

#82 Lydia Fenet

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SPEAKERS

Michelle Glogovac, Lydia Fenet

- M** Michelle Glogovac 00:01
You're listening to the my simplified life podcast and this is episode number 82.
- M** Michelle Glogovac 00:11
Welcome to the my simplified life podcast, a place where you will learn that your past and even your present. don't define your future. Regardless of what stage of life you're in, I want you to feel inspired and encouraged to pursue your dreams, simplify your life and start taking action today. I'm your host, Michelle Glogovac, and I'm excited to share my stories and life lessons with you will taking you on my own journey. This is my simplified life.
- M** Michelle Glogovac 00:45
Hey, friends, welcome back to another episode. I'm your host, Michelle Glogovac, I have a secret for you. You can be the most powerful woman in the room. It all starts with a great strike method, networking and absolute competence. But don't take it from me. Take it from the most powerful woman in the room, the Michael Jordan of the auction world, a woman who shares the stage with a list celebrities and helps charities raise more money than they could even imagine. Lydia fenit joins me today to talk about how she found her confidence and talent created not only a career for herself, but an entire new department for Christie's auction house. She's a mom of three who works full time during the day,

manages to spend quality time with her kids, and do benefit auctions at night. It's not just about her career, though. We're talking about the lessons we both learned from corporate life in our 20s. What changed when we became moms, and the need for empowering each other in order for every single one of us to become the most powerful woman in the room? Hi, Lydia. Hi, Michelle. How

M Michelle Glogovac 02:02
are you?

M Michelle Glogovac 02:02
I am so good. How are you?

L Lydia Fenet 02:04
I'm great. Thank you so much for having me on your podcast.

M Michelle Glogovac 02:08
Oh, thank you. It is my pleasure and honor, I am so excited to get talk to you one on one since I got to be on the one version one side of hearing you speak with business chicks. And I was like, Oh, I need to have a one on one with this woman please.

L Lydia Fenet 02:25
Well, thank you so much for inviting me. It's always fun to get an invitation to join someone on a podcast.

M Michelle Glogovac 02:30
Well, it was something that you all have you introduced yourself in a second. But the reason that I invited you too is because you had said in your talk that you know if you want to email someone you have like this urge, you should just do it and reach out to people and we'll talk about network or die. But in that moment, I went I'm going to find her email and I'm going to send her one.

L Lydia Fenet 02:53
I love it. I'm so glad you did. And you're not the only one Honestly, I know I say that. But I

really mean it. I enjoy meeting people and you want to email me or call or call me or send me a DM over Instagram. I'm always up for it.

M Michelle Glogovac 03:03

I love it. So can you take a moment now, before we dive all the way in and we're 30 minutes in and everyone's like, Who is this one? Can you please introduce yourself to everyone?

L Lydia Fenet 03:12

Sure. My name is Lydia Fenet. I am the author of a book called The most powerful woman in the room is you and I'm also an auctioneer at Christie's auction house where I've worked for two decades. I

M Michelle Glogovac 03:22

love it. And I gave you a shout out over the weekend because it was national auctioneers day. And I think a lot of people when we think of auctioneers, we think kind of like the cattle You know, it goes so quickly off their tongue and you know, it's that kind of a thing, but you're not that kind of an auctioneer

L Lydia Fenet 03:41

no i

M Michelle Glogovac 03:42

when you explain what you are for everybody who doesn't know because I've also had people go what's Christie's?

L Lydia Fenet 03:47

I know? I know. Well, it's funny I didn't never heard of Christie's before I read an article about them in college. So it wasn't a place that was familiar to me either. So two things. So Christie's auction house is an auction house where we sell everything from museum quality works. Like if you've heard of Picasso, or Monet or Manet, all of those works have been sold at Christie's either to museums, or to private collections. But we sell everything we sell wine, we sell jewelry, in fact, we have at different specialists departments. And in

order to do that, we use auctioneers. So there are people who stand up on what we call a rostrum. But it's basically just a podium. We stand on a podium with the gavel, we slam the gavel down and we sell whatever they give us to sell. I specialize in charity auctions, which means that especially in the US, where there's a very robust charity gala scene, I spend the bulk of my evenings during peak gala season, raising money for nonprofits by standing on stage and essentially selling a trip or the opportunity to have a movie walk on role or all of these different amazing opportunities that boards put together in order to raise money for nonprofits.

