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Life at The Top

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Old Master Law smiled, his expression lamenting as he took Old Master Turner's outstretched hand and replied, "You're right. Time flies. I can't believe it's already been more than a decade.

"We're both growing old and it's getting difficult for us to move about. With you in Swallow Capital and I in Harbor City, who knows when we'll meet again if not for this?"

Old Master Turner smiled. "Any extra day we have is a blessing considering our age, and every time we meet is one less time for the future. Who knows when the last time we meet will be? We've lost quite a number of our friends since we last met."

Old Master Law then pulled Jasper over and smiled. "In that case, then we've really got to thank this young man here. I wouldn't have had a reason to come to Swallow Capital if not for the beautiful celebratory banquet he hosted. He's the one hosting this dinner as well."

Old Master Turner turned to Jasper, and before the former could speak, Jasper immediately greeted him courteously, "Hello, Old Master Turner. I'm Jasper Laine."

Old Master Turner smiled and nodded before replying enthusiastically, "Good, very good. I've heard of you before. It was a very beautiful banquet you hosted. It's a shame that I was still in treatment and couldn't come to see it for myself, but a few of my old friends told me about you. You've done well, young man."

Jasper smiled. "The banquet was indeed a success, but I can't take all the credit. It was a joint effort with my colleagues, and I wouldn't have been able to host it so successfully without the higher-ups' help and leadership. There's still a lot I have to learn. I wouldn't dare take all the credit myself."

Old Master Turner chuckled. "A young man like you should've gone to work for the government, not in business."

Jasper found an opportunity to suggest, "The wind's a little strong tonight, old masters. Perhaps we could

Old Master Turner and Old Master Law

and not even the manager of the InterContinental Hotel had the level of importance to approach them. They had no

identities of the two old masters, knowing that each of these seemingly normal bodyguards was palace guards. Specifically, they were the kind one could not push against, for they could very well

shoulders, they saw the two old masters laughing and joking as they walked in front. They

old masters

managerial level of the InterContinental Hotel remembering Jasper's appearance and name deeply in their hearts. This man was the last person they

there were no signs of any potential
undertones or targeting subtexts at
anything, the two seemed like old
anything of the like even though the
back with slight uncontrolled envy seeing as how the youth could easily join the two old
Zachary find

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Old Master Turner smiled widely and spoke. Turning to Ian, he suddenly asked, "You're Ian Gardner?"

Ian had not expected Old Master Turner to call out his name and took two steps forward in surprise before replying courteously, "Yes, Old Master Turner. I'm Ian Gardner."

Old Master Turner nodded. "Haddock's Chamber of Commerce has been developing rather well these years. You've contributed a lot to your local economies. Especially the Waterhoof Branch, I heard that you pay hundreds of millions for tax now?"

Ian hurriedly replied, "Thank you for keeping an eye out for us, Old Master. It's thanks to having a good environment and policies from the higher-ups that we're allowed to develop."

Old Master Turner pointed at Ian and smiled at Old Master Law. "See? These people are the backbone of our country's business world. Not bad, right?"

Old Master Law asked intently, "Who's Gale Hurlbutt to you?"

Ian's expression turned solemn as he quickly replied politely, "Old Master Hurlbutt is the spirit of Haddock's Chamber of Commerce. He has already retired because of old age but he'll always be the honorary president of Haddock's Chamber of Commerce nationwide. He's my teacher."

Old Master Law nodded and ignored Ian's politeness, opting to turn to Old Master Turner instead. "Hurlbutt is a very sly man. He promised to send me some superior grade rosemary tea long ago but I haven't received it yet. You ought to ask him for me the next time you meet."

know you two had such a

seat. "It's already been years since then. He was doing business with foreigners and ended up getting kidnapped all the way there. I paid his

replied intently, "You saved his life. Hurlbutt isn't being very

add to the conversation, felt their knees go weak

was Gale Hurlbutt they were

were still children when the man

the

seats, everyone else began to take theirs according to their statuses
could not randomly sit as they
masters sat in the middle, with Zachary, Henry, and
left was Brad
sit with
take the furthest seat from the old masters despite being

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The banquet's atmosphere immediately turned extremely weird.

Brad and Erik, the father-and-son duo, were looking at Lisa with complicated gazes.

Brad glanced at Lisa, then at Jasper, and suddenly felt the urge to thank the man.

Had it not been for Jasper, Erik and Lisa's wedding might have become a reality and he would end up having this thoughtless and brash woman as his daughter-in-law. It would wreak havoc on his peace.

