

apart.

When their eyes met again, Julie's held a tinge of sadness in it.

She sighed and said, "I wish I could get my parents' blessings on that day. I mean, they are still my family."

Liam nodded. He understood her all too well. It was easier said than done to just sever all ties with your family.

"Don't worry. They'll be there. After the Kingland Group completely takes Rileymart down, I'll send them an invitation," he said softly.

Julie sighed and nodded, her heart heavy.

After that, Liam started the car to leave the parking lot. It was already very late.

As they left the underground parking lot, they didn't notice the car that was tailing them.

When they got to the corner ahead, a truck was driving on the wrong side of the road at high speed and was heading straight for Liam's car.

If the truck hit Liam's car, not only would the car be crushed, but he and Julie wouldn't survive it.

Liam looked behind, but there was no escape. There were minibuses behind him, blocking his only escape route.

Like the professional top racing driver he was, Liam thought fast and found a solution. ①

Without shifting gears, he stepped hard on the brake pedal until the car began to skid. As the tires rubbed on the tar, it created sparks. He could barely stabilize the car as it was. ①

When he was certain that the brakes had reached the limit, he nodded to himself.

He still had control of the car.

As he wanted, the speed of the car reduced. Liam took a deep breath and got ready for the last step.

He turned the wheel sharply to the right and crashed into the protective fence of the road, barely escaping the truck.

Everything happened so fast.

As Liam's second-hand Toyota crashed into the fence, the air bag on both seats popped out and protected them. However, Julie fainted on the spot.

He had managed to reduce the speed of the car by half before ramming it into the fence, but the impact wasn't a small one.

Seeing that it couldn't hit the Toyota, the truck that was coming at full speed stopped.

Instead, a group of strong looking men with sticks got out of the truck and started walking towards Liam's car.

The people in the minibuses behind also came out, and they all surrounded the Toyota.

Liam woke up a few seconds after the crash in a trance, a strange ringing sound in his ears.

As soon as he regained consciousness, he looked up at Julie who was still out.

He pushed her back to lean on her seat, and observed her physical condition.

He nodded after checking on her. Her heartbeat and breathing were normal. Her right arm was a little hurt though.

Outside the car, the men were closing in on them. It was only after Liam looked out and saw them that, he realized it was an ambush.

Anger surged up and overwhelmed him.

Seconds ago, he promised to keep Julie safe. He promised that no one would hurt her. Here they were a few minutes later, surrounded by a group of men who definitely wanted her hurt.

They were messing with the wrong person.

Liam opened the door and walked out of the car, looking at them with anger burning in his eyes.

"You're all going to die for this!" Liam threatened coldly. They wouldn't hurt Julie and go scot-free.

The Dragon Gang surrounded Liam with choppers in their hands.

Of course, Douglass was at the head.

Douglass narrowed his eyes at him and said, "Don't think you have enough weight to offend anyone. Our leader wants you gone. Since I am in a good mood today, I'll help you out a little. Break your legs yourself, kneel down and let us take turns in raping the beauty in the car. Maybe then, I'll spare your life."

Just the mention of Julie from his mouth filled Liam with rage.

"Apparently, your leader didn't tell you how his legs were broken. Unfortunately, you can't hear from him anymore."

## Chapter 475 A Fight

"Damn you, you ungrateful brat! Your arrogance really knows no bounds. Kill him!"

Upon hearing Douglass' command, the Dragon Gang members charged forward, brandishing their choppers.

They wasted no time in diving straight for Liam's vitals.

Liam snorted and clasped his hands behind his back.

With deft movements of his body, he dodged each assault as it came.

Even with their superior numbers, the Dragon Gang members had trouble getting close enough to harm him. The battle raged on, but they were no closer to beating him than when they started.

On the other hand, Liam was able to sneak in knockout strikes between each of their attempts to strike him down.

In a short amount of time, his assailants were knocked out cold and began to drop like flies.

Liam's powerful and accurate kicks and punches were impossible to block.

After a while, Douglass started to suspect something was off.

He could not believe that a young man was actually succeeding in defeating more than a hundred members of the Dragon Gang.

"It looks like I'll have to handle this on my own." With that, Douglass pulled a shotgun from the back of the minibus and aimed it toward Liam.

At the moment, he could not care less if he accidentally hurt his own men.

If he failed to complete this task, Emerson would never forgive him.

However, amidst the chaos, Liam was able to avoid getting hit by any of the bullets. They did not just miss him, though; they hit members of the Dragon Gang instead.

The shotgun did not pose any substantial threat to Liam at all. If anything, it sped up the demise of Douglass' men. ①

Soon, Douglass and Liam were the only ones still standing on the ground as the shotgun's bullets missed their intended target.

Douglass felt a swell of anxiety when Liam started marching toward him.

In an instant, he was on his knees, squeezing out tears from his eyes as he feigned helplessness. "I'm sorry! Emerson forced me to do this! I didn't want to attack you, but he threatened me that he'd kill my family if I didn't do as he said! I had no choice but to do it. I had to protect my parents and my children. Please spare my life!" ①

Douglass' shamelessness rendered Liam speechless.

"You said you were forced to do this, yet it was you who had been the loudest in calling for my death," Liam stated in a playful tone.

Suddenly, Douglass gave his own face a resounding slap. His eyes welled up with more tears as he pretended to be repentant. "I only said that to make myself look good in front of my men. I know I deserve to die for offending you and your woman. Do whatever you want to me as punishment. But please don't take my life for the sake of my family."

Liam hummed thoughtfully before saying, "Cut your hands off and

crawl under my crotch. You won't die from that, will you?"

It was just a jest on Liam's part.

However, Douglass immediately grovelled on the ground to demonstrate his gratitude. As long as he could keep living, he did not care about his dignity.

He then grabbed the nearby chopper and raised it to cut his hand.

However, a second later, Liam found himself staring at the chopper's blade.

Gripping the chopper tightly, Douglass lunged at him. He had no intention of apologizing at all.

However, Liam knew better than to believe the words of a scoundrel like him and had remained on alert all this time.

His finger pressed down on the dull side of the blade, preventing the chopper from moving any closer to his chest.

With a hard kick on Douglass' stomach, he flipped Douglass over so that he was lying on his back.

Liam then sprang forward and thrust the blade into the man's palm. He asked in a cold tone, "Did you really think you could deceive me with your petty tricks? I was just playing with you."

"Ahh!"

Douglass let out an agonizing cry. Finally, he gave up pleading for forgiveness and snarled, "Fuck you! Just kill me now if you have the nerve! I'm warning you! Our leader won't let you off the hook for this!"

"You're overestimating your leader." After saying that, Liam swiftly

slashed Douglass's throat, sending blood spraying in every direction.

He then took Julie out of the car.

He examined the second-hand Toyota. It had been wrecked to the point that it was useless.

Liam pulled out his phone and dialed Aikin's number. "Come pick me up. I'll send my location to you. Also, take some people with you. My car was destroyed, and there are some bodies that need to be disposed of."

Aikin hesitated before replying, "Mr. Hoffman, I'm afraid I can't go to you right now. I'm in the hospital. Don't worry, though. I'll have some people just as reliable to pick you up. Is that okay?"

Liam was a little taken aback by this. He wondered who in their right mind would attack the king of the underworld. Was that person tired of living already?

He asked, "What the hell happened?"

With a tired sigh, Aikin informed him, "It's the Dragon Gang's doing. They attacked Kingland Security."

## Chapter 476 The Miserable Situation In The Hospital

Liam was furious.

He didn't expect the Dragon Gang to counterattack so soon and so ruthlessly.

Clearly, he wasn't their only target from the beginning. They also wanted to destroy the whole Kingland Group.

"Get some rest. I'll be there shortly," Liam said into the phone and hung up.

