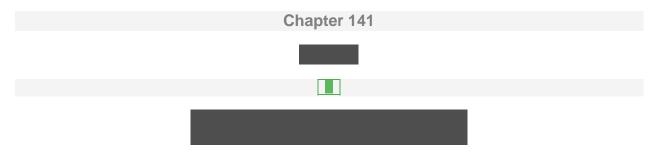
YOUNG BRIDE IN A LIGHTNING MARRIAGE: NEVER TIRED OF MR. LEON'S LOVE



On their way to Lucy's company, Charlie kept giving Matthew weird looks.

Matthew's skin crawled under his gaze, and he finally blurted out, "What's with you? Why do you keep staring at me like that?"

Charlie sighed. "I never thought you'd let your wife work, Matthew. I figured you'd spoil her rotten and keep her all to yourself at home every day." Matthew shot Charlie a frosty glance. "Spoiling her is one thing, but trapping her is another. You're a lawyer. Shouldn't you know better?" Charlie cleared his throat, now even more curious about Matthew's wife. What kind of amazing person could have such a hold on Matthew? They soon arrived at the entrance of Lucy's company. The receptionist, who knew Matthew well, quickly made a call.

"Ms. Lucy, Mr. Leon is here."

After a brief chat, she directed Matthew to the private elevator that led straight to Lucy's office.

Matthew pushed open the office door and froze. The desk was buried under a mountain of paperwork. What in the world?

How could there be so many documents? He worried if his wife kept this up, she might just work herself to the bone.

He bit back his comment, knowing it would only land him in hot water later.

Lucy looked up at the sound of the door and gave a small start of surprise.

"Matthew, how did you get here?" Lucy asked, her eyes then curiously moving to the man next to him. "And who might this be?"

Charlie gazed at Lucy with a spark of interest. She was quite pretty, with a fresh and elegant air about her. There was a barely noticeable air of power to her.

He had not expected Matthew to fancy someone like her.

When Lucy asked who he was, Charlie instinctively smoothed out his clothes and introduced himself with a charming smile, "Hello there, I'm Charlie."

"I'm the top-notch lawyer Mr. Leon has asked to come and help with your case. I'm looking forward to working with you." After saying this, he even nodded politely.

As soon as he straightened up, Matthew playfully thumped Charlie on the head, causing a little bump to appear.

"Don't mind him, Lucy. This is Charlie, my lifelong buddy. I brought him here to give you a hand," Matthew said with a grin.

Rubbing the bump on his head, Charlie shot Matthew a look of mock annoyance.

Lucy watched the two of them with

a look that said she could not quite put her feelings into words. She had long known that Matthew acted a bit silly around her.

She never would have guessed his friend would be just the same! What was it that Matthew had said?

el: exclusive content.

Charlie was supposed to be a top lawyer, the best in the world?

Lucy's mouth quirked up at the corner. Charlie did not seem like a lawyer at all.

He looked more like someone who loved to have fun and play around. He did not seem that reliable.

Even though she had her doubts about Charlie, she did not let it show on her face.

Lucy stood up and reached out her hand with a warm smile. "Hi, I'm Lucy, Matthew's wife. I'm looking forward to getting to know you."

Charlie shook her hand with a big grin. "Absolutely. Nice to meet you, Lucy."

Chapter 142



Once they had introduced themselves, Lucy set aside the papers she was holding and gave Matthew a soft smile. Exclusive content from .

"Did you manage to grab something to eat on your way here?"

Matthew gazed at Lucy fondly. "Nope, I was waiting for you to finish work."

Lucy let out a sigh. "You have to eat well even when I'm not around. What if you upset your stomach?"

She was about to lead Matthew and Charlie to the company cafeteria for a quick bite when she turned to Charlie. "Mr. Jennings, any foods you don't eat? I can let the kitchen know. And what's your favorite food? I'll have them whip up a special plate for you."

Charlie, hearing this, had to hold back a laugh. She was being so thoughtful, but the way Matthew was showing off their love was worthy of an eye roll.

Matthew caught the look on Charlie's face and gave him a cool glance.

"Don't worry about it. No need to ask him what he wants."

What? Lucy looked at Matthew, her face a picture of confusion. She thought, 'He's your buddy, isn't he? Aren't you going to ask him what he'd like? Is this how guys are with each other?'

