

## **YOUR GUISE 751**

### Chapter 751

Pearl forced a smile. "Ma'am, you've got it wrong. Silas and I are just friends."

Camila didn't seem bothered. She smiled gently and said, "That's alright. You'll grow to like each other as you spend more time together."

Luke stood nearby, nodding as if he was trying to avoid getting scolded by Camila.

Elijah had a smile on his face as he listened to the young ones chatting. But when he heard that they weren't in a relationship, his expression changed. "Silas, what's going on?"

Silas had previously mentioned that Pearl was his future wife. Besides, he had expected Pearl to give this response. He replied calmly, "We should take things slow in relationships."

Elijah looked displeased with Silas for disappointing him. Then, he turned to Pearl and greeted her warmly. "Oh, Pearl. Come here and let me have a look at you."

Pearl smiled and went over since she found Elijah friendly. "Sir, you know me?"

Elijah started explaining, "Of course. Your grandfather and I were best friends. We started a business together when we were young, and he even promised that our families would have an arranged marriage."

An arranged marriage?

First, it was the York family, then the Cooper family, and now the Quinton family. Ezra seemed to have a lot of best friends. But he seemed to forget that he only had a granddaughter.

"Ah, by the way, Pearl, I haven't asked you. Are you engaged to anyone?"

"No," Pearl answered honestly.

Elijah's eyes brightened as he glanced at Silas. "What a coincidence! Silas isn't engaged either. Why don't we take this opportunity to fulfill the promise your grandfather made?"

Pearl smiled. "It was just a joke when you guys were young. It doesn't count."

However, Elijah was clever. He understood what she meant. But he genuinely liked her and wanted her to be part of the family.

"Pearl, let's not dwell on this since you haven't decided on starting a family yet. Just stay here tonight, and I'll have the servants take good care of you." He changed the subject and indirectly made Pearl stay.

Pearl felt torn because she sensed that they wanted her to marry Silas. She wondered why she was so popular.

Silas maintained a neutral expression, but he seemed unhappy.

"Silas, Pearl is a rare guest. You should take her out for some fun." Elijah had intended to encourage them to strengthen their bond.

Silas nodded. He couldn't appear gloomy in front of Pearl, so he put on a cheerful smile. "Let's go. I'll show you around."

Although Pearl didn't want to be alone with Silas, she knew that staying there would only make things more awkward. She nodded. "Okay."

Camila chimed in, "Your cousin is here too. Take Pearl and her out. You're around the same age so you'll have plenty to talk about."

Cousin...

Pearl swallowed but kept her smile. She had a bad feeling.

Chapter 752

If Pearl remembered it right, Silas's cousin wasn't a very pleasant person.

Yelena Campbell had been learning the violin since she was young and had won several prestigious awards abroad. Because of this, she had become arrogant and often behaved stubbornly. Her reputation was that of someone with a bad temper.

Pearl had gathered this information on her own, so she felt confident about it. She was pondering how to deal with this legendary person when Silas suddenly stopped walking.

"Why are you distracted? What's the matter? Are you worried about meeting my cousin?"

"No, not at all. Why would I be worried?" Pearl responded.

"If you're not worried, then... are you nervous?" Silas leaned in and noticed Pearl's furrowed brows. He couldn't help but chuckle. "Have you heard some rumors about my cousin?" "Yeah, I have. But it's a different story whether those rumors are true or not," Pearl said, trying to steer the conversation in a different direction.

"Why don't you meet her in person? She's sitting by the flowerbed up ahead. Why don't we go and say hello?"

Pearl instinctively shook her head. "No, you should go alone. I don't want to get involved."

Their conversation might have been louder than they realized, and the woman sitting there suddenly turned around. When she saw Silas, her face lit up.

"Silas!"

But when she saw Pearl, her expression changed. "Silas, who is this woman? Why is she with you?"

She sounded bitter, and someone ignorant might even think that Pearl was trying to steal Yelena's boyfriend. "Hello, I'm Pearl Leighton." Pearl extended her hand politely, hoping to shake hands with Yelena.

However, Yelena swatted her hand away in disgust. "Don't touch me. Who are you?"