Some time after, Liam walked into the hospital with Julie in his arms.

After going through the formal admission procedures, Liam found Aikin's ward.

Aikin's head was wrapped in gauze and his right leg, hanging on the shelf, was wrapped in the same white material. He looked a little pitiful, nothing like the king of the underworld he actually was.

As soon as he saw Liam walk in, his tense face lit up into a smile. "Don't worry, Mr. Hoffman. I'm fine."

Liam nodded and patted Aikin's right leg gently.

The man let out a small yelp.

"Don't touch it, Mr. Hoffman. It hurts."

"I thought as much," Liam murmured unhappily. "Why did you say you're fine when that little action hurts?"



After a deep breath, he added, "Just take care of yourself. I'll take care of the Dragon Gang."

Aikin's heart warmed up at his words.

His eyes got blurry with tears as he said in a voice that trembled, "Mr. Hoffman, if you look at the others, you'll see that I'm really fine. Klaus is lying in the ward next to mine. The doctor said his lumbar nerves in the waist were seriously injured, and that he would slowly lose the feeling in the lower part of his body. He's going to be paralyzed, Mr. Hoffman. The other men are no better than he is. After so many years of working in the underworld, they won't be able to work anymore for us."

Liam fell silent upon hearing that.

No one seemed to have escaped the attack. Everyone was injured.

He clenched his fists to control his emotions, then patted Aikin on the shoulder and said, "I should go and see how they are doing."

When he got to the emergency room, Liam met a total chaos.

Most of the patients on the small hospital beds were his men.

Liam went through each bed and was shocked to find that they were all heavily injured.

There was no changing his mind now. No matter what, he was going to give the Dragon Gang what they deserved.

"Mr. Hoffman? What are you doing here?"

A joyful voice amidst the chaos of the emergency room was strange to hear.

Liam turned towards the voice and saw Vivian smiling at him.



She was also seriously injured. Her face was pale, but for her swollen and red cheeks.

As she struggled to sit up, Liam rushed forward to stop her. "Don't move. You'll hurt yourself more."

Then, he looked at her seriously and asked, "Who did this to you? Who dared to slap you like this?"

Instead of answering, Vivian touched her face as if just realizing she was hurt there.

As soon as she felt the swell, she whimpered and said sadly, "Am I ugly like this, Mr. Hoffman? Will you dislike me now?"

Liam frowned for a second at her absurd question. He took a deep breath and insisted, "You need to tell me who did this to you. I won't be able to take revenge if I don't know."

Out of nowhere, Vivian hugged him.

With a muffled voice and a tender expression on her face, she said, "It was Colette. She told me that you slapped her, and that she couldn't let it pass. It was only after she told me this that I realized how much you cared about me. And now, here you are. You came to see how I am doing. I can even go as far as saying, I'm grateful that she came back to slap me." ①

Liam moved uncomfortably in her arms and pushed her away in a hurry.

He cleared his throat and said awkwardly, "Miss Greyson, please stop. Julie and I are reconciled and are back together. She is even in the hospital now. Anyone might misunderstand if they see us like this. I'm really sorry about what Colette did. If I knew she would retaliate, I wouldn't have slapped her. I'll take care of the problem better this time."

Vivian didn't hear anything he said after saying he and Julie were back together.

The words kept repeating in her mind like a disk on replay.

She lowered her head sadly and said with a bitter smile on her lips, "I'm sorry, Mr. Hoffman. I went overboard. It won't happen again. I just felt so safe when I saw you that I couldn't help myself. Don't worry. I won't do anything to hurt your relationship."

After one last look at the sad Vivian, Liam left without another word, headed straight for Aikin's ward.

"Where are the headquarters of the Dragon Gang?" he asked roughly as soon as he stepped in.

The killing intent in his voice and eyes was unmistakable.

Aikin shook his head slowly, seeing where this was heading. "Mr. Hoffman, you can't go and attack them alone in the name of revenge. The Dragon Gang has so many powerhouses. Going there alone would be a suicide mission. We should plan very well, and go together after everyone recovers."

Aikin knew very well that Liam was King of the Dark Night Organization. Still, that didn't mean he could fight off the lot of the Dragon Gang on his own.

Liam, however, didn't give a damn about what he thought. "I asked you where it was!" His tone was threatening.

This time, even his body language betrayed his intentions.

Aikin gulped loudly.

The last time he saw Liam this way, the man destroyed the Seymour family which was worth tens of billions of dollars.

Now, it was the Dragon Gang's turn.

Aikin sighed and gave him the location. Liam didn't exactly leave him a choice. Then, he added with concern, "You must be careful, Mr. Hoffman."



## Chapter 477 Waiting For Liam To Come

Aikin looked at Liam and repeated seriously, "Mr. Hoffman, you must be careful."

Liam patted Aikin's shoulder and said casually, "There's nothing to worry about. It's just the Dragon Gang. Look at what they have done. I have to avenge you and put this game of theirs to an end. I can't let it pass and risk something of the sort happening again."

In the office on the top floor of the headquarters of the Dragon Gang.

Moans and gasps filled the room.

Emerson and Colette were going at it like starving animals.

After Liam humiliated her in the Royal Hotel, Colette hadn't been able to get revenge.

So, she went to the headquarters of the Dragon Gang to find Emerson and strike a deal with him.

She promised to give herself to him if he promised to help her take revenge on Liam and Vivian.

Emerson was reluctant at first, worried about her reputation as a black widow.

But her sexy figure and seductive clothes made it very difficult for him to resist.

Before long, he gave in and brought his fantasies to life.

This was simply an added bonus, because he already hated Liam and was going to deal with him anyway.

As soon as they finished, all the teams that were sent out to attack the Kingland Security came back one after the other and gave Emerson full reports.

"Boss, we've successfully completed our task."

All the teams returned with positive news, but for the team that was sent to attack Liam.

Emerson had a bad feeling about their absence. He was so angry that he removed his hand from Colette's warm chest and hit the table with his fist.

"I clearly underestimated that guy. I should have gone there myself and taken care of him personally."

Colette held his hand gently and said in a sweet voice, "Liam may be powerful, but he is only one man. What chance does one man stand against twenty thousand men of the Dragon Gang? Relax, Emerson. I don't think we need to do anything this time. After all the damage you have caused, that idiot will come running in here with his own two feet. We just need to be ready."

Emerson nodded and smiled. "When he comes here, he will face the wrath of the Dragon Gang and wish he were dead."

Both Emerson and Colette then engaged into a conversation of the million different ways they could torture Liam.

Sure enough, Liam came to them. A man rushed into the office and said, out of breath, "Boss, Liam is here."

Emerson frowned. "How many people is he with?"

"It looks like he came alone, boss."

Emerson paused for a second, then suddenly burst into laughter.

"That Liam sure is arrogant. What is he thinking coming here alone? Does he want to die or what? Well, I guess we can give him what he wants."

Emerson then made a plan with his men to besiege Liam.

After everyone went to their various positions, Emerson took out a bottle of precious champagne from the wine cabinet in his office.

He pulled Colette back into his arms, his hand going directly for her warm and soft breast. "Baby, we're going to have one hell of a show."

Colette moaned and leaned into his touch, both aroused and excited about what was about to happen.

She couldn't wait to see Liam cry out in pain.

The projector was showing the surveillance video of the first floor, where the action was going to begin.

All they had to do now, was relax and wait.

## Chapter 478 The Edifice Of The Dragon Gang

Liam arrived at the location provided by Aikin. Before him stood a towering building, the headquarters of the Dragon Gang in Salem.

It was as opulent and grand as the newly constructed headquarters of the Kingland Group.

It was evident that the power and influence of the Dragon Gang were formidable and not to be underestimated.

The entrance was heavily secured, echoing an aura of a prohibited zone.

