

Your Guise 901

Chapter 901

Richard could no longer hold himself back after hearing that. He leaned over and kissed Pearl.

Pearl responded, albeit with little experience. Their kiss deepened, becoming more passionate.

When they were fully engrossed, Richard pulled away.

Confused, Pearl licked her lips, hinting at her dissatisfaction.

"Okay, that's it. I'll take you to the hospital."

"Why do I need to go to the hospital?" Pearl looked at Richard, her body feeling feverish. She felt a burning sensation, her mind clouded.

"It's not the right time. We should wait until we're both ready for this." Despite his desire, Richard restrained himself, knowing Pearl wasn't thinking clearly. Though they were technically married, he wanted to respect her.

"Okay." Pearl seemed to understand and lowered her head in disappointment.

Richard admired his restraint as they quickly reached the hospital.

The doctor immediately recognized Pearl's condition. "What happened? How did she end up like this?" He eyed Richard suspiciously. "Couples shouldn't experiment like this. This drug is dangerous. Overdosing could be fatal."

The doctor wondered where Richard got the drug, which was illegal and not sold in the market.

Richard cleared his throat and clarified, "No, it was an accident. I brought her here as soon as I realized."

The doctor relaxed, realizing Richard hadn't harmed Pearl. The latter even drove her to the hospital and did not take advantage of the situation. "You're a good man. She's lucky to have you."

Richard blurted out, "We're married."

"You guys are married?"

"Yes, here's our certificate." With that, Richard produced a marriage certificate from his pocket.

The doctor looked at him in astonishment. So, he had even brought it with him. "Sir, how about I give you a check-up as well?"

For a moment, Richard was puzzled. He responded earnestly, "No, thank you. Please just focus on her. I'm fine." He wondered if the doctor thought he was drugged too.

No, since you're married, intimacy is important. But you hesitated and didn't touch her. Is there, perhaps, an issue in that department?"

The doctor's concerned look caused Richard's face to darken. "Doctor, I'm fine."

"Then why come to the hospital for something trivial? You can handle it at home."

Richard felt uneasy, his mood souring further.

Seeing Richard's change in demeanor, the doctor backed off. "Alright, I won't pry. Let me check on her and prescribe something."

Wary of Richard's reaction, the doctor hurried away.

Chapter 902

After taking the medicine, the flush on Pearl's face gradually subsided, and she fell asleep in the ward very quickly.

Richard stood at the door, noticing the darkened sky outside. It was already midnight.

His assistant tried to persuade him to go home and sleep, but after a brief thought, he decided to stay. Pearl might feel sad if she woke up and didn't see him there. So, Richard asked his assistant to leave.

He stayed beside the bed, watching her sleep peacefully. An unspeakable satisfaction filled him.

At some point, he dozed off. When he woke up, he found a woman's coat draped over his body.

With a curious smile, Pearl looked at him in a daze. "What are you looking at?"

Stunned, Richard didn't expect Pearl to wake up so early, let alone drape a coat over him.

"Well, I find you handsome. Your eyelashes are surprisingly long. I feel like touching them." Pearl gently stroked his eyelashes, making him feel itchy.

"Okay, stop."

Pearl grinned and stopped.

"Let's talk about something else." Richard's gaze turned serious, sending a shiver down Pearl's spine.

Terrified, Pearl knew what Richard was about to bring up—he wanted an explanation.

But Pearl couldn't resist at the moment. She kept her head bowed as if she was being scolded.

"Why do you look so guilty? I haven't even started yet." Although Pearl appeared submissive, Richard sensed she was hiding her amusement.

"Go ahead..."

"Why did you meet him alone behind my back?" She had kept it a secret and made an excuse to send him away, which infuriated him.

"He asked to meet. If I go there alone, he'll tell me a secret."

Richard squinted. "You went alone because he asked you to. Weren't you afraid he might harm you?"

