# Task NO 1 How to Pursue Miss CEO Chapter 271

Chapter 271 Act Both Onstage and Offstage

Meredith merely gave a faint smile. "He's not from the entertainment industry, so I can't say too much. Please ask some other questions instead."

Since she declined to respond to this question, the reporters could only ask indirectly, but Meredith was no fool, so she didn't take their bait so easily.

Jude was also interviewed briefly. She was merely someone who was in the running, so she probably wouldn't have been interviewed if it weren't for the fact that she was the most anticipated winner this time. When she went backstage to rest, she happened to bump into Meredith who was returning in high spirits.

The moment Meredith spotted Jude, she walked up to her and hugged her. "Jude, although I won the award, I still think that this award belongs to you."

"There are no reporters here, so quit the act," Jude sneered.

This had embarrassment inundating Meredith, and she chuckled awkwardly. However, she didn't dare say anything too unpleasant out of fear that reporters might have sneaked in to snap photos.

"I feel tired on your behalf, having to act both onstage and offstage." At this precise moment, Jude's cell phone dinged with a message from the young man, Wyatt: 'While you didn't win the award this time, you're still the best actress in my heart! There's none other like you!' He must have watched the live broadcast. She then walked away as she replied to the message.

Meredith cast her a sidelong glance. At this precise moment, Landy walked over. "That was a close call! I was scared, terrified that the best actress would have fallen to Jude Knight."

Only when they were in the car did they dare discuss Jude in private. "Landy, should we dig up some dirt on Jude Knight? I'm starting to feel that she's a threat."

"Indeed. Her public persona is excellent—cold and aloof, so it's easy to gain a ton of diehard fans. If she wants attention in the future, a few simple words will be enough to propel her to the top search queries. Fortunately, she isn't a fan of variety shows, else her popularity would've long since gone through the roof. I'll dig up some dirt on her. Her acting skills are good, so her threat to you is too great. We can't allow her to get popular."

In the next instance, Landy turned to Meredith and hugged her lightly. "No matter what, God still cares for you. It's truly lucky that you won the award this time!"

As Meredith gazed at her shimmering gold trophy, she couldn't wait to share the news with Pierre. I wonder if he watched the live broadcast and heard what I said. Anyhow, it doesn't matter if he didn't see it today. After all, my acceptance speech will probably remain on the top search queries for several days. "Landy, I want—"

"Alright, I know you want to share the news with President Fowler and celebrate with him, so I'll give you some time off. However, I can only give you two days at most since we still have a lot of important matters to attend to next!"

Meredith nodded gratefully. She immediately sent a message to Pierre and snapped a selfie of herself holding the trophy for the Best Actress Award. Nonetheless, she didn't dare appear too happy. She pondered for a moment before composing a message to him: 'I won the award, Pierre.

In the past, Jamie always said that he wanted to play with my trophies, but I felt that he was too young and feared that he'd smash them, so I never allowed him to do so. I truly regret it now.

I want to give this trophy to him. Let's go and visit him together at the cemetery, okay?' She initially wanted to celebrate with him but changed her wording in the end.

Very quickly, she received a reply from him: 'Okay.' When she received the reply, she was so ecstatic that she almost jumped for joy. After all, she'd even braced herself for the possibility of him not replying since he was always so busy that she sometimes had to wait several days for a reply from him. This time, however, he replied within seconds!

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Chapter 272 Visiting Jamie

This had utter exhilaration flooding Meredith, and she instantly sent the time and venue to him. This time, Pierre didn't reply, but she knew that he'd definitely seen it.

On the day, Meredith arrived at the agreed-upon meeting place way earlier. She was dressed in black, naturally not daring to wear anything too ostentatious since she was going to the cemetery. However, she'd also put much thought into this dress.

This black fishtail skirt rendered her lower body long and slender, while the tight-fitting shirt on her upper body showcased her exquisite figure. Coupled with a British-style mesh black hat, she appeared mysterious and elegant. On the whole, it was a different allure altogether.

Upon seeing that it was almost time, she immediately took out the eye drops and dribbled some into her eyes. As stinging pain assailed her, her eyes instantly turned red.

