Izaya Orihara

Dollars Arc

Made by Cleax & Luga

Episode 1 - 2:

One day, Rio came to the conclusion that her father was unfaithful to her mother after witnessing him with a different woman. She saw that a woman used to leave her father a note at the mailbox every time, with some pictures attached. When her mother eventually viewed those pictures, she said nothing at all. Rio began to question herself, why her mother was keeping quiet about the situation. It dawned on her that secrets should not be kept.

Rio started texting Izaya after feeling down; she doesn't know who he is yet; he's simply a stranger on the internet. When Izaya comes across her, he creates a covert internet profile and gradually gets to know her, making her feel at ease in his presence. He creates a whole narrative that is convincing and consistent with modern standards. He achieved this because, in addition to emotionally engaging with the individual on a deep level and creating a logical foundation that could be protected and expanded upon, he also needed to serve as the ideal stepping stone leading up to the major symphony of events. Additionally, it served as a means of empathetically connecting with her, enabling her to realize that she wasn't alone. This, in turn, contributed to her growing sense of trust in him. Izaya could understand her sense of security in his presence. He knew this because of having a complete understanding of her real life self. He masterfully controlled RIo’s course of actions by being privy to her secrets.

In return, She also started sharing secrets with him. They both got to speak about their issues. Izaya talked about their lives so much to the point he convinced Rio that nobody should hold secrets and nothing should be kept hidden from anyone. Rio eventually accepted Izaya's suggestion that they commit suicide together. After talking to Izaya, Rio exhibits symptoms of fulfillment, contentment, and joy when she arrives for their interaction with the expectation of meeting this person. Izaya was able to understand this on an emotional level and wanted to get her to consider whether or not she had really been able to break free from a fictional prison and was now being presented with intriguing freedom.
In short, Izaya understood her yearning for fulfillment by experiencing the

concept of freedom. He had taken this idea and impart it to her, testing her response in the process.
When Rio arrived at Ikebukuro, Izaya had planned to kidnap her by sending a proxy. He took advantage of the sense of comfort he had given her and prevented her from considering risky options by just inducing a wave of excitement that caused her to believe she had been satisfied. The proxy tied her legs and hands with a rope, blocked her mouth and threw her inside the Van. There were 3 people in total included in this kidnapping.

Rio accepted her fate after being abducted, even though it was painful not to be able to meet the one person who truly understood her. After all, her initial intention had been to kill herself. Here, Izaya had set up a trap for Rio. By attempting to resist the kidnappers, it would contradict her own intentions, as her intention was to take her own life. She was being forced to reevaluate the importance of her principles by Izaya.

The Kidnappers decided to take a break, and Izaya had planned to send a biker named Celty (She's a Dullahan, who is headless and has supernatural powers). The kidnappers weren't aware of this, and they genuinely became afraid of her after she displayed the use of supernatural powers. Two of the kidnappers got knocked down by her, and the other ran away with the van, where Rio was kept inside. Celty chased the kidnapper, defeated him, and saved Rio. Then, She took her to Izaya, the person she was talking to online.

Here, we see Izaya utilizing his resources rather well in this instance. He realized that despite her appearance as a monster to others, Celty is, at her core, a kind person. He understood that Celty would attempt to defend Rio from those kidnappers by utilizing her goodwill. In addition to using her services, he also took advantage of her desire to help others, which allowed him to further improvise his plan.

Subsequently, Izaya discloses to Rio that he was the one who orchestrated this abduction. He made sure to tell her this ONLY after she had convinced herself that she was totally rescued. Rio accepted her fate even though she was very terrified when she was abducted. Even though she traveled to Ikebukuro to kill herself with the internet guy, she felt relieved when Celty arrived to save her. Overflowing with the surge of hope, she decided to step back from her initial thought process and contemplated whether to actually take her own life after all. Izaya breaks Rio as a person when he abruptly declares that his petty and stupid

intentions were done only to elicit a response out of curiosity. He wanted to know all that she was thinking in order to make her unintelligible. Izaya tricked her into being curious about himself so she could investigate why he did what he did. Izaya responds by saying that he enjoys having a psychological effect on anyone, not just her specifically, so that she feels unwelcome or irrelevant. Rio blushes as a result, indicating that she truly believed Izaya appreciated her. This embarrassingly and subtly makes fun of her. She had been psychologically influenced by him to reevaluate her entire worldview and outlook on life. After that, he grabs her hand and proceeds to the building's edge, displaying to her the drop of blood left by earlier jumpers. Naturally, the purpose of this was to create a precarious environment in which she would consider suicide again before making a final decision. In order to further initiate the suicide issue and make her feel undesired but not hated at the same time, Izaya utilizes his emotional perception and cold reading to determine that she believes she is special. He does this by pointing out that she isn't and outlining why, but she was unaware of the unloved aspect. Izaya then makes the point that no one can live a life free from corruption and that she even has a secret or two.

