

## The Consortium's Heir by Benjamin\_Jnr Chapter 46

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1 million dollars?!

Everyone turned to the person who made such a ridiculous bid. Of course, it was none other than Darius Reid!

Darius took another sip of the wine from the glass cup in his hand, but his gaze was fixed on the wine on display, ignoring the stares he got from other people. However unlike the first time when he bid \$100,000 for the painting the others didn't back down this time. This time around the bigshots were involved in the bidding war.

"\$1.1 million!" Someone shouted a few seconds after Darius raised the bid. "\$1.15 million!" Another person counter bid. "\$1.2 million!" "\$1.3 million!" "\$1.5 million!"

the bid. 1.5 million dollars? Wasn't that a bit

There was a brief pause immediately too much?

Everyone turned to face the person who made the bid. This time around it was David Lesley who placed such a high bid. A

David felt proud when he saw many people looking at him. \$1.5 million dollars wasn't a little sum, but he could afford to spend that much. He only had \$500,000 left before the money allocated to him by his father ran out.

He however believed that that amount of money was enough to win the bid for the wine. David had little to no interest in wine. However he felt the need to win the bid for the wine. He didn't want Darius to steal the spotlight anymore.

Unfortunately, David underestimated the interest the bidders had in the wine. As someone who wasn't a wine lover he didn't understand the appeal a 150 year old wine held to them.

"\$2 million."

It was Darius who raised the bid this time. He knew at once what was running through David's mind, but was unbothered about his behavior. He didn't want to involve himself in David's

childish competition, which was why he raised the bid by half a million dollars.

Darius thought that this bid would end the bidding war, as many people abstained from bidding when they heard Darius bid. Although they were indeed very interested in the wine, \$2 million was too much of a price for just a bottle of wine.

A few seconds passed and there was no other bid.

“\$2 million going once! Twice! ...”

David gritted his teeth in anger. He couldn't afford to bid anymore as he would be unable to

outbid Darius; but at the same time he didn't want to see Darius win this bidding war.

Sarah on the other hand couldn't believe that the person in question was truly Darius. How did Darius become so rich to be able to spend \$2 million so casually on something as silly as wine?!

Just as the announcer was about to confirm Darius as the winner of the bidding war, a voice interrupted him.

“\$2.5 million.” Everyone burst into loud chatters when they heard the price. This was way too much for the bottle of wine. Everyone, including Darius, all turned to see the bidder but were rendered speechless at the identity of the bidder.

It was none other than Pearl Chamberlain

the third ranked beauty of Kingston University!

Pearl looked at Darius with fire blazing in her eyes. She finally knew why Darius looked so familiar. It was because he was the shameless and disgusting pervert who grabbed her breasts in public!

Although Darius had changed drastically from how he was before, no matter how handsome he looked to Pearl, he was still nothing but a shameless pervert.

She had sworn to get back at the pervert, but who would have thought that the pervert was actually rich enough to pay \$2 million for a bottle of wine?

Darius also recognized Pearl as the lady he ran into at the restaurant. He had looked for her severally to apologize and clear up the misunderstanding she had of him, but he was unable to find her anywhere. Now that he had finally found her, she was now in a bidding war with him.

Darius sighed. While he might be sorry for his actions towards her, he didn't plan on losing out on the wine because of her. He was sure that he would win the bidding war, and with that thought, he placed his new bid. "\$3 million."

Loud gasps could be heard when they heard his bid, but it was cut short by Pearl's counter bid.

"\$3.2 million."

Pearl glared at Darius as she made her bid, however Darius ignored her glare. Instead, he placed his own bid, which was a shocking amount.

"\$4 million."

Pearl looked at Darius with fire in her eyes. If looks could kill Darius would have died tons of time. Unfortunately, no matter how hard she glared at Darius, she couldn't kill him.

This time around the amount he offered was way past the amount Pearl could afford. She had no choice but to accept defeat.

"\$ 4 million going once! Twice! And sold!" the man announced happily. Although the money was meant for charity, he was still happy that people would spend so much for the sake of charity.

When the man announced Darius as the winner of the bidding war for the wine, everyone couldn't help but start clapping. The way they all looked at Darius changed drastically. He

could no longer be associated with the word 'poor'.