The eye drops mixed with tears slowly trickled down, making it appear as though her eyes were swimming with tears. Then, she hurriedly fixed her makeup so that her face seemed a tad pale. It was all so unassuming that one would even think that she was barefaced.

When the car came to a stop beside her, Meredith instinctively acted as though she furtively dashed off her tears before facing the car with a smile. The car door then swung open, but only Joaquin stepped out, so she eagerly peered into the car.

"It's just me," Joaquin declared placidly, still as indifferent as ever, his voice devoid of inflection. "Huh? Did you come alone, Jojo? Where's your daddy?"

"Daddy is very busy, so he doesn't have time to come," Joaquin answered.

Meredith was naturally disappointed. If it weren't for the fact that they were going to visit Jameson's grave, thus forced to bring Joaquin along, she definitely wouldn't have brought this third wheel along. Now, however, the third wheel was here without the protagonist. Of course, she was belligerent. Nevertheless, she knew that she couldn't lose her temper. I've got to maintain my image in front of him, for this child's eyes are very sharp!

"Alright, then. Let's go and visit Jamie together." As she said that, she brought Joaquin into her car. In the car, they didn't say anything all the way to the

cemetery. Meredith brought along a bouquet of flowers as well as some toys and snacks.

When they arrived at Jameson's grave, Joaquin stood before the tombstone, still as expressionless as ever. Meredith, on the other hand, acted like a grieving mother as she placed the flowers, toys, and snacks in front of the tombstone. "I miss you a lot, Jamie. I wonder whether you're doing well over there. Are you eating well and dressing warmly? You've always been worrisome since young, so make sure that you take good care of yourself."

Standing at the side, Joaquin stared at her. After turning it over in his mind time and again, he decided to tell her that Jameson was still alive. "Mommy...."

As Meredith lifted her head at this time, she suddenly saw that the photo on the tombstone seemed to be smiling strangely. "Ahh!" Fear struck her, and she fell to the ground on her butt.

Joaquin looked at her in surprise.

Meredith clutched her chest, shock still holding her in its grip. "Look! Jamie... Jamie's photo..." That smile seemed to be saying one thing—I knew it was you—rendering her terror-stricken. One who had a clear conscience need not fear the knock in the night, but as the mastermind of the incident, she was naturally terrified.

"What's wrong with Jamie's photo?" Joaquin stared at her dubiously.

When Meredith again looked at the picture, she didn't see anything amiss. "Nothing..." She gave an awkward chuckle. "The photo is a bit dirty, so I'll just wipe it." As she spoke, she took out a tissue and wiped the photo, finding nothing wrong with it. "It's about time, Jojo. This is a cemetery, so we'd better go back earlier. A child shouldn't tarry too long at the cemetery since it's not a good place."

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#### Chapter 273 If Selena Yard Dies

For the first time, Meredith felt panicked, so she could only leave hastily with Joaquin. When she left, she subconsciously glanced over her shoulder at Jameson's tombstone, only to see that he was again wearing a creepy smile

in his photo. Her head swiftly snapped back, and she dared not look at it again.

Meanwhile, in the president's office in Empire Group, Pierre had his cell phone in hand, the screen displaying Selena's phone number. He wanted to call and listen to her voice besides inquiring about Juniper, but in the end, he didn't press the button. It'll be better for her if I keep my distance.

At this time, Niall knocked on the door and walked in. "President Fowler, Young Master Jojo has been driven over to meet up with Miss Yard."

"Okay." Pierre initially hadn't intended to go, but thinking that Meredith was immersed in the pain of losing her son, he decided to allow her more interaction with Joaquin as a form of consolation.

"But President Fowler, why didn't you tell Miss Meredith Yard that the judges actually selected Jude Knight as the best actress for Silver Fox Awards this time, but you forcefully intervened to have them give the award to her instead?"

"Why should I tell her?" Pierre merely pitied Meredith. At the end of the day, it was a child whom she gave birth to after carrying him for nine months. Although he wasn't willing to marry her, nor did he have any feelings for her, they still shared two children in common, so he had to give his children's biological mother some quarter. Thus, giving her the Best Actress Award was considered a consolation of sorts.

