UNBOUNDED WEALTH

STRATEGIES. INSIGHTS. **BUILT TO WIN.**

The Big Lie that Might Catch You off Guard

Don't let the 4% unemployment rate catch you off guard.

The headlines are technically true. People are not being fired in massive waves. On the surface, everything looks peaceful.

In reality, something much worse is happening beneath the surface.

While layoffs remain low, hiring has slowed to a crawl. Companies are not firing workers en masse, but they are not adding new ones either. They have quietly frozen their expansion plans. They are holding their breath.

It is a market built on sitting still.

Think of a water pipe in the winter.

When water begins to freeze, it doesn't make a loud noise. It doesn't break right away. The pipe just stops flowing. To someone standing outside the house, nothing looks wrong. Everything seems quiet.

But inside the wall, the pressure is building.

That is what a "low-hire, low-fire" market looks like.

When a company stops hiring, it means they do not see a bright future ahead. They are holding onto the workers they have simply because replacing them is expensive. They aren't growing—they are just waiting.

Holding onto staff is not a sign of corporate strength. It is a sign of caution.

For a retail investor, this kind of quiet market is dangerous.

A sudden spike in layoffs gets everyone's attention. It makes the news. It causes panic, but it also creates clear opportunities.

A quiet stall does the opposite.

It slowly drains the strength out of an economy while everyone assumes things are normal. Profits start to flatten out. Sales begin to slow. Companies spend less money. Consumers spend less money.

Nothing breaks in a single day. Things just slowly stop moving forward.

The crowd waits for a big, dramatic event to tell them when to be careful. They wait for a dark headline or a sudden drop in the stock market.

They miss the quiet friction building beneath their feet.

Great investing is not about waiting for a loud crash.

It is about watching the real world, paying attention to simple facts, and recognizing when things have stopped growing.

When you look at your investments today, do not ask if the headline news is bad.

Ask a simpler question: Is this business actually moving forward, or is it just sitting still?

Do not mistake stillness for strength.

Let the crowd wait for a dramatic headline.

We will keep watching the water in the pipe.

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