

At The Top 641

Chapter 641

Julian said awkwardly, "Jasper, I haven't even thought about these things."

Jasper noticed Julian's somewhat embarrassed response and said with a smile, "How about this, I'll give you a commercial property on Gold Pedestrian Street when you get married in the future?"

"Gold Pedestrian Street? What kind of place is it?" Julian asked with some confusion.

Jasper laughed and said, "Waterhoof City has built a demonstration site for the national pedestrian street early last year. It's still not that famous now, but from how I see it, it'll one day become a famous pedestrian street known throughout the country, even becoming one of the landmarks of Waterhoof City.

"If we buy it now, it'll bring in steady profits without any losses. Plus, I've always thought about being a landlord."

Judging from his words now, the shopping that Jasper had mentioned to Julian earlier was naturally not one that entailed shopping for clothes or luxury items. Those things were, at best, something to spend his pocket money on and not even considered a serious purchase.

What he really wanted was ownership of the commercial properties on Gold Pedestrian Street.

Jasper had only remembered about this business opportunity when he was counting the Hanks family's assets.

letter of intent written in Sirius's third uncle's name for the

in the country. It had now just been completed and was still many years away

people had more money in their wallets, they would start to travel and

past life, and back then, he had imagined that if he

could even just relax and

as well as a great opportunity in front of him, he would eventually follow through on

more, in terms of investment value, Gold Pedestrian Street was also, at present, the real estate project with the highest investment

half hours later, Jasper and Julian arrived at Wonderland Hotel in

the room they had already booked a long time ago. Given his title of vice president of Haddock Chamber of Commerce's

Gul was

Mr. Gul," Jasper

to

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Gold Pedestrian Street was a project of great importance even in the esteemed Waterhoof City.

One could imagine the importance attached to the project as it was under the direct supervision of the relevant divisions in Swallow City.

With the money Jasper was throwing in, Victor was shocked by his generosity and could not help himself from saying, "Mr. Laine, how much do you know of the current situation with Gold Pedestrian Street?"

Jasper replied with a smile, "The pedestrian street is connected to the Bund and is a total length of 1,033 meters. It was expected to be completed by the end of 1999 and would be officially opened at the start of the millennium. Apart from the few shops on both sides of the street that have already been reserved by some large companies, there's still a remainder of 266 shops that are not for sale but only open for rent, isn't that right?"

Victor laughed bitterly. "Mr. Laine, it seems you've come rather prepared. However, if you already know that the city hall is only looking to rent the remaining stores and not sell them, aren't you putting me in a difficult spot by making such a request?"

Jasper was smiling as he said, "There's no rush. I'm a businessman, and from a businessman's perspective, there's no request that can't be discussed."

"Mr. Laine, you may be a businessman, but the city hall and I aren't. This sort of thing is a matter of principle. I'm sure you understand what I mean," Victor hinted.

Jasper waved his hand as he replied, "Please don't be in a rush to decline, Mr. Gul. What if I say I want to build a 630-meter-tall building, worth a total investment of more than 16 billion next to Pearl Tower?"

this, Victor stood up abruptly and

was the domestic city hall

was lacking in

a vanity project was the best way to boost

asking for the stars; and

big enough project for Waterhoof City that the city

Tower in Marshmeet and it's only 451 meters. Although the 110 building that is still under construction is slated to be the next tallest building in the world, it's also only 509

of 630 meters. It'll be the tallest building in the world for at least ten years once it's completed. It will also hold the record for being the

just spewing empty words as they

tallest building in the world had only been snatched

comes with having the tallest building in the world, but

Jasper was saying with a light chuckle had pierced

Swallow City years ago

not immediately become a close confidant if such a huge project was delivered to the deputy mayor on

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“Mr. Laine, do you mean what you said? It’s not a joking matter once I report it,” Victor asked as he tried to hold back his excitement.

Jasper shrugged and replied, “I’m not a renowned individual but I do, at the very least, possess some assets and credibility. I wouldn’t gamble away my future. What good will it bring me to trick you?”

“A businessman never does things that aren’t profitable.”

After hearing Jasper’s words, there was a little more credibility to his plans even though there was no guarantee.

Victor nodded and said, “Alright then. I’ll inform the deputy mayor in charge of this immediately. Could you lend me a quiet space, Mr. Laine?”

Jasper smiled and pointed toward the study. “It’s quiet over there.”

Victor went ahead, and when he returned in front of Jasper again after three to five minutes, the look he gave Jasper had softened incomparably.

“Mr. Laine, the deputy mayor has invited you to pay him a visit now. He has rescheduled his meeting and is waiting for you in his office.”

and said, “Let us go, then. We shouldn’t

...

the early evening for negotiations that lasted about five or six hours. He had even taken his lunch with the 60-year-old deputy mayor in the city

Jasper had also gained impressive rewards from those five to

of at least 16 billion and had to complete the project proposal within a month. This was, of course, just a demonstration of

submitted within three months and the construction

were the requirements made by Waterhoof City and Jasper

would receive the contract for the transfer of

Jasper had once again taken advantage of Waterhoof City. He had pretended to be hard of money and expressed that the 16 billion

20 million? That’s daylight robbery! And you still agreed to that? They must have

of Jasper's subordinates, Jasper's loss was more distressing
replied with a huff, "You have to look at it in the long
part of Nauritus City in the
You knew about this?" Jasper

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While Gold Pedestrian Street was, at present, not as crowded and lively as it would be in the future, it was still popular.