Matthew, not wanting to look bad in front of Lucy, took a moment to explain.

"This guy's a real picky eater. He won't touch onions, garlic, eggplants, or any meat that's too flavorful. But if you sneak some garlic paste into a dish, he's okay with it. He's got a whole list of food no-nos. He doesn't eat plenty of things."

Lucy was totally confused.

She had heard that rich kids could be fussy with food, but this was something else.

She took a deep breath and looked at Charlie.

He was her husband's friend, after all. She could not just leave him hanging.

"What about seafood? If I have the kitchen whip up some gravy that sn't use onions, garlic, andeln

ginger, would that work?"

Lucy thought it over and offered a suggestion to Charlie.

Charlie was so grateful he almost wanted to grovel at her feet. Lucy was so kind and caring, nothing like the cold Matthew. Lucy was such a good person. How did Matthew ever get so lucky to marry her?

"Thanks, Lucy. I'm good with seafood."

Lucy breathed a sigh of relief and told the kitchen to start on a seafood feast.

She also made sure they prepared some of Matthew's favorites.

When the food was ready, the three of them sat down to eat.

They ate quietly without talking.

After they finished eating, they got to the real issue of the day.

"Lucy, Matthew mentioned your company's got some trouble with a plagiarism claim. Can you fill me in on the details?"

Lucy looked at Charlie, who seemed so different now, with a surprised expression.

Charlie pulled out a pair of

gold-rimmed glasses from his bag, put them on, and stood up straight. The playful tone in his voice was gone, replaced by a serious and professional air.

He looked every bit the world's most top-notch lawyer.





That was when Lucy really started to believe that Charlie was a top lawyer, the kind who had never lost a case.

She wondered to herself how someone could seem so different from one moment to the next. Maybe it was just his personal charm. As she thought about it, she kept a serious look on her face.

She had the table cleared of food and took out the three notebooks Mabel had given her.

"These notebooks are full of my artist's ideas and notes for the comic book. They're way more detailed than what the other party has."

Charlie frowned and let out a sigh. "This isn't enough to prove who plagiarized who."

Lucy nodded. "I know, but we're going to win this lawsuit for sure."

Charlie was surprised by Lucy's confidence. He knew the case would be tough, especially with such little evidence. Even the best lawyer could not make a losing case win without solid proof.

Where was Lucy's confidence coming from? Sighing, she opened up Lunar Arthouse's comic online and pointed to the dates. "Look, every issue was published after Maple finished her drawings. It's clear who copied who."

Hearing Lucy's explanation, Charlie was puzzled. He closed his file and looked at Matthew, unable to believe what he was hearing.

"Is this really the case you dragged me into? Are you sure you need me for this one?"

Lucy let out a sigh. "That's just it. Matthew cares too much."

Clearly, Luna was the one who should be sweating over this lawsuit.

Matthew sat across the table. The muscle in his eye gave a little twitch, but he did not say a word to them.

"Sure, we're likely to win this case, but shouldn't we be more careful? What if they bring in that hotshot lawyer who could talk a fish into swimming on land? I'm just looking out for you, right?"

Lucy could not win the argument, so she clammed up.

Charlie could not help but chuckle.

He pulled the three hefty notebooks closer to him on the table and saved the comic screenshots from the website.

"Fine, I'll handle this case. Think of it as a little break. It's exhausting being on the go all the time."

Lucy's defense lawyer was ready to go.

Ever since Luna phoned Timothy, he got right on finding the city's top defense lawyer. exclusive content.

The moment they made the call, they hit a major snag.

"Hello, is this Lawyer Casey Fore? This is Lucas Corporation. We'd like you to represent us in a comic plagiarism case."

Casey held the phone loosely,

half-listening as the person on the other end went over the details Without thinking, she asked, "Who's

suing who in this mess?"

The voice on the phone replied, "The defendant is Lunar Arthouse, and the party suing us is Lulu Comics."

Casey, who heard the familiar name,

picked up her phone and checked

the number: After a pause, she told the person on the line, "Thanks for your offer, but I won't take this

lawsuit. You'll have to find someone else."

With that, she hung up, leaving the assistant who had come to get her help wide-eyed with surprise.

Chapter 144

Lucy was having a great chat with Matthew and Charlie when the phone rang, cutting through their fun. exclusive content.

"Hello?" Lucy answered.

