

## Chapter 105 All Means

Liam's fury only intensified as he felt the pain in his palm. He had always treated Yolanda with tenderness and kindness, but her repeated deceptions had left him incensed.

"You won't just waltz into the Riley family," he hissed. "I'll make sure of it. You'll regret crossing me."

With a deep breath, Liam struggled to control his emotions.

Summoning Julie, he inquired, "How's the investigation of the Riley Group coming along?"

"The Riley Group is massive," Julie explained. "Their flagship product, Rileymart app, boasts over a hundred million downloads. I've found some minor infractions about them, but we need to keep digging to find the major ones."

Nodding thoughtfully, Liam knew that he would need to strike the Riley Group where they were most vulnerable if he was to bring them down.

First, he would aim to claim the coveted market share of Rileymart for Kingland Group.

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Liam wasted no time in asking Julie to arrange a senior executive meeting.

As the executives filed in, Liam took his seat at the head of the table, his eyes glinting with ambition. With a nonchalant air, he dropped a bombshell on his colleagues. "We're moving into the trade industry. I'm going to develop a revolutionary new shopping app. Does anyone care to share their ideas?"

The director of the marketing department, clearly unsettled by the magnitude of the undertaking, rose from his seat to voice his concerns. "Mr. Hoffman, this is uncharted territory. We've never dabbled in app development before. It's a huge risk."

Other executives chimed in, their apprehension palpable. Liam was unfazed. "This is not up for discussion," he declared, his voice heavy with authority. "This is my decision, and we're going to see it through to the end."

He then turned to the director of product development department. "You need to come up with a foolproof framework for our app after conducting a comprehensive analysis of Rileymart. Marketing department, I want an exhaustive report on their strengths and weaknesses. And personnel department, I want you to poach the best technical talent from the Riley Group with irresistible salaries!"

The senior executives had no choice but to acquiesce to Liam's forceful demands, and they nodded in agreement, albeit begrudgingly.

Liam departed from the meeting with a heavy heart, weighed down by the realization that his decision had been rash and ill-considered.

The Riley Group loomed large in his mind, casting a shadow of doubt over his every move.

Compounding his troubles was the animosity that had brewed between him and Tyler, a rift that had been precipitated by Yolanda's betrayal.

Liam knew that he was on a collision course with his nemesis, and he bristled with a simmering anger that threatened to consume him.

With a cold glint in his eyes, Liam vowed, "Tyler, I will return the humiliation you gave me to you."

As the day wore on, Liam felt the need to escape the suffocating atmosphere of his office. He got behind the wheel of his car and drove to an amusement park near the Kingland Group.

With a swift motion, Liam shot the sharp-tipped dart at the board and relished the cheers that erupted from the surrounding tourists.

He made sure his every dart aimed at the biggest prize.

This darting game was akin to drawing a lottery. If you hit a certain area, you would get the prize stated in it.

But Liam knew better. Sure, the value of the prize might have been meager compared to the price of playing the game, but the real treasure lay in the exhilaration of claiming that prize for yourself. A rush of excitement that could not be bought with mere money.

As he played, Liam's astute mind whirled with all sorts of thoughts and ideas. And then, like a bolt of lightning, inspiration struck him.

Liam had studied in the most prestigious international commercial school, after all, and his senses were acutely attuned to spotting business opportunities.

Without a moment's hesitation, he laid down his darts, and sped off toward the Cloudhigh Resort.

As Liam's fingers danced across the keyboard, the glow of his computer screen illuminated the late-night darkness.

With each keystroke, his idea began to take shape, filling his screen with a revolutionary concept: a group-buy!

Cheaper prices for buyers who banded together to make a purchase, and coupons for those who shared the product link with their friends. It was brilliant!

Liam's nimble fingers never once faltered as he constantly revised and refined his plan. As the hours

passed and the world outside slumbered, Liam worked tirelessly, his passion for this idea fueling him.

By the time he had finished, the first light of dawn had begun to filter through the curtains. But Liam was undeterred, his eyes alight with a sense of accomplishment.

