

86 Good Luck

Austin scratched his chin and took a moment to mull over his boss' words. 1

"Hmm... Miss Hayden did mention that Mrs. Ashford was in a bad condition but I could have never assumed it was actually this serious. So what now? Are you really going to accept her request to marry her?"

"Who is marrying whom?"

Two men instantly shifted their eyes to the door upon hearing someone else's voice inside Liam's office. Oscar Bennett, his corgi peacefully sleeping in his arms, marched inside and took a seat on the couch in the middle of the room, stretching his legs over the glass coffee table.

"Have you finally come to your senses and picked the future Mrs. Liam Bennett?"

The wide grin found its way back to Liam's lips.

"I found her, Grandpa!" He flopped next to Oscar and even when Captain Pantaloons offered him a side eye because his loud voice woke him up,

Liam simply ignored the dog and added, "I am going to marry Amelie Ashford!"

"What? *The* Amelie Ashford? Of JFC Group?" The man looked confused and his grandson nodded. "The one and only, yes."

Oscar frowned and shifted his sharp eyes to Austin. "Is this one of his jokes or has he finally lost his mind?"

Austin could only offer him an awkward smile and Oscar kneaded his brows together once again.

"Boy, are you a fool? Amelie Ashford is a married woman! And not only that, she is the wife of our biggest business rival!"

Liam's smile was replaced by a childish pout. "Grandpa, this is happening! She is getting divorced soon and then, I can finally marry her!"

"Absolutely not!"

"Grandpa, listen!" Liam refused to give up just yet. "She is smart, experienced, well-respected, and incredibly kind. She is exactly the kind of woman I need beside me to make sure I can

become just as good as you. So what if she will be the ex-wife of Richard Clark? Trust me, soon enough, everyone will know her as the wife of Liam Bennett."

Oscar observed his grandson's excitement but remained silent. At that moment, Liam reminded him of his late son and it made his heart spasm with painful nostalgia.

'Does this child really like her? I never thought I'd live to witness this moment... I was lucky to marry a woman I loved because back then, I didn't have the pressure of pushing my name forward through useful connections. Diamond Group was able to become this strong because Ewan and I had strong loving women by our sides who always helped and supported us. They were our strength in the moments of our weakness and Liam will definitely need that too.'

He didn't blame his grandson for being childish and incompetent. After all, it was his fault for failing to raise him properly when his son prematurely departed from this world.

Now, just like it had happened to him far too many times in the past, Liam had to take on such

an important and demanding job while still silently mourning the loss of his older brother.

'Only God knows how many days I have left with him; then, he will be completely alone, fighting off the vultures who will take that opportunity to salivate over our company. I don't really have any problems with Amelie Ashford and... If he really loves, trusts, and respects her so much, I guess it will only help if such a prominent woman is staying by his side.' ³

With a heavy exhale, Oscar rose to his feet and finally said in a serious tone, "Very well, do what you see fit. Since you are courting a woman you actually have feelings for, I won't get involved in this, however... If you fail to bring her over to your side, I will be the one to pick a wife for you. Do you understand?" ²

"I do, sir!" Liam's eyes sparkled with hope and his grandfather sighed and let out a small chuckle.

"Good luck."

Once Oscar left the office, Liam returned to his



seat behind the desk and gestured for his assistant to sit next to him. Despite securing his grandfather's permission to marry Amelie, Liam's face was now serious and somewhat concerned.

"Thanks to our snooping around, we already know that divorcing Richard Clark will strip Amelie of her part of the company and inheritance. Of course, I don't really need her money; if anything, I'd rather she started over from a clean slate and took my money instead, but there are things that had to be done in a proper order. So..."

Again, his lips stretched into a cunning smirk. "Time to put our plan into action, Austin. Time to do what we have been getting ready for all along." 1

Austin felt chills running down his spine. He became weirdly excited as his boss' emotions seemed to have rubbed off him as well.

Truthfully, no matter how mature of a man and a professional he considered himself to be, he had to admit that being ensnared in Liam's schemes was refreshingly exhilarating.

"I will contact the lawyers right away and will start on the paperwork too! Should we already talk about this to Mrs. Ashford as well?"

"Not yet," Liam tapped his fingertips on the surface of his desk, "I want to be sure I am ready before giving her false hope. Or maybe it can even be a surprise?"

Austin clicked his tongue but the excitement didn't wear off. He almost jumped to his feet and dashed out of the office, leaving Liam alone to contemplate his situation.

He recoiled in his chair and fixed his eyes on the view outside the window.

'Diamond Group has earned my family more money than JFC ever did, but it's still not as respectable because JFC is an old business built by several family lines. Thanks to my plan, JFC will lose a great deal of investors and supporters and with Diamond Group climbing up on the stock market thanks to JFC's stock value dropping, I, as the CEO of the company, will become the wealthiest man in the country. Surely, Miss Ashford is not going to regret trading that scum for me.' 2

