

# Task NO.1 How to Pursue Miss CEO Chapter 151

## Chapter 151 Watching a Movie

- Selena figured that it made sense the Fowlers would have their own home theater since they had such a large estate, which explained Pierre's giddiness, since this would be his first time ever visiting a cinema. However, she wondered what the difference was when he booked the venue out.
- On the other hand, Pierre seemed to have gotten tired of the machines, so he had someone take the dolls away before taking Selena to the movies. She was the one who picked out the movie that they would watch, which was a thriller.
- The reason behind her choice of movie was because she supposed that it was the only type of movie that he might be interested in. Besides, she figured there wouldn't be any intimate scenes in a thriller, which meant that it could save them any sort of awkwardness to focus on watching the movie instead.
- With that, she began watching the movie while holding her popcorn. There was no one else around, so she was a little intimidated when the lights dimmed. All she could do was munch on her popcorn to soothe her nerves.
- "Are they that tasty?" Seeing how Selena seemed to be enjoying them piqued his interest.
- "Give it a go. I bet someone as prestigious as you must never have the chance to try something so mundane." She handed the popcorn to him, but upon tasting it, he didn't find it impressive at all.
- The movie began. Although Selena didn't have much interest in thrillers, she could still bear with it if she forced herself to immerse in the experience. However, she didn't expect it to revolve around a married couple, so the first ten minutes consisted of scenes of them engaging in passionate kisses, which caused her to nearly choke on her popcorn. On the other hand, the passionate scene caught Pierre's eye despite his initial disinterest in movies.
- While she thought there wouldn't be anymore scenes like that after the kissing scene, there was another scene that depicted the couple having sex not two minutes later. Although it was short and didn't contain any nudity, it was enough to make things awkward for her, so much so that she would rather bury herself alive.
- "I never knew you liked such movies." Rubbing his own chin, Pierre cast a thoughtful glance at her.
- "Not at all! I didn't know there would be such scenes..." She had no means of expressing her exasperation. In fact, she had no prior knowledge about the movie aside from the fact that it was a thriller, but she had no proof for that.

- As the movie progressed, it was evident that the movie had quite a lot of graphic depictions. With no other people around them, Pierre, who was already aroused by the movie, imitated the scenes he saw by turning Selena's head over to give her a kiss.
- While the casts were having a passionate moment on screen in the dark of the cinema, they were also having a moment of their own. Having gotten a taste of a passionate kiss, Pierre was quickly addicted to it, as it was just like a drug. It was especially hard for him to stop himself while surrounded by the atmosphere in the cinema.
- Although Selena was initially trying to resist him, he stated, "We shouldn't let the movie you picked go to waste after you made me watch so many erotic scenes." In the end, she relented in defeat, but as they kissed, she could feel that his breathing picked up as his kisses trailed downward to her neck.
- "That's enough of you!" She began protesting. However, he didn't slow down at all. "Pierre Fowler! You need to get off me! Stop this!"
- Seeing that she began thrashing about irked him. "There's no one else here anyway!"
- "You're not allowed to do that even if that's the case!" She gave a firm reply.
- Bobbing his throat, he suggested after a moment's hesitation, "I'll have my men book a room in the hotel next door."
- "No!"
- "What should I do, then?!" He was getting exasperated. Why does she insist on opposing me? This isn't adorable at all!

## Chapter 152 Love Before Sex

- "I don't care. You're not allowed to do that." Averting her gaze, Selena knew her resistance was almost futile. With Pierre's status and personality, she wasn't in a position to oppose anyway, as she could only obey his wishes. However, she was determined to go against him.
- Never perceiving their relationship as a proper one, she assumed that it was a transaction of sorts that would allow them to each obtain what they desired. It wasn't until they started the relationship that she realized she in fact had hopes for it going somewhere.
- "I don't think it's appropriate for you to do this on our first date. Being in a relationship means that we'll have to love each other before we have sex." Hearing her own words, she was aware how ridiculous she sounded by trying to imbue the concept of love to a man who only knew about transactions, as she deemed him incapable of love.
- Meanwhile, he was staring at her calm expression. Due to how close he was to her, he could hear her heart pounding. He also noticed she was shivering out of fear. She's afraid? But why? Is she afraid that I might hurt her?
- Despite noticing that Pierre didn't utter a single word, she dared not turn to look at him. She figured that her protests fell on deaf ears, as he already exercised an incredible amount of patience on her as things stood. "I can't deny you if you insist. We're merely engaged in a transaction anyway."