Izaya reveals that he is aware of how Rio believes her parents are bad and she is good. He asks her why she feels that way in an attempt to encourage her to reflect about Morality and the intersection of good and wrong, as well as to generally introduce new concepts into her mind. He introduces an increasing number of mental factors into the matter at hand. Then, Izaya deliberately agitates her in an attempt to encourage her to try to slap him, so he can move her so that she can see the distance below with clarity, to demonstrate to her that she is completely depraved and identical to those droplets of blood from individuals who have leaped.

In order to quickly and nimbly create an analogy that was appropriate for the situation at hand, he concretizes the idea that all people are created equal before God and that she is irrelevant to anything. God sees all people as equals, thus either everyone is exceptional in his sight or no one is special. There is no one who is superior to another. The fundamental ideas of this comparison are the God (from Izaya's perspective, as he is the one providing her with information) and the human (In this case, Rio), who is simultaneously nothing and everything, but also identical to everything else. This is so that, if everyone is the same and shares equity, she will no longer feel as though she has a purpose. She looked pale as he asked whether she should let go of him, which deeply worried her both psychologically and physically, eventually causing her to second-guess

her choice.
Afterwards, Izaya starts to walk away, telling her that he doesn't really care about her personal issues or anything else, that he only wanted to test her strange range of emotions. This obviously counteracts the new beliefs that Izaya gave her, that everyone is the same and nobody is unique. Izaya exposes her corrupt side to consciousness in order to gauge her response.

When Izaya asked her to jump off the building, Rio became hesitant to do so. She didn't want to do it because she was actually afraid of dying. Having met with the inevitable death that would await her if she jumped made her rethink her decisions once again. And in the end, Izaya told her that he did all of this to show Rio just how much of a coward, boring person she is, not committing suicide when she was determined to do so. This indicates that although she had a constant fear of dying, she lied to herself and convinced herself that she wanted to end her life.

Of course, this taunting from Izaya was not baseless. His plan here was to drive Rio into jumping off the building as a way to prove to herself she is not just like the others, in which he succeeded, as according to his anticipation, Rio actually did try to commit suicide right after those ruthless words. This was all done in order to prove she is special, succumbing to her initial thoughts and stepping way back to the initial reason she had even started contemplating on taking her own life, which would prove Izaya wrong in his psychoanalysis he had already established. This was essentially a way to prove Izaya was wrong about her, though unbeknownst to her, he had anticipated this would happen, and due to having an understanding over Celty's kind hearted nature, he knew that she would be able to save Rio in time. Izaya showed her just how much of a boring, cowardly person she is. He changed her perception ENTIRELY, which prompted her to act this way. The moment he first talked to her through text, Izaya had already psychoanalyzed her, and knew that she would be afraid the moment she tried to actually kill herself.

In conclusion, Izaya managed to execute premeditated triangulation at the appropriate times, through accomplished information control and different aspects of EQ. He had also applied Logical reasoning to clarify his emotional perception even more as a well fortified attack on her mental state, whilst also indirectly using the good side of Celty for his own amusement, making Rio subconsciously reveal her corrupt side via the reconsideration of multiple ideas and philosophical concepts of the world that impacts the core of her being, and

then repairing it uniquely at the end through Celty's ideology. Izaya gave Rio a glimpse of corruption and evil along with a spark of hope, that both qualities afflicted this globe.

Given his profound understanding of her, the profiles he completed would have been incredibly intricate. In particular, he had been able to fully decipher her personality from the content of their online chats, including the way she phrased key lines and spoke. As he ultimately succeeded in extracting every last bit of emotional information from her texts. For example, due to her belief that she is a unique individual, she was able to figure out the ideas she had about her parents.

Because of this, she would stand out from the rest and convince them that she is correct while they are always mistaken, Or how he was able to see how readily suicidal ideas might convince her, or how delicate she was as a person. And how he was able to accurately identify every feeling she had, including her belief that she would contradict herself if she were afraid and force herself to feel relieved, among other things. Izaya had a complete Psychoanalysis over her actions over the 6 months. After this event, Rio started thinking that it is alright to keep secrets from others, because everyone has their own reasons. In just a matter of one day, he was able to drive Rio to attempt taking her own life three times and saved her by showing her a glimpse of hope or by directly taunting her. The mental gymnastics at hand showcase a high level of emotional understanding of Rio's character.

What makes this feat particularly impressive is the sheer fact he was able to drive her to the edge of committing a suicide and then make her retrack her decision 3 times consecutively. Moreover, there are 2 ways to interpret how he understood her emotions, both being plausible.