M

Michelle Glogovac 04:57

I think what you do is fascinating there was a point in the book that I went, Oh, I think I missed my calling, I want to be a benefit auctioneer. And the reason I think was because you mentioned in your book that there was kind of this awakening for you where you said, you know, I'm going on stage, and I'm being kind of this the English auctioneer male version, who's kind of stuffy. And you know, to the point, and then you realize that's not me.

L

Lydia Fenet 05:25

Absolutely. And I think that that has happened, probably just so many, so many of us over our lives where you don't see anyone who looks like you doing something that you want to do. And so you think that you shouldn't be doing it. When I think the biggest lesson I learned and I wrote about this in the book was that it's really more about you taking the initiative to make it your own thing. You know, just because it's done one way doesn't mean that's the only way it can be done. And that was really the approach I took to benefit auctioneering. But it takes confidence. And it takes the ability to feel confident in yourself, to put yourself outside of that box that's been created and say, there's a different way to do this. It's not good or bad. It's just different.

M

Michelle Glogovac 06:04

And you do a training program where I think it's kind of like you test people. And I kept thinking to myself, What would I say if she called on? What story? Would I tell? Oh, my goodness. Absolutely, absolutely. And it's so fun.

L

Lydia Fenet 06:18

I mean, I'd say it's a little bit like survivor, we put 20 people, you know, volunteer to come from Christie's who work in the company into a room for four days. And over the course of

four days, we train them by, we start out by asking them to just speak in public. And we really do this. And we ask them really to tell a story in about two to three minutes. We do this to figure out who is able to actually speak in public, because speaking in public is one thing speaking in public during an auction where you don't really have a script, and you're using the audience to bounce off of and you have to be competent enough to speak ever, people who are going to talk no matter what you do, takes a certain level of competence on stage. And so very quickly, you can see people who either fall apart immediately or other people who can hold their own, they just need to be trained up.

M

Michelle Glogovac 07:05

Absolutely. And I know that, you know you're doing this after dinner has been served after drinks have been served. I used to be a chair for the California schedulers and dispatchers Association, which is corporate aviation related, and we would do a quarterly event and have a speaker go up after dinner after drinks. And nobody paid attention. So unfortunately, the speakers we couldn't really rely on them to manage it. So we just changed the format where you had to get up and leave your table and come sit stadium style to listen.

L

Lydia Fenet 07:38

Yes.

L

Lydia Fenet 07:40

Yeah, that was our answer to the you know, any related people? Yes, exactly, exactly. And the funny thing is, you know, you realize over time, and the part that is so unnerving is when you get up there for In my case, instead of the first 100 auctions that I took, and I just realized that they were never really going to stop talking. Because especially for an auction, an auction that things are gonna sell for 1000s of dollars or so few people in an audience who can actually bid on them. So what I realized is the auctioneer is that it wasn't really that entertaining the people who were going to bid, he was not entertaining the audience. And so I had to make it a bigger moment where I was calling out people who weren't even bidding, I was making jokes about things that were happening in the room that weren't necessarily about the auction itself. Or in addition to that, I was also just commenting on different things. And I apologize, by the way for the background noise, but I live in New York City, so there's always some kind of siren going off. But you know, I do think that that's such a critical part of learning to be not only an auctioneer, but to be a good public speaker is to get comfortable with, you know, a siren going off in the middle of your talk and understand that it's okay, things happen. As long as you don't pretend

they don't happen, then a lot of times people feel a lot more comfortable because of it.

M Michelle Glogovac 08:52
Or like when Matt Damon calls you Lindsay instead of Lydia.

L Lydia Fenet 08:57
Damon calls you Lindsay and then you have to correct him because you can't let everyone think that your name is Lindsay obviously I

M Michelle Glogovac 09:02
love that. I love that you called him out. Everybody needs to read the book so you can get to the Matt Damon story. Because I'm a huge fan, I would have been like just like you.

M Michelle Glogovac 09:12
Haha, yay, Matt Damon

M Michelle Glogovac 09:16
stood up to him and was like, Hey, buddy, this is my job. And FYI, that's not my name. Exactly.

