sniffed and said stubbornly, "I'm not crying. It's just that the sunlight is too bright."

Drew chose not to press further, not wanting to upset her further. He helped her to her feet and offered a warm smile. "Alright, no more tears. Maybe we should find some shade. Or how about you date me?

I promise I'm better than Richard. He's like a block of ice, but I'm like a warm sun. Don't you think so?"

Pearl had never encountered someone so boastful. She couldn't help but smile faintly. "Okay, enough of your nonsense. I know you're trying to cheer me up, but it's not necessary."

Drew stroked her hair. "Alright, didn't you say you wanted to introduce me to Sean? Don't be sad because of that man. He's not worth it." He was surprisingly patient and caring, like an old woman.

Pearl smiled and agreed.

Since Richard had fallen ill, Sean had taken over his responsibilities at Waldorf Enterprises and had been extremely busy.

When Pearl brought Drew to the president's office of Waldorf Enterprises, Sean was engrossed in work. He was dressed professionally and appeared to be in a bad mood.

When he noticed Pearl, he smiled, ready to greet her. However, his expression soured as he caught sight of Drew out of the corner of his eye.

He couldn't believe his eyes. Drew looked exactly like him—it was an inexplicable and supernatural occurrence.

Chapter 568

After the initial shock, Sean felt like he had been hit by a massive blow. "Who are you..."

"Hello, Sean. I'm Drew Cooper."

Drew? Sean found himself taken aback, he had no idea who this man was.

Once he had regained his composure, he asked, "Why do you look exactly like me?"

Drew seemed to be more accepting of their resemblance, but he was still amazed. "Could we be twins?"

"No, I'm a Waldorf! How could we possibly be twins?" Sean had set aside his usual calmness and friendly smile, replaced by an inexplicable sense of bewilderment and shock.

"I had a hard time believing it too, but after overhearing a conversation between Pearl and your mother, I sensed that something wasn't right. So, we should get a DNA test to confirm whether we're twins or just a bizarre coincidence."

Drew was logical, and Pearl nodded in agreement. As for Sean, he was deep in thought and finally forced himself to agree with Drew's suggestion.

Suddenly, he noticed the tear stains on Pearl's face. "What happened? I've never seen you cry before.

Did someone bully you?" Though it was meant as a jest, he was genuinely concerned.

"It's nothing." Pearl was reluctant to answer.

However, Drew became animated. “Nothing? Tell him, Pearl. That ungrateful Richard has forgotten all about his love for you. If you weren’t absolutely sure that he had lost his feelings, I’d have thought he was faking it. He just wanted to break up with you!”

Sean hadn’t been aware of this development. He had intended to inquire if Richard had awakened, but it seemed that he had and had forgotten many things.

However, this was not necessarily a negative development for Sean. If Richard had fallen out of love with Pearl, then....

Suddenly, long-suppressed feelings surged to the surface.

With a smile, he remarked, “Don’t worry about him. Richard is ungrateful. How could he forget about you so easily? But Pearl, you have plenty of excellent men to choose from, don’t you?”

His teasing earned him a fierce glare from Pearl. “Alright, enough of that. Let’s head to the hospital for a DNA test now. While waiting for the results, you can visit Richard.”

Sean was willing to go, but his busy schedule prevented him. “I have an important meeting scheduled later. It’s related to the company’s future development. Since Richard fell ill and couldn’t attend the shareholders’ meeting, the company employees have been worried about the company’s fate. I’ve

been swamped lately, dealing with those crafty old men from the company while trying to reassure the staff.”

Indeed, he was quite occupied.

Pearl raised her brows. “Those people are causing trouble again, huh?”

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“I suspect there’s someone inciting discord and deliberately creating tension within the company.”

Sean’s expression turned gloomy.

Both of them knew who the likely culprit was.

“Well, it’s not like we don’t have a leader here. Hugo is so impatient.” Pearl’s eyes lit up, and she

smirked. “Take me with you to the meeting. I own twenty–five percent of the shares in this company, so

I believe I have the right to participate in the decision–making process.”

“Yes, but if they criticize you”

Pearl stood up, her smile gone. “I want to see who the troublemaker is... Do they think they can rebel

just because Richard isn’t around?”

Chapter 569

Sean gave Pearl a brief overview of the share distribution in Waldorf Enterprises as they made their way to the conference room.

Richard held the largest share, accounting for thirty percent, while Pearl owned twenty-five percent.

The remaining forty-five percent of the shares were divided among other shareholders.

Pearl nodded with understanding. "I'll take care of things here. You can go to the hospital with Drew for the DNA test. Don't worry, I'll handle it."

Although Sean was worried, he agreed and left.

At the door of the conference room, Pearl took a deep breath and entered. Several people were already seated inside, and their expressions were far from welcoming.

As Pearl walked into the room, some of the older shareholders couldn't help but sneer upon seeing a young woman in her early twenties.

"Is there no one else from the Waldorfs? They've sent such a young woman to handle this meeting."

"Isn't that Pearl, Richard's fiancée? We don't even know if he's alive or dead, and his fiancée might become a widow before marrying him. How pitiful..."