1. From Rio's last message, Izaya had emotionally understood that she wanted to kill herself. Izaya had recognized that, despite her statements that she wants to end her life, she is afraid of doing so. This implies that he foresaw the outcome, which was already the result of the emotional development that took place earlier, and that he anticipated that she would attempt to refute Izaya's psychoanalysis by trying to prove she is unique by leaping from the building.
2. Izaya knew that there was someone who truly understood her, therefore, he had foreseen how her emotions would develop over the course of six months. He anticipated her actions during the entire kidnapping, including how she would react to Izaya's taunts, how she would feel when she is kidnapped, how she will

accept her fate, how she will be relieved to see someone coming to save her, and eventually, how she will attempt to jump off the building to disprove his psychoanalysis.

Episode 8 - 12:

The first thing Izaya will do is create a sense of urgency and danger within Harima Mika (the one posing as Celty). He does this through his previously fabricated personality "Nakura", which sends her messages saying that Yagiri Pharmaceuticals are tracking them down through Seiji's phone and that they'll never be alone together as long as they could keep contacting them, later on advising her to leave the place where she and Seiji are currently at since they are very close to catching them.

With this, he manipulates her and aligns her within his overarching strategy, causing her to throw Seiji's phone on the water when he wasn't looking and urge him to get out of the hotel they're currently on since they're being pursued. The former is simultaneously a shielding tactic to prevent communication between Namie and Seiji, which could cause the plan to fall apart, and the latter serves as another shielding layer for the consequences of said action of throwing the phone; This would get Yagiri pharmaceuticals to try and track both of them down, so making them leave their hotel as fast as possible once again prevents Namie's influence from affecting the plan.

Izaya had foreseen all of Namie's actions from the very beginning, and so he knew that the next thing she would do is solicit help from him. Why? Because her company's reach and influence is completely useless (thanks to Izaya's shielding) but Izaya, who has eyes on all of Ikebukuro, would definitely know about his whereabouts or at the very least be able to find Seiji way quicker than herself.

Having found Seiji in a couple of minutes thanks to Izaya's interference, Namie quickly leaves the building, which prompts Izaya to move one of the pieces on his board, signalling the consequences of this interaction within his plan.

While this conversation with Namie was happening, Izaya's manipulation on Harima had already borne fruit; she ended up escaping to the park right where Celty was currently at, allowing her to finally recognize her own head in Harima's body, causing her to chase her down. All of this once again demonstrates Izaya's amazing foresight because we have to understand that he had anticipated exactly where Harima would go and aligned her appearance with Shizuo's and Celty's conversation within the park.

But why was Celty there? That's because Izaya had anticipated Shizuo passing by the park and thus gave her a job without specifying what it was. Of course, in the grand scheme of things, this job was simply fabricated to make Celty meet

Shizuo in the park at the right time, and got cancelled after Harima and Seiji found themselves in the park as well.

Since Shizuo was next to Celty, Izaya was able to complete multiple goals at the same time; first, isolate Harima Mika from Seiji (by distracting him with Shizuo) AND Celty (by Mikado taking Harima away, something he had also foreseen once again and had to align and account for within his strategy. Mind you, the way Izaya attracted Mikado was through Celty, simultaneously being the reason why Mikado decided to escape with Harima).

Secondly, to complete his negotiation with Namie. What did he ask for in this negotiation? He asked for Celty's Head, which is done for three main reasons:

First, he needs Celty's head for future plans which are to create a battlefield to awaken the head.

Secondly, it serves as another shielding tactic, concealing Celty's head from herself by hiding it within the Dollars organisation which Celty is a part of. This works because she'd never be able to guess that her own head would be part of the same group she belongs to.

Thirdly, to acquire Namie's help, basically making her become an assistant for later plans.

An important thing to note is that that Namie still has Celty's head and Harima had simply been modified via cosmetic surgery to appear as Celty, but because of the ever increasing pressure from Seiji (who does not know this) wanting to find "Celty" (Harima Mika), Namie will be once again put on the spotlight and forced to mobilise her company to find Harima. Right when he gets confirmation that Harima is in Mikado's house after messaging her, Izaya moves yet another piece, indicating the next phase of his strategy.

The next day, Mikado finds himself exiting school when suddenly he is approached by Celty and Izaya (the latter having predicted that the former would try to talk to him right at the school's exit, hence why Izaya had been waiting there in the first place), both with separate goals. They chase him, and eventually Mikado chooses a safe spot to talk to them privately.

While Mikado is talking with Celty, Izaya gets a call from one of his spies (which he had placed there in case this exact thing happened, once again another layer of shielding and foresight), telling him that Yagiri Pharmaceuticals had made their move and were sending a "cleaning crew" to abduct Harima Mika. He quickly adapts and asks Harima to leave her room, which will actually be the tactic that sets off the next part of his strategy.