However, in Liam's eyes, all those people were just lambs waiting to be slaughtered.

Without delay, Liam infiltrated the Dragon Gang's headquarters.

Suddenly, a group of people in blue uniforms swarmed up.

On the left chest of the uniform, prominently displayed, was an emblem of a fierce green dragon, serving as the unmistakable symbol of the Dragon Gang.

Their voices rang out in sneering unison.

"Whoever pins this guy down gets access to the second floor!"

"Seriously?! Just putting him down gets us to the second floor? He doesn't look like he can throw a punch!"

"Enough chit-chat. Let's take him down!"

Each looked upon Liam with nothing but scorn.





Chapter 478 The Prince of the Dragon Army  
One individual strutted forward, declaring loudly, "Move aside. I'll show this guy his place. No one steal my glory!"

The crowd, recognizing his authority, parted for him.

A clash was imminent.

Liam's expression was a mask of icy indifference. He regarded these thugs as unworthy opponents.

His energy surged in preparation for the strike!

A single swift punch was enough to lay the loudmouth unconscious on the ground!

An undeniable testament of power!

This spectacle was enough to quell the disdain for Liam.

After all, the one who had been knocked down was already regarded as a formidable figure among them.

Everyone was on high alert, converging towards Liam.

Their intention was to attack him together.

However, no matter the number, ants can never bring down an elephant. Especially when the elephant, Liam, was vastly superior in agility! ②

In his perception, everyone else moved as if in slow motion.

A mere sidestep was enough to dodge all incoming attacks!

In contrast, the gang's defense crumbled under their own offensive, making them easy pickings for Liam.

Throughout the brawl, Liam's actions were fluid. He effortlessly overwhelmed his opponents.

After he cleared the mob, his gaze was drawn to a vivid red light overhead.

Smirking, Liam adjusted his collar, making a throat-slitting gesture to the surveillance camera.

Unfazed, he pressed on.

On the top floor, Emerson scrutinized the unfolding scenario.

Liam's prowess was beyond his expectations.

Colette voiced her concern. "Emerson, if Liam is this formidable, can he make it up here?"

No, it was impossible!

Emerson's face hardened, and he retorted, "Everyone has their limits! I admit that he is really a formidable fighter, but the first floor was just a warm-up. The real challenges lie ahead! His current arrogance will be replaced by sheer despair soon enough!"

By this time, Liam had reached the second floor.

The setup was similar to the first floor, but the gang's uniform was now yellow.

Clearly, this represented the internal hierarchy of the Dragon Gang.

It was clear, the higher the floor, the more formidable the enemy.

Liam, however, was unfazed.

To him, regardless of their ranking, they were still insignificant.

"Come at me all at once. Time is of the essence," Liam said, his voice icy.

The men dressed in yellow attire narrowed their eyes and grinned wickedly. Each of them wielded a long stick with a sharpened point at an end. Without wasting any words, they aimed to stab Liam's vital areas with precision.

Dozens of sharpened sticks were lunging towards him simultaneously. Their collective aura was akin to a tidal wave crashing onto the shore, bringing a palpable pressure.

"Go to hell!"

Their voices echoed together.

Liam grabbed a hefty stone table from the floor and flung it with tremendous force.

Suddenly, the table hurtled towards them like a meteor, knocking down a swath of gang members!

Following that, Liam picked up a fallen stick with his foot, a chill in his eyes, then plunged into the battle against the remaining members!

His strikes were precise and power-packed. A single hit would pierce through flesh and blood.

His hand movements were a blur.

In less than a minute, every Dragon Gang member was on the floor, clutching their bleeding wounds and wailing in pain.

Liam's eyes reflected deadly intent as he coldly declared, "You should have thought of the consequences when you targeted my men!"

On the top floor, Emerson's face was clouded as he watched the events

unfold.

Nevertheless, he asserted firmly, "Liam, you've reached your limit with the second floor! You won't stand a chance against the third!"



## Chapter 479 Shadow Assassin

Liam walked to the third floor.

The setting of this floor was quite different from that of the first two floors. Only four men in black robes waited for him.

But for the particular pattern of the Dragon Gang, the black robes also had special marks on them.

He could see the sacred cow, the eagle, the wolf, and the lion.

It was only after he read the names on their robes that he understood. They were the four powerhouses of the Dragon Gang.

Each of them was very powerful. The only person that could best them in the gang, was Emerson himself.

And, that was only if he took on each of them alone. When the four came together, Emerson was a speck of dust on the road to them.

They were ready to fight Liam and win.

They had understood one thing after watching Liam's journey through the first two floors. They had to go all out on him, and nothing less if they wanted to win.

"It's pure luck that you crossed the first two floors. You won't have as much luck on this floor."

Liam rolled his eyes as he sized them up.

He had the impression that their power was far beyond Emerson's.

He was surprised and impressed, but they weren't a threat to him. 1

"The difference between you and those men on the first two floors is that you have stupid titles," Liam teased insultingly, fixing his gaze on the names on their robes, in case they were too dumb to understand.

His words had the desired effect.

The men were all enraged and immediately attacked.

Armed with iron gloves, the lion threw a pair of iron fists at Liam's face.

The cow equally attacked on his own angle.

Meanwhile, the eagle and the wolf stayed back, ready to step in at the given opportunity.

This was how they usually worked. It just had to go their way in this first step, and they would be able to defeat Liam.

Unfortunately, it didn't exactly go their way.

Beyond their expectations, Liam dodged all of the two men's attacks, then swiftly held their heads and hit them together with force.

The lion and cow seemed dizzy after that, and seemed to have lost their sense of direction.

The eagle quickly jumped in. He normally came in at the last minute to finish things off as the gunner.

He took out a customized version of Glock 18 pistol with expanded capacity and aimed it at Liam.

The pistol shot out bullets at Liam like raindrops without stopping. ②

Not one bullet touched Liam as he grabbed the confused lion and cow, and used them as shields.

"Ahh!"

Both men screamed in agony as the bullets pierced their skin, and immediately fell to their deaths.

Quickly, Liam swiftly moved to the eagle, grabbed a handful of bullet shells and threw them with such force and precision at the eagle, that they hit him like arrows piercing through his heart.

The eagle who hadn't seen it coming, gasped with wide eyes, then spat out blood and equally fell to the floor like a block of wood.

Only two minutes had gone by, and three powerhouses were already gone, leaving alone a weak wolf.

Everything happened so fast. The wolf looked at the dead bodies and knew that he didn't stand a chance.

He could still run. He was very fast. That was why he was called the wolf.

He didn't even take two steps before gunshots rang out in the air, and the wolf fell to the floor in a pool of his own blood.

"Nice pistol," Liam commented casually, looking at the Glock 18. Then, he shot all the bullets into the wolf and threw it away.

Without looking back, Liam walked ahead and onto the next floor.

On the top floor of the building, Colette couldn't keep calm anymore, nor could she be bothered to drink champagne. Liam was killing all the men without batting an eye.

She didn't want to die! That wasn't why she came here.

She looked at Emerson anxiously and asked, "Emerson, he isn't really going to fight his way up, is he? Maybe we should just hurry up and

leave now. We won't be able to if he meets us here."

Emerson ignored her. He still couldn't believe that Liam killed all the powerhouses of the Dragon Gang.

Even if they killed Liam today, the Dragon Gang wouldn't be as strong as it used to be. Not after the powerful men Liam had killed.

After a second or so, he murmured, "I guess I only have to rely on my last trump card now. It is true that Liam can fight, and that the men of the Dragon Gang are evidently no match for him. However, the person he is about to meet on the next floor will make him realize that he is not the strongest man in the world."

As if on cue, Liam finally got to the fourth floor. Contrary to the other floors that had bright lights, the lights here were dim. It took a moment for Liam's eyes to adjust.

