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Despite Linda's plan to cozy up to Jason, she was quickly disappointed by his righteous character and the fact that he already had a fiancée. As she was about to give up on that idea, she was surprised to meet him up, given the unique circumstances.

Soon, Jason reached out for his phone and opened his gallery before he showed a picture to Linda. "Recognize this, Miss Dunn?"

Linda took a closer look at the picture on the phone's screen and wondered. "Isn't this..." This pair of bracelets... The bracelet that I bid away during the auction?

"That's right! This is exactly the bracelet you bid not long ago, Miss Dunn. My investigation shows that you used to be Astorian. Thus, I believe you might have attended the auction that was held in Astoria back then, although you failed to secure the bracelet in the end. Am I right?"

Since Linda used to handle all affairs related to the auction on Selena's behalf, her authorized signature unknowingly became a lead for Jason to follow in his investigation. However, she was relieved that the auction's stringent confidentiality policy prevented him from uncovering any more information about her. Thus, Jason was only able to learn a thing or two about Linda but nothing about Selena.

"Yes, you're right." Linda said with a bitter smile while staring at Jason, "Were you the bidder I was contending with at that time?" She suddenly recalled a fierce contender in the auction back in Astoria. Then, she linked her previous experience with her subsequent one and remembered the same thing happened during the recent auction in Yucaria, even though she had bribed the auctioneer beforehand. Why is Jason so concerned about the pair of bracelets?

"That's right! The contender you encountered in Astoria back then, as well as in the recent auction, was my representative," Jason politely answered.

Puzzled by the man's answer, Linda tried to clear up her confusion. "Why did you..."

"Miss Dunn, do you mind telling me why this pair of bracelets means so much to you? Why must you insist on getting your hands on them?" Jason asked before Linda could finish her sentence.

Needless to say, Linda wouldn't reveal to Jason her intention to exact revenge on Selena, so she smiled and replied, "I'm afraid that's something I can't reveal."

"Is that so?" Jason confusedly stared at Linda.

Linda looked down in embarrassment and said, "This concerns my privacy, and I'm sorry to say that I'd love to keep the matter to myself. Therefore, I'd appreciate it if you could understand, Mr. Murray."

Upon hearing her reply, Jason paused, as he was taken aback by Linda's refusal to answer his question. Soon, the lady made her move and asked, "My turn. Why are you so concerned about the pair of bracelets?"

"Well..." Jason didn't know what to say as he only laughed with a suppressed voice, seemingly telling the lady that his lips were sealed as well with his body language.

Linda then chuckled in response. "Don't tell me the reason concerns your privacy?"

In the face of Linda's bright smile, Jason only shook his head and slowly let down his guard. "Indeed."

Upon hesitating briefly, Linda said, "Alright, I guess I might as well go ahead and tell you what it is since this is not really a secret anyway. I'm doing this for someone who's important to me."

"And does this pair of bracelets belong to that person?" Jason furrowed his brows, appearing to be a little nervous.

"Exactly! That's why I had to win the bid at all costs." Linda tried to downplay her motive.

"If I may ask, why is that person so important to you?" Jason asked.

"Because she was my mother." Somehow, Linda decided to push her luck, as she was able to tell that Jason was really interested in the bracelets. If I could take things to the next level with Jason, I could leave Scott anytime.

Jason gazed at Linda in surprise. "You mean ... "

"That's right! My mom used to own a pair of these bracelets, but they subsequently went missing at some point. Now that I've grown up, I'd like to honor my mother by retrieving her favorite jewelry."

"Is your mother still... alive?" Jason desperately asked.