"But Miss Yard mentioned you in her acceptance speech." Niall then handed his tablet to Pierre, on which 'Meredith Yard's other half' was ranked first in the top search queries on Twitter. There was also a video of her acceptance speech, and many media outlets were speculating that her 'other half' was Pierre. After all, Meredith seldom had rumors with anyone ever since she entered the entertainment industry. The only one with whom she'd been rumored was Pierre, and there was even news that they were going to get married back then. "Should we do something about this?"

Pierre massaged his temples. He knew that Meredith probably still held out hope that they'd get together. After all, she seems to have made such a remark so that the media will connect it to me. All of a sudden, his heart jolted. His head abruptly snapped up, and he stared at Niall. "If Selena Yard dies or is imprisoned, who do you think will benefit most?" I've neglected this question all along! In response, Niall scratched his head. This question is rather difficult for me. "I'm not quite certain. Miss Selena Yard has a net worth of a few billion, so she must have quite a number of enemies. Perhaps someone wanted to prevent Miss Yard from collaborating with the Fowler Family?" Even if that's the case, they didn't need to kill a child to stop the collaboration! That's just too high a price!

"Perhaps it's to prevent her from being with me," Pierre murmured slowly. In the next instance, he shook his head. "No, this is impossible. She's his biological mother, after all."

On the other hand, at the castle shrouded in the darkness, Hades heard noises from the kitchen when he came back. The lights in the kitchen were turned on, and a fragrant aroma wafted out from time to time. He sat down on the sofa silently before randomly taking a book from the shelf at the side. Then, he started flipping through it.

At this moment, Ken and Barbie returned as well. Catching a whiff of the aroma, Ken sniffed the air a couple more times. "Wow! It smells good!"

Barbie, on the other hand, patted her stomach. "I'm feeling hungry at the fragrant aroma."

When Hades heard that, his brows furrowed. These two people came back at the wrong time!

"Selena is the only person who can cook something this fragrant!" Ken greedily inhaled the fragrant aroma several more times as he spoke.

A moment later, the kitchen door opened, and Selena walked out. "Ken, Barbie, you came at just the right time! Come and eat!"

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Chapter 274 What a Selfish Man

Hades was naturally chagrined. "Ken, Barbie, I've got a mission for you two." When Ken heard it, he rubbed his hands. "Boss, isn't this a bit inopportune? Why don't you let us fill our stomachs first before telling us about the mission?" "That's right. It's very difficult to execute a mission on an empty stomach, boss." Barbie was salivating as she looked at the dishes Selena brought out.

"Fifty kilometers away is the Effie Castle, and there's a gown from the 18th century there. Your mission is to retrieve it for me." Hades paid Ken and Barbie's words no mind.

After all, his words were a decree, so Ken and Barbie had no choice but to acquiesce. Before they left, they both looked at Selena in unison.

Selena flashed them a smile. "I'll cook for you guys next time."

"We'll be leaving then." As Ken and Barbie dragged their feet out, they surreptitiously gave Hades the middle finger. "He just wanted it all to himself! What a selfish man!"

"We both know that, so there's no need to say it out loud." Then, the lovers left as they groused.

Thus, Hades and Selena were now the only ones left in the castle. Originally, there was also a dumb maidservant who was good at cooking, specially employed to cook for everyone here, but Selena gave her the day off since she was here.

"Dinner is ready!" Selena hollered in the direction of the sofa.

Only when all the dishes had been brought out to the table did Hades slowly walk over, seemingly a tad reluctant.

Dinner was a feast with nutritious dishes. The soup, in particular, was boiled especially for Hades. Hence, Selena personally scooped a bowl of soup and gave it to Hades. "This soup replenishes blood, so drink more."

Hades glanced at the bowl of rich soup, the corners of his mouth curving into a smirk even as his expression showed a hint of disdain. "A bowl of soup can replenish blood? It'll replenish my blood?"

At this, Selena lowered her eyes. "I'm truly grateful to you. Thank you for saving Juniper. I'll cook more nutritious food for you when I'm free after Juniper recovers."