"I was cautious, but I didn't expect him to be so wicked as to drug me." She had anticipated Hugo might try something, but being drugged was beyond her expectations. It was even aphrodisiac!

Pearl wanted nothing more than to teach Hugo a lesson for his deceit.

"Are you going to act recklessly again?" Richard knew she wouldn't learn unless she faced consequences.

Pearl nodded quickly. "Of course not. I'll tell you beforehand regardless of what I do in the future."

Richard snorted. "That's more like it."

Pearl asked tentatively, "So, are we okay now?"

"No, I need to make sure you take it seriously." Richard thought carefully. "You'll move to Waldorf Residence with me starting today, for your safety and to prevent any more reckless behavior."

Pearl's smile faded. "That's not ideal. There are so many people there."

Chapter 903

"Why not? Everyone knows we're married."

Pearl's stiff expression turned to bewilderment. "Did you tell everyone?"

Richard nodded. "Yeah, the whole family knows you're my wife, so you can't refuse. You're coming to live with me from tonight."

"Do I have to sleep in the same bed with you?"

Richard chuckled. "If you don't want to, you don't have to."

"Can I say no? I don't want to go there." After a moment of thought, Pearl found the situation surreal and not entirely to her liking.

"No, you have to live with me. But... there's another option if you don't want to move there."

Richard's words intrigued her. "I'm listening."

"I'll move in with you."

Pearl was rendered speechless.

Deciding against living together just yet, Pearl opted to move to Waldorf Residence instead.

With the decision made, Richard wasted no time. After handling the discharge procedures, he drove Pearl back to Waldorf Residence.

Standing at the door, Pearl smiled awkwardly. "I haven't packed my things yet."

Richard raised an eyebrow, a warmth in his usually cold gaze. "You'll see when we get inside."

Pearl's curiosity piqued as they entered the house. It wasn't dinner time, and most of the Waldorfs weren't home, except for Susan, who was sitting on the sofa watching TV with a face mask on.

Susan dropped her mask in shock at the sight of Pearl. "What are you doing here, Pearl?"

Pearl smiled, suppressing her anxiety. "I—"

Richard smoothly intervened. "I asked Pearl to move in."

Surprised, Susan asked, "Really? Is she willing? Don't force her."

"No, she's willing."

Susan couldn't stop smiling. "That's wonderful. I've wanted her to move in for so long. Now I have someone to keep me company."

Pearl felt it wasn't that simple, considering Susan's excitement.

"Oh, right, I forgot you guys are married. It's natural for you to live together." Susan held Pearl's hand warmly. "If Richard bullies you, I won't forgive him, Pearl. Don't be afraid. I'll support you."

Richard's gaze softened at her words. "I wouldn't bully her."

"Hey, I'm talking to my daughter-in-law. Don't interrupt," Susan joked, making Pearl feel like she was truly her daughter.

Pearl burst into laughter. "Aunt Susan, stop teasing him. What if he takes it seriously and runs away from home?"

"Just let him go. I've got a lovely daughter-in-law now. I don't care. You know, I've always wanted a daughter..."

Chapter 904

Regardless, Susan's words warmed Pearl deeply, and her fondness for Susan deepened.

Suddenly, Susan seemed to recall something and slapped her thigh. "Oh, wait here. I'll grab something." She then hurried upstairs.

Pearl looked at Richard, puzzled. "What did she mean?"

Richard knew Susan's intentions but chose to smile and ignore Pearl's question.

"By the way, have you ever brought Winona home before?"

Richard looked into her eyes. "No, I didn't."

"But you told me you would."

"Why are you fixated on that? It was a lie." Richard sensed her jealousy in her bitter tone.

"I'm not, I was curious." Pearl, annoyed, stepped hard on his foot, feeling caught.

When she looked up, she saw Susan returning with a box. The latter witnessed her stepping on Richard's foot in annoyance, which embarrassed her.

"Ah, young couples bickering. It's fine. If he messes up, just scold him." Susan smiled brightly.