'Thank goodness, thank f*ck!'

Brad let out a sigh of unexpected relief.

Meanwhile, Erik looked at Lisa as if she was a goddess.

Ignoring the words that she had said outside, it was a different story to claim that a wise man like Old Master Law had been deceived by Jasper and before two old masters too, no less.

Frankly speaking, Erik was not brave enough to do so.

be going all out, hoping to pull Jasper with her as she
to slap this daughter of his, but he could not nor did he
one dared to speak before Old Master Law

was only one sole

Anna.

turned to look at

replied excitedly, "I'm Lisa Gardner. I take the same MBA class at Swallow Capital University with Wendy. That's how I know what kind

continued to be deceived by him had it not been for me! I'm helping you expose his

a playboy. He doesn't deserve

is he

would think she said it all in one breath. Then, Lisa turned to look at Jasper, hoping

was serene calmness, and perhaps a bit of mockery one asked you for your name. What's maniacal expression froze, and she looked at Anna in "What relationship?" Anna asked.

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Anna's voice slowly rang out.

"While I'm very grateful for your enthusiasm, I can't possibly see how your attitude and actions are supposed to be in my favor. In fact, it seems to me that you're just using this to attack Jasper. What right does a narrow-minded person like you have to sit here?"

Anna's words made Lisa feel utterly distressed.

Still, there was not a word she could say to refute Anna.

Anna had managed to corner Lisa from all sides.

She looked to Erik hopelessly, hoping her boyfriend could help her.

However, she only saw the man staring at the cutlery before him as if he was not involved in the matter at all.

Brad no longer hinted at Erik anymore either.

After causing such ruckus in front of the two old masters, it would no longer be acceptable for him to pull Norman and Ian to his side.

so might even make Old Master Turner suspect his ability to the last thread of

and she looked at Anna's calm expression as well as Henry's mocking one. It was at that moment Lisa knew that

and anger surged within her, overwhelming Lisa and pale as they sat on their seats. There

Law finally spoke. His tone was calm, but it was no longer warm should bring her to

his way of chasing

as mercy and quickly stood up. "You're right, Old Master Law. My daughter really should get her injuries checked at the hospital. We'll get going

Lisa toward the

anywhere! Why do I have to leave? Jasper's just a b*stard! Who is he to

Slap!

face, his gaze looking

everywhere as Norman and Ian

and sat in

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“The Law family is still in Swallow Capital. Besides, an intense struggle is taking place between Harbor City’s business groups and local companies. We must not get involved.

“Not only should we not get involved, but we should get out of Swallow Capital as quickly as possible because Zachary Law might come after us. That old dude was rich and famous 20 years ago, but his son isn’t even half as accomplished as him.”

Ian’s eyes glinted sinisterly as he continued saying, “We’ll return to Waterhoof City for now. The Law family can’t do anything to us while we’re there because it’s in the Mainland and not Harbor City, where they hold immense power.

“There are plenty of ways to deal with Jasper Laine. We won’t attack him directly for now. However, Benny previously tried to get the one named Wendy Schuler to date him. I’ve run a background check on her too. We know everything about her.

“Wendy has already left Swallow City, but Jasper is still there. We can take advantage of this opportunity to go after Wendy!”

Norman’s eyes brightened as he listened to Ian speak. He thought it was a good idea.

“One more thing. What’s Wendy’s background?” Norman asked carefully.

Ian smiled as he said, “She’s the daughter of the richest man of a province. Her father is Dawson Schuler. We would normally never dare to provoke someone of such a powerful background, but desperate times call for desperate measures. Anyway, we’re not afraid of him!

“Moreover, we’ll use some tricks from the dark side. How would he find out if he weren’t already paying attention?”

...

InterContinental Hotel’s Imperial Ballroom, the banquet’s atmosphere regained some of

about their sufferings in the past while Zachary spoke to Henry and Anna. Brad and Erik were also

lively, but everyone was only talking to those who

old men, both Zachary and Brad seemed to think there was nothing to say

focused his attention

aged 30-year-old brandy with him tonight. It was good alcohol and not

nothing to both Old Master Law

cup had been placed in front of him in his past life,

and did not take much

as he took a sip

a fragrant taste. No wonder it's been deemed

planning to buy some shares for brandy in the secondary market. I think it's one of the few shares worth

had it become the most expensive A-share, but it had even overtaken the

did a share for brandy

the market and did not

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Investing in every single thing that came around?