- “Focus on the movie!” Without warning, he reverted into a gentleman, surprising Selena. Turning to check on him, she saw his face illuminated by the flickering lights from the screen, which made him look even more morose. Averting her gaze, she tidied her disheveled clothes.
- “I will not have sex with you without your consent,” he said all of a sudden. She whipped her head around to look at him, wondering if that was a promise. “You have my word.”
- With that, she turned around to continue watching the movie. Furtively, Pierre cast her a glance, and seeing her facial expression soothing managed to calm him down. He wished she could let her guard down toward him, as well as stop fearing him.
- After that, they resumed watching the movie. The latter part placed emphasis on its thriller elements, so there were no more graphic scenes. Thus, they managed to finish their movie without a hitch. While on their way home, none of them spoke, nor did Selena muster up the courage to speak despite constantly stealing glances at him. She decided she should remain silent as she knew he had to be angry.
- Upon their arrival at home, Selena got out of the car. “I’ll be taking my leave.” Pierre got out too. With the moonlight shining on his tall gesture, he gave her the impression of being a knight in shining armor while standing before her. Before he could speak, Selena stood on her toes to give him a peck on the cheek.
- “Goodnight!” she said. Then, she scuttled back into her house and slammed the door shut. Pierre, at this moment, still hadn’t come back to his senses. There was a tingling sensation on the spot that she pecked him on, but it was comfortable. Caressing his cheek unconsciously, he returned to his house.
- Meanwhile, Selena was leaning against the door with her face still burning from embarrassment. She didn’t plan to kiss him at all, but decided that he deserved a reward for making such a huge compromise.
- After a while, she took a peek through the peephole before going upstairs. By the latter half of the night, she kept tossing and turning in bed as she was unable to fall asleep, her mind thinking of nothing but Pierre. Unbidden, she recalled Linda’s words of warning about her relationship.

## Chapter 153 The Jade Bracelet Is Found?

- She somehow had the feeling that she was what others would describe as a person in a relationship.
- The next morning, Selena sent Juniper to school later than usual because she woke up late. Then, yawning all the way, she arrived at work and Linda rushed to her the moment she walked into the office.
- “Take a look at this, President Yard!” she exclaimed.
- Rubbing her eyes, she took the tablet PC from Linda’s hands listlessly and asked, “What is it?”
- Suddenly, her eyes grew large in surprise. The jade bracelet! This is Mom’s jade bracelet! “What’s this about?”

- "This is one of the items which will be auctioned off at the upcoming Royal Auction. I thought it seemed like your mother's jade bracelet which you described to me before, so I want you to have a look at it."
- "Yes, it is. This is my mom's jade bracelet!" she said in confirmation, trembling as she stared at the picture of the jade bracelet which she would never forget.
- "Many have their eyes on this jade bracelet. It's said to be worth a fortune and there are quite a few who want it from the auction!" Linda added.
- So I was right, Selena thought. This bracelet is worth a fortune and it was Roland who had sold it. This was her mother's favorite thing when she was alive and he actually sold it!
- "I must attend this auction," she declared, determined to buy back her mother's belongings. After taking another look at the bracelet, she asked, "Is there only one of it? Or is there only one shown in the picture?"
- Shaking her head, Linda answered, "There's no information about that. It should be a pair, shouldn't it? However, there would be a pair in the picture if it is."
- Tightening her jaw, Selena could only wait to find out more during the auction.
- At Empire Group, Pierre returned to his own office feeling all dizzy after a day of conferencing. Picking up his cell phone, he saw that there were no new messages at all. After a whole day, Selena didn't even send me a message! Is she really that busy?
- Despite that, a grin appeared on his face when he thought about the kiss last night; this was the first time in his life when he was so smitten with a woman.
- Just then, Niall knocked and came in. "President Fowler, will you be attending the charity auction this time, or should I ask the vice president to go in your stead?"
- "I've never attended any of such events," Pierre replied with a disinterested look.
- "Alright, I'll inform the vice president then." Then, he added, "Miss Yard is here. Your office was locked earlier and I didn't have the spare key with me, so I sent her to the reception room."
- "Why didn't you say so earlier?" Pierre said and sprang up from his seat. Does he still want his job as my assistant? Why did he bring up the auction when Selena is more important?!
- "Um... M-Miss Y-Yard—"
- Before Niall could even finish, Pierre had already dashed into the reception room.
- "Pipsqueak?" he called out when he opened the door.
- The woman on the couch stood up and Pierre's face froze when he saw that it was Meredith instead.
- "It's you?" he blurted subconsciously.
- Initially, he thought that he would be meeting Selena, but it turned out to be Meredith instead. Thus, he was dismayed when she wasn't the person he had expected.
- On the other hand, Meredith was frozen as well, and the edges of her lips even twitched a little. Who was he calling? Was it Selena or some other woman? she wondered.
- Feeling miserable, she said, "I'm here today to look for you to ask about something, Pierre."