She sat down and placed the box on the table, revealing an agate ring inside. "We have many treasures in the family, mostly gold. But I remember your allergy, so I found this for you. It's an ancient piece."

Pearl knew it was an ancient piece. "It's too expensive. I can't accept it."

"Why not? You're family now. The other daughters-in-law will get one too."

Pearl knew refusing was pointless, so she accepted it graciously.

"Good. Keep it safe. I'll cook for you. We'll have a feast tonight since you're here." Then, she glared at Richard. "Take good care of my daughter-in-law and serve her well. If not, you're going to suffer."

Richard felt his status in the family plummet. But he was fine with taking care of Pearl.

After Susan left, Pearl watched Richard peel an orange. "Does Susan know about your ex-fiancee?" Naturally, the wedding was not the only thing she asked about.

"Of course. I've told her everything. She supported me when she learned it was for you."

Pearl's heart softened. "She's considerate. I have decided to be on her side and bully you."

Richard stopped peeling. "You don't have to be so direct."

Pearl carefully put away the ring. "I'll keep it safe."

Her gesture made Richard smile. "Yes, keep it safe. We'll give it to our daughter one day."

"I didn't say I want a daughter. I prefer sons," Pearl retorted rudely.

"We can't have sons." The idea of Pearl being intimate with another man, even if it was their son, frustrated Richard beyond measure.

He softened his tone. "Sons are trouble. They're energetic, affect your mood, and eat a lot. You'll have to deal with their messes and worry about them getting into trouble with girls."

Chapter 905

Pearl glared at Richard. "How would you know? Were you like that before?"

Richard, feeling cornered, just rolled his eyes. "Don't you know the answer to that?"

Indeed, he always seemed aloof and unapproachable, growing up to be quite intimidating.

"But having sons is great. They're usually close to their moms." Pearl liked the idea of both sons and daughters but teased him to get a reaction.

"No way!" Richard's voice grew louder.

"Look at you. You're being petty—" Pearl whispered. But she quickly changed her tune upon seeing his stern look. "Alright, we can have a daughter... Wait. Why am I even talking about having kids with you?"

Richard's expression darkened at her words. "Then who do you plan to have them with?"

Pearl looked away, hesitant. "I've heard childbirth is really painful, though."

Richard softened. "If you're not up for it, we don't have to have kids."

Pearl was taken aback by his understanding. His concern suddenly made her feel that it was not a bad thing to get married so fast.

"Let's not worry about it for now," Richard said, taking her hand to lead her to her room.

Pearl assumed she'd be in her old room. But it was long ago, so she didn't know how that room had turned out.

However, Richard led her to a master bedroom on the second floor. "Your old room's too small, so Mom and I thought you should have this one."

Pearl was stupefied. "But there are only six master bedrooms here. Doesn't everyone have one?"

"Hanzel is hardly ever home. He can stay elsewhere when he visits."

"Why not use Hugo's room? He's not living here, right?"

"It wouldn't be right." Richard had his reasons, especially since Hugo had shown interest in Pearl. Hugo's room would just feel wrong.

"What if Hanzel gets upset?"

Richard remained unfazed. "He can deal with it."

Pearl chuckled at the thought of Hanzel's reaction to losing his room, which made Richard tap her head lightly.

"Don't think about other men," he warned softly yet firmly. His touch was light, but the warning in his eyes was unmistakable.

Pearl nodded and entered the room, noticing the drastic change in decor to a more feminine style, complete with a large stuffed animal.

"Did you do all this?"

She opened the wardrobe to find clothes from her favorite brands and styles.

Richard's thoughtfulness surprised her. That was very attentive of him.

Chapter 906

"Do you really only have one ex-girlfriend? You seem pretty savvy about relationship stuff." Pearl's eyes seemed to sparkle as she playfully teased him.

"You seem well-informed. Didn't you check up on how many girlfriends I've had?" Richard just rolled his eyes, a bit amused yet helpless. He knew Pearl was just teasing him, even though she already knew the answer.