"It seems your cousin isn't very fond of me. I'll just wait nearby." Pearl shrugged and moved to the side.

Silas was already in a bad mood, and Yelena's rude behavior infuriated him. "Yelena, what's gotten into you? This is our guest. You shouldn't be treating her like this!"

"Guest? I've never seen you treat any guest so nicely."

Yelena was livid because Pearl and Silas had been standing close to each other. She had never seen Silas be this gentle with anyone. Moreover, he was being very attentive to Pearl, something he had never done for her.

"She's your future cousin-in-law."

Yelena felt her world crumble upon hearing Silas's words. "Are you going to marry her?"

She looked furious as she clenched her fists. "I disagree! I won't allow you to be with her!" She couldn't see anything good about Pearl. She thought Pearl was only pretty and didn't seem friendly.

Yelena believed that Pearl couldn't be a good person. Plus, she believed that Silas belonged to her alone.

Silas glanced at Yelena coldly. "I don't think it's any of your business who I date or marry."

"But I'm your cousin!"

"You're just my cousin. What right do you have to interfere in my personal life?"

Yelena couldn't believe it. "Silas, how could you do this to me for an outsider?"

Chapter 753

Silas had reached the end of his patience. "Let me make this clear one last time, she's not an outsider. She's your future cousin-in-law."

"Fine, you're going to marry her, right? Let's see how good she is at winning you over."

Yelena took a deep breath and walked toward Pearl. Swiftly, she grabbed Pearl's chin.

Sensing that things were going wrong, Pearl stepped back and instinctively tried to slap Yelena.

Being someone who had received training, Pearl didn't hold back in her slap. As a result, Yelena's cheek swelled, and the sudden force caused her to stumble and fall to the ground.

Yelena touched her burning cheek, aware of the red mark left by the slap. She had never experienced anything like this before, and Pearl had slapped her without hesitation.

Instantly, Yelena lost her temper and shouted, "Silas, did you see what she did to me? Do you have to tolerate her unruly behavior?"

Pearl realized that her slap had been quite forceful. She raised her hands and cast a sidelong glance at Silas. "Do whatever you want with me."

Silas frowned and appeared somewhat anxious.

Pearl thought he might retaliate, teaching her a lesson or at least defending his cousin Yelena, who was now in distress. After all, Yelena was his cousin, and Pearl was just an outsider. He would naturally side with his family.

But to her surprise, Silas grabbed Pearl's wrist and pulled her closer. After seeing her reddened palm, he gently blew on it, as if trying to soothe the pain. "Are you okay? That slap looked pretty hard. Did you hurt your hand?"

Silas's concern for Pearl made Yelena, who was on the ground, appear even more ridiculous and pitiful. "Silas, are you out of your mind?"

In the past, Silas had been indifferent to everyone except Yelena. He had always been patient with her.

But after encountering Pearl today, Yelena realized that the so-called special treatment had been a way for her to deceive herself. She felt like a fool.

"She's my girlfriend and future wife. She's going to be part of my family. If you want to label anyone as an outsider here, it's you." Silas spoke confidently. "I treated you well because you're my cousin. But if you're rude to the woman I love, I won't let it slide."

Although Silas delivered that statement with a smile, his fierceness frightened Yelena.

Yelena couldn't comprehend why Silas, who had always acted recklessly, had suddenly changed so drastically. It frightened her.

While Silas was defending Pearl, Pearl couldn't help but discern the underlying message he was conveying: she was going to be his girlfriend. If rumors about this spread, it wouldn't bode well for her.

So, she cleared her throat. "Don't pay attention to his nonsense. We're not in a relationship."

However, her words didn't seem to register with Yelena. She saw them as very intimate, and Silas disregarded her due to his affection for Pearl.

"Stop, you wicked woman!" Yelena was still a teenager, and she covered her eyes as tears welled up. "Listen carefully. Silas's ex-girlfriend is coming back. Esti won't let you get away with this!"

Pearl had no idea who Esti was, but she sensed that Esti must be quite formidable since Silas immediately straightened up upon hearing her name.