In the corner, he heard a deep voice say, "Boy, you're not bad. It's just sad that I'm in your way. You won't make it past me."

Liam frowned and squinted his eyes to make out the person that just spoke.

In the dim light, he saw an old man dressed in black clothes. The old man looked so frail, as if he was at the doors of death.

However, there was a dangerous air about him.

Liam actually felt like this man was a threat.

But just a small one. Not so big as to be scared of him.

He faced the old man fully and said, "I never thought I would find someone like you under Emerson's command. Unfortunately, you'll die just like the others."



Just as soon, Liam jumped and aimed a flying kick at the man.

However, the man moved like a phantom and dodged the attack. He was more agile than he looked.

Liam was impressed, but his expression did not change. He had only used 20% of his strength to see just how good this old man was. He had his answer now. The man was good.

The old man started laughing evilly, his eerie laughter resonating throughout the floor. "You are more courageous than you look, but you clearly are very poor in discerning people. I'm Shadow Assassin from the dark team of Black Spider. Like you said, I can't be working for Emerson. He is not strong enough to be my boss. We can cut a deal. If you accept to join Black Spider, then, I could think of letting you go."

Liam chuckled. "You're trying to recruit me? Well, let's see. Have you ever heard of King of Dark Night Organization?"

Shadow Assassin frowned. Who didn't know the mysterious King? Very few people knew where he came from, or who he actually was.

The old man squinted his eyes at Liam, then, clicked his tongue. "Boy, are you trying to scare me by using his name? It's not working. Why don't we fight and get this over with?"

Shadow Assassin took out his weapon then, ready to fight.

He was so fast, just like his name, Shadow, suggested. And with the dim light, he really seemed like a ghost moving around Liam.

Shadow Assassin only needed one opportunity to stab this arrogant boy and be done with him.

Liam shook his head at the old man's tricks and said, "Idiot!" He wasn't about to play hide and seek with the man.

So, he turned and started walking towards the stairs leading to the fifth floor.

Liam looked so relaxed, as if he was taking a walk in a garden, and not fighting a war.

His indifference got Shadow Assassin furious. How dare he walk away like that? He ran behind Liam like a ghost, leaned against a wall and lifted a bayonet to stab him.

The bayonet never reached its target. It was as though Liam had eyes behind his head. He turned back on time, clasped the old man's wrist with the bayonet in hand and snapped it.

All that could be heard for the next few seconds, was the sound of bones breaking.

Shadow Assassin looked at Liam with eyes as wide as a ball. "It's impossible. No one had ever dodged my attack."

"That's normal. Unlike the others, I'm not a loser like you," Liam said calmly, then raised his foot and kicked the old man down.

Shadow Assassin didn't see it coming. He was kicked back with such great force that he flipped midair before falling heavily on the floor.

He groaned in pain as he hit the floor, spitting out mouthfuls of blood.

He looked up at Liam in terror and asked in a trembling voice, "Are you really King?"

Liam's indifferent eyes answered his question.

Even the way he carried himself said enough. That was the posture of King.

Shadow Assassin gulped and rushed to grovel and beg for mercy. "King,

"I came here only to return a favour to Emerson. I have no right to interfere seeing as it is a problem between the both of you. I give up. Can you let me go? If I die here, Black Spider will avenge me."

Liam just stared at the man. It was unfortunate, but since he fought alongside Emerson, he was going to die like the others.

Liam had planned to slaughter the entire building, and that was exactly what he was going to do.

Besides, Liam also had some bad blood with Black Spider. He couldn't let Shadow Assassin go.

Silently, he picked up the man's weapon on the floor and quickly sliced it into his neck.

Blood splattered, staining everywhere around, including Liam's clothes.

Shadow Assassin lost all of his blood and died.

On the top floor, Emerson and Colette were in utter shock at the scene they just watched.

Emerson was beginning to panic for real. If Liam could kill Shadow Assassin, what more of him?

Colette was in a corner, throwing up. She was shaken beyond belief. She had never seen such a nasty scene before.

After emptying her bowel, Colette turned to Emerson and shouted hysterically, "What are you waiting for? Call for help! We can't just sit here and wait for him to kill us. You know that's what he's going to do, right? He's going to kill..."

Colette abruptly stopped as Emerson slapped her across the face.

"I don't have any reinforcements!" he shouted back. "Even the big shot

from Black Spider is gone. I can't ask the president for help. It's all your fault, you bitch! You've brought me misfortune!"

Colette removed her hand from her red cheek and shouted right back, "You coward! How dare you blame me? You're scared shitless of Liam right now. What more can I expect? We've slept together so many times already, and you've never lasted longer than a minute. You should be ashamed. Impotent man!"

That did it for Emerson. He wrapped his hands tightly around Colette's neck, cursing through gritted teeth, "Bitch, I'll strangle you before he gets here."

Colette slapped Emerson's hands desperately, struggling to get in some air.

Her efforts were futile. He was going to kill her.

Then, all of a sudden, the door was kicked open and Liam walked in.



## Chapter 480 One Was Dead And The Other Was Disfigured

Liam looked on at the scene in front of him in surprise.

He would have never thought he would find Emerson and Colette at each other's throats. If anything, they were supposed to be supporting each other.

"You know what? I'll give you some time to finish this before exacting my revenge. It looks like you need it." ①

At the sound of Liam's voice, Emerson looked towards the door sharply, his hold on Colette's neck weakening.

He already knew that he was sentenced to death. There was no way out for him.

He gulped and said tentatively, "Liam, I think it's time for you to stop this. Do you think the Dragon Gang survived so many years just by relying on its man power? Definitely not. The forces behind us are far powerful than you can imagine. Even the Hoffman family with its assets worth trillions of dollars can't afford to offend the forces behind us."

Emerson exaggerated the truth on the slim chance that it might scare Liam enough to make him spare his life.

However, Liam's expression remained unchanged.

"What makes you think I care about the background of the Dragon Gang? You're going to die today. Get used to that idea."

Colette who had been coughing and struggling to get air back into her

lungs finally calmed down and stopped coughing.

Still struggling with her breathing, she said, "It was all Emerson's doing! He planned the attack on the Kingland Security, then forced me to be with him. If you let me go, I will offer myself to you and realise your greatest fantasies."

She turned around seductively, showing off her sexy figure.

Instead of being tempted, Liam felt sick to his stomach. He couldn't get to say what he thought about her disgusting offer, as Emerson had more to say.

"Fuck you, bitch! Now you want to find another man to fuck? Who will appreciate your nasty body?"

Flushing with embarrassment, Colette shouted back at Emerson and called him impotent again.

That started another round of cursing between them.

Liam really didn't have any time to waste. "Enough!" he exclaimed above their shouts. "You can stop fighting now. It's time to die. Now... Do you want to do it yourselves, or should I do the honors?"

Emerson started to despair.

He knew he couldn't fight anymore. He would lose. But he couldn't sit either and just watch Liam kill him.

His eyes darted around for an escape route until it fell on the window. He could jump out of the window.

The building of the Dragon Gang was only five floors, but it was much higher than any other ordinary five-floor building.

Jumping down was a big risk. Even with his physique, he could either

die from the fall, or be crippled for the rest of his life.

That was rather scary, but it was much better than staying here and letting Liam kill him.

The next second, Emerson ran to the window and jumped out of it.

"Ahh!"

A loud scream rang out a few seconds later from downstairs.

Emerson was really lucky. He fell sideways, his right leg taking the hit. It was twisted at an awkward angle.

His internal organs were seriously affected too. He kept vomiting blood.

At least, he was still alive. He could make it.

With determination, he struggled to get up.

Back upstairs, Liam picked up the fruit knife on the desk and shot it down, piercing Emerson at the back of his neck.

Blood oozed out of the wound, and he soon fell to the ground, dead in his own blood.