Pearl clicked her tongue, finding his reaction dull. "I was just trying to make things a bit more fun. You're so boring."

"Yeah, it might be a little boring in the morning. Let's do something interesting at night."

"Pfft!" Pearl almost choked. Did Richard really just suggest that? She blushed furiously at his bold joke, lightly punching him. "Watch your tongue!"

"Why get upset? You started it." Richard just smirked, enjoying her feisty reaction.

"I'll stop then." Pearl flopped onto the bed. "This bed is incredibly soft."

"Of course, it is." Richard had tested over thirty materials to find the perfect one, ensuring Pearl's utmost comfort.

But he kept that to himself, not wanting to encourage her bold talk; he disliked hearing her naughty words.

"It must be very comfortable to sleep here."

Richard grinned. "But there's one big flaw with this bed."

Curious, Pearl peeked from under the blanket. "What's wrong with it?"

"The main issue is that I can't share it with you."

Pearl was taken aback, bewildered. "Who taught you to flirt like that?"

Richard hadn't spoken like this before. His attempt at flirting seemed a bit forced but deeply intrigued her, though she wouldn't admit it.

"Don't you like it? Don't women enjoy flirting from the man they love?"

Pearl sat up, clarifying with a serious tone, "That is flirting, yes. But we're like an old married couple now. Your flirting just doesn't do it for me."

"What?" Richard's tone took on an edge.

Realizing she might have misspoken, Pearl quickly backpedaled, "I'm sorry. That came out wrong. You still make me blush. It's just that I'm not into that sort of talk. I'm not the romantic type."

Richard eyed her with a deep, thoughtful look. "Not romantic, huh? Are you sure about that?"

"Yes." Pearl nodded, unaware of the gravity of her words.

Silence fell, and Richard slowly approached the first drawer. He pulled out something resembling a letter and read its contents in a voice that commanded attention.

Chapter 907

"We live under the same stars, missing you day and night, yet unable to meet."

Pearl flinched at these all-too-familiar words. "Why does that sound so familiar to me?"

Richard ignored her and continued reading, "The pain of being apart seems endless. I hope you feel the same, not letting me down."

That's when Pearl realized what he was reading, feeling a mix of panic and helplessness. "How did you find out about this?"

Richard gave her a cold look. "Calm down, there's more." He continued, "Swans pair up in the lake, just as men are drawn to beautiful women.

"The lake's edge is bordered with lush bushes, where men seek virtuous ladies.

"Yet he cannot win her affection, missing her so much he loses sleep.

"The bushes grow, and he plays music, hoping to attract her attention.

"The beauty of the bushes remains, and he plays the drum, hoping to win her heart."

Richard's deep voice made the poem come alive, captivating Pearl. But this was new to her.

"What are you reading?"

Richard sneered. "The handwriting's different. Who do you think wrote it?"

Pearl was shocked. She remembered Damian saying he had replied on the back of the letter.

Could Damian have written this, revealing his feelings after she'd confessed hers? She had assumed his silence meant rejection, so she didn't linger on those feelings, burying them instead.

Now, confronted by Richard, she felt exposed.

Richard, unable to stay calm, lifted her chin. "Are you still claiming to be unromantic, or is there more to you?"

Pearl had penned that letter in a youthful, impulsive moment, filled with raw emotion. Now, with Richard discovering it, she feared his reaction.

But staying silent might imply guilt. "I wrote it when I was bored, and I copied them from a classic poem..."

"Doesn't it count as romantic?"

Richard couldn't understand why Pearl could write such words for Damian but found his attempts at romance off-putting. Jealous of Damian being her first love, he was filled with a desire to confront and strangle him.

"No, it doesn't. I was ignorant at that time. Plus, it wasn't anything good since I just copied it. It wasn't even sincere." It was best to calm Richard down, so Pearl would not dwell on reality instead.