- As he rearranged his expression and returned to his usual calm appearance, Pierre didn't turn her away because she was the mother of the children. Moreover, he did say that he would help her out whenever she needed his help.
- "What is it about?"
- Her lips quivered, but he stood motionless on the same spot, which clearly showed his reluctance to sit down and waste his time with her. Suppressing the pain in her heart, she began, "It's about the Royal Auction this time. I would like to get the jade bracelet in the auction."

## Chapter 154 Please Help Me

- Pierre didn't interject, for he knew that things weren't that simple.
- Even though he had driven the Yard Family close to bankruptcy, he knew just exactly how much money Meredith had in her hands. For the past four years, the Fowlers, including himself, had given her many things. With everything added up, Meredith owned more than one could count when it came to jewelry and such.
- In addition to that, she was at the peak of her career in the entertainment industry now with the highest pay. Hence, she could definitely afford to buy a jade bracelet by herself.
- "But many have their eyes set on this jade bracelet and it's said to be very popular. I'm worried it will fall into the hands of others. That's why I need your help," she added.
- It's only because of money? Pierre wondered.
- "I've never asked you for anything before, Pierre, and this is the first time I'm asking for your help. Please help me this time. This jade bracelet is really very important to me," Meredith continued.
- "Okay." He had agreed readily without a moment's hesitation.
- "Thank you so much!"
- "I'm going back to work if there's nothing else," he said and turned to leave the reception room.
- At the sight of him leaving, Meredith took a step forward, but she wasn't able to say another word. Is there really nothing else to be said between us? she asked herself mentally. Sighing, she turned to leave the room, but before she left, she recovered her usual spirited look, lest others would notice her discomfiture.
- Roland was the first to notice that the jade bracelet would be auctioned, and he was distraught because he had been trying to find out the whereabouts of the bracelet everywhere. As it turned out, he saw that the jade bracelet was about to be auctioned off.
- Previously, Selena had promised to help the Yard Family if they returned her the bracelet. In fact, Meredith could have directly asked Pierre for help to get the Yard Family through the crisis, but she didn't do that and asked for the bracelet instead. This was because she was placing her final bet on Pierre if he would help her get the bracelet.
- This was very important to her; if Pierre helped her to get the bracelet, she could help her father return it to Selena and in turn, she would help their family through the crisis. At

the same time, it would create a rift between Selena and Pierre. That would be akin to hitting two birds with one stone.

- However, if he refused to help her, she would have to prepare for her next move.
- After returning to his own office in a huff, Pierre then called for Niall. "What the hell are you doing? Why didn't you make it clear who was the person in the reception room?" he yelled at him angrily.
- Niall felt wronged; Pierre was the one who dashed straight for the reception room anxiously even before he could even finish his sentence.
- "I told you correctly that it was Miss Yard who—"
- "Make it clear which Miss Yard you mean next time!" Pierre interjected loudly, and Niall immediately nodded. "Now get out of here!"
- With his head hanging, Niall was about to leave the room when Pierre's cell phone rang, and it was Meredith who had sent him a picture of the jade bracelet.
- "Come back here!" he shouted, and Niall, who was on the verge of tears, turned around.
- Showing the picture to him, Pierre said, "Bid this for me during the Royal Auction. No matter how much it costs or who the competitor is, you have to outbid everyone during the auction."
- "Understood!"
- Until now, no one had dared to vie for anything that Pierre had set his eyes on.
- Just as Niall was about to leave again, he barked, "Wait a second!"
- Squeezing his eyes shut with a pained expression, Niall took a deep breath and turned around once more. "Do you have any other orders, President Fowler?"
- "Find a restaurant with a good atmosphere and book a table."
- "What would you like to eat, President Fowler? Or perhaps you have any special request for the ambience of the restaurant?"
- "It's for a date. Figure it out yourself!"
- Almost instantly, Niall understood what he meant, so he spun around once more to head for the exit. At the door, he turned around to glance at Pierre.