"Hey, Lulu. What's up with your company? You're in court again?"

It was Casey on the other end.

Lucy got it in a flash. Lunar Arthouse must have tried to get Casey on board. She reassured her friend with a smile, "Don't worry, all's good here. We've got the case under control, and we're sure to win."

They talked a bit more and then said goodbye. Charlie and the rest, who had waited for her to finish, asked, "Who was that? They know about the trouble you're having already?"

Lucy thought for a moment before deciding to reveal the details.

"That was my friend, the best lawyer around. The Quinns probably wanted them for their defense, but my friend declined and called to check on me." Lucy could obviously sort this out on her own, no help needed.

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On the other hand, after their setback with Casey, the Quinn family quickly hired a new lawyer to defend them.

Time zipped by, and before they knew it, the day of the trial had come.

Lucy was the party suing, and Luna was the party being sued.

Ever since that wedding, these sisters, who were not actually related, were showing their dislike for each other once more in front of everyone. The judge hit the gavel, and the trial started.

Luna, standing with the defendants,

was really upset. She thought, 'Lucy, that meanie! I've never been so embarrassed! She has the nerve to sue me, but I'll make sure she regrets it today!'

She sneaked a peek at her lawyer, feeling pretty pleased with herself.

Casey, the best defense lawyer in town, had turned her down.

However, Timothy adored her

much that he spent a lot of money to get another lawyer from far away.

Aiden Bronx was one of the top 50 in the world, with a record of winning almost all of his cases!

Then, Luna looked at Lucy's lawyer.

She saw Charlie in a sharp dark gray suit. His tie was perfect, and a pair of gold-rimmed glasses sat on his face. He stood quietly in his spot.

He was someone she had not seen before. Luna scrunched her eyebrows together. Lucy had married such a great guy. Could she not afford a good lawyer?

That was just sad.

Lucy was going to be in big trouble today! At least, that was what Luna thought.

Luna was still feeling happy about this, not noticing the shocked look on Aiden's face.

"No way! That's Mr. Jennings, the top lawyer in the world," he mumbled, wiping sweat from his forehead. He wondered if he could back out of the case now.

Aiden took a quick look at Luna and

then remembered the hefty fee the Lucas family had paid to get him on

board. With a firm resolve, he

decided to fight the lawsuit,

If he lost, so be it. Losing to a top lawyer was not the end of the world. Plus, he would not have to pay back the Lucas family's money after the trial. Only a fool would decline so much money!

The judge laid out the case between the defendant and the plaintiff, and the lawyers on both sides started their heated arguments.

As the debate raged on, Luna's face turned into a scowl.





By the end, Luna's features were all contorted. Was Aiden not supposed to be one of the best around? How could she not win this case?!

She did not realize that Aiden was also frustrated. Did Luna not see the problem? Someone at her company had copied another artist's comic, and they always published later than the original.

If they were going to fake evidence, they should have at least taken down the website. With things as they were, winning this case would be a long shot!

When the judge finally ended the case, Aiden was full of regret, wishing he could turn back time.

He should not have taken Luna's case just for the money from the Lucas family. Now, his reputation in the industry might be ruined for defending a bad cause with such a weak argument. The lawsuit ended with a whimper.

As Luna walked down from the defendant's seat with a grimace, she bumped into Lucy, who was stone-faced.

She approached Lucy, biting her lip.

"Lucy, I..."

As she spoke, tears started streaming down her face.

Lucy watched as Luna switched her emotions on and off like a pro. She could not help but be impressed by her acting skills.

She was so skilled that she could cry on cue and stop her smile in an instant.

"What are you "

Lucy interrupted Luna right away. She could not let her go on. Who knew what kind of sickening things she might say next? It was better to just stop Luna in her tracks.

Luna did not seem to care. Dabbing at her tears, she looked at Lucy and said in a weak voice, "I'm sorry, Lucy. I really didn't think it would be someone from my company who copied your comics. I assumed..."

Lucy felt a headache coming on and covered her head. Not this again. Those sneaky words...

Luna's performance also drew the attention of the jury, and several cameras swung their way. Why were there cameras?

Since that time Matthew and Lucy caused a scene at the wedding, any move by the Quinn sisters was like a ma for the media. They would pounce like wolves, especially now with a public lawsuit. The reporters had their stories ready to go, but when they saw the Quinn sisters still around, they stuck around too.