L Lydia Fenet 09:21
And I think that that's the point in the book, you know, he was so and he was so great and so funny. And I tell that story just to illustrate that no one is ever above you in life. It doesn't matter what platform they have, what distinction they have, what honor they have received, they deserve respect for what they've done, but if they call you the wrong name, you can say that that's not your name. And that's okay. You know, my dad always says everyone puts their boots on the say way in the morning. You know, exactly. Just never forget that as it pertains to business or even life.

M Michelle Glogovac 09:53
And I think that in talking about this story with with Matt, there's also this perception for people have, you know, celebrities are these other people, you know, we put them up on this pedestal. But in my past life, I worked with a lot of celebrities and like stood next to

them the way you do on a stage. And they're just regular people. And you also mentioned in the book how the actors kind of shy away from being on the stage because they don't have a script. And I found that's absolutely the truth that, you know, the bigger actor, they are the the biggest one that surprised me in my life was Sean Penn, because I think he's such an amazing actor. But when you are right next to him, he's very quiet. He's very reserved.

L

Lydia Fenet 10:37

Yes, yes. And I think a lot of them are their actors, you know, they're not necessarily It doesn't mean that they're gregarious personalities, like they might be in a movie, they're just people. And that goes to any field, you know, people do that, about sports figures, or the CEO of a company, just anyone that they perceive to be successful. I think a lot of times, it makes people feel as if they can't approach them or talk to them. And, you know, I that's kind of what I said in my book, it's like, you should call me or email me, because I want to get to know people. That's why I wrote a book. That's why I do speaking. And that's why I am always on Instagram, sort of, you know, just talking about things that come to me, because that's what I've chosen to do with my life. And therefore, I want that information back. And I think a lot of people who are public figures, they sort of choose the way they want to be seen. But they're all they're just people.

M

Michelle Glogovac 11:25

Exactly. And and something that we all need to remember, remember, because as a podcast host, I get a lot of other people go, how did you get, you know, Mr. Isaacs, on your show? How did you you know, I get these larger names. And like I asked, I reached out and I asked and created a relationship. And that's really what your book is all about, and how you've come along in your career. Let's talk about it because you didn't just overnight happen to be an auctioneer at Christie's working with celebrities.

L

Lydia Fenet 11:54

Yes, that is true. That is true. It took a lot of practice, that's probably the best way that I can say it. You know, I started out. As a 24 year old, I had been working the company for three years. And at that time, they only had auctioneers who had been at the company for over 10 years, they were all officers in the company. But there was a year where a lot of the charity auctioneers, because charity auctions always take place late in the evening, had to miss auctions, they missed flights they had, they had to call in sick, they had children who were sick and couldn't go, or there were just all of these issues. And so they decided that the pool of charity auctioneers was not large enough, they opened it up to

the entire company. And I had seen these charity gala, as I gone is a volunteer to help the auctioneer, you sort of stand near the tables in the room. And when the auctioneer can't see someone you yell, bidding, sir. So that, you know, the auctioneer knows that there's someone bidding in the general vicinity where you're standing. And I'd seen it happen time and time again. And I just thought it was just so amazing. Like, I want to do that, I feel like I could be really good at that. And so you know, I took my 24 year old self downstairs to this room of 20 people. And over four days, they kept whittling it down. And then the last day they had they called each of us into the office, and four of us passed, three of whom are guys, most of them are at least 10 years older than me. And it was just a really interesting thing. Because the feedback that I received was, we don't really know what to do with you, because you don't really fit the mold. But there is something that we like about you. So we'll just give you the options that nobody else wants to take. And I was 24. So I thought that that was the greatest thing I've ever heard in my life. And so thus, that became the next sort of eight or nine years of my life, which almost every evening after work, I would throw on a cocktail dress, you know, something that I kept on a hanger behind my door, and trot myself off to all the event venues in New York City and take these charity auctions. But the funny thing about taking so many auctions is it gave me practice with every possible thing that could go wrong. So, you know, when someone says, Well, you know, we forgot to get the microphone. I mean, the first time it happened to me, my heart sank and I almost died. There were 300 people in the room. What I realized now because it's happened to me a couple of years ago, the microphone went out and I said to the crowd, how could you possibly speak right now I'm an auctioneer without a microphone. You have to listen to me. You must and they all did. You know. And then when I finally got the microphone, everybody cheered. And I realized those moments, make it fun for the audience. It's different. And I always say like, the bigger the bigger the problem, the bigger the joke, you know?