Now, Mikado gets attacked by the cleaning crew, who started interrogating him about Harima Mika's whereabouts since she had left right before they got there (thanks to Izaya) but gets saved by Izaya and Celty, which leads Mikado to piece the clues together and take the initiative after hearing that the cleaning crew was from Yagiri Pharmaceuticals to use the Dollars as a way to fight back against the Human Trafficking that the company had been doing.

All of this was of course orchestrated by Izaya himself, subtly manipulating Mikado into making the choice of borrowing the Dollars' strength in numbers via the occurrences of the last two days, this way controlling Namie's actions through Mikado and mobilising an entire group with thousands of people through him.

But how did Izaya know so much about Mikado? How exactly was he manipulating him? To answer this, we will take a quick detour from the strategy:

Mikado Manipulation

From their very first interaction, Izaya had perceived Mikado's boredom, and knew that he was seeking some profound change within his life (which can also be evidenced within his decision to move to Ikebukuro). Mikado was desperate to find an opportunity to embrace himself as completely someone else; that need was very intrusive, as if he was looking for something exciting, something unlike the ordinary routine of most people's lives, but it was clear that he had not found anything to suit those needs yet. Once Izaya understands this fundamental aspect of Mikado's psyche, he abuses it to his benefit:

Izaya provided Celty a job without specifying what it was because he predicted Shizuo would be passing by the park, as aforementioned within the strategy analysis. Thanks to the chase between the two groups that collided, Izaya is able to make Mikado take Harima with him since he attracted Mikado through Celty, which again is related to his need to get out of a rutinary lifestyle; the mere existence of Celty as the famous black rider and a supernatural being, is enough to compel Mikado to try and chase her, which is what ends up in Mikado finding Harima in the first place.

Right after, Mikado allows the meeting between Himself, Izaya and Celty to proceed smoothly because of his aforementioned desires, meaning that by this point Mikado is firmly under Izaya's grasp.

After Mikado gets attacked by the Cleaning crew and gets saved by Celty and Izaya, Mikado finally pieces the dots together.

Izaya had orchestrated his entire line of reasoning from the very beginning through a series of events, which would inevitably end up in Mikado realising that Harima Mika was a victim of Yagiri Pharmaceuticals Human trafficking:

- Rumours about people going missing, Spread by Izaya
- Harima Mika's disappearance
- Rumours about Yagiri Pharmaceuticals doing Human trafficking, once again spread by Izaya
- Izaya's constant rumour spreading about the Dollars, just generally bringing them up on every possible occasion in the group chat with Mikado as a sort of reminder
- The Appearance of the Cleaning crew who attacked Mikado; Izaya specifically noted that they were from Yagiri Pharmaceuticals.

Conclusion: Harima Mika was a victim of Yagiri Pharmaceuticals' human trafficking and that is the reason why they are chasing her. Thus, to save her, Mikado decided to borrow the strength of the Dollars, consequently playing right into the hands of Izaya.

This is how Izaya was able to subtly manipulate Mikado through a series of tactics he orchestrated throughout the episodes.

Going back to the strategy, after Mikado borrows the Dollars' help, he finds Harima Mika after she escaped as per Izaya's orders via Kadota's group, who are members of the Dollars' and had been following the cleaning crew until they were forced to stop because of her. This way, Izaya once again had Harima under his control, while foiling Namie's plan.

This all leads us to the final part of the strategy; Mikado orders the different people around, putting himself in ground level, where he'll negotiate with Namie to try and force her to confess her crimes in return for Harima, while Celty is on top of a building, overseeing the situation. Celty gets approached by Kadota and his group while on the rooftop as per Mikado's instructions, in which they will try to mutually clear the misunderstanding between Celty and Harima.

When Harima declares herself as Celty, the actual Celty loses it and jumps off the building, starting a fight with the bodyguards of Yagiri Pharmaceuticals.

Simultaneously, Seiji finally had finally entered the scenario as well after being stuck at the company for a bit of time, demanding for “Celty” to be returned to him.

This is the moment where Celty realises that Harima Mika does not actually have her head, because all along Shinra (the doctor) had actually performed cosmetic surgery on Harima’s head to make her look like Celty (faking the head replacement basically) so that she could be loved by Seiji. By this point, however, it’s too late, as the transaction between Namie and Izaya had already been made even before the whole ordeal with Harima escaping had occurred (as of course Namie still had the head within the company), fully negating the possibilities of Celty actually getting her head back.

And thus ends the Dollars arc strategy from Izaya, allowing him to achieve multiple different goals:

- Retrieve Celty’s head
- Acquire Namie’s help
- Force Mikado into once again acting as the leader of the Dollars, which is vital for the gang war he will create in the Saika arc later on.