

At The Top 561

Life at The Top

Chapter 561

He believed that he would definitely make a fortune one day. He had been so full of himself that he only felt disdain when he heard that Jasper had made it big.

From his perspective, success as described by a bunch of poor rural relatives could not be anything special.

However, he was overcome with overwhelming jealousy after seeing the luxurious villa and the row of BMWs parked in front of it. It was luxury beyond his wildest dreams.

“Can’t he share some of his money with us since he’s that rich? We’re his relatives! All he does is flaunt his wealth! How can someone like that succeed in life? Even if he’s rich, it’s just temporary. He’ll lose big in the future!” Terence Laine murmured through gritted teeth.

.....

When Jasper arrived at Shangri-La Hotel, his relatives had already been there for more than 20 minutes.

Everyone sat in their respective seats while they engaged in noisy chatter.

and every one of them were trying their best to maintain their composure in front of each other. They tried their best not to turn their heads to look

of them had ever had a meal in

under their dinner plates,

drinks. The children stared at the exquisite dishes eagerly.

adults also yearned to try these exquisite cold dishes that they had

in his family wait for him

through the entrance. Noticing the situation in the room, he laughed out loud. “Excuse

uncle stood up and greeted him with a smile on his face. “We have just arrived as well. You’re here, Jasp. Come here, sit down at once,”

seat to the left of Carson Laine, his father,

I should sit by the side. If I sit somewhere as prestigious

relatives burst out into laughter as well. Terence Laine, who was seated at the end of the third table, fixed a jealous gaze upon

seats are the same,” Carson Laine ushered Jasper over to his side and forced him to sit down

Chapter 562

After Terence finished speaking, the atmosphere in the room changed drastically.

Everyone's attention peaked as they stared at Jasper with widened eyes, waiting for his response.

Jasper responded with a smile. Instead of accepting the box, he looked at Terence and said, "I've spent most of my time out of town after graduating. I haven't come back in a long time. May I know who you are?"

Terence scoffed. "You're a prominent figure and a big boss now. Of course, you wouldn't pay attention to poor relatives like us. It's completely normal for you to forget," he said.

"I'm Terence Laine. I can be considered your cousin since Darrel Laine is my brother."

Jasper nodded in realization. "I remember that he has a younger brother. He called me not too long ago to tell me that he was rushing back by train. He said that he'd arrive a little later," he said.

Terence sulked and said, "Everyone knows that my brother will be running a large business very soon. He has attained an agreement with bosses from other localities and he'll be opening dozens of hotpot restaurants in the province next year. Of course, you'd care more about him.

you'll pale in comparison to him after his hotpot restaurant chain begins

contemptuous words piqued

like Terence Laine still had no idea that he had provided his brother with the funds to start up his hotpot

look down on your poor relatives just because you have

bear to lend me a few ten thousand dollars? Don't worry about it, after my brother opens his hotpot restaurant chain, he'll become a big boss too. He wouldn't trouble you by refusing to pay back a measly sum of money

"Terence Laine!"

"What

around to face Jasper. He let out a dry laugh. "Jasp, I've spoilt him ever since he was young. Please don't stoop down to his level. I'll teach him

looked at Terence with a cheerful grin. "How much money would you like?"

anger blazing in his father's

a checkbook from his coat. He proceeded to fill in a check worth 50000 dollars. "Take this check. You can

Life at The Top

Chapter 563

Terence's expression changed. Just as he was about to say something, his father slapped him hard right across the face.

A loud smack resounded throughout the room.

Terence was beyond stunned by the clear, loud smack. The twenty or so relatives in the room had looks of utter shock on their faces as well.

Disciplining one's child was a shameful act, and it was supposed to be done in the privacy of one's home. Furthermore, Terence Laine was already in his twenties. He was not at the age where he should be hit by his parents.

However, not only did his father hit him, but he had also done so in front of so many relatives. He did not show Terence even an ounce of respect. This showed just how fired up he was.