Brandy?

They must be joking.

How much profit could a share in alcohol earn even if it were deemed the nation's pride?

If they had that much free time, they might as well start a business. That would earn them even more money.

Jasper was indeed the kind of person who walked on air after achieving a tiny accomplishment.

When Erik thought of that, he said, "I have a little knowledge regarding investments too. Brandy is a new addition to the stock market, and it's not performing well even though it's new. Its share price has been weak for some time.

"The stock market is in the early stages of becoming a bull market. Every share you see is profiting, and brandy is the only one that's not. Even so, you're saying it's worth investing in? What a joke."

Erik was very pleased with what he had said. He felt as if he had stolen some of Jasper's limelight for himself.

Jasper take all the credit. He, Erik Turner, had

strategy. Don't invest in it if you

think you're embarrassed. To be frank, you're quite good at hosting banquets, but you should give up on investing.

fork against his glass and said mockingly, "Erik Turner, do you know what it means to show off your mediocre skills before an expert? How dare you say Jasper Laine knows nothing about investing in shares?

dropping, but he said it's worth investing in. What's that

was even more amused as he said, “I can’t bring myself to expose your stupidity when I look at how foolish

know he organized the Harbor City billion-dollar shares rescue plan some time

his fortune from

earned several billion dollars in a night through crude oil

knows nothing, you would know even

a gloomy, exasperated one after hearing what Henry

never knew that Jasper had made his

thinking, given

Henry said must

he had indeed just shown off his mediocre skills to an expert in the most embarrassing way

was in a sticky situation

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Everyone stared at Jasper. They seemed to be waiting to see how he would react.

Not even Old Master Law spoke as he was also gazing meaningfully at him.

Anna’s eyes twinkled, and there were several times when she seemed to want to speak up and help ease the pressure Jasper was receiving from Old Master Turner. However, a strict look from Zachary stopped her.

Only Jasper could answer Old Master Turner now.

If anyone else spoke, it would mean they were disrespecting Old Master Turner.

The corners of Erik’s lips turned upward into a mocking smile.

He had long since been annoyed watching Jasper be praised by everyone.

However, he now understood what it meant by ‘the higher you climb, the higher you fall’.

Old Master Turner was still the best!

right, Old Master

stared. He was submissive

help but

to be a goose. If Jasper had dared to go against Old Master Turner, he would have had the chance to not only reprimand but slap Jasper in front of everyone. That would have

“But as the greats who have come before me said, it’s permissible for a small portion of people to gain richness first, as they’ll be the ones who lead the majority population to shared prosperity

market. When enterprises receive investments, they will increase the scale of their productions. Won’t that increase job opportunities? The activities in the market accelerate when it receives funds.

my opinion, no matter what methods are employed, they should

Ballroom fell silent after the people present heard

would dare refute Old Master Turner to

a serene expression on his face. No one could guess

as he stood, “Jasper Laine! You should

should know my

parents were farmers, and I’m nothing more than a businessman. However,

he pointed at Jasper and said, “Hey, you’re making things more complicated than they need to be, aren’t you? You were still a nobody when my grandfather was out fighting on the battlefield. What makes

trying to make matters clear because I respect Old Master Turner. In other words, if you were the one who had

temper nearly erupted when he heard what Jasper

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Eric sat down after saying that.

Finally, Old Master Law spoke. He smiled as he said to Old Master Turner, “Brother Jason, it makes me happy to see how energetic these youngsters are. Don’t you agree that these youngsters will be the ones who will further the development of our country in the future?”

Old Master Turner said softly, “I’m just worried that some will take the wrong path and find it difficult to turn back in the future.”

The smile on Old Master Law’s face gradually disappeared as he said, “Paths are created by man. Some might think that it’s a cliff, while others view it to be a highway. We’re old now and are no match for these youngsters in terms of vitality.”

Old Master Turner glanced at Old Master Law as he said calmly, “Tom, I’ll let you know my bottom line now that we’re talking. We’re all old men now, and I hope everyone can evolve at their own pace without getting into arguments over the tiniest things.”

Old Master Law replied, “I agree wholeheartedly with this. Whether it be in the business field or anywhere else, every person has a place where they belong. One should not let go of what naturally belongs to them.”

“So, you’re going to fight till the end?” Old Master Turner frowned slightly as he gazed at Old Master Law.