"Oh?" Hades' tone was a touch flippant. "You don't want to leave anymore?" He knew full well that she was only staying to cook for him out of guilt, yet he made it sound as though she regretted her decision back then and decided to stay voluntarily.

"At least until you're feeling better," Selena replied.

After the brief exchange, the two of them ate together without saying a single word, so the room was eerily silent.

Before this, Selena had already learned about Hades announcing an S-class mission, and she also knew that he would've probably proposed right after she and Juniper came back if it weren't for Juniper's accident. Nevertheless, she had no inkling of his thoughts, so she decided to feign ignorance for the moment.

When they were about to finish eating, Hades suddenly blurted, "Don't you have anything to ask me?"

Lifting her eyes, Selena glanced at him. "No." I can't ask him anything even if I want to do so. Otherwise, things will be even more awkward between us.

"Didn't they tell you that I'm going to propose to you?"

Never had Selena expected Hades to mention this. So, what exactly is he trying to do?

In the meantime, Hades' eyes glimmered like stars on a dark night, dazzling and captivating. "As per our agreement, this is the final S-class mission. Don't you want to know what it is?" Leaning back against his chair, he stared at her with his chin tilted and eyelids half shut.

"Why do you want to propose to me?" Even a marriage proposal can be classified as an S-class mission? This was a great surprise to Selena since Sclass missions were the most difficult among all missions, usually requiring a single person to lead and the others to assist.

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Chapter 275 The Mission Is a Marriage Proposal

However, Hades classified a marriage proposal to her as an S-class mission. "This is the final S-class mission. As per our agreement, you're free to leave after completing this mission."

Selena opened her mouth, yet no words came. Since this is a marriage proposal, the completion of the mission is naturally the success of the proposal, but I'm the intended recipient. In other words, the mission is only considered successful if I agree to his proposal, thus freeing myself from this place.

However, once I agree to his marriage proposal, I have to marry him! So, even if it's successful, I still won't be free of him! Sure enough, he's Hades that he could come up with such a tactic. "You'll go as far as proposing marriage to me just to have me stay?" Biting her lip, she gazed at him. "What's the point?"

The corners of Hades' mouth lifted. "You may take it however you want. Anyway, this is the final S-class mission."

"What if I decline?" A hint of irritation swamped Selena. He's obviously toying with me! At that thought, she shot to her feet furiously. I want to leave this dark place and be free of everything here! I want to have a normal life!

"Then, you'll have to remain under my command." Hades shrugged nonchalantly. In response, Selena bit her lip so hard that blood beaded. "Don't you think this is very despicable of you?"

Hades merely chuckled without answering her. Standing up, he slowly walked over to her and used his thumb to lightly wipe off the blood on her lip. Instinctively, Selena dodged, causing him to freeze for a moment before retracting his hand.

"Boss, I beg you." Selena's voice turned servile and shaky. For Juniper's sake, she didn't mind abandoning all her dignity.

Stretching out a hand, Hades lifted her chin. As he scrutinized her face, another face seemingly flashed in his mind. Nonetheless, he promptly snapped back to reality. "Marry me. This is an order!"

Finally, Selena lifted her eyes to him. "Do you even love me?"

Hades tilted his head as though finding this question hilarious. "I only love myself."

"It just so happens to be the same for me. Therefore, why should we get together? Marriage is between two people in love."

"What if I just want it?" Hades grabbed her around the waist and plastered her close to him.

Upon hearing this, Selena couldn't quite understand what he meant by 'want'.

"In this world, there's nothing I want that I cannot get!" After saying that, Hades ripped her shirt.

Only at that moment did Selena believe that his marriage proposal was serious. Although she didn't know his true motive in proposing marriage, she knew that he truly wanted her.

At this exact moment, someone suddenly stood at the door. "I'm back, boss."

This voice sounds just too familiar. Selena abruptly swung her gaze to the door, only to be greeted by the sight of Linda. It's actually Linda!

Hades' expression darkened a shade, and he released Selena. At the same time, Selena promptly buttoned her shirt, even though many buttons had scattered on the floor from the force he'd exerted. Nonetheless, she didn't look indecent after she'd buttoned the rest.