## Chapter 155 Coincidence

- "Why are you still here?"
- Now that he was sure that he wouldn't be called back once more, Niall left the office briskly.
- When Selena was about to pick up Juniper from school, she received the location of the restaurant via a text from Pierre. As Juniper would be having ballet classes in the evening, she instructed Linda to bring Juniper to her class and scanned around the area of the ballet studio. After finding a restaurant nearby, she sent the location to Pierre.
- 'Let's have dinner here today.'
- Meanwhile, Pierre received her text when he was about to leave, and he went to the restaurant she told him about. Just as he was about to say something, Selena took a

glance at her cell phone and said, "Juniper's class will take one hour and twenty minutes, and since ten minutes had already passed, we have only one hour and ten minutes left."

- "You even have to schedule a time for a meal?"
- "It can't be helped," she replied with a shrug. Then, they went into the restaurant together. Much to their surprise, the restaurant was unexpectedly popular and the VIP rooms were all occupied; only a table by the window was available.
- They would lose time if they were to go to another restaurant now. Thus, Selena decided to have their meal there, and she only used two minutes for her order after the waitress rushed to their table with the menu.
- "You act like you're racing against time," Pierre commented unhappily.
- Sticking her tongue out, Selena said, "Juniper still doesn't know about us, and she doesn't like the idea of me dating. So..."
- "You should find a chance to let her know," he replied, pissed at the fact that she made it sound like they were having an affair. Furthermore, she was hiding it from a kid.
- Very quickly, their food arrived and Selena ate slowly, knowing that she wouldn't be eating much because she would have to bring Juniper out to eat again when she finished her lesson.
- Throughout the meal, Pierre seemed really irritated, and he didn't eat much as well. Finally, he tossed his napkin aside and said, "I'm going to the washroom."
- "Okay," she muttered. Then, she took out her cell phone, and that was when she suddenly felt a tap on her shoulder.
- Without even lifting her head, she commented, "That was quick."
- When she didn't hear a reply, she felt something was amiss, so she lifted her head and saw that the person was actually Finneas.
- Dressed in a standard leisure suit, he appeared sporty and dashing with his breathtaking features.
- Flashing her a bright smile, he said, "What a coincidence, Selena."
- Since the last time they met on Sterne Island, they had never seen each other again, and Finneas clearly remembered the things she told Pierre before. Although she was reluctant to admit it, she was still in love with him, because he knew he was her dream man during her youth.
- However, Selena did not want to see him. "Yeah, what a coincidence," she muttered.
- Without even waiting for an invitation, he took a seat across from her. "I was planning to ask you out recently, and I didn't expect to run into you here. Don't you think this is fated?"
- Feeling a sudden pain in her head, she thought, Why is this man as clingy as superglue? Didn't I make myself clear enough the last time?
- "I'm sorry, Mr. Lake, but I have a date now and it's inconvenient for me to speak with you."
- Lowering his gaze, Finneas saw that there were no cutleries nor any tableware set up on his side of the table, so obviously, she was here alone.

- As Pierre didn't like anything to be stacked in front of him, he had immediately asked for the dishes to be cleared away once he was done eating. Hence, there was nothing on the other side of the table and it appeared as though no one had eaten there before.
- "You don't have to act like this, Selena. We've known each other for years. Don't you think that I know what kind of person you are?"
- Selena was unsure about how she should react to his statement, because she had no idea what gave him the confidence to say such things.