Old Master Law might be old and skinny, but he was showing that he had gone through a lifetime's worth of legendary ups and downs. He might seem like a skinny old man sitting at the head of the table, but the aura he emanated was as tall and majestic as a mighty mountain.

"I, Tom Law, would have starved to death on the streets if I had not fought!"

heavy claim

Old Master Turner could brush it

on Old Master

one could tell what he

old now. Shall

to limit the severity

the very least, influential old men like them did

situation would worsen

what Old Master

now that we're old. We should take care of these creaky bones and live an extra two years to take care of

to an agreement, Old Master Turner smiled as he stood and said, "In that case, I'll be taking my leave now. Thank you for your

"Zachary, please send the guests

to Old Master Turner, "After you, Old

noddled and gave Jasper a meaningful look

and Eric followed

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Jasper felt awkward.

That was a difficult question to answer.

After all, Anna was sitting right there.

However, no matter what, Jasper had never thought of denying things.

This had to do with his principles.

Thus, Jasper nodded as he said, "Yes, we were classmates in high school before later going on separate paths before university. By chance, we managed to reconnect after graduating this year."

Old Master Law smiled and said, "Not bad. Fate is the most important thing in a relationship between a man and a woman. If fate won't have it, they won't have a future together even if they see each other every day."

Anna interrupted and said, "They have a great relationship. I already knew about this back when Jasper was still in Harbor City."

Jasper gave Anna a grateful look.

Tonight was not the first time Anna had helped him out in regards to this matter.

Henry dangled a toothpick from his mouth and leaned against the back of his chair as he said nonchalantly, "Who cares if you have a girlfriend or not? My grandfather has three mistresses. And if we're talking about my dad, I think we all can guess whether he has a mistress or not..."

The things Henry said were so shocking that Anna immediately gave him a murderous glare.

"Why do you seem to hope that Jasper will have mistresses as well?" Anna smiled coldly as she asked.

Henry was stunned. It seemed unreasonable that his sister was choosing to direct her attacks on him.

up the topic of mistresses now, would

grateful, but she was also

you know what era you're living in now? Aren't you worried about being laughed at when you bring up the topic of mistresses?"

and women should hold on to

it was hard to tell if it was

changed. No

age could not be denied. When Zachary returned, arrangements

said, "I'll go back with my dad and grandpa. The two of you

nodded as he gazed at the woman before him and said sincerely,

lips curled upward. "What

"..." Jasper was speechless.

not thank her outright for helping him cover up and smoothing things

slightly and said, "Alright, I was just

me, and Wendy. It has nothing to do with anyone else, and they have no right to use this to stir

Anna was domineering like no

at Jasper as she said, "Indeed, many people in Harbor City have mistresses. The same thing happens in Mainland, just that they're much

your thoughts?" Anna

fate decide matters between a man and a woman. We should live our lives for ourselves and not for others. It'll be fine as long as we

and spun them around

said angrily, "I knew men were all b*stards! I knew you would never be

that way. I'm just stating facts as they

frantic Jasper was and said, "Alright, I'm not blaming you. I grew up in that kind of environment and have witnessed quite a few things myself. In terms of grandmothers, I already have three just from my dad's side of the

she said, "But times are different now. Don't let your imagination run away from you.

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"I have to go now. See you."

Jasper sighed as he watched Anna's car drive off.

Since olden times, only beautiful women would not be disappointed.

However, Jasper got a headache when he thought about Anna who was always calm and kept a delicate distance from him. She had such a good gauge on their relationship that they never felt too distant or intimate with each other.

That woman was like poison, plucking at his heartstrings when he was not paying attention to her.

Most importantly, she knew what to do or say at the right time. She always had a good grasp of the situation.

She would make you think that she would do anything for you.

At the same time, she would make you think she would leave you at any time. It was how she kept you on your toes.

"Holy sh*t, did you drug my sister or something?" Henry asked as he leaned toward Jasper.

before he asked exasperatedly, "Don't you think the question

didn't know what she was like before. I'm not one to brag, but have you ever met a man who's at the right age but

stubborn and obstreperous, but if we were to actually take

programmed to not have any feelings for men. Or maybe she's a lesbian, and that's why she doesn't seem

you two met? There's so much you don't know. Would she be

of flashing car lights. He smiled and said, "Do you think a relationship between

face as he said, "Everyone has to strip naked before they fight, so I
Jasper, "..."

...

ended the night before, the situation

Harbor City's business groups

offices of Harbor

capital was all no less

attitudes, but it was also a declaration

did not resign to their fate even as they