It looked like there was an even bigger scoop here!

They watched Luna and Lucy with anticipation.

While Luna had the time to weep and play her part, Lucy had no interest in being a spectacle for the crowd. She cut Luna off with a chill in her voice. "This time, you really dropped the ball managing your team. Make sure it doesn't happen again. I don't want a repeat of this mess."

She walked right past Luna, paying no mind to her tearful face that looked so pitiful and sad. After years of matching wits with Luna, she had learned an important lesson. She should never chat too much with Luna. Exclusive content from .

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She was capable of twisting things around before anyone knew it. She was a champ at making up tall yet believable tales. Enough was enough, and Lucy wanted out.



Lucy walked out of the courthouse without even glancing back at Luna. She was heading home and missed the sight of Luna's twisted face entirely. The cameras caught everything, though. The reporters were thrilled. They rushed back to their offices, eager to share the juicy story.

By the next morning, the tale of the Quinn sisters' courtroom clash was the talk of the town.

Luna saw her angry face on the news and felt a surge of fury. In a flash of rage, she threw her phone so hard it shattered. She frantically called her team, ordering them to pull the story from the headlines.

It was too late, however. The news had spread far and wide, and removing it would cost a fortune.

By the time Quinn Corporation's PR team got the news off the websites, it hardly mattered. Everyone had seen it, and the damage was done. People were buzzing with gossip about Luna's company.

The company's reputation plummeted, and investors pulled out, causing the share price to nosedive. The only thing keeping Lunar Arthouse afloat was the solid financial backing from Lucas Corporation.

Luna was in a panic, scrambling for a solution.

Lucy, on the other hand, felt a tangle of emotions when she heard about Luna's troubles.

Was she happy?

She should be, considering all the trouble Luna had caused her at the start.

Lucy could not find a speck of joy in her heart though-only a whisper of sadness, She let out a sigh and kept her eyes on the papers in her hands. Before she could even start, Matthew whisked them away.

Matthew frowned at Lucy. "We're home now. Why are you still working? You're always busy with work and never have time for me."

He pouted and whined, trying to get Lucy's attention.

Lucy could not help but smile and shake her head. "Didn't I tell you I want to grow my company? I have to work hard to make it happen. Only those who are ready will succeed."

She tried to explain gently as she reached for the papers Matthew held just out of reach.

"Matthew, please give them back. I'm not done with them yet."

He just got more upset and lifted the papers higher.

After making sure Lucy, who was quite short, could not get them, he finally looked down. He was feeling defeated. "I'm rich, you know. As the CEO of the top Leon Corporation, I don't need to worry about money.

"Lulu, I can take care of you forever even if you do nothing at home. Can't you just spend some time with me? Let's go on a vacation to Moscow, Hawaii, or anywhere you like."

Lucy sighed again. She loved the idea of a vacation, but then she remembered the disapproving look on Gabriella's face.

'Your mom doesn't think I'm good enough for you. You say it's fine, but

I don't want to be trapped like a bird in a cage.' Lucy looked into

Matthew's eyes, keeping her thoughts to herself.

Chapter 147



The room went quiet because Lucy did not say a word.

She stopped trying to grab her papers and just looked at Matthew.

Matthew felt more and more uncomfortable as Lucy watched him. He finally gave up and handed the papers back to her with a sad look in his eyes.

He really just wanted his wife to spend more time with him. Why was it so hard? Lucy took the papers and dove back into her work, not noticing Matthew feeling lonely next to her.

Could Matthew be upset with his wife? No way!

He could not be mad at her! She was his wife, and he was supposed to adore her no matter what. What about the big ball of frustration inside him that he could not let out, though? What was he to do about it?

Quietly, Matthew pulled out his notebook and started planning. He called Kent and asked, "Did you do what I told you to?"

Kent answered quickly, "Yes."

"Then let's finish this up," Matthew said without showing any emotion.

He put away his silly side and turned serious and tough, just like a top businessman should.

Lucy, noticing Matthew on the phone, looked up with curiosity. What did he mean by 'finish this up'? She did not get it. Oh well, it was not her problem, and she went back to her work.

What she did not know was that their city's economy was getting all mixed up.

That evening at seven, a bunch of people no one knew started buying up lots of shares in Lucas Corporation for a lot of money.