Satisfied, Liam got a seat and looked at Colette.

Scared out of her wits, Colette knelt down, a yellow liquid pooling at her knees as her bladder gave up. ①

"Please, don't kill me," she cried. "I can even be your dog, but don't kill me, please."

Her cries didn't move Liam even a little. For some reason, she managed to make him feel more disgusted.

"You're lucky. I don't kill women. But you can do it yourself. Or, you can make a long incision on both sides of your face and I'll let you go," Liam said and threw a bayonet at her.

Colette was already shaking her head desperately, tears trickling down her face. "I can't! No one will like me anymore if my face is disfigured."

"It's not a debate. It's either that or death. Pick one."

That was enough to help Colette make a choice. Of course, it wasn't death. She picked up the bayonet in front of her, slowly brought it towards her face and cut into her two cheeks.

As soon as she was done, Colette fainted and collapsed on the floor, the pain too much for her to bear.

Liam nodded satisfactorily.

Then, he dialed a number and said coldly, "Jaxtyn, come to the headquarters of the Dragon Gang and clean up."

Funny enough, the blood in the building relieved the hatred he felt in his heart.

As Liam left the building, the Dragon Gang turned into a gang in name only.



## Chapter 481 Envy

In the hospital.

Julie had woken up long ago, and she was also concerned about the injured people of Kingland Security.

Once she'd taken a tour of the place, her gaze fell upon Vivian, lying vulnerable on the hospital bed.

An air of melancholy surrounding her, Julie approached Vivian. Her voice tinted with worry, she exclaimed, "Vivian, how could the Dragon Gang inflict such harm on you! Do they have any humanity?"

Caught off guard, Vivian took a moment to gather herself. She remembered Liam's words and managed to muster a smile. "Miss Fiber, I'm holding up okay. No need for concern. As for Mr. Hoffman, why isn't he accompanying you?"

Julie caught the undertone of Vivian's inquiry, sparking a fleeting hint of jealousy. Her heart throbbed as if Vivian was encroaching on her territory.

Despite the uneasy feeling, she pushed down her instinctive reaction and carried on with the conversation.

The two of them spent some time exchanging updates on their respective situations.

Vivian learned about Julie's regained memory, a revelation she found slightly disheartening.

Seizing an opportune moment, Julie broached a topic that had been bugging her. "Vivian, something's been on my mind. Once, I asked you about my relationship with Liam. Why did you tell me we were merely

friends? That misinformation has cost him dearly," she probed calmly yet critically.

Feeling the heat, Vivian broke into a nervous sweat. She confessed apologetically, "I'm sorry, Julie! Since your relationship wasn't public knowledge at the time, I ... I didn't want my words to cause you any unnecessary complications. So..."

Reading between Vivian's stuttering lines, Julie found affirmation for her suspicions.

She chose to let it pass without confrontation. After all, she and Vivian had been friends for many years.

She reached out to Vivian, clutching her hand. With genuine warmth in her voice, she said, "Vivian, we're more than friends. We're like sisters. Nothing should come between us. Don't let any misunderstanding strain our bond. You're all alone in this hospital. It must be lonesome. Let me find a suitable boyfriend for you!"

A wave of disappointment washed over Vivian, but she forced a nod. With a smile plastered on, she responded, "Okay, a man introduced by you will surely be a good one, Julie! I too desire to share a bond with someone..."

In the middle of their exchange, Liam walked in.

He was anxious not finding Julie in her room and had come looking for her. As he spotted her by Vivian's bedside, relief washed over him.

Liam whispered, "You should be resting. Why do you wander around and make me worry?"

Recognizing Liam's voice, Julie turned around.

Flashing a smile, she linked her arm with Liam's. With a soft chuckle, she assured him, "Don't worry. I'm alright."

Struggling to sit up, Vivian chimed in, "Mr. Hoffman, Julie was just paying me a visit."

Liam simply nodded.

Caressing Julie's nose with his index finger, he fondly advised, "Can I take your word for it and stop worrying? Let's get back to your room. I want to personally check up on you."

A blush crept on Julie's cheeks as she swatted Liam's hand away.

With a mock scowl, she protested, "What are you talking about? We're not alone here!"

With the end of their tender exchange, Liam gently helped Julie back to her room.

Watching their retreating figures, Vivian felt a sting of envy, resentment creeping into her heart. ①

She was not willing to accept it and muttered to herself, "Why! Why did you have to get your memory back and draw Mr. Hoffman away from me? You could've chosen to be with Clarence. Why rob me of everything?"

Her heart was heavy, but her conscience reminded her that Liam and Julie were meant to be together, and they'd been kind to her. She should be wishing them happiness.

This inner conflict had Vivian feeling like she was fighting herself. ①

## Chapter 482 On The Top

Back in Julie's ward, Julie crossed her arms over her chest and stated in a jealous tone, "I think Vivian has a crush on you. You see it too, right?"

Liam scratched his nose uncomfortably as an image of Vivian hugging him before flashed in his mind.

"I don't think it's anything deep. She must just be infatuated as any young woman. I just need to keep my distance away from her and it'll be fine," Liam said awkwardly.

Julie stayed silent for a moment as if thinking about it, before she nodded in agreement.

She didn't feel threatened by Vivian.

She was just worried that this might change Vivian's attitude towards her, and inevitably create a big gap between them.

Julie thought about it again and found a solution. "I want to come back to Kingland Group. It's only because of you that I resigned in the first place. Now that you're back in control, I want to come back too."

It was only right that she went back. After devoting so many years to the Kingland Group, she was attached to it.

Besides, it would be a great opportunity for her to be in constant contact with Vivian and make her shift her attention to any other man that wasn't Liam. There was no better time for her to return to the Kingland Group than now.

Liam agreed without hesitating. "Yes, come back. You are after all, indispensable to the Kingland Group. First, you need to rest. Then, as

soon as you're out of the hospital, you'll be reinstated in your post."

Julie's face lit up with a smile.

She held Liam's hand, pulled him to her and pressed her red lips against his.

As the kiss deepened, Liam's breathing became ragged and heavy.

They made out for long seconds before finally pulling away from each other. "Honey," Julie whispered in his ear. "Please take me home."

Liam's ear turned red from blushing.

"What did you call me?" he asked huskily.

Julie lowered her gaze as if shy and said, "Take me home and I'll call you that way as many times as you wish."

Liam tried to object, but he ended up giving in and taking her home.

"Let's go home. I clearly can't say no to you."

However, Liam didn't only agree because of her charms. He decided that she was indeed fine enough to leave.

Not long after they left the hospital, they both entered Liam's house.

He gently helped Julie lie on the bed and smiled down at her. "Lie here while I get you a glass of water," Liam said and turned around.

Before he could take a step, a pair of warm soft arms wrapped around his back and a warm body was pressed to his back. "Honey, don't leave."

Liam's body tensed up and he gulped. He turned to look at the woman on the bed. She looked so charming and sexy that his lower body

moved a little.

An addictive warmth seeped into their veins as they held each other tightly.

Hands explored, lips kissed and tongues tasted, neither of them got enough.

The foreplay was long and passionate. At one point, Julie shifted back, pulled Liam onto the bed and pressed him under her body. She looked down at him and gave him a seductive smile that made his head spin. "Last time, I said I would be on the top the next time. This is next time."

Liam almost went crazy. His penis reacted to her words almost instantaneously, flush against Julie's covered opening.

"Oh..." Julie moaned, her face burning up. Then, she sent her hand between them and touched the strong member constrained in his trousers.

That little touch almost sent Liam over the edge as his whole body trembled.

Julie giggled, loving the effect she had on him. She leaned in and whispered seductively close to his ear, "You've gone through a lot these days. It's time I made up for it, huh?"