M

Michelle Glogovac 14:27

Yeah. Nobody wants to see you fail.

L

Lydia Fenet 14:29

Nobody wants to see you fail. I mean, there's nothing worse than watching a speaker or someone get on stage who really just can't, they just can't pull it together. You know, their voice is shaking, they're bright red, all of those things. And so, it's absolutely true that when you get on stage, the one thing you should think about more than anything is every single person out there wants you to have a good performance. No one likes it. No one likes a bad speaker.

M

Michelle Glogovac 14:52

No, no, absolutely not. There's there's two parts of your book that I'm like I my mind is just spinning with some Questions and like, oh, let's talk about. So if I'm all over the place, that's why. One thing that you said, and since you just started out that you mentioned you were 24, when you started is towards the end of the book, how there were you could get into an argument or have, you know, some sort of miscommunication and you went to a boss one day, and the boss had said to like, one argument, or whatever I understand in a day, if there's two or more than maybe you need to look at yourself, and just how now that you know, you're in your 40s, I'm hitting 40. This year, being moms being you know, career women, there comes a point in time where we just don't have time for that stuff. And I really resonated with me, because in my 20s, I was the youngest salesperson for the corporation that I worked for to be hired. And they were skeptical of like, we got this young 20 something, What's she going to do? And I remember that there was this whole gossipy, you know, who's doing what type of thing. And then once I got married, had kids and really actually had a life of my own. It was like, I won't have time for that.

L

Lydia Fenet 16:12

Yeah, absolutely. It's a gift in many ways. Because, you know, not only was I listening to the gossip in my 20s, I was certainly involved in it. I mean, I've loved the water, cooler gossip. And I remember coming back from maternity leave with my first child, and realizing how much time I spent sitting in people's offices talking about things that had nothing to do with work. I mean, really, hours of my day, that were just spent chatting with people about things that had nothing to do with what we were supposed to be doing at work. And all of a sudden, when I had a child at home that I needed to nurse that hour, hour and a half, two hours of the course of the day became a quick five minutes. How are you doing? Great, great. Glad to see everything's going well. Anything else you want to talk about? No? Okay, perfect, I'm going to head out the door. And I became really, really strict about what time I left the office to make sure that I can be home for my first child. And then second, and third. And especially because I was going back on stage, I started pushing it back even a little bit earlier to make sure that I could be home, do a bath, do do dinner, spend time with him read books. And then by the time I went out, I didn't feel that horrible guilt that you feel when you're just burning the candle at both ends. And I think that that was always really important for me, the gossip just disappeared. Because there was a time for today more. And I think that helps you in your career, too.

M

Michelle Glogovac 17:33

I think that's such an important lesson for anyone listening, but especially if you're in your 20s. We've both been through it. And we're testifying to this. I hope it resonates with

somebody and you know, I wish that we could be more conscious of it before we went we had kids, and that we could really protect that space and time before we realize that, oh, it takes a child and you know, a family to raise in order for us to disassociate with that. And I love in the book that you also give examples of here's what you can do, don't go in the office or the cubicle and

 Lydia Fenet 18:06
totally

 Lydia Fenet 18:08
prop yourself by the door. Just give a quick Hello. It's honestly the best piece of advice because you always know the people who they come into your office and they sit down and you're sitting there being like, oh, gosh, please, please. I mean, obviously, we're just speaking during COVID. So we're not seeing this so much right now. But definitely there were days when like, oh, gosh, so I just started to sort of pop into their office first and preempted. And again, a quick five minutes. How's everything going? You control when you leave? And I think that's so important when you're trying to run against the schedule, especially family schedule.

 Michelle Glogovac 18:37
Absolutely. Let's talk about your strike method, because I secretly was hoping that you would start off the show with your gavel to get everyone's

 Lydia Fenet 18:45
attention. I definitely have it.

 Michelle Glogovac 18:51
You have to go back and read my Instagram posts because I said I secretly hope she starts

 Lydia Fenet 18:55
with the gap. But I can do it at any point that you need

M Michelle Glogovac 19:00
that cut out and put it out the front. Perfect,

L Lydia Fenet 19:04
perfect.