But it had nothing to do with her. Silas was not Richard, and Esti was not Jenny. It couldn't disturb Pearl's composure any longer.

Pearl leaned over and gazed into Yelena's eyes, offering a reassuring smile. "Don't drag me into your drama. I'm not playing a part in your love triangle."

Chapter 754

Yelena's heart skipped a beat when she saw the fierceness in Pearl's eyes, but she quickly regained her composure. She knew she was the pampered Miss Yelena and didn't have to be afraid of someone with an unknown background.

"Don't try to threaten me here. I'm not scared of you." She dusted off her clothes and stood up. With her hands on her hips, she confronted Pearl, "I don't care who you are. But I'm warning you, stay away from Silas and my house."

"How amusing. You want me to leave?" Pearl approached Yelena and chuckled. "If Silas hadn't invited me here, I wouldn't have come. Besides, this is the Quinton Residence. Isn't it embarrassing to cause a scene here when you're not even a Quinton?"

Yelena's face turned red with anger. "Cut the crap! This is my aunt's house. What's wrong with me being here?"

"Don't treat your aunt's house as your own. And you should work on your bad temper."

Pearl pretended to dust off her hand and turned away abruptly. "Alright, since your family doesn't seem to welcome me, I'll leave. Goodbye."

Without hesitation, Pearl walked away.

Silas felt extremely frustrated because the person he had invited with great effort had been driven away in anger. However, he didn't dare to stop Pearl, fearing it might leave a bad impression on her.

So, he directed all his anger at Yelena. "Do you think you're above everyone else, Yelena?"

Yelena had been smug while watching Pearl leave, but Silas's question left her speechless. "... I didn't mean that."

Silas continued to stare at Yelena coldly. "I'm warning you. If you ever offend her again from today onwards, I won't care if you're my relative or not." With that, he stopped looking at Yelena's pale face and left. Yelena watched them all leave one by one while she stood there like a laughingstock, trembling with anger.

She swore she wouldn't let Pearl off the hook.

Pearl pretended to be angry as she rushed out of the house, and no one dared to stop her. It was only after leaving that she remembered to text Silas.

She checked her phone and saw a series of apologetic texts from Silas.

I'm sorry.

I didn't mean it. I won't let her come near you again.

Pea, I'm begging you. Please text me back.

Don't be mad. You'll get wrinkles.

I'll apologize to you on her behalf.

Stunned, Pearl was still angry, but she knew who was at fault and who had offended her. She was clear about that.



Since Silas continued to text her, she replied to his messages right away. I'm fine. I'm going home.

Silas: You didn't even text me an emoji. You must be mad.

Pearl: No, I'm not mad.

Silas: Mad People always say they're not.

Pearl: Fine, you can work overtime when everyone else has a day off tomorrow.

Please don't do this to me! Silas even added a crying emoji.

Pearl switched off her phone and couldn't help but smile.

Chapter 755

Pearl found herself with some free time on the weekend and decided to visit Esther, who had recently returned from abroad. Esther had been eager to meet up, but Pearl had been too busy until now.

Esther was making a name for herself as an up-and-coming actress, and Pearl thought it would be a good opportunity to catch up and perhaps offer her some support. She also wanted to see if she could get some extras as streamers.

As she walked several hundred meters away from the Quinton Residence, Pearl realized that the house was located in a remote suburb, making it difficult to find a taxi nearby.

She refused to give up and opened an app on her phone to search for nearby taxis, but no one picked up her request.

Frustrated, she regretted not borrowing a car from Silas but didn't want to bother him by calling for one now. Instead, she decided to see if she could find a passing car that could take her to the city center.

The road leading away from the Quinton Residence passed through a large forested area, with just an ordinary road cutting through it. As Pearl walked along the road, she heard a faint cry for help in the distance.

"Help me... Can anyone hear me..."

Although it was faint, it was clear in such a deserted place.

Pearl wasn't looking for trouble, but the urgency in the voice compelled her to investigate. "Who's there?"

When the person finally gained a response, the call for help became louder. "I'm here! Over here!"

The voice came from the southeast, and Pearl quickly made her way through the bushes.