"You really liked him back then, didn't you?" Richard's voice was tinged with sadness, frustration, and a hint of anger.

"Not really." Pearl's affection for Damian grew as he cared for her, sparking those feelings. She wasn't even sure how deep her feelings were.

"And how do you think I felt, finding this? You've kept it all this time."

Richard was understandably upset. Had Pearl truly moved on, she might have discarded such letters.

But she hadn't. She cherished them, an action that spoke of lingering attachment.

Chapter 908

"Don't be mad. Just calm down." Pearl nervously swallowed, avoiding eye contact with Richard. She kept glancing around. "If you want, I can write more for you later. I'll write plenty, okay?"

Richard's expression remained cold as he narrowed his eyes. He said icily, "Do you really think I care about whether you can write more for me?"

He was consumed by jealousy, wondering why she couldn't see it. Feeling this way, he wanted to assert dominance over her, to make her understand his feelings.

"What do you care about then? Is it because I wrote these for him? They're already done. Even if I tell you they're fake, you won't believe me. So, what do you want me to do?" Pearl kept her head down, frustrated and feeling unfairly interrogated by Richard.

"I haven't said much, yet you feel wronged?" Richard's heart softened at her reaction. He realized he couldn't continue to bully her.

He sat beside her on the bed. "I wasn't happy when I saw these things. Shouldn't you try and comfort me?"

Pearl raised her head, feeling relieved that Richard was talking calmly with her. "Why did you snoop on me then?"

Richard was irked. He had helped Pearl pack her things, only to be accused of snooping. Perhaps being too gentle wasn't the right approach for her.

"Do you remember you used to live here? You left these behind. I was just helping you pack when I stumbled upon these unexpectedly."

Pearl retorted, "That sounds more like it."

"So, have you learned your lesson?"

Pearl blinked. "What lesson?"

"You can only write these for me. Don't give them to another man." Richard grew angrier the more he thought about it. He regretted not being a part of her youth and being her first love.

"That's for sure. We're married now. It would be wrong to write this for another man, wouldn't it?" Pearl couldn't comprehend his stupidity.

"What if Damian comes back for you in the future?"

"Why do you look very nervous?" Pearl teased him, noticing his anxiety.

Richard snorted. "Because he's my biggest rival in love." Damian was someone Pearl once had feelings for, making him more difficult to deal with than the people who liked her.

"That was many years ago. You don't even ask if I still have feelings for him."

"That's not the point. What matters is he had a big impact on your life, and I don't want you still thinking about him," Richard replied.

Chapter 909

Pearl held his hand and emphasized, "I admit that he was once important to me in my youth. But as time passed, my feelings changed. I've chosen to be with you. My heart belongs to you, now and forever."

Richard found her statement much more romantic than that bitter poem. He was touched, even considering recording her words for future generations, perhaps as a romantic keepsake between them.

"Alright, let's not dwell on it anymore. You've already assured me." His heart softened as he gently stroked her hair. "I'm sure Mom has finished cooking, and everyone's home. Let's go down and have dinner."

Pearl, despite having just relaxed, felt nervous again. She wasn't just a friend's daughter anymore; she was now a member of the Waldorf family. She worried about potential unexpected situations.

Lost in her thoughts, she slowed her pace.

"Don't be nervous." Richard squeezed her hand. "You have me."

As they descended the stairs, they found all the Waldorfs at home.

Sean, although occasional in his visits, wasn't around today due to his strict schedule set by his biological father, who intended to train him to inherit the family property.

Hanzel was present, accompanied by Feather, who seemed uncomfortable and trapped. It was clear Hanzel had dragged her here against her will.

Mobius, having experienced heartbreak, appeared more subdued than before, displaying a newfound maturity.

Dustan, seldom seen at dinner, smiled warmly at Pearl, growing fond of her like Susan.

Seated at the dining table, Susan beamed happily, pleased that two of her sons had brought their girlfriends home, with one now her legal daughter-in-law. The prospect of future grandchildren filled her with joy.