L Lydia Fenet 19:06
So yeah, the strength method really came because I was thinking about the best way to bring people into the world as I see it from the auctioneering perspective. And for me, that's really those 10 seconds before I go on stage, you know, the adrenaline is coursing through my body, I'm looking at 1000 plus people staring up at a screen and sort of an empty podium in the middle of the room that I'm supposed to be walking towards over the course of the next 10 seconds. And there's just so much energy, right that's coming at that point. And I think that that is where most people crumble. That's the moment that takes you from being a really good public speaker to the person who freezes and can't speak for the first minute they're onstage. And I wanted to bring people into that motion of walking to that podium, putting down my notes, looking at the crowd and then slamming down my gavel as hard as I could. Because that for me is the moment that I transform from Liddy. The mom of three has been sitting at a table watching this speech to Lydia, the person who's about to take over the stage and be the auctioneer who's going to raise money for this nonprofit. And the strike method for me is basically the moving through that transformation that all of us need to have when we are speaking or giving a presentation from somebody who is nervous and introverted and kind of freaking out to the person who exudes confidence and feels in control of what's coming out of their mouth, in the same way that a professional athlete might have their sort of, you know, thing that they do before they go on a basketball court or things they do before they go, you know, Michael Phelps has that thing with his arms every time he's about to go swimming resort swings up and down. And he's like, it's not me warming up, that's like my, that's my mantra. That's my strike method. He didn't say that, but I'll put the words in his mouth. So I would say that you anytime you have a moment where you are going to get nervous, think about what you can do physically, to really help yourself move from that motion of fear and nerves and adrenaline and push it into a moment of strength and calm and laser focus. And once you figured out what that strike method is, the next thing you need to do is make sure that you've memorized your first opening line, or maybe the the first two lines, because you just want to get far enough into your speech that the motion is with you at that point, you know, if you know what you're going to say, after you walk in, and you you know, for me, it's the gavel three times. For other people, instead of hitting underneath the table three times or, you know, clenching their fists or whatever it is,

whatever you say next is just as important because that is what gets a crowd onto your side. That is when they think, Oh, this person is going to be a good speaker. And I'm going to watch not Oh, God, here we go. Again, this person is about to fall apart.

M

Michelle Glogovac 21:44

Right? I love the book, because you hit on so many different facets of what it really does take to be the most powerful woman in the room. And you say it's not rocket science, because it's it's not, you know, we talk about networking and relationships. And the importance of that. Let's talk about that for a bit. Because I also love how you mentioned that you met, I'm going to call her your rival.

L

Lydia Fenet 22:11

My rival, Courtney, she loves her. She loves her role in my book. It's so funny. Yeah, I mean, networking, to me is just one of those things that so many people hate, and I don't ever want to say anything but good things about it. Because I just see it as the opportunity to meet new people, to expand your network and to grow your business free. And how many things in our life can we say, Oh, that's, that's something that I could do to enhance my life. It's something I could do to grow my business. And it's free. So I would say to anyone who is interested in understanding more about networking, there are a couple of things that you really want to think about. Networking is not just relegated to your business, right? It's not just your business that it needs to be networked. It's your network is every person you've ever met over the course of your entire life, you know, it really review it really sort of, if you were to map it out as almost like a spiderweb. So every person you've met has met someone else. And therefore your network to them is their network to you. And how you grow that network is constantly being in touch with people over the course of a year over the course of two years to let them know where you are, to understand where they are. And then just keeping in touch. And then any opportunity, you have to meet new people to go to something where they're going to be people that might be new to your circle, be the person who is constantly introducing yourself to other people don't be the person who stands by the bar and never meets anyone, be the person who turns on and shakes hands with people or you know, when we're not in a COVID situation. You reach out to people on LinkedIn that you're interested in dm people on Instagram, I promise you will find that there people were a lot more willing to meet you than you would ever think. And you know, in the book, I talked with Courtney about starting this networking breakfast because we both lived in New York City at that point, I think we lived in New York for over 10 years. And we were having a conversation and we kept bringing up the names of women talking about how great they were with the other person would sort of say I don't I've never met that person, which I know sounds funny in New York,

because it's a huge city. But at some point, things start to feel very small town. And so we put together this breakfast, it's networking breakfast, and the only question we asked was, what are you working on. And when we sat down with this group of five women she didn't know. And five women I didn't know all of a sudden Two hours later, we were all still talking. And it turned out that these 12 people actually had a lot in common that you would never have thought and it wasn't work related. It wasn't just family related. It was all of those things combined. And that to me is really the illustration of networking. It's understanding who the person is before you understand what they do. And once you know that, you can always go back to them because you've connected on a human level. And that's really what networking is about. Oh, I

