

Chapter 76 Ridiculous Bid

"First of all, I'd like to welcome you all to the auction. Every profit made today will be used for charity. I sincerely thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to attend this auction."

The emcee's opening remarks caused a round of applause from the audience.

"Before the auction begins, I'd like to introduce someone to you all. This person is none other than Loraine Torres!" The emcee gestured towards Loraine, who was seated amidst the rest of the audience. The beam light was cast on her at this time. "Most of the donated items to be auctioned today are from Miss Torres. Let's give this lady a round of applause for her kindness!"

A sea of eyes were focused on Loraine. The next second, there was another round of applause from all corners of the hall.

Loraine nodded and smiled politely.

"Miss Torres, is there anything you would like to share with us? The floor is yours!"

Now that she had been called upon out of the blue, Loraine

didn't panic.

She stood up gracefully and faced the crowd. Afterward, she said, "The items I donated are just worldly possessions. Donating them was for the greater good. I just did my part in contributing to make the world a better place."

The grace and humility Loraine exuded now made the guests admire her.

"Is this graceful woman Marco Bryant's ex-wife? She doesn't seem to be a country bumpkin like the rumors insinuate."

"Yeah, that's right. She's far too elegant to be such. I heard that she's currently a senior director at Universe Group. Not too long ago, she won a big contract from the government. It's said that the top official who came to supervise the project showered her with praise."

"The most important thing is that she is so kind that she donated so many valuable things. The world needs more people like her."

Most of the distinguished guests praised Loraine as they watched her speak.

On the flip side, Marco wasn't particularly pleased. He felt that Loraine was indirectly taking jabs at him.

She tagged the gifts as worldly possessions. At the thought of how she didn't hesitate to give those items away, his heart ached and his face darkened.

Once Loraine sat down, he leaned over and whispered with resentment, "Are you using my money to gain a good reputation while satirizing me indirectly?"

Loraine rolled her eyes at him.

"And is that my fault? You deserve it! I never asked for those items. Besides, I tried to return them, but you already instructed the deliveryman to throw them away if I turned them down. I had to donate them instead of being wasteful. Do you want them back? If you do, just place the highest bid during the auction."

Marco was rendered speechless. He leaned back, feeling hurt by her words.

The first item was soon wheeled into the hall.

It was a shiny emerald ring in a transparent box. The item was displayed on the screen for all to see.

"This is the first item that was donated by Miss Torres. It's a Cartier emerald ring. It's made of pure emerald that was cut into a square. The silver base adds to its beauty. This auction will be conducted with no reserve price. The highest bidder for each item gets it. Let the show begin!"

A sharp female voice was suddenly heard from a corner of the hall.

"I bid one dollar!"

This offer caused a stir in the hall.

Everyone was shocked by it.

Priceless jewels like emeralds cost a fortune. More so, Cartier was an expensive brand. Why did someone bid that low for such a luxury item?

All the guests were well-to-do individuals. None of them lacked money.

This was why the first offer was ridiculously strange. It was obvious that the bidder was belittling the item to ridicule the donor—Lorraine.

With a deep frown, Lorraine turned to look in the direction that the voice came. Her eyes fell on the face of an acquaintance.

"Vickie Archer?"

Lorraine didn't expect to meet Vickie here. Vickie looked so different from how she was when Lorraine met her at the interview in Universe Group.

She was a top white-collar employee at that time, so she dressed professionally.

But now, she was wearing a sexy bodycon dress. Her hair was permed into deep waves and the makeup on her face was heavy. She looked like a completely different person.

There was a chunky arm around her shoulders. It belonged to a fat old man who had a pot belly.

Vickie held the man's hand intimately and flashed an evil

smile at Loraine.

"Long time no see, Loraine. You don't mind me offering a dollar for the ring, do you? After all, there's no reserve price in this auction."