The Deadly 102

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Zachary paced nervously in the corridor outside the conference room, waiting for Howard to finally make an appearance.
When Howard finally appeared, Zachary quickly stepped forward, offering a slight bow. "Mr. Dixon, it"s great to see you. Im Zachary My father used to-" Howard shot a nce at both Zachary and Alice, his expression turning serious. "What"s wrong? Is there a problem?"
Zachary hesitated, sensing Howard''s unweing demeanor.
Alice nudged him from behind, urging him to speak up.
Understanding her hint, Zachary quickly added, "Mr. Dixon, we wanted to discuss Robin. This guy is a con
TOh! A con artist, you say?" Howard responded with a chuckle, scrutinizing both Zachary and Alice. "Let''s have this conversation in my office."
Delight washed over Zachary as he exchanged nces with Alice before following Howard into the Vice General Manager's office.

It appeared Grace and Daniel were correct: Howard harbored a strong dislike for Robin.

The r	noment Robin''s name came up, an unusual glint appeared in Howard''s eyes.
a secon Dixon, t	they settled inside the office, Howard motioned for them to sit. "Go ahead. Speak quickly; I have d-round meeting for the Eastvale Ecological Project"s outsourcing qualifications shortly." "Mr. the Gills and Millers have met the necessary qualifications for outsourcing But before Zachary nish his thought, Howard"s expression darkened.
	quickly chimed in, "Mr. Dixon, we mean to emphasize that Robin is a fraud. You were ssmates s. Dunn at Huffurd Business School, and it"s essential you warn her about him."
The i	cy facade Howard had maintained softened immediately. "Oh? I need to hear more."
Не ас	ctivated the voice recorder on his phone and ced it on the desk.
	ary hesitated momentarily before continuing. "Mr. Dixon, Robin is a drifter without any solid ties. ly, he approached the Millers with a twenty-year-old marriage contract, demanding that Alice nim.
No oi Alice.	ne can verify if that contract is legitimate, and he was outright rejected by both the Millers and
"Som group.	nehow, he managed to deceive Ms. Dunn into trusting him and ingratiated himself into your

"We"re worried that Ms. Dunn and your team might fall for this scammer, which is why we wanted to inform you about Robin"s background.
"We"ve heard he boasts about owning Vi One of Dawnspire Heights Estates. Frankly, it"s absurd.
"He even duped Liam from Universal Group, but Mr. am saw through his ruse,
"Tve heard he"s now getting chummy with Ms. West from Violeterest International and may have already gained the trust of her maid, Rita.
"This scoundrel has been causing chaos since arriving in Harmonfield, fooling influential figures here with his underhanded tactics!
"Mr. Dixon, we fear the Dunn Group might also be misled by this fraud, which is why we came here to alert you.
Howard chuckled softly. "This is fantastic! The information you"ve given is crucial for us.
"Mr. Gill, Ms. Miller, as a token of my appreciation for your warning, I"ll consider signing a contract with you regarding the Eastvale Development Group projec. Why don"t you head to the signing location and await good news?" Once outside Howard"s office, Zachary and Alice exchanged high-fives, celebrating their sess.

They felt relieved that their gamble had paid off!
Joining the Dunn Group"s Eastvale Ecological Project meant they were about to be key yers in - Harmonfield"s businessndscape.
At 9 AM, the signing ceremony for the Dunn Group's Eastvale Ecological Project officiallymenced.
Howard held a list of twenty approved outsourcing partners and handed it over to the project assistant for final confirmation.
Upon discovering that their family business was included on the official signing list, Grace, Alice, and the others erupted in joyful cheers,
As Howard passed by, he offered a meaningful reminder. "Make sure to excel on the Eastvale project. I have confidence in you!"
Alice, Zachary, Grace, and Daniel responded enthusiastically, "Thank you, Mr. Dixon! We won"t disappoint you!"
In contrast, Vera"s father, Harvey Silva, looked visibly upset after seeing the signing list.

Despite the Silvas being more powerful than the Millers and Haven Realty, they had not made it onto the Eastvale Ecological Project"s partner list.
He knew exactly why that was.
Feeling frustrated, Harvey decided to make onest attempt.
He approached Vera, speaking softly, "Vera, your close friend, Alice, and her family just secured a contract with the Dunn Group for the outsourcing project. It indicates they have a solid rtionship with Mr. Dixon
"What I"m suggesting is, could you talk to her and see if she can assist us in securing a share of the outsourcing project for the Silvas?"
sold
Vera coldly replied. "Im not going You and your new dealerENEU matters, so I won"t be participating
Quincy Lowe, the woman next to Harvey, scoffed at propone You to exceive foudende les forpany every year, don"t you? What"s the harm in den a line or for
Vera''s expression shifted immediately. Dividends from thepany? Ask your husband where dur money actuallyes from!