Helen knew that Darius was rich, but she didn't expect him to be this rich. He just spent \$4 million for a bottle of wine! It was a ludicrous expenditure!

Darius paid the stares they gave him no heed. He just drank from the glass cup he held in his hands slowly.

After Darius won the bid for the wine, several other items were auctioned. This time around Darius refrained from participating in any of the bidding wars. He was content with his painting and wine. A few hours later, the whole charity gala finally came to an end. The auction had generated over \$30 million in profits, which was a very huge sum of money. It would go a very long way in aiding the people in need. Darius could feel the stares of various people on him as he exited the hotel lobby. He knew that by the time his feat at this year gala spread, he would no longer be seen as a poor person anymore.

Darius got into his car and drove to his apartment. He took his shower and had a light dinner before lying on his bed.

He thought about the events at the charity gala and broke out in a huge smile. He made sure to fulfill his objectives at the charity gala, and he did just that. Now, nobody would look down on him anymore. With such thoughts flashing through his mind, a feeling of accomplishment overwhelmed him and Darius went to sleep with a smile on his face.

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Darius woke up later than usual the next day. It was expected as the charity gala had ended later than he expected. However Darius wasn't bothered. He was the person who donated the most at the charity gala as he spent a whopping sum of \$4.1 million; therefore he was granted a one week leave by the University.

Darius decided to visit some of the companies listed under the Reid Consortium after much delay. He spent the days before the charity gala reading through the documents his grandfather sent him regarding the Reid consortium. He hadn't gone because he had to take care of pressing needs and didn't have enough time, but now that he was given a week off by the university, he finally had enough time for himself.

Darius had a quick shower and an exquisite breakfast. Since he was going to visit a company today he decided to dress officially. He wore a suit pants and shirt with equally high quality leather shoes before making his way to his private elevator. When he got to his garage he got into his Bugatti and drove off. After a few minutes, he arrived at the headquarters of Nix Inc., the company he planned on visiting first. Nix Inc. was the largest technology company in the country, with a lot of qualified employees working there. Every year they produced innovating and top electronic gadgets that cost a fortune to purchase. 1

It was the number one choice for any person who was a computer geek to work in as they provided all the materials needed for them to improve their skills. Darius couldn't still believe that such a top company was now registered under his name with him holding 90% shares in the company.

Darius came to a halt just outside the entrance to the Nix Inc. building. He parked his elegant sports car neatly before alighting from the vehicle.

When the security guard saw Darius alighting from such an expensive looking car, he immediately knew that Darius was someone very important, therefore he made up his

mind to treat him with the utmost respect he could offer. Darius walked confidently to the entrance where he saw the security guard stationed. When Darius was within talking range the security guard spoke up. "Good morning Sir. Welcome to Nix. Inc. May I see your identification card?" the guard asked politely.

Darius put his hands inside his pocket and brought out a sleek leather wallet. He swiftly brought out a black and gold card and handed it to the security guard.

The security guard collected it and checked it, however when he saw the 'R' logo on the card, he trembled from shock!

The black – gold card was given to Darius by Bruce a few days ago when he was studying the documents his grandfather sent him. He was told to use it as a means of identification whenever he visited any company and he would be granted entry, therefore Darius didn't know how much weight the card held.

The card only contained his basic information therefore he thought it was just a normal identification card with the only difference being the color, so he was naturally stunned by the security guard's response when he gave him his identity card.

The security guard had seen several of those types of identity cards before. He had seen the bronze, silver and even gold plated identity cards, which was the one the upper echelons of Nix Inc. used, but he had never seen a black – gold plated card!

He looked at Darius once more, but this time there was reverence in his eyes. The black – gold card the man showed him proved that this man was a big shot, even more than the upper echelons in the company!

The security guard instantly opened the huge glass doors, and allowed Darius entry into the Nix Inc. building. Darius nodded his head lightly as a sign of greeting and approval before making his way inside the building. The inside of the building was very busy with several office workers walking around attending to various tasks. When Darius stepped into the building, his appearance drew the attention of several office workers. They looked at him for a brief moment before going back to their work Darius didn't pay them any mind. Bruce had already called the upper echelons of the Nix Inc. company and informed that the new Head of the Reid consortium would be arriving and they should be await his arrival.