His father lunged over and grabbed the box from Terence. He was so infuriated that his voice was trembling. "What a rebellious son you are. I've raised you for nothing!" He shouted out.

He then turned around and handed the box over to Jasper. "Jasp, Terence is only acting like that because I haven't raised him well. Please don't hold a grudge against him. How could we sell this to you? How could we ask you for money in return for this gift?" He said apologetically.

all. However, from his uncle's desperate gaze, he knew that this incident would not pass easily if he start. Wild ginseng that is

wild ginseng from you. Although we're relatives, a sale is still a sale. It's easy to get 100000 dollars, but getting 200-year-old wild ginseng is something that comes down to pure

any flaws in Jasper's

was wealthy, he did not look down on his relatives. His behaviors and actions were also extremely mature and well thought out. Thus, it

who thought otherwise was

his face hurt from the slap, he was angrier due to the overwhelming

us. Why should we fawn over him like this? Besides, he's your junior. He has to address you as his uncle! Don't bow down so pathetically in front of him. I wonder who'll be bowing to whom after my

he

he said, Terence's father was so enraged that

His father yelled at him while smacking his own leg. "Don't you know that your cousin is the one funding

Chapter 564

Jasper stared at Terence in shock.

To be honest, he did not achieve much in his past life. He did not meet up much with his relatives either and had never interacted much with Darrel and Terence Laine. Therefore, he had no idea what their personalities were like.

In his current life, Jasper would like to think that he had met quite a number of people; He had also dealt with all sorts of people.

However, he had never expected Terence Laine to go beyond his expectations of what it meant to be shameless.

The last time that Jasper had felt this way was when he was dealing with Penelope Hunt and her family. Even when compared to them, Terence Laine was still the gold-standard.

“Why should I give you my money if I’m wealthy? Furthermore, it’s 200000 dollars that you’re asking for. Don’t you know that the average salary for a job out there is only a few hundred dollars? It’s considered a huge benefit if you have a salary of a thousand dollars,” Jasper told him.

waved his hand. “Stop spewing such nonsense. Aren’t you filthy rich? We’re all relatives. Shouldn’t you help us out if you’re rich? Do you want to see us suffer due to poverty? You’ve helped my

did not lend your brother the money. It was an investment. In other words, I’d invest this sum of money all the same

business, not because

the effort. However, look at you. You’re incapable and you don’t have any plans. You’re only asking me for money. Do you think that my wallet is an ATM? Do you think that you can take my

They all know my family’s situation. We were the poorest among everyone in the past. All of you were more well off in comparison

you help out my family back

no way for him to argue against

with anger. He looked around the room and gazed at each of his

the people here are my elders, whereas one-third of them are around the same age as I am. The remaining

say that I’ve managed to achieve some recognition and success for our family.

or friends, my words to you are the same. I’ll offer my support to anyone with the capabilities, ideas, and is willing to put in great amounts of effort. However, anyone who thinks that I’m an easy target or believes that I’m obligated to give out money to everyone now that I’m wealthy

Life at The Top

Chapter 565

Of course, Terence did not have the audacity to stay there and eat with them. He left the room with a slam of the door.

Terence’s father took in a deep breath and waved his hand. “Don’t bother him. There’s no need to pay him any mind. This kid is beyond salvation,” he said.

Honey Sarratt dabbed at her tears in a corner of the room. She was terribly upset.

Charlie Laine and Sally Lard comforted Jasper’s uncle and aunt respectively. Meanwhile, Jasper got up and went around the room to make toasts with everyone. Nobody seemed to pay any heed to Terence Laine, who had left in a storm of fury.

Although Terence Laine had caused an unpleasant dispute during the Christmas dinner, nobody showed any signs of unhappiness on their faces. Everyone quickly pushed the incident to the back of their minds.

Soon, the atmosphere at the tables became lively once again.