She found a woman in distress, covered in blood, with her face obscured. The woman's abdomen had been cut open, and her intestines were visible.

"Can you drive me to the hospital? I don't want to die." The woman reached out shakily, trying to grab Pearl's clothes.

"Don't panic. I don't have a car, and can't drive you to the hospital. But I'll try to get a car for you."

Pearl examined the woman's injuries, which appeared severe but not immediately life-threatening. She decided to keep the woman talking to prevent her from blacking out.

Pearl then sent her location to Wayne and called him. "Send a car here immediately."

"Miss Pearl, it's quite far," Wayne replied. "The closest car will take at least twenty minutes."

"Can you make it as fast as possible?"

"Miss Pearl, I don't have your exact location. It seems like a remote area, and the fastest car needs twenty minutes to get there."

Pearl sighed in frustration. "Alright, twenty minutes then. Please ask the driver to hurry."

After hanging up, Pearl squatted down beside the injured woman, wrinkling her nose at the strong smell of blood. "Who did this to you?"

She tried to chat with the woman to gather more information about her condition and to keep her alert, preventing her from losing consciousness prematurely.

The woman shook her head. "I don't know. I came here to pick some wild vegetables, but—"

Before she could finish speaking, she suddenly widened her eyes, her gaze fixed on something behind Pearl.

"Watch out!"

Chapter 756

Pearl acted swiftly, turning to face the man who lunged at her. She managed to dodge his attack just in time, narrowly avoiding his frenzied assault.

The man had a wild look in his bloodshot eyes.

"It's him! He's the one who tried to kill me!" the injured woman exclaimed.

Pearl squinted at the man, sensing a familiarity about him. He reminded her of someone she had seen before. "Who are you?"

However, the man paid no attention to her question and attempted to stab Pearl with his bloodstained knife.

Pearl, with no other option, quickly deflected the knife with a kick and immobilized him by pinning his arms behind his back.

"Ah!" the man cried out in pain as Pearl twisted his arms 180 degrees.

Pearl then gave him a stern kick and demanded answers, "Tell me, what do you want?"

"I'm going to kill you!"

Pearl pressed on, "We have no grudge. Why do you want to kill me?"

The man glared at the woman on the ground and gnashed his teeth. "Because you saw me kill her, so I have to kill you too."

"Then tell me why you wanted to kill her."

"Ha! It's my boss' orders. I just have to kill her. None of your business," the man retorted fiercely.

"Oh?" Pearl applied more pressure, causing him to cry out in pain. "Say that again."

"My boss told me to kill her, and I don't know why. But I'll get a lot of money for it," the man admitted.

Pearl sensed he was telling the truth, so she eased up on him slightly.

The man thought he could escape and attempted to break free, but Pearl quickly grabbed a nearby rock and threw it at his ankle, striking the tendon. His legs gave way, and he collapsed to the ground.

Pearl walked over and stepped on his back. "I'm not done with you yet, and you want to run away."

The man lay in the dirt, abandoning his previous bravado, and begged for mercy. "I'm sorry, Miss. Please spare me. I was only here to kill someone. I failed to kill you. Please, let me go. I beg you."

Pearl didn't take his pleas seriously. "Tell me, who sent you here?" She pressed harder on his back.

"Ouch... Please, Miss, I... I don't know who sent me. All I know is that the person lying here is Miss Estrella Ford, the young lady of the Ford family. I'd get a lot of money if I killed her."

Estrella Ford from the Ford family?

Pearl frowned because this name sounded familiar. "Are you telling the truth?"

"Yes, I wouldn't dare to lie." The man forced a smile.

"You can rest in peace if that's the case." Pearl increased the pressure on his back and refused to release him.

The man's eyes widened in disbelief. "Didn't you say you'd spare me if I told the truth?"

Pearl bent over and smacked his face, smirking. "When did I promise that? You assumed I would."

After that, she smacked his forehead, and he lost consciousness.

"Did you kill him?"

Chapter 757

Despite Estrella's excruciating pain, she was left in shock by the scene she had witnessed.

Pearl shook her head. "No, he's just unconscious."