## Chapter 156 Stealing My Words

- "Mr. Lake, I think there's no need for us to continue this conversation. Furthermore, I really came with a date today. It will be awkward when he comes back later and sees you in his seat," Selena said in a cold and distant manner.
- Beginning to lose his patience, Finneas said, "Stop putting up a pretence, Selena. I heard everything you told Pierre the last time on the island, and I know that I'm still in your heart. You still love me like you used to, so I'm here to tell you today that our feelings are mutual."
- Feeling a sudden headache, Selena wondered, When did he develop the bad habit of eavesdropping on others? She had said those things to Pierre deliberately, but she didn't think that Finneas would overhear them.
- "I've already filed for divorce with Megan, and the divorce settlement has been drafted. Once she signs the papers, we'll be divorced and I can be together with you again. I was planning to look for you when I'm officially divorced, but Megan went to Springvale recently and didn't sign the papers."
- "Megan went to Springvale, you said?" she asked. This was the only thing that caught her attention. She couldn't help but recall that the Yard Family didn't seem to have any business in Springvale, and Megan had never studied abroad there either. Hence, it was unlikely for her to have any friends there.
- In conclusion, she felt that things were a little fishy for Megan to go to Springvale out of the blue.
- "Yeah, she said she has something to settle over there, but I know that she's just hiding out of the country. Still, it doesn't matter because this divorce is unavoidable." Then, in a determined tone, he continued, "Shall we be together when I'm divorced?"
- "No!"
- Hearing the icy cold reply from behind her which sent a shiver down her spine, Selena knew without thinking that it was Pierre who had returned.
- In response, Finneas lifted his head and looked at Pierre, who was standing behind Selena with a stone-cold look on his face.
- "Pierre Fowler?" Finneas said with a sullen look, surprised to see him here. "It's not so nice to eavesdrop on others, Mr. Fowler," he added, trying to sound polite because he didn't want to offend him.



- "I should be the one to say that," Pierre said as he leaned against Selena's chair, looking a little laid back and unruly.
- The look on Finneas' face turned dark as he guessed that Pierre had most probably overheard their conversation earlier, even though he was the one who eavesdropped on them first. "Mr. Fowler, I think everyone should have some self-awareness. You can't force something like a relationship, and it will turn ugly if you try to do so. I grew up together with Selena and we're childhood sweethearts. We can't forget each other because we've known each other since we were kids, and we have dated each other for many years before this. Even though you're an influential man, it's still ungentlemanly of you to force a woman and keep harassing her. I hope you'll have mercy on Selena and let her go."
- Finneas sounded so self-righteous that Selena wanted to burst out laughing, but she managed to suppress it. However, Pierre couldn't do the same and roared out in a laughter filled with indifference and sarcasm. He laughed loudly without caring that there were other people watching.
- The look on Finneas' face was unpleasant because he knew that Pierre was mocking him! Despite that, all he could do was bear with it since he couldn't offend him.
- Finally, when Pierre had his fill of laughter, he looked at the other man and said, "Why do you like to steal my words out of my mouth so much, Mr. Lake?"
- "What do you mean by that?"
- "What do I mean?" Pierre repeated while stroking Selena's hair. "Don't you understand when I said no earlier?"
- Trying hard to contain his anger, Finneas argued, "I was speaking with Selena, so she should be the one to answer my question. Since you don't have a special relationship with her, how could you answer in her place, Mr. Fowler?"

## Chapter 157 I'll Protect You

- "Fine, it looks like you don't know when to give up," Pierre said, still stroking Selena's hair. "Tell it to him yourself then."
- Thus, Selena let out a tiny sigh, unsure of how to begin.
- As he stared at the both of them, Finneas could feel that something was wrong. "Do you think it's right of you to force a lady like that, Mr. Fowler? Don't be afraid, Selena. Although he's rich and influential, I'm not someone to be trifled with either. I'll protect you."
- The pounding in Selena's head grew stronger. Back then, she used to think that Finneas was a smart man, but why was he so foolish now?
- "I'll say it if you won't," Pierre said, unhappy that she didn't utter a word. "She's my woman now."
- He used the words 'my woman' instead of 'girlfriend' because he felt that he could overwhelm him with a stronger word.
- "That's because you coerced her into it!" Finneas cried out, jumping from his seat. "That's enough, Pierre Fowler. Selena is merely a meek woman, she—"