Just as soon, her tongue darted out and she swiped it along Liam's ear, blowing on it softly.

Then, she trailed her tongue down his neck, then to his chest and all the way to his navel until she was face to face with his bulging erection.

Excited, and also very nervous, Julie took off Liam's trousers, and his erect penis sprang up, filling her vision.

"It's so big!" Julie blushed with shame.

She leaned even closer to it, sent out her tongue and licked it gently. She got bolder, sucked it a little and took it into her mouth. Before long, her head was bobbing up and down, her tongue doing a small dance in her mouth.

The pleasure was so great that Liam almost exploded then. But it was too early.

Swiftly, he turned them over until Julie was now under him. He tore off her pants and slipped into her with a guttural groan of pleasure.

"Ahh!" The sudden move shocked Julie for a second, but she soon started moving with him.

The desire and pleasure she felt drowned every pain she could have felt.

Liam tore off Julie's shirt, unhooked her bra in one move and cupped her soft breasts in his hands.

As he pounded into her, Julie's eyes clouded with tears, feeling her centre becoming wet with each thrust.

She held Liam tightly and asked him for more, inciting him with the most exciting sexual words.

When they were on their last strand of strength, they reached orgasm together.

"It's... it's over!"

Liam pulled out of Julie and fell beside her on the bed, exhausted.

Julie's hand travelled to her vagina until she felt how sticky it was. She looked at Liam's back with a satisfied smile and hugged him. "I love

you," she whispered.

"I love you too."





## Chapter 483 Annie

Liam and Julie cuddled together on the bed for some time.

Liam stared at his woman in his arms and flicked her cheek fondly.

After some time, Liam said seriously, "Julie, I should get you a bodyguard. That way, no one will hurt you again."

He was certain that they were going to have more enemies in the future.

If he didn't make arrangements now to keep Julie safe, who knew when she would be attacked again?

Julie, however, wasn't of the same mind as him. She was already shaking her head as he spoke. "I don't need a bodyguard. I already have you protecting me. Besides, it'll be so funny and uncomfortable having a bodyguard following me around."

It was a long debate that Julie ended up winning, immune to Liam's persuading powers. ①

He gave up, determined to secretly find her a bodyguard.

Liam soon found the perfect candidate for her; Annie. ①

She was a woman, but a capable bodyguard, and she fit all the criteria he needed.

As soon as he made his decision, Liam called Annie.

After exchanging the usual pleasantries with each other, Liam went straight to the point. "I was hoping you could come to Salem and help me protect my fiancée, Julie. Secretly!" He stressed on the last word.

Annie was taken aback by his request. She had already decided to give up on him when he made it clear that it wouldn't work between them. However, she still felt a pang of hurt to see how considerate Liam was towards his fiancée.

Despite the little pain she felt, she was also delighted that he trusted her enough to do this.

Also, Liam was King of the Dark Night Organization. He was her superior.

Annie swallowed her sadness and answered with a bitter smile, "I'll be honoured to do it. I'll go and get ready."

A few days later, Julie and Liam were spending a wonderful and intimate time together.

The doorbell suddenly rang and interrupted them.

Liam opened the door and saw Annie at the other side of it.

"Come in, please,"

he said, welcoming her in warmly. He was very happy to meet his old friend again.

Annie, on the other hand, felt a little uneasy. This was her first time stepping foot into Liam's residence, and it wasn't what she expected. It wasn't as luxurious and magnificent as she imagined.

It was a simple small house that felt homely.

Of course, Julie contributed a lot to making the house feel that way.

Liam called Julie out to greet Annie. With a warm smile, Julie greeted Annie and like the perfect hostess, made her feel at home.

Liam and Annie chatted happily, but Julie got uncomfortable about it.

"You guys should chat while I make some sandwiches," Liam said and went to the kitchen, leaving both women alone.

Annie followed him with her eyes, taking in the appearance of the man she had spent so much time longing for.

Julie noticed this and frowned, keeping it to herself.

She couldn't go around stopping people from liking Liam.

As soon as breakfast was over, Annie left in a hurry.

After closing the door behind her, Julie turned to Liam and let her jealousy out. She grabbed his ear and said crossly, "I didn't know you were such a playboy. Why are so many women pining after you? If you make the mistake of having an affair with any of them, I will beat you to death with my own hands."

Julie was the only one in Salem that could pull Liam's ear and talk to him in that tone.

Liam smiled at how cute she was. He held her gently in his arms and kissed her senseless.

When he pulled away, he said, "Don't worry about that. You are the only one I love."

Julie snorted and said sternly, "Okay then. You better behave yourself!"

Despite her stern tone, he had already won her over with his words.

They clung to each other again in a heated kiss that led to another round of intense love making, until the monsters in them were sated.

Stroking her soft skin, Liam said, "Now, it's time we go to Kingland

Group and officially announce your return. Everyone will be happy to have you back."

Julie squealed excitedly.

Finally, she would be back in Kingland Group.



## Chapter 484 A Challenge

The senior executives gathered in the meeting room of the Kingland Group.

A majority of them were very delighted to see Julie beside Liam.

"For a moment there, I thought I was mistaken. It's really you, Miss Fiber."

"Hello, Miss Fiber."

"It's been so long since I last saw you. How do you manage to look younger?"

The few senior executives who were natives of Salem asked the others about her identity and greeted her in low voices.

Vivian was the only one that didn't smile even a little. Her face was gloomy, and her fists clenched.

She had this distinct feeling that Julie only came back because she didn't trust her with Liam. With glaring eyes, she muttered to herself, "I stayed with Mr. Hoffman through the toughest period for the Kingland Group. You have no right to waltz in here and kick me out!"

Julie glanced at Vivian, but didn't say anything.

Even in the silence, the atmosphere was thick with tension.

As the meeting began, Vivian gave a full report of the group's current situation.

After Julie's birthday party, the public opinion had shifted in favor of the Kingland Group.

Out of guilt, many people spent on Funbuy, as if to make up for their accusations. This greatly pleased the senior executives. At least, they could recover the loss they made in the ten-billion-dollar subsidy plan.

Meanwhile, Rileymart was in such a bad shape that Funbuy could easily take over it.

The whole report was filled with good news. The Kingland Group had indeed survived this difficult phase.

"Thank you, Miss Greyson," Liam said with a grateful nod in her direction.

Just as soon, the meeting room broke into a thunderous applause as they shouted triumphantly and congratulated themselves on the big win.

The only person who seemed left out of the festive mood, was Julie.

Noticing her discomfort, Liam decided that it was time to make the announcement. He took Julie's hand in his and looked at the crowd. "Everyone, I'd like to have your attention please. I have an important news to announce."

The room instantly fell silent as they gave him all of their attention.

"Some time ago, Miss Fiber took a temporary break from the company for some personal reasons. But now, she is ready to return to the Kingland Group and take back her position as the vice president. You will all work together to make the Kingland Group stronger and better than it is. If you vote yes to this decision, please raise your hand."

More than half of the hands in the room shot up instantaneously to show their consent.

Some of them kept their hands to themselves because they joined the Kingland Group after Julie left, and didn't know her or how competent

she was.

Others that didn't raise their hands were Vivian's subordinates who were too scared to do it after seeing Vivian's clenched fists.

However, a majority of the group were for Julie's reinstatement.

Satisfied with the outcome, Liam started the official announcement.

"I declare that Miss Fiber will..."

Julie suddenly took the microphone, cutting Liam off.

"Mr. Hoffman, there are still many people that are not in favor of my return. We should hear them out and not just ignore their opinions. After all, I'm not coming in as a mere employee, but as the vice president. That's a huge responsibility that demands that everyone trusts me. Everyone should agree on this, or it will cause more harm than good to the group's development."

As soon as Julie said this, many people applauded her for her long-sightedness.

"Miss Fiber, you really think ahead."