However, Mobius's loss of a wonderful woman left Susan feeling conflicted, wondering if it would affect him, given his brothers' relationships.

The dinner was awkward despite their familiarity with each other.

Hanzel, notably transformed since dating Feather, served her attentively. "Eat more. You're quite slim. My mom's cooking is good. If you like it, I'll bring you food every day."

Feather, while smiling and accepting the food, couldn't hide her discomfort.

Pearl noticed a brief moment of tension in Hanzel's expression, and if she guessed right, Feather might have stepped on his feet. Their dynamic is quite interesting.

Susan, sensing their intimacy, interjected, "Fifi, when will you marry Hanzel? Let's arrange a meeting with your parents and plan the wedding."

"Pfft!" The usually calm Feather choked. She looked up and forced a smile. "Ma'am, Hanzel and I aren't dating yet..."

Susan's mood soured. "Hanzel, why can't you do such a thing well? Don't come home again if you fail to win Fifi over in a month!"

Still reeling from Feather's reaction, Hanzel now faced his mother's disappointment, leaving him despondent and questioning why he always seemed to suffer.

Chapter 910

Hanzel interjected, "Fifi lost her parents. You didn't know, but you touched on a sensitive topic."

Susan felt remorseful upon learning about Feather's situation. "I'm sorry, Fifi. I didn't realize. Hanzel never mentioned it to me. I should have been more considerate."

Feather, an orphan, received unexpected sympathy from Susan, evoking a mix of emotions within her.

"If you're willing, Fifi, marry Hanzel without worry. I'll make sure he treats you right. If not, I'll break his legs if he bullies you." It was clear that Susan wanted to protect Feather.

Hanzel, expecting Susan to feel bad, was surprised by her compassion. He realized that Susan's concern might bring happiness to Feather, outweighing any bad feelings he felt earlier.

"Thank you, Ma'am..." Feather's hand trembled while holding the fork, moved by Susan's sincerity.

"Eat more. You're quite slim," Susan insisted, adding more food to Feather's bowl.

"Thank you, Ma'am, but I'm afraid I can't finish it all." Feather softened as Susan continued to fuss over her.

Hanzel's smile widened. Seeing that, Feather felt that it was not upsetting to marry him.

Observing Feather's reaction, Susan signaled to Hanzel, who seized the opportunity to express his feelings.

"Fifi, be my girlfriend," Hanzel declared passionately, catching Feather off guard.

Hanzel had confessed his feelings back then, but Feather always felt the timing was wrong, or she was not mentally prepared. Now, it would be quite embarrassing for him if she refused on this

occasion.

Besides, she had not forgotten Susan's kindness.

Feather blushed and nodded in agreement. "Okay."

Hanzel finally managed to win Feather's heart, thanks to Susan's support. His joy was so overwhelming that he looked like he'd sweep her off her feet and spin her around if they weren't in the middle of a meal.

"You've finally agreed to be my girlfriend. Don't worry, I promise to take good care of you starting today."

Hanzel had stayed by Feather's side for several months, never ceasing his efforts. Feather, for her part, wasn't distant by nature and gradually warmed up to him.

But love was something she hadn't experienced much of growing up, leaving her hesitant to trust in it fully. After testing the waters for so long, she began to believe Hanzel could be her lifelong partner.

"I expect actions, not just words," she teased.

"Of course. I'll do it better than everyone else," Hanzel vowed.

Richard, overhearing their sweet exchange, couldn't help but smile until Hanzel's statement seemed to throw a subtle shade his way. "What's that supposed to mean?"

Hanzel flinched, realizing Richard might see his casual remark as a slight. He had great respect for Richard and would never intentionally provoke him.

"Rick, you're reading too much into it," Hanzel quickly clarified.

Richard chuckled. "Good to know."

But inadvertently, Hanzel's comment seemed to also jab at Mobius, who was quietly focusing on his meal, not engaging in the conversation.