A few minutes after Darius arrival, several high ranking people in the company came down to meet him. The attention that the people brought redirected their attention to Darius. This led to several gossips regarding their appearance. "Isn't that the Director of the Administrative department?"

"It is! The General Manager of the Marketing department is also here!"

“Wow! So many big shots!” “I wonder who they’re here for.” They soon came to stop in front of Darius. They were shocked when they saw Darius. One of the people couldn’t help but ask “Are you Darius Reid?”

“Yes that’s me.” Darius answered confidently.

Everyone sucked in a cold breath when they heard his response. When Bruce had informed them of the Head of the Reid consortium’s arrival they expected a middle aged man just like Bruce. They didn’t expect the Head to be someone so young! He looked like he was barely twenty! How could someone so young wield so much wealth and strength?! Darius saw their looks of disbelief and smiled. It was understandable that they were shocked by his age.

Finally someone coughed loudly, snapping the others out of their thoughts. Even though the head was not what they expected, they still had to perform their duties.

“Welcome to Nix Inc. Mr. Reid. Let us show you around.” The man who coughed earlier said.

Darius nodded and let them show him around the company. Together, they showed Darius around various departments in the company.

Darius was shocked again during the tour of the company. It was way above his expectations! It was no wonder that the company was the tenth wealthiest company in the world!

Several minutes passed with them touring the company. Darius noticed that his guides were already tired from showing him around the company, so he decided to give them a rest. While they were resting, he decided to continue the tour by himself.

He checked several other departments in the company. After a few minutes he noticed that he had gotten to a quiet part of the company. Afraid of getting lost in the huge company, he decided to turn back. He was just on his way back when he heard a loud shout behind him.

He turned towards the sound and saw a figure running out of the office behind him. A few seconds after the figure ran out another person, a male, ran out of the office. The male grabbed the lady’s arm and dragged her towards him roughly. “LET ME GO!” The lady yelled, thrashing about wildly at the male figure. Angered, the male raised his hand and was about to bring it down on the lady’s cheeks when a cold voice stopped him short. “What’s going on here?”

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The male ceased his actions and turned to face the intruder who interrupted him with a frown on his face.

"What are you doing right now? Don't you have work to do? Or are you tired of working here?" The man asked the intruder angrily.

Darius, the intruder scowled when he heard the man's question. The man had mistaken him for a worker here and was using his authority to chase him away. It meant that the man was up to no good. Darius ignored the man's questions and walked towards the lady in question. The lady had a look of relief on her face when someone appeared in the secluded area. "Hello. What is the problem?" Darius asked the lady in a gentle voice.

The lady moved farther away from the man and moved closer to Darius subconsciously. Darius was as charming as ever, with his voice very soothing. His masculine features provided the lady with a sense of security hence the reason why she moved closer to Darius. "This man is the problem!" The lady answered, pointing her fingers at the male in question.

Darius scowled when he heard her response.

"What did he do?" Darius asked again.

"I came here to apply for a job since I've heard a lot about Nix Inc., but who would have thought that the company is just filled with perverted men!"

"Not only did he refuse to interview me the proper way, he also tried to force himself on me! Even after I refused and left his office, he still kept chasing after me!" The lady explained, glaring at the man with her eyes blazing. Darius was inexplicably furious when he heard her answer. However, he decided to keep a calm head and hear the story from both sides before making a decision.

He turned to face the male and asked in a cold voice. "Is everything this lady said true?" The male looked at both of them and scoffed.

"You don't seem to be a worker here, since you don't know me, and yes, everything she said is true. But what can you do about it?"

“My word is law here, and I have the power to destroy you if I want. If you turn a blind eye to this and go back to where you came from, I will pardon you, but if you don’t, then you can’t blame me for what happens to you.” The man said haughtily.

Darius looked at the man coldly when he heard his reply. He did not even try to hide or deny the fact that he was forcing himself on someone he was supposed to interview.

The fact that he was straightforward in admitting to the deed meant that many ladies must have fallen victim to his advances. If he wasn’t here by chance he might have succeeded in

having his way the lady!

Darius was furious. The man was painting a bad image for the company. If such people weren’t properly taken care off they would kill the company from the inside!