"What you just said proves your worth to this group."

Liam looked at Julie with pride in his eyes.

Then, he faced everyone and said, "In that case, I'd like to hear out those that are not in support of this. Why are you against Miss Fiber's reinstatement?"

Those who had their hands down looked at each other uncomfortably, not sure if they could really speak up.

Finally, one person spoke up to represent the new employees.

"Actually, Mr. Hoffman, when we joined the Kingland Group, we didn't meet Miss Fiber. We don't know her. We trust your judgement, but we don't want to blindly support her without knowing just how good she is."

The man was a little nervous after speaking. Liam was still their boss. Anything could happen now that they were against him.

Contrary to their expectations, Liam didn't rebuke the man. "Thank you for your honesty. Sit down."

The man sat down, feeling relieved.

The other senior executives who didn't support Julie argued that she could return to the company, but not as the vice president. Not so soon anyway.

Liam listened to them and gave a curt nod.

When it was finally time for Vivian to express herself, she wasn't as implicit as everyone.

She stated firmly, "I disagree! Miss Fiber has been completely absent during this period of rapid growth for the Kingland Group. Practically everything has changed from the time when Miss Fiber worked here. I doubt she'll be able to do the job. Besides, we can't just name her vice president because that was the post she held before she left. It doesn't sit right with me. Now, if this is a special treatment because of some intimate relationship, then I think it is unfair to everyone else."

The conviction in her tone managed to sway many people in her direction.

Julie frowned as she stared at Vivian. Her best friend was the last person she expected to be so against her return to the Kingland Group.

To make things worse, Vivian wasn't refusing for professional reasons



as she wanted everyone to believe. She was against it for a personal reason that they both knew all too well.

Julie scoffed inwardly. Vivian only acted this way because she wanted to be Liam's woman. But it was useless. This attitude wouldn't get her anywhere.

Vivian's last words seemed to put Julie's competence and professionalism into question.

Glaring at her, Julie hit the table and said firmly, "I don't have to lean on any relationship to get back into the Kingland Group, but on my own competence. If you have any doubts, just tell me what I need to do to reassure you."

Liam was so proud of Julie in this moment. She was so confident and didn't let anyone talk her down.

Both women stared at each other, neither of them backing down.

Before the tension between them got out of hand, Liam said, "Miss Greyson, the return of Miss Fiber won't affect your position. The both of you will work hand in hand for the good of the group."

The other executives chimed in and echoed Liam's words. They didn't want to see the leaders of the group come at each other like that.

"Miss Greyson, since Mr. Hoffman has made it clear that nothing will change for you, you should make a compromise and work with each other."

"From my point of view, Miss Greyson, it will mean one more person to help you carry your workload. That way, you can have some time to yourself to find a boyfriend."

That last word seemed to infuriate Vivian even more. Her determination to keep Julie out of the group only increased. "I still

stand on my decision. I'm not doing it for any personal reasons, but for the group. All of you present here have put in painstaking efforts to take the Kingland Group to where it is now. No one wants to see it fail now. We can only let her come back as vice president after we have seen just how good and competent she is."

"And how do you want to see that?" Julie asked without missing a beat.

Vivian hesitated a little, not expecting Julie to answer her so swiftly. She pulled herself together and asked a subordinate to bring over the new projects they had to take on.

Vivian took out the most difficult project and threw it on the table in front of Julie. "There! The group's logistics system needs to be expanded, and the location you will see in there is the most suitable to build an operation base and a warehouse. However, there is a factory that is decades old and thousands of households both on the land we need. If you succeed in getting them to agree to the demolition of the buildings, and also in completing the project within the budget set for it, you can return to the Kingland Group. I will give up the vice president position for you."

Almost everyone exclaimed when they heard this.

This particular project was one that had been held back so many times.

"I heard that the residents in that place are very difficult. They use violence and refuse to listen to reason. Once, they even beat a director and sent him to the hospital. The man is still in the hospital till date."

"And the people of the factory are asking for an exorbitant amount of money as compensation. A total of two hundred million dollars. Either that, or they go nowhere."

"This is really going to be a challenge for Miss Fiber. How will she do

it?"

Julie could hear the whispers around the table.

It didn't scare her. Instead, she raised her chin proudly and stated, "Okay. I'll do it."

## Chapter 485 Clarence Was Released From Jail

Vivian knew Julie as a very competitive person. It was obvious that she would accept the challenge.

That was why she chose the most difficult project which she knew would be impossible for Julie to complete on her own. That way, Julie would never return to Kingland Group.

Just in case Julie succeeded by some miracle, Vivian added, "You have one month and only thirty million dollars to take over the factory. Do this, and the post of vice president is yours."

After saying that, she left, the other executives following behind her.

Left alone in the meeting room, Liam stared at Julie with appreciation and respect.

"I like your determination, Julie. Do everything you can and return to Kingland Group as soon as possible. If you're blocked somewhere, just let me know and I'll handle it."

Julie shook her head at him with a smile.

"I won't do that. You can't help me with this project. I have to do it on my own. I have to be able to convince those people that don't trust me yet. If this is the challenge I have to take on to gain that trust, then I have to do it on my own. Imagine what will be said if I let you help me out. Don't worry, okay? I can handle it. Just sit tight and watch me!"

Liam couldn't help smiling.

He chuckled happily and said, "I get it. This will clearly be a piece of cake for you, huh, Miss Fiber? I'd better get you a cup of coffee to go with it."

"Oh, shut up! Don't make fun of me," Julie said good-naturedly, pulling his ears. Before long, they were playing and running around like teenagers.

At the door, Vivian was seething with anger and jealousy as she watched them discreetly.

She clenched her fists and promised herself that no matter what, Julie wouldn't step foot into Kingland Group again as a member.

Meanwhile, Clarence stepped out of the police station, released on bail.

It had only been a few days, but he seemed to have grown older.

Yolanda and Dennis stood at the door, waiting for him.

As soon as Clarence's eyes fell on them, he saw a chance to release the pent up anger in him.

When he was close enough, he lashed out and slapped Dennis hard on the face.

"Fuck you! Why did it take you so long to bail me out? Do you know how hard my life was in there? Do you want to spend a few days in jail to find out just how hard?"

Another slap followed Clarence's outburst. Dennis' cheek felt hot and swelled some more.

Bombarded with all those questions and getting beat up, Dennis could only lower his head.

He had really become a punching bag and lackey.

Scared that Clarence would really take him to jail, he begged hurriedly, "Mr. Norris, after what happened, we have been in the lime light. Even the police have been keeping a close eye on us. This was the only

chance we got to put up bail for you. I've wanted to do it the second you were taken in, but I couldn't."

Clarence snorted and waved him away.

"Just hurry up and take me out of here. Take me to Royal Hotel."

In the back seat of the car, he pulled Yolanda into his arms and kissed her furiously.

He used Yolanda like she was some prostitute.

Clarence violently tore away Yolanda's clothes, squeezed her breasts in his hands and engaged in a rough round of sex with her.

Every now and then, groans and moans would come from the back seat.

In the driver's seat, Dennis saw everything through the rear-view mirror.

He swallowed his anger and the humiliation he felt, knowing that there was nothing he could do about it.

The only way he could vent his anger right now, was tightening his grip on the steering wheel.

On her part, Yolanda was very embarrassed, although she didn't show it. This wasn't the first time she was having sex with Clarence.

But this time, she felt like she had lost the little dignity she still had left. Not only was she roughly manhandled at the back seat of the car like a prostitute, but another man watched her go at it too.

Clarence didn't care one bit about how she felt.

She felt sick.

The car stopped in front of the hotel just as Clarence finished.

Yolanda felt disgusted, but she pulled herself together and acted like nothing happened.

After cleaning up in the car, Clarence checked in the presidential suite of the hotel.