Pearl quickly retrieved her phone and dialed 911 to report the incident to the police.

After providing the necessary information to the authorities, Pearl heard a car horn in the distance. She helped Estrella to her feet, even though Estrella moaned in pain while clutching her wounded belly.

"I know you're in a lot of pain, but please hang on a little longer. We'll be at the hospital soon. The car is here. Let's get in."

"You're Miss Pearl, aren't you?" A car pulled up beside them, and a sturdy-looking man stepped out. But when he saw Estrella's condition, he frowned. "She's bleeding a lot. Is she going to mess up my car?"

Pearl asked, "How much is your car worth?"

The man scratched his head. "Around 27 thousand dollars."

"Give me your bank account details later. I'll transfer 68 thousand to you. Please take her to the hospital now."

The man's hesitation disappeared when he heard about the payment. He agreed without further delay. "Alright, I'll drive her to the hospital."

Suddenly, he noticed the unconscious man on the ground and seemed uncertain. "What about this guy?"

"Leave him. The police will come and take care of him," Pearl said. She then helped Estrella into the back seat of the car and got in herself.

The man drove them to the hospital, and Estrella was rushed into the emergency room upon arrival.

Pearl decided to look up Estrella's information while she was undergoing surgery. It wasn't an investigation but rather an attempt to find contact information for Estrella's family, so they could be informed about her condition.

Besides, she merely rescued Estrella. She had no obligation to stay at the hospital and keep taking care of her.

However, while searching, Pearl discovered that Estrella had an ex-boyfriend named Silas. She couldn't help but wonder if it was the same Silas she knew.

As she pondered this, she recalled Yelena's harsh words from earlier, "Esti won't let you off!"

Pearl began to suspect that Esti referred to Estrella Ford. Deep in thought, she gazed at the emergency room doors.

The world seemed small, bumping into acquaintances unexpectedly.

But it wasn't something she should dwell on. Pearl decided to call Estrella's parents using an anonymous number to inform them about the accident. She also paid Estrella's medical fees as a gesture of kindness.

Before leaving hastily, Pearl sensed a familiar presence brushing past her, but she didn't see the person clearly.

However, that person recognized her.

Behind her mask, the woman's eyes welled up with tears.

"Aunt Beah, look at that person. Doesn't she look like Pea?" a woman beside her whispered curiously.

"Shh, keep your voice down, or she'll hear you."

"Do you miss her? Should we go and meet her if you can't bear it anymore?"

"It's okay, Gigi. Remember, we can't burden Pearl again. Do you understand?"

"Then why did we come back to Enswood?"

"It's because... sometimes, the most dangerous place is also the safest place."

Chapter 758

Pearl left the hospital and hailed a taxi. She gave the driver Esther's address and, after a half-hour ride, they arrived at their destination.

Pearl paid the fare, stepped out of the cab, and made her way to the entrance. However, a security guard stopped her in her tracks.

"Please show me your ID," he demanded.

"I'm a friend of the resident here. She invited me over," Pearl explained.

"You say you're her friend. Do you have any evidence? If not, please leave now." The security guard appeared skeptical, unsure if Pearl's claim was legitimate or if she might be an overzealous fan trying to sneak in.

"I can call her to confirm," Pearl suggested, reaching for her phone.

The security guard, somewhat reluctantly, agreed to this proposal.

Pearl attempted to call Esther, but there was no answer after three consecutive calls.

"Alright, ma'am, you'll have to leave if you can't provide any evidence," the security guard said impatiently, keen to resume his duties.

As Pearl turned away, she accidentally bumped into someone's chest. She winced and touched her nose.



"Hey, were you not looking where you were going?" she said. If her nose got deformed from the bump, it would be very ugly.

Richard, the person she had collided with, didn't seem to feel any pain. He responded calmly, "Weren't you watching where you were walking?"

Pearl recognized Richard's voice and was annoyed by his presence. "You saw me but chose to walk into me, Mister Richard. You're the one who's blind here."

Despite her sarcastic remark, Richard maintained his composure and remained unfazed. "Step aside."