Although not everyone was happy throughout the course of the dinner, at least it ended on a good note.

stay in the Shangri-La Hotel. He booked a room for each family where they could stay up to three days and two nights. The decision to stay there was completely

the afternoon, Darrel Laine, who had traveled back from another town in a rush, looked for Jasper hurriedly. He had obviously heard of Terence's incident from the

I never expected that my brother would do

evidently much more mature than Terence. He apologized to Jasper with

previous night. He laughed upon hearing what Darrel said. "It's alright, I just assumed that I was fooling around with a child.

Christmas. Regarding the ownership,

of money that is to be invested into your business

momentarily. He felt like thanking Samuel Ray

sign a three-party contract when the boss of Hello Hotpot comes over. After that, you can set up

He then took out two familiar checks from his coat and handed them to

"What are you doing?"

Chapter 566

Within a high-end residential area in the province, Nauritus City.

Zayden Hanks now lived in a double-storey terrace house.

That was right. Zayden Hanks had returned from Harbor City.

Zayden Hanks had undergone a major transformation since the confrontation between the Hanks and Jasper Laine in the province, after being sent to Harbor City by his father.

He was much more thinner than before, and kept his hair long and tied into a ponytail at the back of his head.

The feminine clothes that he was clad in did not look out of place on an ordinary man like him. On the contrary, he emanated an indescribable sense of cold slyness.

Zayden's father, Sylva Hanks, was sitting in the room as well.

perched atop the sofa as he stared at his son, who was standing by the

did you

“Father, I know what you’re going

as he spoke in a bitter voice, “Things are different from how they were in the past. Too many things have happened in the

supermarket industry, that newly set up real estate company has also risen to

right? Those

cannot be compared to how they were in the past. We’ve lost to them

the sight of the development site in Southface River, which was now the talk of the town. “What a lively area. They haven’t stopped the construction even though it’s going to

project is completed, it’ll be the largest signature project in the Southeast Province. Not only do the municipal and provincial governments greatly prioritize this project,

heard from some old friends that once the project at the South Bank yields results, it’s likely that it’ll become a benchmark project for the construction of new urban

as he spoke. “Given their current position, what right do

upon your own prestige by amplifying

Life at The Top

Chapter 567

“This time, I’m here on behalf of those people. With their support, Jasper Laine will nothing compared to me.”

Sylva’s eyes twitched as he looked at his own son. He seemed like a stranger to him.

Sylva sent Zayden to Harbor City because he wanted him to live peacefully for the rest of his life after moving to a new place.

However, Sylva did not know what Zayden had been through in Harbor City. He had no idea why he had returned this time without anyone knowing and with so much anger pent up within him.

“Even with that being the case, the Hanks are all living cautiously. Furthermore, I’ve offended Dawson Schuler, who has now risen to immense power. I no longer have the right to speak on behalf of our family, so I cannot help you,” Sylva said with a sigh.

Zayden snickered loudly. “Father, do you still not believe what I just said? The Hanks are nothing great. They have so little influence that it’s next to nothing,” he said.

“Besides, we couldn’t compete against Jasper Laine back when you still were in your prior position and were capable of using the family resources. How could we go hope to against him now?

I

to reveal the truth to

Laines? Which family are you talking

to say something, a knock

pawns is here right now,”

room was none

Hanks!” Terence Laine greeted Zayden courteously from outside

a cackle. “Have you met Jasper Laine?” He

met him. Hmph, what a haughty and bossy person. He disregards everyone other than himself!”

you, Mr. Hanks. He’s just a tiny ant on the ground. Meanwhile, someone like you is destined to soar

After letting Terence into the room, he told Sylva, “Father, this is Terence Laine. He’s Jasper Laine’s distant

you, Uncle Hanks. I’m Terence Laine, and I’m Jasper Laine’s cousin,” he said with a look of fondness

Life at The Top

Chapter 568

Terence continued blabbering on about the incident. However, he did not notice the darkening expression on Zayden’s face.

“You piece of garbage!”