"I seem to have returned at an inopportune time." As Linda said this, she whirled around to leave.

"Stop right there!" Selena thundered.

Linda halted, yet she didn't dare turn back around.

Then, Selena stalked over to her. "Why are you here?" She called him 'boss' just now, so she's his subordinate. Never had I suspected that among so many graduates, the assistant whom I've chosen and always trusted would actually be his subordinate!

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Chapter 276 Yet You Betrayed Me!

"I..." Linda stammered with no words forthcoming. Hades, however, brazenly sauntered over to the sofa and plopped down, crossing his legs. "She's my subordinate."

Upon hearing that, Selena stared at him, her gaze tinged with a hint of anguish and fury. "So, you've never trusted me, and she's a spy you planted by my side long ago!"

At this, Linda hastily stepped forward. "Selena, please don't be angry with me. I was just—"

Before Linda could get all her words out, Selena swung her hand and slapped her across the face. "I trusted you wholeheartedly, yet you betrayed me!"

Covering her face with a hand, Linda lowered her eyes, not daring to say a single word further.

All at once, Selena understood a lot of things. I remember Juniper once saying that Linda knows martial arts, but I didn't pay it much mind back then. I never thought that she'd betray me when I trusted her so much! Her chest ached as though she'd been stabbed right through the heart. For the first time, she felt as though she was a joke. Her head abruptly snapped up, and she looked at her. "That spy was actually you, no? It was you who relayed crucial information to Hades, yes?"

During her last conversation with Pierre, she was both infuriated and rattled, so she didn't try figuring out what he was trying to say. She was indeed a spy, but she was merely a corporate spy; all the information she relayed was related to Fowler Corporation's trade secrets. However, if it was merely that, he probably wouldn't have been so enraged. She'd also guessed his other identity, so what he meant by spy probably had to do with his other identity, and that was why he was livid!

"Selena, I just..." Linda furtively cast a glance at Hades. "I just executed my orders, so please don't blame me."

Meanwhile, Hades was still sitting there expressionlessly as though he was carved of stone, his thoughts unfathomable.

Abruptly, Selena cackled before turning around and staring at Hades. I'd thought that he was a cold person, but surely, he still has a heart underneath it all. Besides, he treated Juniper so well that I trusted him and was grateful to him. At this very moment, however, I've finally realized that he doesn't have a heart! "I've risked my life for you, yet I didn't even get an iota of trust in return. I'll never marry such a person." After saying that, she left the castle in huge strides.

Thus, it was only Linda and Hades left in the entire castle. Despite Selena's recent outburst, Hades still sat there on the sofa, aloof. Never had I expected Selena to discover the truth about Linda at this time. Linda was someone whom he'd planted by Selena's side at the very beginning. Back then, Selena had just established JNS Corporation, and he was worried that she would become so powerful that he couldn't control her anymore. Hence, he arranged for Linda to join the company. In reality, he indeed hadn't trusted her at that time. He'd never trusted anyone, including every single one of his subordinates.

After deliberating for a long moment, Linda walked over to Hades. "I'm sorry, boss. I didn't know—"

"Why?" Without waiting for her to finish speaking, Hades spoke, his expression turning terrifyingly dark. This is definitely not an accident. Rather, she did it on purpose!

When Linda heard that, she opened her mouth, her gaze darting around. She knew that she couldn't pull the wool over his eyes, so she swiftly dropped to her knees on the ground, clutching his legs with both hands. "I'm sorry, boss. It was indeed deliberate on my part."

Hades waited silently for her ensuing explanation.

"I'm saddened to be a spy by Selena's side. She treats me extremely well, so I really don't want to betray her."

Uncrossing his legs, Hades leaned forward and lifted her chin forcefully. "Really?"

Linda's heart galloped wildly, so much so that even her chin was trembling. "Y-Yes."

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Chapter 277 Because I Love You

"I'll give you one last chance." Hades' voice sounded as though it was from the bowels of hell.