“I see. I wonder if you will have the audacity to say such when I am done with you.” Darius stated coldly.

The man narrowed his eyes at Darius.

“Are you threatening me?” The man asked. “Threaten?” Darius laughed. “Not at all. This is a promise.” The lady looked at Darius closely. There was admiration in her gaze. This gentleman was a stranger she just met now yet he was willing to stand up to that scum on her behalf.

As if on cue, the upper echelons that were showing Darius around the company suddenly appeared. When they spotted Darius at the other end of the hall they quickly rushed over. “Mr. Reid!”

Darius turned back and faced the people who were walking towards him briskly. “Mr. Reid! Where have you been? We’ve been searching all over for you!” Darius ignored their questions and waited for them to walk up to him. When they did, he pointed to the man who wanted to force himself on the lady and asked.

“Who is he?”

They all turned to face the person who Darius pointed to, after which a brief silence followed. They couldn’t answer the question! Nix Inc. was a company that was globally acclaimed. The people who were showing Darius around were all top upper echelons with gold plated cards identification. They were people who were rarely seen, and were always busy. That combined with the large amount of workers Nix Inc. had made it understandable that they had no idea who the man was.

That wasn’t the case for the man. The moment he saw the line-up of the upper echelons treating Darius with so much respect, he started panicking. The upper



echelons were people someone of his status weren't allowed to meet. He wasn't even allowed to talk to a single one of them. Yet they were now acting very subservient to the intruder. He instantly knew that the intruder was someone of impressive background!

"I asked a question. Who is he?" Darius asked coldly.

One of the upper echelons glanced at the man who had already started sweating profusely, and asked him a question.

"Where is your identity card?" The man shakily brought out a silver card and handed it to the upper echelon member. The member collected it and handed it over to Darius.

Darius read the details of the identity card before handing it back to the member.

"This man here is a repeat sexual offender." Darius started. He went on to tell the upper echelons the crimes the man had potentially committed and what he admitted to doing. By the time Darius was done speaking, the man was already on his knees begging for mercy. No trace of his earlier arrogance could be found.

Darius ignored the man's tears. He had no pity for the man. He was a scum and should be duly punished for his actions.

The upper echelons glared at Danny after Darius was done speaking. They had no idea that the head of the Innovative Research Department was such an evil person. What's more that he had to be discovered by the owner of the company. That was putting them in such a bad place and making them look incompetent!

"I want you to make sure he is held accountable for all his crimes. Also make sure that the new Departmental head is a morally upright and just person. Such a thing must not repeat itself again. Is that clear?" Darius asked.

"Yes of course." They answered. Without further delay, the security personnel were called over, after which Danny was arrested and handed over to the police. Darius then dismissed the upper echelons. He told them to properly interview the lady he saved and to give her a job if she was fit for the position. Done with his affairs at the Nix Inc., Darius exited the building and got in his car before driving off. He still had other companies to visit.

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Darius then spent the whole day visiting various companies listed under the Reid consortium, from various top companies to various luxury hotels and resorts, including restaurants. By the time the day was over, Darius was very exhausted.

He checked the lists of companies he had visited and nearly collapsed from shock. He hadn't even visited 10% of the total companies he was supposed to visit. At this rate he would die from fatigue before he even finished visiting the companies. Perhaps this was the reason his grandfather was always on his tail and reminding him to get a personal assistant. He certainly could not do this on his own. 1

Darius got home exhausted and stumbled into his bathroom. After taking a long shower and having his dinner, he plopped onto his bed and fell asleep.

The next morning Darius woke up refreshed and energetic. He took his phone from the bedside table and checked his schedule. He only had one place to visit today before he worked on the weekly report of the companies under the Reid consortium. It was the only 10 star restaurant in Greenfield Estate, a top estate in the district.

Although the estate wasn't as wealthy as Dragon Estate where Darius lived, it was a noteworthy one nonetheless.

Darius dressed up and took his elevator down to his private garage. He debated for a few seconds before deciding to use his Lamborghini. He got into his car and drove off.

The distance from Dragon Estate to the restaurant was a bit far, as it would take Darius 2 hours to reach there if he drove at top speed. He was glad that he had his car now. If he still had to use the public transport system, it would have taken more than twice the time needed before he got to his destination.