- M** Michelle Glogovac 25:00
love that. That was that was the soundbite for the entire episode. That was perfectly said. Sorry. Um, you also touch on the lost art form of the written note card.
- L** Lydia Fenet 25:14
Yes.
- M** Michelle Glogovac 25:14
I'm a stationery freak. I love it. My husband the other days like, I need to blink. Happy birthday card. Are you going to the store? I go, I have them right here, my friend. I always have stationery on hand.
- L** Lydia Fenet 25:28
Yes, me too. Me too. I
- L** Lydia Fenet 25:29
love thank you notes.
- M** Michelle Glogovac 25:31
And the gal who wrote to you after her internship at Christie's and just continued to write to you. She ultimately got the job.

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Lydia Fenet 25:41

Yes, exactly. And not only just got the job, but was top of mind because of those thank you notes. I mean, she wrote every single month every six weeks ever since her summer internship for an entire year. And guess what? When someone came in to quit their shoe, there were her thank you notes piled up in front of me. And I just kept thinking she would be perfect for that job. But what if she hadn't done that? What if the last time I had seen her was that summer before where I'd said, you know, so nice to meet you. Goodbye. And so I cannot stress enough. The importance and the impact of a really well thought out and interesting. thank you note, you know, I often say I can count on one hand, my friends who write really good thank you notes. It's because I notice great stationery, great turn of phrase, it's not thank you very much for having me over. It's the wine that dinner, the food what a blast. Here's a joke. This is what I was thinking. It's, it's supposed to be a letter thanking you not a formulaic thing you have to do.

M

Michelle Glogovac 26:43

It's that human touch that you just mentioned. Exactly. So what's the importance for every woman to be the most powerful woman in the room,

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Lydia Fenet 26:52

to believe in yourself, and to know that no matter what anyone says around you that as long as you are confident in who you are, you may hear what they say. But you are driven by what's inside of you, and your vision and what you feel and what you think. And you can block out the outside noise. And I think that ultimately is what makes you powerful.

M

Michelle Glogovac 27:14

I love it. I'm speechless. I love how that just rolled right off your tongue. You were ready for that one.

L

Lydia Fenet 27:20

You know, I really truly believe it. You know, Someone once asked me pretty early on, after the book was published. When did you become the most powerful woman in the room? And I said, when I wrote a book called The most powerful it was you made it hot pink, and then sold it, you know, around the world. And she was sort of said, you know, you weren't always powerful? And I said, No, I think I had an imposter syndrome just like anyone else. I didn't know that I was going to become the person who spoke so confidently about it. But

I think when I realized how much power comes when you really feel it, it becomes intoxicating, because you really don't care what other people think. Because you're following your own vision in your own dreams. And there's something so empowering in that in life. Absolutely. I

M

Michelle Glogovac 28:08

think for me that came after having kids. Yes, it really did. There was something that changed literally within the month of my first child row. I no more bs not taking nothing from no one. This is who I am. Yeah,

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Lydia Fenet 28:21

yeah, absolutely. And I think it comes to us at different times. I mean, all of us go through it. Some people never do, you know, some people will seek it forever. And I've also seen a lot of people who get in their own way. You know, they constantly doubt everything that they say they're their own worst enemy. And, you know, I've said to so many people before, who've asked me why, you know, why do you share all this? Like, why don't you just do it on your own? And I truly think it's such an interesting question. Because first of all, just because I do it doesn't mean that somebody sees what I do and can replicate it. That's number one. But two, like why does it matter? They're on their own journey, right? So there are people that you can give every toolbox to and everything that you would want for them in life, and they can never see it. And so those are the people that I want to read the book and feel the way that I feel or that you feel having felt that having kids and then move through that and living that in your own life. Like that's what I want everyone to feel because that's just a happier existence.