"Shh, let's listen to her first."

Pearl gave them a cold and stern glance, sending a shiver down their spines, causing them to stop their chatter.

Taking the main seat with her arms crossed, Pearl smiled. "I apologize for joining this meeting on Richard's behalf. However, I am a shareholder of the company, holding twenty five percent of the shares. In Richard's absence, I am the largest shareholder. I also have some information to share with you. Richard is in a coma, but he is not deceased. I kindly request. that you choose your words carefully when discussing this matter. I trust that you will refrain from speaking rudely and causing distress to others."

Pearl implied that their previous comments had been impolite and offensive. As a result, they turned red, knowing that she had overheard their earlier conversation.

However, they didn't feel guilty, as their comments were accurate since Richard was indeed in a coma.

A woman then laughed coldly. "Miss Pearl, we understand your concern for your fiance and your desire to assert your authority. However, we can't let the company remain leaderless. Richard has been in a

coma for half a month, and there's still no sign of recovery. We're uncertain whether he will even survive." She quickly steered the conversation towards the company's leadership, suggesting that they had big plans.

Confused, Pearl raised an eyebrow. "How can you be so sure he won't survive?" She intentionally omitted the fact that Richard had awakened from his coma to gauge the extent of rebellion among the shareholders.

"Miss Pearl, did you not visit him at the hospital? He's gravely ill, and it appears you are not too concerned. Furthermore, I have a friend who is a doctor, and he informed me that Richard

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may not survive for more than a month."

Pearl chuckled "Yes, I'm aware of his condition. But what are your intentions? Are you planning to become the new president?"

Another middle aged man chimed in, waving his hand. "No, Miss Pearl, please don't misunderstand We simply wish to nominate a new president to oversee the company. Otherwise, we'll be a group without a leader."

“Richard has only been in a coma for ten days, and you’re already in a hurry to choose a new president

Well, tell me Who do you think is suitable?”

As Pearl posed the question, she sensed a man in the corner instantly straighten up. He had been

keeping a low profile until now

The woman who had been arguing with Pearl quickly smiled and leaned toward the man in the corner

“Of course, we intend to nominate Mister Cyrus. He possesses the largest shareholding and has made

significant contributions to the company. I believe he is the most qualified candidate”

Chapter 570

The people nearby nodded, echoing her sentiments,

Cyrus Lynch laughed. “You’re too kind. I’m just an average person like the rest of us. We’re all here to

serve the company. Why single me out?” Even as he said this, the smugness in his eyes was obvious.

Pearl glanced at him and snorted. “What a hypocrite!”

Cyrus’s expression darkened upon hearing Pearl’s blunt remark.

The middle-aged woman shot Pearl a cold glance. “Miss Pearl, I understand that

you may not be pleased with this decision, but it’s the reality we face. We’re about to hold a vote to

finalize it. If more than half of the shares support Mister Cyrus, he will be the new president of our company.”

Pearl nodded thoughtfully. “I’m sure no one has more shares than me here, right?”

Cyrus smiled amiably. “Absolutely With Mister Richard absent, you are the biggest shareholder.”

Pearl smiled back, but she couldn’t hide her disgust at Cyrus’s confident look. “Very well, then. I will cast my vote for Richard, and I don’t see anything wrong with that.” She stood up. and smoothed her hair. “I believe that my shares, combined with Richard’s, are enough to reject your proposal.”

Cyrus wasn’t surprised by her response. In fact, he patiently explained, “Miss Pearl, you might not be aware of this, but in order for a shareholder’s vote to count, they need to be physically present to cast their vote. Unfortunately, Mister Richard..

”

Pearl’s heart skipped a beat. As expected, Cyrus was a cunning old fox. There was a trap laid out for her. “So, you mean you will be elected as the new president then?”

Pearl’s straightforwardness left Cyrus flustered. “No, we have to go through the voting process...”

Cyrus wanted to continue, but a cold voice interrupted him from the doorway.

“What if my thirty percent of the shares are counted?”

Cyrus turned around in disbelief upon hearing the familiar voice. At the sight of Richard’s cold

expression, he couldn’t help but blurt out, “Richard?”

His anxiety caused him to forget to address Richard with the customary respect. Instead, he used

Richard’s first name.

He hadn’t anticipated that Richard would recover and return to the company. He had been one step

away from becoming the legal president of Waldorf Enterprises!

Gritting his teeth in anger, Cyrus couldn’t find any other words. He suffered in silence, mumbling,

“You’ve finally returned, Mister Richard. We were just discussing some ideas for the company’s

future... We still need your guidance.”

He was full of remorse and pain, as he had spent a few hundred thousand dollars the day before to

make everyone vote for him. But now, it has all been wasted.

“But I don’t think you were joking, Mister Cyrus.” Richard didn’t believe Cyrus’s words. He walked over

to Pearl, who wisely vacated her seat for him. “I’ve recovered, and I’m able to work normally. Today is

Friday, and we should hold the shareholders' meeting to discuss the company's development."

Richard's statement sent shivers down everyone's spine.