Lucas Corporation had been having a tough time ever since they made Matthew mad. Over the past few weeks, the company's share prices had been dropping like a rock.

When shareholders saw someone willing to buy their shares for a lot of money, they sold them off without a second thought.

Timothy, who was already feeling super stressed, only owned 45% of the shares. Another big shareholder had 20%, and the rest were spread out among different people.

Timothy started to worry that the big shareholder was trying to take over when he saw a bunch of shares

being bought up. After he had

someone check it out, it turned

he was worried for nothing-the big shareholder had not bought any more shares.

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Just when Timothy thought he could relax, he got hit with more bad news. The shareholder with 20% was selling their shares. At this rate, Lucas Corporation would have to change their name because it would not really be the Lucases' anymore.

Timothy's head was spinning. He called his dad in a total panic to tell him what was happening. His dad was so mad he even broke his teacup "What's going on? Timothy, have you gotten yourself into trouble again?" he yelled.

Timothy tried to explain, but he could no get his words out. He had not really gotten into any trouble lately. Well, unless he counted Lucy and...

Timothy's sudden silence tipped off his dad that something was up. "Is this about Mr. Leon again? Didn't I tell you to go and apologize to him yourself?" Timothy gritted his teeth.

Chapter 148



What good would that do?!

Matthew had embarrassed Timothy so badly. Any guy would find it hard to let that slide, and Timothy knew it all too well.

Trying to keep his cool, he told his dad, "Don't worry, I've got this."

He then hung up.

Slumping into his chair, Timothy held his head which was aching with worry. What now? He could not let Lucas Corporation, a hundred-year legacy, crumble on his watch.

Just then, Luna rushed into his office, all flustered.

"Tim!"

Seeing her, Timothy's worries lightened a little. He always tried to keep it together in front of his woman.

"Nana, what's wrong?"

Luna was on edge. "Tim, my company needs more money. That lawsuit hit us hard, and we can't bounce back fast enough. If you don't help, I might go under!"

Timothy's forehead vein popped. Not this again. Always asking for money, without a single thought for Lucas Corporation's share price.

Timothy's mind wandered back to the days he spent studying finance with Lucy. She would not have missed the signs of trouble in the share market this morning, not like this.

Lucy had been by his side, learning the ins and outs of finance and even teaching herself how to paint. She had an eye for detail that Luna seemed to lack.

Luna's tears fell as she clung to Timothy's hand, trying to win him over with her sweet voice.

"Tim..."

Usually, Timothy would have responded with kindness, but today, his patience was thin.

He pulled away from Luna,

frustration written all over his face. "I've got the funding issue under control. We'll talk later. I can't deal with this right now," he said, leaving her on the floor, stunned.

Luna could not believe it. Her usual charms were not working on Timothy today. The office was quieter than usual too. Was it just her, or was something off?

She shook off the thought. Maybe she was just used to Timothy always giving in to her.

"Why are you being so mean, Tim? Don't you like me anymore?" she demanded. "I just need your help with some company funds."

Timothy could not help but feel a

mix of anger and amusement at Luna's demanding ways. He found himself missing Lucy's

understanding nature. How had he overlooked Luna's flaws for so long?

Luna was always strong-headed, never played fair, and did not seem to think things through. She even had trouble running her own company.

On the other hand, Timothy admired

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Lucy, who kept her business running smoothly and always listened to him. Next to her, Luna just did not interest him anymore.

He sighed at Luna. "Can't you just stop causing trouble? Don't you realize that Lucas Corporation is in a really tough spot right now?"

Chapter 149



Luna froze, a bad feeling creeping into her heart. "Tim, what are you trying to say?"

Timothy rolled his eyes, clearly annoyed. "I'm saying that Lucas Corporation is in big trouble, and I can't deal with you right now. Go do something else, okay?"

Her last bit of hope crumbled, and Luna slumped to the floor. Her usual grace was gone.

No way! How could Tim's company be failing?

He owned the biggest company in town, and only the Quinn family could stand up to him.

The Lucas family had not made any enemies. Wait a minute! A sudden thought struck her, and she pictured the faces of Lucy and her successful husband.

It had to be Lucy!

Luna's face twisted with bitterness.

Was Lucy jealous of her happiness?

At that moment, Timothy looked at Luna with pure distaste. Luna, already on edge, saw it right away.