M

Michelle Glogovac 29:18

Yeah. And speaking of having kids, you also say in the book, and I really I like this, I appreciated it. That, you know, this isn't just for career women. If your career is being a mom, and you're seeing at home, then you're the most powerful woman in the room at your home and you need to you know, run it like

L

Lydia Fenet 29:35

a boss. Absolutely. And your vision and your your want of life is as important as anyone elses. And, you know, I've had so many people ask me, you know, what do you how do you have it all? Or do you have it all? I've heard that seven times you have it all? I mean, I hope you're laughing Michelle. here that I will have it all do I. I think it's a funny thing

because I think everyone's so different. How can you say that you Don't know what my role is, maybe my all was that I was never gonna have kids. And this all just happened. And this wasn't what I wanted at all. But I did not see it like that I see my all as having a fulfilling career, having children who have a good relationship with who I truly want to be good citizens of this world, you being a good daughter, and being a good friend, those are those are my priorities in my life. And if all of those are going well, then yeah, that day, I do feel like I have it all. But let's be honest, that's not every single day of my life, for sure. And that may also make somebody else feel sick to think about any of those things, any combination of those things, you could be an introvert who wants to live in the country. And you know, you want one Lama and that is your that is what you want out of your life. And that is your all. And if that's your all, and you have that, then you have reached the place that is going to make you powerful. So I think it's so important for each of us to really put pencil to paper, and figure out what are all is, and then make the changes to make sure that you're happy, because happiness really is having it all.

M Michelle Glogovac 31:03
Yeah,

M Michelle Glogovac 31:03
and I love also that, you know, you created this position that you're now in at Christie's you you decided that there was more to offer of yourself of Christie's and you put it pen to paper, as you said and created this entire department that you now run? Yes. So it really is a you are proof in the pudding of you know, put your mind to it, you can get it done. And you can be married, and you can have three children and you can work a full time job and a nighttime job.

L Lydia Fenet 31:35
You have a lot of different avenues in your life for sure. I you know, I always I'm always puzzled by people who start out with the I could never or you know, when I was pregnant with my first child, you're not going to be able to do your job and the charity auctions in Nigeria, you just won't, which of course made me think, watch me.

M Michelle Glogovac 31:56
Oh, I'm the same way. Yeah.



Lydia Fenet 32:00

Oh, really? Okay. Well, we'll see. We'll see about that. With a smile on my face. We'll see about that. But I really do. I find it such an interesting thing. Why not be supportive in that moment? Why not? Why not say yes, do it, try it just stop when you stop when you can't do it anymore, or, you know, finish it when the tape runs out. But why stop it before that. And I think that is long as we're all living again, moving towards are all whatever that looks like, but also content with the fact that they're going to be good days, they're going to be bad days, they're going to be moments where we feel like we are wildly successful. And they're going to be moments when we feel like everything is failing. And it's all part of the journey. And we're all on it in our own way. And together. So you know, network with the people who are going to lift you up, keep those people close to you. And just remember that at the end of the day, what you want in your life is what you're aiming towards not what other people think about what you want in your life.



Michelle Glogovac 32:58

That's perfection. You've got some golden gems, my friend? No. Where can everybody find you and your book, the most powerful woman in the room is you?



Lydia Fenet 33:11

Well, I have a website www.videoculinary.com where I have basically all the information about my book and speaking in auctions, you can always find me on Instagram at Lydia finet how I keep my parents updated about what I'm doing. Some have an hourly basis. But those are really the two best ways to find me.



Michelle Glogovac 33:31

Thank you so much. I really love talking to you over my cup of tea. If you guys read the book, then you know she drinks tea too. So



Lydia Fenet 33:39

absolutely. Absolutely. It's been such a pleasure. Thank you so much for having me on.



Michelle Glogovac 33:44

Thank you. No matter what it is you do or want to do. I want you to know that you have the power in you to do it. Start networking, create your own strike method, stand up for

yourself and what you deserve. Create your roadmap to becoming the most powerful woman in the room, because I know you can. I loved reading Lydia's book and getting to talk to her because she's truly created the life and career that she wanted. She created her own future. And that's something we all need to do. Find that confidence and go after what you want. I'm speaking to you as much as I'm speaking to myself, carve out time to brainstorm ideas and imagine what kind of life you want, what job you want to do, what problem you want to solve, and then create a plan of action. hold yourself accountable and give yourself what you deserve. As always, my friends stay safe, stay healthy, stay happy and become the most powerful woman in the room.