It was common knowledge that he was an extremely terrifying person; Linda had never doubted this. Terror-stricken, she didn't dare say anything besides the truth. "It's because I love you! I love you, boss! From my first glimpse of you in the ruins, I've resolved to be your woman in this lifetime. So... So..."

Hades gave a bark of derisive laughter as though saying that she wasn't worthy of loving him.

"Boss, Selena doesn't love you, nor is she worthy of your love. She has gotten together with Pierre Fowler long ago, and they've even slept together," Linda hastily blurted.

Women were perceptive, so ever since she fell for Hades, she knew that he had feelings for Selena. Therefore, she fervently encouraged Selena to get together with Pierre and even facilitated her getting into his bed. A woman's jealousy and possessiveness gave her no choice but to do so, for only when Selena belonged to another man did she have an opportunity to be with Hades.

"I'm the one who truly loves you, boss. I'm willing to do anything for you, and I don't even need any status as long as I can remain by your side." Linda knelt on the ground, appearing pitiful as tears streamed down her face.

In the meantime, Hades leaned back against the sofa again. This had Linda assuming that he was accepting her, so she took his hand and placed it against her cheek. "I really love you a lot, and I'll never betray you. Trust me. I'll be your most accomplished disciple and complete even more missions for you. I'll also love you with all I am." She held his hand greedily. This is my first time having such close contact with him and touching him! She loved him so much that even the warmth of his skin seemed to be telling her that she must serve him forever.

All of a sudden, she felt a chill at her temple. This feeling... It's a pistol! "Boss..." Linda's voice shook, and she was so scared that her entire body trembled. Never had she thought that such would be the result. "Here, anyone who makes a mistake must be punished." Hades' voice remained devoid of warmth, sounding as though it'd come from hell, so petrifying that one's hair would stand on end.

"I-I'm sorry, boss. I was wrong... I was wrong... I won't do it again." Linda raised both hands, not daring to do anything rash, her voice shaking.

From her first glimpse of Hades, she'd wanted to serve him. Back then, her village was besieged by flood, and many people died. Those who remained stood naked on the mountain without any food or drink, and the only thing left was despair. Many girls even avowed to die so that they could be reunited with their families in the afterlife.

At that time, Hades' arrival was tantamount to that of a savior. He descended from the sky in a plane as though he was God. Then, he selected her from among the crowd by slipping off his jacket and draping it over her. At that time, she was only a 13-year-old girl. That feeling of being pulled back from death's door had her falling in love with the 'God' back then at first sight.

She'd always felt that he had to have some feelings for her, else he wouldn't have chosen her from among the many girls; it could only be fate.

"It's too late." Hades' finger was on the trigger, so if he were to just press it lightly, Linda wouldn't have life to speak anymore.

"Boss, I'll never do it again!" Linda wept in utter anguish. Never had I thought that the man I love deeply would point a gun at me! "I really love you a lot! Do you not love me at all?"

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Chapter 278 Pierre Fowler's Background

"Oh? You think I love you?" Hades sneered. This is quite a good joke! "Of course. Do you not love me? If you truly have no feelings for me, why did you choose me from among so many people back then?" Linda was convinced that she'd become his woman sooner or later as long as she loved him as well.

"Do you want to know the reason?" Linda nodded tremblingly. "Yes." "Okay. I'll grant your dying wish. Why did I choose you from among so many people? It was because I saw something in your gaze."

"What was it?"

Then, Hades leaned down and whispered in her ear, "The desire to die. You were the one who desired to die most among them all, and only people who had lost all hope are of use to me."

At that moment, Linda could hear her heart shattering, and she stared at him speechlessly.

Bang! A gunshot echoed in the castle.

Meanwhile, Selena returned to the hospital. She'd asked Melissa and Joshua to take care of Juniper here since she went to cook for Hades. Standing by the door, she stared at Melissa and Joshua, the two 'buddies' who'd been with her through thick and thin. All of a sudden, incredulity flooded her. Who else can I trust when even Linda was a spy Hades planted by my side?

Pushing open the door, she walked in. "Mel, Josh, thank you so much for today. I'm back, so you guys can go back and rest."