"Tim, what's your problem? Are you looking down on me?" she yelled, not realizing that her outburst was making Timothy even more disgusted. 'Was I just not seeing clearly? How could she ever compare to Lucy? She used to have a touch of kindness, but now, she looks like a wild woman.' He shook his head quietly, deep in thought.

"Just go back. I don't want to see you right now," he repeated the same cold words.

Luna was already stressed out because of problems at work, and Timothy's words just made everything worse for her.

She got up quietly from the floor, brushed off her skirt, and walked out of Timothy's office without making a sound.

Timothy watched her go and felt a

twinge of guilt. Nana, as he

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sometimes called her, was actually very sweet. He was the one who raised his voice. He decided he would say sorry to her later.

However, Luna was past the point of wanting apologies. As she left Lucas Corporation, her eyes were full of hatred, and her face twisted with anger.

She was focused on the thought that Timothy did not like her anymore, that he was ready to throw her away for someone new.

She blamed Lucy for her troubles!

Did she believe Timothy's talk about Lucas Corporation being in danger? Not a chance. She was too wrapped up in her own interests to care. Luna was acting crazy and becoming very dangerous.

She flagged down a taxi and told the driver to take her to the supermarket nearby.

After sneaking around and buying a lot of things at the supermarket, Luna went back to the house she shared with Timothy.

She picked up the phone and called him, "Hey, Tim?"

Timothy heard a voice that was soft and calm but it also sounded a little sad.

The tight feeling in his head eased when he heard it, and he remembered how roughly he had treated Luna. He felt guilty

He said more gently, "Nana, what's up?"

"It's nothing big, Tim, but can you come home?"

Timothy looked at the pile of work he had and hesitated, but he still said yes.

"Okay, I'll be right there. But I can only stay for an hour. I've got to take care of some business stuff."

Lucy's face twisted with anger on the other end of the phone. Was the company really more important to him than she was?



Timothy could not see Luna's face, but he thought she understood. After he hung up, he drove back to their place.

The moment he walked in, a black bag was pulled over his head, and then he felt a hard hit on the back of his head.

He fell to the floor, knocked out, with Luna standing over him. She had hatred in her eyes.

Luna was panting with a look of triumph in her eyes. "That's what you get for ignoring me and thinking you can replace me," she thought.

She grabbed the hemp rope she had bought earlier from the coffee table and tied up Timothy's hands and feet. Then, using a small cart, she pushed him down to the basement of the villa.

The basement was a hidden place meant for safety during big disasters. It was stocked with lots of emergency gear and medical supplies.

Knowing her way around, Luna took out an IV drip from the medical box, set it up for Timothy, and then used his phone to transfer a bunch of money from his bank account to hers using his fingerprint.

Luna gave a satisfied nod and gently shut the basement door.

Elsewhere, Lucy and her husband were deep in a mountain of papers. Lucy was totally caught up with her company's business while Matthew was busy with a big project-taking over Lucas Corporation.

Just then, a text from Kent buzzed on Matthew's phone. He read it, and his eyebrows knitted together in concern.

He quickly called back. "Why did Lucas Corporation suddenly stop fighting back?"

Kent answered in a serious tone, "Timothy, the boss of Lucas Corporation left his office out of the blue. He told his team he'd be back in an hour and to go ahead with their plan, but the hour's come and gone, and there's no sign of Timothy."

Matthew felt something was not right. "Did you find out where Timothy went?"

Kent, quick as lightning, replied, "We've checked the city's cameras. Timothy went home and hasn't left since."

Matthew smirked. Lucas

Corporation was in the middle of a crisis. Timothy would not just vanish for no good reason. There had to be more to this story. Matthew was not too worried, though.

"Strike while the iron is hot!" he commanded Kent. "Before Timothy gets back and his old man catches on, we need to snap up those shares faster! And if you mess this up, kiss your bonus goodbye this month."

Kent felt a chill through the phone, quickly ended the call with Matthew, and told his team to step on it with the plan.

He really did not want to lose his bonus. Without it, he would have to skip buying a bunch of stuff he wanted this month.

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Meanwhile, Lucas Corporation's shares were being bought up left and right.

Then, half an hour later, Timothy's dad realized what was happening. He stepped in with full force and managed, just barely, to keep his family's company steady.