He gazed at the complete plan in front of him, printed out and spanning over twenty pages, and a smile spread across his face. The satisfaction of bringing his vision to life was immeasurable, and Liam was invigorated, without a hint of weariness to be seen.

In the morning, Liam was still in high gear, eager to share his latest brainchild with his team. Calling for a senior executive meeting, he wasted no time in laying out the plan before them.

With bated breath, the department directors scrutinized the details of Liam's proposal, their eyes scanning the pages with avid interest. And when they had finished, they let out a chorus of praise.

"The promotion of the application is key," one director exclaimed. "With this plan, we can harness the power of free promotion from our users!"

"Absolutely," another chimed in. "Our e-commerce platform is a veritable cash cow, with multiple avenues for profit, including shop starting funds, transaction

commissions, and advertising and marketing fees."

Then the most enthusiastic director spoke up, brimming with ideas. "In the beginning, we should shower our users with coupons, enticing them to download our app and make purchases through it. The more they use it, the more they'll love it!"

In the conference room, the air was thick with anticipation as the team members perused Liam's plan. With each passing moment, gasps of admiration and excitement could be heard, as the full scope of his vision became apparent.

And, to Liam's relief, there was not a single dissenting voice to be heard. Everything was falling perfectly into place.

It had been a long and arduous night for Liam, his eyes glued to the screen as he poured his heart and soul into the project. As he walked into the office, exhaustion was etched on his face. He yearned for a moment of respite, to let his mind and body recharge.

Without warning, Julie burst into the room, her face etched with concern. "Mr. Hoffman, something's terribly wrong!" she exclaimed, her voice urgent. "Several of our suppliers are threatening to sever ties with us, leaving our supermarkets bereft of goods and our restaurants are rife with sanitary issues. In addition, last night, a tragedy

unfolded at the construction site of Kingland Plaza, leaving many workers injured and prompting the government to shut down the project entirely."

Her words hung heavy in the air, a portent of more grim news to come. "To make matters worse, there are scandals brewing in our Hollywood Pub. The drinks are claimed to be shoddy, and customers are getting sick with food poisoning. And, to top it all off, hidden cameras have been discovered in Von Merri Hotel. It's a full-blown attack on us from all sides!"

Liam's heart sank as he took in the full extent of the crisis.

His mind raced as he listened to Julie's report, his thoughts spinning with the implications of the dire news. He knew all too well the methods his enemies employed were what he used to bring others down in the past.

He could already picture the news reports that would soon flood the airwaves and the netizens that would clamor to have their say.

No doubt about it. It must have been the Riley Group who was behind all this!

As Julie's voice continued to drone on, Liam felt his heart sink even further. "At present, we have suffered a heavy blow. We have invested a lot of money in the Kingland Plaza. And now that it's been shut down, our capital flow

will stop, and the Riley Group will undoubtedly join hands with the banks and demand that we pay off our loans."

Liam's phone rang at the worst possible moment, but he steeled himself and answered, bracing for the worst.

As he expected, Tyler's voice came through the line, dripping with arrogant ridicule. "Liam, remember how you kicked me out of the Sunrise Decoration Corp., right? Do you regret it now?"

"I remember how I kicked you out," Liam spat, his tone ice-cold. "You were like a stray dog. I will never forget it."

Tyler's fury was palpable, and he shouted into the phone, "You son of a bitch! Expect yourself to go bankrupt! Then we'll see who's the real stray dog!"

"By the way," Tyler continued, his tone smug, "the Lamberts have invited me to dine at their house and to Mrs. Lambert's birthday a month later. You should hear about my marriage with Yolanda very soon. But I wonder if you and your Kingland Group can hold on till then."

Bang!


Liam was seething with anger, his grip on the phone so tight that the screen shattered under the pressure. The sound of cracking glass seemed to echo through the office, matching the fury that raged within him.

Just then, Vivian, his secretary, approached him and



announced, "Mr. Hoffman, Miss Yolanda Lambert is here to see you."



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