Upon hearing Selena's voice, Melissa looked at her with a smile. Her black clothes and pitch-black pupils made her appear cool and unapproachable, but she was actually an affable girl who was merely pretending to be cool. "Actually, you didn't have to come back so early. You could've spent a little more time getting to know him." She blinked suggestively.

Naturally, Selena understood her meaning, but still, she insisted that they leave. "You guys can go back. I can manage by myself."

At this time, Juniper was already asleep.

"Okay, we'll be leaving then." Joshua inclined his head at Selena and wrapped an arm around Melissa's shoulder before they walked out of the ward together.

While they were walking, Melissa abruptly stopped. "I think there's something amiss with Selena."

"What's amiss? Are you just too sensitive?" Joshua chuckled nonchalantly.

"No. My intuition tells me that something must have happened between her and our boss."

Bringing Melissa's hand up, Joshua kissed it lightly. "Darling, do you really think Selena will end up with our boss?"

Melissa shook her head. "Our boss is too unpredictable, so no one knows what he's actually thinking. Nonetheless, I feel that he really has feelings for Selena and truly wants to marry her. However, Selena probably loves someone else. Didn't you gather that from Juniper's remarks?"

Joshua shrugged. "Whatever. We'd better not interfere in this. From the very beginning, we'd known that Selena wouldn't stay forever, no?"

Sighing, Melissa left with him.

After that, Selena had her assistant from JNS Corporation bring her laptop to the hospital. When she checked her email, she discovered that her email had indeed been tampered with. All the encrypted files she sent back to Hades had application codes added. After opening those codes, she slowly deciphered them, but in the next instance, she slammed the cover of her laptop down. This is simply too much! Pierre Fowler is actually... She couldn't quite believe it, yet she had no choice but to do so. Perhaps I now know why he refuses to marry me.

That entire night, she couldn't sleep, for her mind was filled with thoughts of Pierre. It was as though her row with him the night before she left had only happened on the previous day. They pointed fingers and suspected each other, so that was the most torturous night to her.

# Task NO 1 How to Pursue Miss CEO Chapter 279

#### Chapter 279 Nosebleed

However, Selena realized when the truth was uncovered that Pierre wasn't in fact doubting her. The reason he refused to marry her was because he wanted to protect her. In fact, his identity dictated that he would never be able to indulge in marital bliss.

Seeing that he wasn't riled up by the fact that she was a spy, she figured he must've loved her, or else he would've already put a bullet through her head. However, she wasn't exactly certain if her conjecture was right. She already made multiple misjudgements prior to this, so she no longer had the courage to make a guess.

By the next morning, Juniper rose with the sun. Upon noticing that Selena was back when she opened her eyes, a smile bloomed on her face.

"You're finally awake. What would you like to have for breakfast?" "Um... I'd like some congee."

"Sure. I'll go get some for you." With that, Selena left to buy breakfast. She returned later on in a jolly mood with the congee that Juniper wanted, only to see Juniper sitting on the bed with her face and hands smeared with blood. "Juniper!" Making a dash toward her daughter, she asked, "What happened?"

"Don't worry, Mom. It's just a nosebleed." Juniper seemed much calmer than her mother, as it wasn't her first time getting a nosebleed.

Deftly, Selena helped Juniper stop the bleeding. Although she managed to stop it, she was still a little worried about her, so she had a doctor do a checkup on Juniper. Later on, she was called into the doctor's office.

Ever since Juniper was hospitalized, she came to learn more about the doctor's office. The doctors would only speak to patients there whenever a grave situation occurred. If the patient was recovering or never had much of a problem to begin with, the doctor would simply talk to them in the ward without needing to have a conversation in the office. Therefore, she was inexplicably nervous. "Doctor, does my daughter's nose bleed indicate something really bad?"

Instead of giving an immediate reply, the doctor pondered on the question before answering, "Yes."

The doctor's definitive reply made her feel as if her world was crumbling. Why are the heavens unwilling to let go of this poor child? "What's her condition?"

With his palm facing downward, the doctor made a gesture to indicate to her to keep calm. "You have to remain calm. Listen to my explanation first."

However, it was just impossible to not get all agitated. "Doctor, tell me the truth. I can handle it."