- "I wasn't forced into anything. I did everything willingly." Selena finally spoke up, unable to stand watching Finneas further making a fool out of himself. "I said things like I couldn't forget you and such to him on the island before this because I wanted to make him angry and leave me. He was about to get married after all, so I didn't want to cling on to a married man. However, he didn't get married and we're together now."
- Stunned for a long while, Finneas uttered, "No, Selena. You're forced into this. That must be the case, isn't it? Tell me and I can help you! You don't love him; he's the one who's forcing you to be with him!"
- It was difficult for him to accept such a truth because he had already filed for divorce with Megan. In order to get rid of her, he even proposed to give her two properties in addition to another compensation in the divorce settlement. Furthermore, he even told his family that he would marry Selena, and their family business would emerge stronger after pulling through the crisis.
- However, it turned out that Selena was already dating Pierre!
- Shaking her head, Selena tried to calm him down. "Calm down, Finneas. I'm not forced into anything."
- "Let's speak privately, Selena. Tell it to me in secret without this man's presence!" For the past few days, he had been picturing his beautiful life with her, and he even wanted to have a child with her earlier so she could stay home to take care of the child. That way, he could take care of JNS Corporation in her place.
- Now, however, all of his dreams were shattered.
- As though he had lost his mind, he lunged at Selena and wanted to grab her, but he fell to the floor with just a gentle push from Pierre.
- Frowning as he looked at his own hands, Pierre said, "I didn't think that you're that weak. You're what people call defenseless, aren't you?"
- Feeling that he had suffered a great humiliation, Finneas stood up and charged at him with his fist out. Beside them, Selena couldn't bear to watch, so she covered her face with her hands because she knew that a young master like Finneas who grew up pampered couldn't possibly put up a fight at all.
- The result was what she had imagined; after dodging his attack easily, Pierre gave him an effortless kick and he landed on the floor the second time.
- As it was the peak period, many people in the restaurant turned to look at the commotion. Now that he was aware of the growing onlookers, Finneas felt more humiliated than ever. Thus, feeling the need to retrieve his pride, he got up to his feet again and charged at Pierre once more.
- "You're still not giving up?" Stepping aside from him once again, Pierre then threw in a punch and blood gushed out of Finneas' nose.
- Feeling his nose with his fingers, Finneas yelled, "You're pushing your luck too far, Fowler!"
- "You asked for it," Pierre said and gestured with his head at Selena, hinting at her to leave the place. Since she didn't want the situation to continue, she picked up her jacket and got ready to leave with Pierre.

# Chapter 158 Sneak Attack

- After being ridiculed time and again, Finneas was utterly frustrated, and he looked around the place. Subsequently, he picked up a flower pot on the side and lunged at Pierre, aiming it at his head.
- As though he had expected it, Pierre dodged, causing Finneas to topple onto the floor with the flower pot still in his hands and end up covering his face in the soil.
- Selena, who was unguarded when Pierre pushed her aside, slammed into the wall and hit her head painfully. When Pierre heard her sucking in a deep breath of air in pain, he glared at Finneas on the ground.
- "I hate it the most when someone pulls a sneak attack from behind."
- With his face covered in dirt, Finneas scrambled to his feet and shouted, "Bring it on! I'm not afraid of you!"
- "Fine."
- With that, Pierre beat him to the ground again neatly and quickly. This time, however, he didn't show any mercy and landed each punch on Finneas accurately, with a few punches landing on his face.
- All beaten up and bruised, Finneas lay on the ground motionlessly. Sensing something amiss, Selena hurriedly pulled Pierre back. "That's enough. Stop hitting him."
- Seeing that she was pleading on his behalf, Pierre became even more infuriated and gave Finneas a hard kick before storming out of the place. After calling an ambulance for Finneas, Selena went after Pierre immediately. Whatever it was, she had already done her best for the beaten up man.
- Meanwhile, Pierre didn't start the engine right after getting into the car. When he saw Selena chasing after him outside the restaurant, he thought he would settle scores with her once she got into the car. He was merely gone for a few minutes and it was enough for her to hook up with Finneas again! Not only that, she even pleaded for him! How could this woman side with him? It's about time I lecture her!
- After glancing at the time, Selena saw that Juniper's lesson would be over soon, so she had to go and pick her up. Hence, she shouted at Pierre, "I'm going to pick up Juniper. You go ahead first!" Then, she left the spot hurriedly.
- Pierre was so mad that he slammed the steering wheel. How could this woman act as though nothing has happened?!
- Later at night, after tucking Juniper in bed, Selena turned on her cell phone and saw no news from Pierre, which made her wonder if he had misunderstood her with Finneas. No matter what, she felt that he was probably angry earlier, but she wasn't exactly sure of the reason.
- When she finished composing her text message, she stopped and didn't send it out immediately.