He called Dennis over and said, "Now, tell me how Rileymart has been doing since I was taken away."

Dennis broke out in a cold sweat when he heard this. How was he going to tell Clarence that Rileymart was in a mess?

He gulped loudly and said honestly, "Since you were taken away, the public opinion turned against Rileymart. The shopping festival flopped terribly at the sales. Rileymart has barely been afloat since then. So many people have resigned too as the group is on the verge of... bankruptcy."

It was silent for a second.

Then, Clarence picked up a glass and hurled it on the floor with a roar. "You fucking losers! Why would the company hire good-for nothings like you?"

Dennis kept his gaze down and dared not to say a word.

Clarence calmed down a little and said, "This is all Liam's fault. That bastard!

I don't care what you do or how you do it, but I want to see Liam behind bars. He has to know what it feels like to be in there. If you can't do it, then I'll send you in there myself!"

Dennis began to feel frustrated all over again.

He felt terrible wronged. This didn't have to fall on him for crying out loud.

However, he nodded and said before rushing out, "I'll find a way right now, Mr. Norris."

Left alone in the room, Clarence stared into space, his face livid with anger. "Oh Liam, you're going to know what it feels like to lose everything."



## Chapter 486 Conspiracy

Even after leaving Rileymart, Dennis didn't stop thinking of how to get back at Liam.

He had gathered scraps of information of Liam from wherever he could.

He knew that if he didn't do something, he would be locked up.

Not long after, he came across a piece of news with a huge headline that read, "The CEO of Kingland Group is also a great doctor!"

Dennis frowned. The exaggerated headline made him think it was just a marketing strategy for the company.

However, he couldn't leave anything to chance. So, he went through it.

It recounted the things Liam had done, and expressed Nathaniel and Sylvia's gratitude.

As he read, he realized what it was about. This particular topic had caused a lot of buzz when it happened.

Now that he had more information on it, Dennis wondered if Liam really possessed any medical skills. Besides, how could he cure the patient so quickly when the hospital itself couldn't do anything about it?

It sounded weirder the more he read. This had to be a publicity stunt.

Dennis trusted his hunch, but he had to dig in and find the truth. Just to be certain that this was all lies.

Clarence returned to the Riley Group's building.

Only a few people scattered here and there still made the place look like a place of business.

Alone in his office, Clarence plopped down on his seat and burst out laughing hysterically. Then, the laughter stopped abruptly and he murmured coldly, "Liam, I'm going to take back what you've taken from me."

The words were barely out of his mouth when there was a knock at the door.

"Come in."

The next second, Dennis came in with a beaming smile on his face. "Mr. Norris, I think I've found a way to take care of Liam. Everyone's talking about the little girl Liam saved. We can use it to our advantage. I'm almost sure that he doesn't have a medical license. We just need to alert the authorities about it, and he'll be arrested. Also, I already contacted Sacred Heart Hospital and promised to donate advanced equipment. I implicitly implied that to get the donation, they had to make an announcement, stating that it was the hospital that saved the little girl and not Liam. They are to make it clear that Liam was just stealing credit that wasn't his. Once people see this, their opinion of him will change, and Rileymart will go up the ladder again."

Clarence nodded appreciatively, the corners of his mouth curling up in a smile.

"You are much better than all those losers, Dennis. Go on, do what you have to do. You will get a reward if you get Liam arrested."

Dennis nodded excitedly and hurried out to get to it.

As soon as the door was closed, Clarence rolled his eyes. Knowing Liam, it wouldn't be difficult for him to take care of the medical license situation. At most, he would be locked up for two days.

He just gave his consent because he didn't want Liam to have any moment of peace.

He had other plans to take Liam down for good.

If he wanted to defeat Liam, he had to break the Kingland Group first.

He needed an extra brain to think of this. So, he called Yolanda over. "I just heard that Julie and another woman called Vivian had a little confrontation during the meeting of Kingland Group that didn't end well. Apparently, this Vivian has a crush on Liam. Do you think you can incite Vivian to join our cause?"

Yolanda was a little surprised by this piece of news.

She had given up on Liam, but he was now popular, and it bothered her.

However, she didn't regret her decision.

Just like Clarence, she was determined to make Liam suffer.

"Don't worry, Mr. Norris. I'll take care of it," Yolanda said with determination.

## Chapter 487 Knowing The Reasons

At Grace Garment Factory on the outskirts of the city.

Liam and Julie came to get some information.

Julie was happy that Liam decided to join her, but she still complained, "I specifically said you didn't need to come. I can do this on my own. I don't want them to say that I'm incompetent and only rely on you to get anything done."

Liam smiled sweetly at her and said, "I'm only here today as your bodyguard, while you do all the work. Trust me, no one will say anything."

Julie nodded and they both started walking around for information.

By the time the morning was running out, Julie already had a basic understanding of the situation in the area.

She already knew the difficulties she had to brave through.

"The Grace Garment Factory was established decades ago. It is an old and honored brand that makes and sells its own products. The residential area nearby is actually accommodations for the factory workers. So, in order to demolish the buildings here, the main difficulty will be to persuade the clothing factory to relocate. Right now, that already seems quite impossible, as the director of the factory is asking for two hundred million dollars. That is far above our budget."

They stayed in silence for a while, both lost in thought, until Liam had an idea. However, he couldn't express himself since Julie insisted on doing this on her own. He wanted to respect her decision.

Besides, it had been a while since she did any work on her own the

last time. This was a great way for her to adapt to the new functioning of the Kingland Group.

However, Julie's negotiations were a total failure.

Some workers even tried to kick them out.

With a heavy sigh, Julie sat on the ground dejectedly, doubt setting in. "Maybe I don't actually have my place in the Kingland Group anymore."  
"

Liam didn't like what he was seeing and hearing.

He held her hand comfortingly and said firmly, "That's nonsense! Let's take it slowly, okay? The Miss Fiber I know won't just give up after a little setback like this one."

After a short pause, Julie stood up and nodded determinedly.

"You're right! I must prove that I'm competent for the position of vice president of the Kingland Group. Most of all, I must prove that I am good enough for you," Julie stated firmly and started walking towards the factory again. She was going to try talking to the factory director again.

Liam held her hand and stopped her. "Listen, there's no need going to see him. You will only get rejected again. We both know how that ended last time. If you want something to change, you have to find out what they need first. If you're ignorant of their problems, you will keep getting the same answer. The information you just collected was the official and vague stuff they have to give anyone. You don't know exactly what is going on in the factory. The only way you can get what you want, is to get them what they want too."

After thinking about it, Julie realized that Liam was right.

"Okay. Let's go to the residential area first," she said after a while.

Liam nodded with a smile. Julie was a smart woman. He knew she was going to figure it out.

With a smile on his face, he followed her to the residential area.

Julie arranged for a car full of fruits to join them.

Then, she began distributing the fruits to the residents in the name of the factory.

"Nice to meet you. I'm from the factory. I was sent to pay you all a visit."

She gave each resident the same lines.

However, her warm smile and greeting were either ignored, or met with a cold response.

Most of them just took the fruits and closed the door in her face.

Both Liam and Julie didn't know what to think of this. She was supposedly from the factory after all.

They had a feeling that their attitude had to do with the factory director's refusal to move somewhere else.

Thankfully, Julie met someone who was less cold to her and said, "Miss, I'm a new employee, and today is my first day at work. I came to distribute fruits, but everyone seems to have a problem. Can you tell me what's happening?"

The woman hesitated before she explained, "We haven't been paid for half a year now. How can we be happy when you visit us with a mere box of fruits? The factory isn't doing well. The products keep piling up in the warehouse, with no one to buy them. And if no one buys them, then the factory will have no money to pay us. My husband is the accountant here. He complains about it everyday. This can't go on. The