"Your daughter has leukemia."

I knew it! Selena screwed her eyes shut in agony. Seeing that the doctor called her into his office over something as minor as a nosebleed, she already

had an inkling that Juniper might have leukemia. However, having her conjecture being confirmed by the doctor was still devastating. "How could this be? Juniper..." She choked on her own words.

"Miss Yard, you don't need to be overly concerned. With modern medicine, we have more knowledge regarding leukemia, so we have less to fear."

It wasn't until then that Selena lifted her head to look at the doctor. "Is there a cure?"

"Your daughter is lucky, as her condition isn't terminal. Besides, she is still young, so she has a high chance of making a full recovery after treatment. We have a few patients with a similar case who were cured, so we will definitely be able to get her condition under control as well as present a cure."

The doctor's explanation seemed to have given her some hope. If all goes according to what the doctor says, there's still much hope in the situation! she thought to herself. "So what do we need to do? Do we need a bone marrow transplant?"

"While that might be the best option, her current condition isn't very severe, so we can first try out other regular options for treatment first."

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Chapter 280 Leukemia

In response, Selena nodded. "There is something else that you should note. Even if you choose to let your daughter undergo the regular treatment, her immediate family members should also do a test to see if there is a match, so that we can operate on her as soon as possible in case she needs a bone marrow transplant."

Once again, she nodded. "There's also another treatment called a cord blood transplant, so I wonder if you have plans to conceive again. Many families that weren't able to find a donor opted to conceive another child to make use of the child's cord blood for treatment. It is a more effective treatment with a higher rate of recovery."

"Conceive another child?" "That's right. Cord blood transplant is effective on some children. I'm telling you this so that you can know all your options. Your daughter's case is discovered early on, so you have a lot of options. You should be mentally prepared to tackle this, so that you can pick out the best option for your daughter's treatment."

After Selena left that office, she had been mulling on what that doctor told her. She wiped her tears away when she got to the ward before giving her stiff face a pinch to make sure she had a smile on her mouth.

Meanwhile, Juniper was already awake. Upon hearing the door open, she turned to look at Selena. "Mom..."

"I'm here!" Selena walked up to her bed to caress her cheek. "What would you like to eat?"

"Mom, do I have a grave illness?"

"No." Unsure of how to divulge the news to her, Selena chose to keep her in the dark for the moment.

However, Juniper stared at her with a straight face. "Mom, do I have leukemia?"

Hearing her say that made Selena's heart sink instantly.

"I know what's happening even if you don't tell me. One of the children in our kindergarten never came back to the kindergarten after multiple nosebleeds. I overheard the teachers saying that he had leukemia. Treatment failed despite the huge fortune spent on it. He might never come back ever again."

Upon hearing that, Selena pulled her in for an embrace, but Juniper still had more to say. "Mommy, will I die?" The mention of death made Selena feel even more sorry for her daughter. "Mommy, will I be able to go to where Jamie is if I die?"

The fact that she still had to start an investigation to find Jameson totally went over her head. Too much had happened ever since she got back to Springvale, so she had a hard time keeping up with everything. Shaking her head, she consoled Juniper by telling her, "You won't die. The doctor told me that even though you do have leukemia, there are many types of leukemia, and some are curable. Do you understand?"

Juniper nodded despite her confusion.

"Don't you worry, as the doctor will do his best to treat you. However, the treatment might be painful. Are you afraid?"

Shaking her head, Juniper replied, "I'm not. You will be with me, right?"

"Yeah, I will be with you. Always." Seeing how thoughtful she was made Selena want to cry. Sometimes, she wished that Juniper could be less mature; she would rather her daughter throw a tantrum so that she could soothe and love her. However, she was just too mature.

After getting her hands on Juniper's test report, Selena began searching for information online, as well as sending out emails to foreign research institutes. The reply they gave her indicated that they could indeed get a regular treatment first, just like what the doctor told Selena earlier, but Juniper might be more susceptible to relapses after treatment. Although there wasn't a hundred percent chance that she would suffer a relapse, seeing that there was a chance of a relapse was proof that either a bone marrow transplant or cord blood transplant would be their best choice.