- “He wouldn’t be that petty, would he?” she wondered out loud. “It’s impossible that he would think anything of Finneas since he had always thought of himself as invincible all this while.”
- Hence, she deleted the text and went through the information about the auction the next day which Linda had sent to her before falling asleep on her bed.
- The next day, she attended the auction with Linda. According to her, there were quite a few precious items to be auctioned off on this day, which was why there were many people, creating an exceptionally lively atmosphere at the auction.
- Usually, during the Royal Auction, the bidders would be placed in different rooms, and their names would be replaced with codenames to avoid some disputes which might arise.
- Selena and Linda were placed in room number 18, which had a big screen in the middle of the room displaying the main platform of the auction.
- Soon, the auction started and the items in the beginning didn’t catch Selena’s interest at all, until the jade bracelet appeared.
- “This is the last item for our auction today. It’s a jade bracelet with hundreds of years of history behind it. It initially came in a pair, but we only have one for the auction today,” the host explained. Then, he went on to elaborate on the history of the bracelet in detail, and this was also the first time that Selena was learning about the origin of her mother’s bracelet.
- Apparently, the jade bracelet started off as a royal jewelry and was a favorite item of the queen. Later, it was bestowed to a great minister, who then gave it to his son, who in turn passed it on to his wife, and it became a family heirloom which was passed down for generations.

## **Chapter 159 The Origins of the Jade Bracelet**

- It originally belonged to a family named Murray. According to this saying, Selena thought that her mother should be carrying the Murray name as well. However, her mother’s maiden name was Cecilia Davis, which had nothing to do with a name like Murray.
- But she couldn’t care less. No matter what, this bracelet belonged to her mother, and she had to buy it today. Soon, the bidding started, and sure enough, many people were here for it. The starting bid was three million, and the price went up to fifteen million after just one round of bidding.
- “How much should we bid in the next round, President Yard?”
- After a moment of hesitation, Selena replied, “Thirty million.”
- “We’re doubling it directly?”
- “That’s right. I want the other bidders who are just following the price to retreat. I want to put an end to this quickly.”

- As expected, once the thirty million bid was placed on it, the ones who were following the bidding price all retreated. During the third round, Selena went straight for fifty million, and there were only three bidders left in the end.
- "Sixty million!"
- "Seventy million!"
- "Eighty million!"
- It seemed as though all three of them were determined to buy this bracelet! Selena found it odd. Although this bracelet was historical and looked very pretty, unless they had a special relationship with it, no one would spend such a huge amount of money on it.
- "President Yard, for the next round... what should we do?"
- "A hundred million! I don't think that they'll follow!" Selena answered as she clutched her cell phone tightly.
- The jade bracelet was unexpectedly popular with two other people still vying for it with her at this stage. At this, she was really curious about the people who wanted the bracelet as badly as her!
- "President Yard, a hundred million is our maximum bid and not a single dollar more than that. We've submitted a deposit for this auction, and we're required to pay up within a day. Otherwise, the deposit will be forfeited. Not only that, we'll also be banned from participating in future Royal Auctions and blacklisted. We have only one hundred million in funds which we could use, and anything additional will have to be transferred from Springvale, but we won't have enough time for that," Linda said, explaining the current situation to her.
- Right then, Selena could only regret not setting foot into Astoria earlier. If only she had developed her business in Astoria as soon as possible, she wouldn't have had to care about all these. After all, it was merely a hundred million, and even if it was a few hundred million, it would be considered peanuts to her.
- "Alright."
- Everything depends on this final strike now, she thought.
- Praying silently, she hoped that the other bidders would retreat from the difficulties or maybe know about her intentions and let her win the bid.
- "A hundred million! Room number eighteen calls for a hundred million! Is there any higher bid? Anyone?"
- Everyone else who was watching the auction were at the edge of their seats as well since it wasn't a common occurrence when the bidding became this heated.
- Meanwhile, in room number one, Niall was covered in cold sweat as he made a call to Pierre. "President Fowler, the other bidder offered a hundred million. Are we going to continue bidding?"
- "Didn't I already tell you that you have to get it? So don't waste my time!" Pierre snapped and hung up angrily.