Richard's tone was stern, but Pearl suddenly realized that he might be her only ticket to gaining access to the set.

"Mister Richard, can you do me a favor?" She stopped him and looked up at him.

"No, I can't," he replied bluntly.

Pearl softened her tone and threw her pride to the wind. She began to plead shamelessly, "I need to get inside, but the security guard won't let me through. I—"

Richard shot her a cold glance and interrupted her. "It's none of my concern."

"Do you have to be this cruel, Richard?" Pearl felt deflated by his rejection. Although she had grown thick-skinned enough not to be affected by his words, his straightforward refusal left her feeling helpless.

She took a deep breath and tried to brainstorm alternative solutions. Perhaps she could climb over a wall, although that seemed dirty and awkward.

Lost in thought, Pearl was surprised when Richard suddenly asked, "Why do you need to go inside?"

"I'm here to visit my friend," Pearl replied promptly.

"Esther?"

"Yeah, Esther." Stunned, Pearl wondered why he knew.

Suddenly, Richard fell silent. After a long pause, he finally spoke. "Go ahead."

Naturally, the security guard allowed Pearl to enter the premises after Richard had said so.

Pearl brightened up and expressed her gratitude. "Thank you, Mister Richard."

She then disregarded Richard, the very person who had helped her, and made her way inside.

Chapter 759

Richard's narrowed eyes showed no emotion as he watched Pearl walk away.

Pearl followed Esther's directions and made her way to where Esther was located.

Esther was engrossed in discussing her script with the director when she noticed Pearl's arrival. Her eyes lit up, but she couldn't approach Pearl since the director was present. She subtly signaled for Pearl to make herself comfortable.

Pearl found an empty seat and decided to take a look at the script, which was nearby. As she flipped through the pages, she found it quite interesting, clearly the work of a skilled writer.

It seemed like Clem was good at his work. She continued to peruse more pages and came across a familiar name in the list of cast members.

It was Winona.

Furthermore, Winona had a significant role as the second female lead. She might have invested in the film and was here to experience what it felt like to be an actress.

Pearl frowned, realizing why Richard was here.

"Rick, could you help me open this bottle? I can't do it," a voice chimed in.

"Mm, okay."

A familiar and sickeningly sweet voice sounded. Pearl turned to look and saw them sitting closely together.

Richard reluctantly unscrewed the bottle, and when he sensed an intense gaze upon him, he looked up with a scrutinizing expression.

When Pearl's eyes met Richard's, she immediately turned away.

"Rick, what's wrong? What are you looking at?" Winona became curious when she noticed Richard's distracted expression.

She followed his gaze and saw Pearl sitting some distance away.

Winona couldn't help but wonder why Pearl was here again, her good mood quickly vanishing. In an attempt to gauge Richard's feelings, she asked, "Rick, isn't that Pearl over there? Do you want to go and say hello?"

She posed the question with both curiosity and a hidden agenda, eager to find out why Pearl was present. She also wanted to see how much Richard still cared about Pearl. After all, Richard seemed reluctant to let Pearl go.

Richard turned to Winona, his voice icy as he replied, "I'm not close to her. There's no need to say hello."

Winona muttered, "But you were staring—"

Richard calmly interjected, "I was lost in thought."

Winona couldn't tell if he was telling the truth.

Once Richard left for the restroom, she strolled over to Pearl. "It's been a while, Pearl."

On the surface, Winona was attempting to greet Pearl, but her ulterior motives were evident. Pearl sensed this and kept her responses brief, as she had no desire to chat with Winona. "I'm here to see my friend."

Winona smiled. "What kind of friend? Care to introduce us?"

Pearl rolled her eyes, unimpressed by Winona's attitude. She wondered if Winona thought her cutesy act was endearing. Without holding back, Pearl retorted, "Don't you have friends?"

Winona had expected various responses, but she was taken aback by Pearl's retort. She had aimed to belittle Pearl for being petty if she refused to introduce her. However, Pearl's response left Winona flustered. It was as if Pearl had indirectly implied that Winona had no friends.

Winona's face turned livid. "I came over to greet you nicely, Pearl. Why would you say something like that?"