Zayden roared out in rage, cutting off Terence’s speech.

He pointed his finger at Terence, almost poking him on the tip of his nose. “What did I tell you before this? I told you to leave a memorable impression in front of Jasper Laine. Is that how you intend to do it?” He yelled in rage.

“F*ck, this is just perfect. You’ve left a memorable impression on him indeed, but you won’t be of any use to me anymore!”

Zayden grew angrier the more he spoke. He raised a hand and slapped Terence across his ashen face.

A loud smack resounded through the room.

Terence’s head whipped to the side from the force of the slap. Instantly, he clutched his face and got up from the sofa in fear. “Mr. Hanks, I’m sorry. I messed things up because I didn’t know about your plans,” he said in a hurry.

useless to apologize

him

so so that you would be able to formally join Jasper Laine’s

offend him? How dare a f*cking disgrace like

Terence was so frightened that he did not dare to utter

could tell that he

relationship with

like Jasper Laine can end you by just lifting his finger.

said, "Mr. Hanks, don't panic just yet. There are

other methods are there? I'll forgive you if you

is

you embarrassed to talk about some small, lowly business like

you, Mr. Hanks. However, I received news about something today. My brother's business is being funded

Life at The Top

Chapter 569

Zayden nodded. He glanced at Terence and said, "Initially, I intended for him to act as our informant, but it looks like that won't work anymore."

Sylva chuckled. "If that's your intention, I wouldn't say that the plan is totally ruined. If you manage to take control of these two brothers, you can do things in the open and behind their backs. It may be unexpectedly effective," he said.

Zayden's gaze lit upon registering what he said.

Sylva did not say much due to Terence's presence in the room. However, Zayden instantly made a 180-degree change as an idea popped up in his head due to Sylva's advice.

After organizing his thoughts, Zayden looked at Terence and snickered. "How certain are you that you'll be able to convince your brother?" He asked.

Terence peered at Zayden hesitantly after pondering upon it for a while. He could not bring himself to say anything.

"Why are you hesitating? Say it at once!" Zayden said impatiently.

Besides, my brother has just received an investment from Jasper Laine. He's currently preparing to start up his business, so I'm afraid it might difficult to convince him without

haven't done anything for me

caught sight of Zayden's cold gaze. "Give me two days, Mr. Hanks. Christmas is

promise him that I'll give him double of whatever Jasper Laine is offering him. After we succeed, the two of you

the excitement in his heart. "Thank you, Mr. Hanks!" He

"Scram."

...

about Zayden's return to the province. He was clueless about the fact that Zayden was currently coming a discussion about work with Jack Tanner,

condition has generally stabled. Besides, it's now the Christmas holidays, so most of the employees have returned to their hometowns for the new year. There are only a few employees on duty

at Jack. "You've worked hard during this period of time," he

nothing. I'm being paid to do so. It's

Chapter 570

A public listing!

It was the ultimate goal of any company out there.

Many benefits came from a public listing.

The most evident and important benefit was the ability to quickly obtain a huge amount of funds from the stock market.

With the support of countless shareholders and investors, the company would not have to worry about funding issues during its development.

However, a public listing came with its own set of problems as well. In theory, listed companies all faced the risk of being taken over by someone else.

Jasper had attacked companies through the financial market and brought forth their downfall by obtaining a majority stake in them.

Therefore, he had always been cautious about pursuing a public listing himself.

directly affiliated to JW will not be

not lacking any

of the shares and go for a public listing. As long as the shares are diverted to

not the right

was stunned by

his own considerations

all listed Internet companies are facing the same problem. They're all relying on their user capacity, empty promises and marketing techniques to

after absorbing the users from

and sustainable profit margin. Otherwise, it won't be able to withstand any external pressure even after it's listed.

everyone in the

that we have to lower ourselves to their level. I have identified Sena's profit

head in surprise. "Mr. Laine, you've found a way for Sena to make a

Jasper smiled faintly.

he had an