"If it weren"t for my mother investing 5 million as the trial capital and her and work, someone would still be struggling to sell products!"""
Harvey trembled with anger, pointing at Quiney and shooting, Can you just be gure for once
Quincy gritted her teeth in response. "Fine, I won"t askarint Do whatever you war
As Harvey watched Quincy storm off in frustration, heighed, Vera, since this is your mother's lepe. should be working to expand and enhance it
Vera offered a cold smile. "Save the sickening lecture. You"ve been with Quincy all these year can"t you ser how much she"s drained the Silvas finances? What happened to the annual dividends you promised my mother? I haven"t seen a single cent in three
years!
"Regardless, I won"t get involved in this matter!
Harvey shook his head, feeling helpless. "Alright. I understand you"re upset with me, and I don"t me you. I won"t pressure you to help with the Eastvale project "Do you know why the Silvas aren"t partners with the Dunnst

"I"ll tell you. I heard it's because you've been getting too close to someone named Robin from thempany. Mr. Dixon has a strong dislike for that guy.
Vera smiled bitterly. "I don"t know where you got those rumors, but they re absurd."""
Just then, Howard announced that the signing procedures were finished
In ten minutes, the final results would be revealed, followed by a meeting with the twenty outsourcing
partners.
Somepanies, realizing they hadn"t won the bid. left with disappoint
Only a few second-tier or third-tier families, hoping to snag a secondary contract, remained at the venue.
Harvey, whose recent business ventures weren''t going well, was desperately hoping to secure the Dunn Group''s outsourcing project and was also waiting at the location.
In the CEO''s office at Eastvale Development Group

Amber ced the finalized list of twenty partners and the contract in front of Robin
At that moment. Robin was engrossed in a video game and nced at the hefty contract. "Ms. Jenning, cant you look through it? Just seeing this gives me a headache."
Amber nodded, exining. The outsourcing contract was drafted with input from Ms. Dunn and the legal team"s advisors, so it doesn"t require a thorough review. The key issue is the qualifications of the twenty partnerpanies, and that"s something you need to finalize, Mr. Ramsey."
"Then read it to me. Robin said, reclining in his office chair while closing his eyes.
"Alright, I"II read out the names of the twentypanies, their heads, and their funding statuses for the proposed projects."
Amber perused the details of the contracted firms as ryed by the sales department.
Once she finished reviewing all twentypanies, Robin opened his eyes and stated, "Remove Gill Group, Miller Group, and Haven Realty from the list."
Amber looked startled. "Understood. I"ll inform the sales department immediately."

Just five minutester, Howard received Amber"s update.

The threepanies had been eliminated from the initial roster of twenty, leaving Robin with only That he had approved.
Howard''s face flushed with anger as he realized thepanies that had been cut were the very ones he had promised to give a spot to. He mined the contract onto his desk.
"This is uneptable! Ms. Jenning. I need to know: These threepanies are qualified, so why have they "been dropped?"
Amber responded withposure. "Mr. Dixon, Mr. Ramsey indicated there was no justification for the removals."
Howard exploded with rage, mming his palm on the table and yelling. "What? What kind of attitude is this? How can you just strike someone"s name off a contract for such a significant project without any reason? Is this some sort of joke?* Amber shrugged, unperturbed. That"s the mindset of top executives. I"m not privy to the details. Mr. Ramsey said anyone with a concern should keep it to themselves!"
"What? H-he"s behaving like a criminal!" Howard was nearly beside himself with fury.
If he couldn''t fix this situation, he wouldn''t just lose face among the higher-ups in the Dunn Group.
Soon, the whole of Harmonfield would be aware of it!

If that urred, how could he possibly maintain his standing with the Dunns?
How would he maneuver through the businessndscape in Harmonfield?
How would he win over his dream woman, Shirley?!
No way could he let that happen
He needed to turn the tide.
Grabbing the final contract approval that Robin had signed, he snapped at Amber, I rue discuss this with Shirley! How could an ignorant troublemaker-
Mr. Dixon, please watch your tone, Amber warned. "Mr. Ranney is still our CEO
Howard jabbed a finger at Amber, shouting. "Who do you think you are, giving me orders Get out of my way!
With that, he snatched up his phone and the contract documents, striding purposefully toward Shirley's office.

He was determined to show Shirley all the photos Connor had gathered of Robin!
And he''d also y her the recordings of Alice and Zachary
Howard was resolute-today, he would ensure Robin was ousted from the Dunn Group for good!