- Gritting his teeth, Niall couldn't figure out what was going on in Pierre's mind that he could bring himself to spend such a huge amount of money on Meredith. Whatever it was, he would give his all since the money wasn't coming from his account.
- Just when Selena's hands were tightly clasped together in a silent prayer, the host exclaimed, "Okay, room number one is offering one hundred and ten million!"
- The crowd broke into an uproar, and Selena stared wide-eyed at the screen as her final hope was shattered.
- The other bidder was really giving his all!
- The man in a black suit in room number three frowned as he picked up his cell phone and asked, "Are we still following the bid?"
- In the end, the jade bracelet was sold at one hundred and ten million!
- Unable to hide the disappointment on her face, Selena felt as though she had let her mother down because she couldn't even get her bracelet back in an auction.
- Looking at her, Linda sighed. "This person is such a nuisance. Why can't he spend this one hundred and ten million on something else instead of pitting it against us! What do you think he's after?"

## Chapter 160 Who's That?

- Her words were like a wakeup call for Selena, and she immediately regained her composure. "I have to find out who the other person is."
- Thereafter, she stood up and went out. Chasing after her, Linda said, "President Yard, this is against the regulations. If the organizers of the Royal Auction finds out about this, we'll be blacklisted."
- "I can't be bothered about that. I have to find out who bought my mother's jade bracelet so that I can negotiate with that person after this. Or else, I'll lose track of the bracelet again."
- Leading Linda to the washroom next to room number one, she first pretended to use the washroom before secretly spying on the movements in the next room.
- While they waited anxiously for the person in room number one to leave the room, someone suddenly came out from the male washroom next to them.
- "Ms. Yard? What a coincidence."
- Spinning her head around, Selena saw that it was Niall who had greeted her.
- "What are you doing here, Niall?" she asked, startled.
- With a pained look on his face, he replied, "Don't bring it up, Ms. Yard. I'm here on an errand for President Fowler."
- Eyeing him suspiciously, she knew that he had to be here to buy something as an errand since this was an auction. "What kind of errand?"
- As he already knew that she was in a relationship with Pierre, Niall didn't think it would be a problem if he told her the truth. Moreover, this wasn't considered a secret, either.
- "I'm here to bid for a bracelet on his behalf. This is a very pricey bracelet, and I had to bid for it with one hundred and ten million. My goodness, I didn't expect so many to fight for

it with me, and I almost couldn't complete my task." Sighing, he continued, "Do you know who are the people in room number eighteen and number three? The one in number eighteen is especially aggressive!"

- Linda took a step forward, but was immediately pulled back by Selena. After glancing at Selena, she bit her lips and held back her words.
- "I don't know anything about that since the Royal Auction kept it a secret."
- Nodding in agreement, Niall said, "That's true. By the way, what brought you here, Ms. Yard?"
- "Me? I, um... I'm just here to watch the show," she answered with a tight smile. "President Fowler... What does Pierre want with a bracelet?"
- "That's all because of Me—" Niall stopped himself mid-sentence and smiled sheepishly. I shouldn't be telling this to Selena, he thought. No woman will be able to accept it if I told her that President Fowler is bidding this for Meredith.
- However, Selena already understood who he meant at the sound of the first syllable. It's for Meredith.
- She must have asked for his help to bid this bracelet for her, which was why Pierre was willing to pay such a high price for it.
- "I'm not too sure, either. Ms. Yard, I have to rush back with the bracelet now, so I'm taking my leave first," Niall said and left hastily.
- Coming next to Selena, Linda asked, "Why didn't you let me say anything, President Yard? Maybe Pierre will let you have the bracelet if they knew that we're here for it today! This is an unnecessary misunderstanding between the both of you! If we had known this, we wouldn't have raised the bid so high!"
- Shaking her head, Selena asked, "Didn't you hear what Niall said? Pierre is bidding this bracelet for Meredith."
- "What?"
- "Meredith must also know that I'm asking for this bracelet in return for helping the family through the crisis, so she went to beg Pierre to help her win the bid for her," she elaborated in a gloomy voice, feeling like she had never felt so depressed in her life before. In fact, she was feeling more depressed than not winning the bid over the bracelet.
- "Is Meredith sick? Why didn't she ask Pierre for a direct fund transfer into the Yard Family? Wouldn't that have solved the problem directly?" Linda asked, unable to figure out the logic.