Darius had only driven 10 minutes into his journey when his phone rang. Without checking the caller ID he connected the phone to his car's Bluetooth system before answering the call. "Hello." Darius said.

"Hello. It's me, Alice."

Darius sighed when he heard that the caller was Alice. He had promised to take her out on a date but kept postponing the date. He had been incredibly busy therefore he didn't have the luxury of going out on a date with Alice yet.

He decided to take her out on the date today since he had a whole week to himself. He didn't know when he would be free to go out on a date again. Besides, he was one his way to a restaurant already. He could use this opportunity to take her out with him too. It would be killing two birds with one stone.

"Where are you now?" Darius asked Alice.

"Me? I'm at the female dormitory now. Why are you asking?" Darius checked the time on his car's dashboard before replying.

"I'll be there in thirty minutes. Be ready, I'll be taking you out on the date we agreed today. Is that okay with you?" Darius asked.

There was a brief silence before Alice gave her response.

"Yes it is."

"Alright, I'll see you soon." Darius said before disconnecting the phone call. He made a u-turn and started speeding towards the female dormitory.

(Female Dormitory) The female dormitory was busy as several females were walking around dressed in comfortable outfits and discussing among themselves. Their topic of discussion was mainly about the events that transpired at the charity gala. "I'm telling you! Someone paid \$100,000 for a piece of painting and still paid \$ 4 million for a bottle of wine!" A lady said, emphasizing on the \$4 million as she spoke.

"But that's ridiculous!" Another lady replied. \$ 4 million was a ludicrous amount of money. How rich could one be to spend it on a bottle of wine?!

"That's not even the best part. This person also got into a bidding war with Pearl Chamberlain and won!"

"Are you for real?!" As they were still discussing about the events that transpired at the charity gala, a very sleek sports car pulled into the main street and stopped just outside the entrance to the hotel.

Instantly everyone's attention was fixed on the car.

"Wow! Such a beautiful car!" The lady who was narrating the events at the charity gala exclaimed.

"I wonder who the owner is!" "You dummy! Shouldn't you be wondering who he's here for?" The lady rebuked her friend.

"Why?" Her friend asked; feeling wronged.

"Because if we know who he's here for then we can become friends with the person and get closer to the owner!" the lady explained to her friend exasperatedly.

It wasn't just them who were stunned by the appearance of the beautiful sports car. Out of curiosity some of them searched for the car on the internet and were even more shocked when they saw the price of the car.

It was a Lamborghini Veneno Roadster that cost around \$6 million! And from the search results the car on the street was a customized one, so the price would be three times the original, which summed up to a ridiculous sum of 18 million dollars!

While they were still in shock at the price of the car, Alice came down from her dormitory

room all dressed and started walking towards the Lamborghini.

Darius had called her earlier and told her that he was waiting for her outside the dormitory in his car. She didn't think much of it at first, but when she saw the Lamborghini, her expression

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mirrored that of the fellow dorm mates.

She knew that Mr.ordinary10 was a rich person, but she was still in shock at his car. She was itching to know what the identity of Mr.ordinary10 was. When the dorm mates saw Alice walking towards the Lamborghini, they instantly put two and two together. The Lamborghini was here for Alice! Expressions of jealousy and envy suddenly appeared on their faces. Alice had always proved uninterested in the affairs of men, so how did she suddenly bag a wealthy man for herself?

The door opened as soon as Alice was close enough to the Lamborghini. A few seconds later, the car sped out of the dormitory, leaving the onlookers to their thoughts.

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When Alice saw the owner of the car, she was momentarily stunned. Darius however paid her no heed and continued driving.

Alice couldn't believe her eyes. Even though he had changed his hairstyle and appearance and looked completely different from before, she could never forget him. Mr.ordinary10, the person who spent 5 million dollars to gift her and owned such an expensive car was none other than Darius Reid, the ex-boyfriend of her close friend Sarah Ginn! "Judging from the way you are gaping at me it seems that you remember me." Darius said, not taking his eyes off the road as he spoke. "Of course I do! How

could I forget you?!" Alice exclaimed. Alice remembered vividly how Darius had chased Sarah with all of his strength. It was his relentless efforts that struck a deep impression on her. She knew that Darius loved Sarah with all his heart during that period, which was why she was very shocked that Sarah would leave Darius for David.

