## Chapter 78 Bidding Rivals

All heads turned in the direction where the voice came from.

When the guests saw Marco sitting next to Loraine, they were shocked to the bones.

"Oh my God! Is that really Marco? Why is he sitting next to Loraine instead of in a private room?"

"He just said that the items Loraine donated came from him."

"Something smells fishy. During their marriage, he barely took Loraine out. Only a few people knew about her. Why are they always seen together after their divorce?"

While a few of them were examining the relationship between those two, the wise ones realized something.

It didn't matter who donated the items. The fact remained that Marco bought them with his money. It was obvious he mentioned that detail to change the narrative Vickie was propagating.

Anyone who purchased the ring would stand a

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chance to be in the books of the CEO of Bryant
Group.

This fact piqued the interest of all those who had previously lost interest.

The unwanted emerald ring became a soughtafter item in the blink of an eye. Several bids began to flow in.

"I'll pay two hundred thousand dollars!"

"Three hundred and fifty thousand dollars!"

"Five hundred thousand dollars!"

The offers soon exceeded the actual price of the ring.

At the sight of this, Vickie was embarrassed and infuriated. Her face was as red as a tomato.

She wanted to put a stop to the bid, but she couldn't dare to challenge Marco openly. She held Curran's arm and rubbed his chest so he could stand up for her.

"Honey, are you just going to watch them humiliate me in this manner? Stick up for me." Curran didn't give a hoot about her bruised ego now. He was also looking to please Marco, so he give in to her request.

"Don't bother me. Mr. Bryant gave Loraine that ring. I must win it, so I can get close to him. Don't do anything stupid."

Vickie's heart sank at this moment. As she sweated in rage, the bidding for the ring continued.

The atmosphere in the hall was heated. No bid lasted for more than five seconds before another came in.

Jennie was itching to join in. She wanted to help her best friend by taking the price up several notches.

She was just about to do so when she got interrupted.

"One million dollars," Marco said lightly, doubling the price instantly.

The entire hall became as silent as a graveyard.

No one dared to compete with Marco. Now that he increased the price all of a sudden, no other offers came in.

Jennie was annoyed that he interrupted her.
But when she heard his offer, she couldn't help
but appreciate him for supporting her friend.

"Now you are talking, Marco! This is how to support Lorrie,"

Jennie muttered with a smile.

At this time, Jimmie seized the opportunity to

put in a good word for Marco.

"My friend here is not only a good talker. Thank goodness you can now see that he has done a lot for his ex-wife."

"Yeah, right! He has indeed done a lot for me," Loraine commented sarcastically.

Picking up the sarcasm in her words, Jimmie added hurriedly, "Life is too short to hold grudges, Loraine. It's good to forgive someone who has shown signs of repentance. Also, give him a chance to make it up to you."

Loraine knew what Jimmie was driving at, but she didn't say anything. She just grumbled in her mind.

She should give Marco a chance to make it up? What nonsense!

Three long years was enough time for him to be a good person to her. But what did Marco do? He abandoned her in the hands of his wicked family!

What was the point of making it up to her now that they were divorced?

The auction went on smoothly after the first sale was closed. All the other items Loraine donated were wheeled in one after the other. Each of them was sold for at least two times its normal price. The bidders tried their best to please Marco.

All the items Loraine donated were sold out. At this moment, other items were wheeled out one after the other.

Curran's eyes lit up. He rubbed his palms together, getting ready for action.

As an antique collector, he came to the auction to collect valuable items. He itched to have a go as the auction progressed.

A rosewood walking stick caught Curran's fancy as soon as it was brought out.

It was a sight to behold. The walking stick was carved exquisitely and its head was plated with gold. The redwood shone as if it had been polished with the finest of wood. It was clear that it was of high quality.

"Two hundred thousand dollars!"

"Two hundred and fifty thousand dollars!"

Loraine and Curran placed a bid at the same time.

Loraine hadn't forgotten the main purpose of this auction. She was here to buy gifts for her family. She knew that this walking stick was a rate one.

It wasn't that heavy but highly durante. She could picture her grandpa using it to support himself.

With this thought in mind, Lorsine dien't hesitate to bid for it.

Curran wanted the walking stick so badly. But once he reasoned that Marco would be displeased if he took it, he didn't make a higher offer.

The two of them took interest in a small Roman statue shortly after.

Again, Curran gave it up.

But when they took interest in the same item for the third time, Curran became pissed.

"Miss Torres, are you doing this on purpose? How come you are interested in all the items I want?"

Loraine turned a deaf ear to him. Sensing the budding conflict, Vickie seized the opportunity to fan the fire. "Honey, you shouldn't lose three times in a row. I think Loraine is going against you because she has someone to support her. Don't let this slide."

As those words settled in Curran's head, he