Whenever she looked at Darius when he was courting Sarah she mainly felt pity for him, but when she looked at him now only endless confidence and masculinity emanated from him. He was so much different from the Darius she knew before.

Everything that occurred during the stream finally made sense to her. Why someone she didn't know spent 5 million dollars on her, and at the same time chose her for the date. It made perfect sense if the person was Darius.

A sudden thought suddenly flashed through her mind. If Darius was wealthy enough to spend such ludicrous amounts of money easily, why was he then living as a peasant? He was even labeled as a peasant by the whole school. Just as she was about to ask Darius, another thought flashed through her mind. Darius must have wanted to keep his identity unknown and find a person who truly loved him because of him and not because of his money. It was a pity that Sarah left him for David. If she had been a bit patient, she would have enjoyed the rest of her with a caring man like Darius.

If Darius could see what was going through her mind, he would have thrown her out of his car.

He was pretending to be poor so that he could find true love? As if! He barely had enough to eat! He had to scrape and struggle for every penny he got, so how absurd was the idea that he would endure such torment and the ridicule he was subjected for love?

"That's good to hear." Darius smiled.

Alice blushed lightly when she saw Darius' smile. She always knew that Darius was very good looking, but he seemed twice as attractive as he was before.

The remainder of the journey was spent in silence. Alice was too shy and nervous to ask Darius where he was taking her for a date. She certainly wasn't close enough to talk to Darius like a

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friend, as she only knew him because of Sarah. She hoped for Darius to speak up, but Darius didn't say anything either. 1

After two hours of driving, Darius came to a stop at a very imposing building. He parked his car neatly before getting off the vehicle with Alice following closely.

The restaurant was really worthy to be rated a 10 star restaurant. The exterior of the building was superbly designed, making it stand out from other buildings in the street. Beside the entrance to the restaurant was a small but visible sign board with the name of the restaurant written intricately on it.

Darius strode confidently towards the restaurant as he was the owner after all, but Alice remained still.

The imposing appearance of the restaurant had already intimidated her. With a quick glance she already knew that anything that was sold here would be insanely expensive. Even after knowing the fact that Darius was very wealthy, she still felt uneasy eating at a place like this. The price for dining at a place like this would surely be sky high!

Darius had walked a few steps when he noticed that Alice wasn't by his side. He turned back and saw Alice standing still. "What's the problem?" Darius asked. "Can we dine at another place? Dining here would be very expensive." Alice replied in a low voice.

Darius smiled before walking over to where Alice stood. Although Alice wasn't among the top ten beauties in the campus, she was still incredibly pretty; otherwise she would not have a large fan base to support her streams.

She looked very innocent as she spoke, like a rabbit surrounded by ferocious wolves, igniting Darius' protective spirit. He walked over to her and held her hands assertively. "Don't worry about anything and leave everything to me." Darius said confidently before walking towards the entrance while holding Alice's hands. Alice felt a wave of security wash over her as Darius held her hands. She had never felt so safe before. Her whole outlook on Darius completely changed that moment. Her heart started beating rapidly as Darius held her hands, and her cheeks were completely red. Together they

entered inside the luxurious restaurant. 1

The interior of the restaurant was just as one would expect a 10 star restaurant to be. It was lavishly designed, with gold and diamond chandeliers hanging from the ceilings. There were already a few people dining in the restaurant with classical music playing in the background.

It usually took several months before one could book a reservation at this restaurant, but as Darius had a special identity, Bruce had made sure that his treatment would be different. It was why he was allowed entry into the restaurant without a reservation.

A waiter soon appeared and guided Darius to the best table in their restaurant. There were already several cuisines neatly arranged on the table, with a bottle of red wine too.

Darius and Alice both sat down to dine. As they ate, Alice kept stealing glances at Darius. She had asked him a few questions but Darius had refused to answer. He only promised to answer

when he was done with his meal.

Her heart fluttered and beat rapidly whenever she glanced at Darius. Darius noticed her glances but ignored her. Left with no choice, Alice focused on finishing her meal.

After a few minutes of eating in silence, the pair finished their meal. Alice was about to speak, as she was eager to ask Darius various questions, when someone walked over to their table.