It was way busier than any other city in the country.

As he walked along the bustling pedestrian street, Jasper thought of his past life. He had been here a few times, and one time, it was during a holiday. One would not even need to walk if they were caught by the flow of people. Being sardined by the crowd, they could only be dragged along.

It was not at all an exaggeration to say this as Jasper had actually experienced it before.

It was funny, but at the same time, it proved the horrors and exaggerations made about this pedestrian street.

One could even sell rocks for a sky-high price on a street with such high popularity.

Jasper looked at the distinctive buildings that lined both sides of the pedestrian street with his hands clasped behind his back, feeling very pleased.

Although he had not obtained concrete details on the list and location of the 266 commercial properties, given there were 300 to 400 properties along the entire length of the pedestrian street, he already owned more than half of it.

good as when he made billions on

long-cherished wish of his from his previous life was to own a commercial property on Gold Pedestrian Street and to be someone who only needed to wait for

went viral. Others might create content about beauty, luxury cars, and big houses but he could easily share the deeds to the 266 commercial properties he owned on Gold Pedestrian Street.

year since the pedestrian street opened for business, Waterhoof City had already spent great efforts on this project. All the big shots in Swallow City were watching, and they would not allow the commercial properties to remain

why all of the shops were already open for business by now and many of them were opened by the relatives of those in the

one hand, those who were smart knew that this pedestrian street had the support of the city hall and thus, would undoubtedly be developed. As such, they seized the opportunity to leverage their connections and power to offer benefits to their relatives

to what was happening as they were just happy that the pedestrian street could become a
the remaining commercial properties, their smooth sailing days were about to come to
the current market value or clear
around his territory, Jasper was
up and saw a restaurant not far away that
priority, and there would
even livelier at the

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Jasper decided to order only three dishes and one stew since it was just two of them. He also picked common dishes that were comparatively cheaper.

It was not that Jasper was frugal. It was just that food and drinks were the one thing he would not compromise on. In his opinion, one did not get rich by saving but rather by earning. However, being wasteful was not condoned either.

The waiter who was serving them was not too happy with this, though.

“This is all two large-sized men are eating when they come to Waterhoof City? These are all cheap dishes that don’t even amount to 200 Somer Dollars. How stingy.”

The waiter had a strong accent belonging to residents of Waterhoof City. Coupled with their sarcastic tone, it immediately caused those listening to feel uncomfortable.

“The two of us can’t eat that much in one go. Please just serve what I ordered,” Jasper said calmly.

“Foreigners,” the waiter muttered irritably to themselves before they turned and walked away.

“Jasper, that waiter has such a bad attitude,” Julian frowned as he spoke to Jasper.

Julian had been to his fair share of extravagant events. He might be a bodyguard, but the servers would serve him enthusiastically all the same. The fancier the venue, the higher quality of service that was provided.

such treatment and became dissatisfied when he was

usually happens in the country? There’s no need

better his temper became. He could not be bothered, nor did he even have the time to deal with those who were entire

be humans, but their

at the very minimum, a million dollars a day, while these waiters received a salary of fewer than 2,000 dollars a month. What was more, they worked in Waterhoof City. How could they be

such a statement, Julian merely shrugged and did not say anything

none of Jasper's dishes had been served even though those who had arrived after them had already finished their meals, paid their bills,

have been given the cold shoulder. No one paid

must have been done by the waiter who thought they had ordered

Jasper frowned.

destroy Golden Pedestrian Street's reputation,

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To be honest, it was not considered cheap for two people to spend 200 dollars on a meal in these times.

However, it was not the case if they were at Golden Pedestrian Street in Waterhoof City, a lively and bustling place.

Flynn Herrett's hands had been cramping from the amount of money he handled each day ever since he opened up this restaurant. He had a relative working as a property manager who was initially against him opening up a restaurant here, but they were now on their knees begging him to extend his lease.

After all, for every customer they served, they would order at least 600 or 700 dollars worth of food that cost less than 100 dollars to prepare. These huge, sudden profits had naturally led Flynn to look down upon seemingly poor people who were taking up space like Jasper.

With his sudden surge in wealth combined with the fact he had a property manager backing him up, Flynn was never scared of customers complaining or finding fault with him. Had there been anyone who he failed to deal with?

Jasper gazed calmly at Flynn as he asked, "Do you treat all your customers like this?"

Flynn said exasperatedly, "F*cking hell, you two foreigners are trying to put yourselves on a pedestal now? I've always had this attitude. What are you going to do about it? You can eat here if you want to, or get the hell out if you can't wait any longer!

"You'd best believe that I'll get someone to throw you out if you don't get the hell out right now!"

try getting

"Hey!"

who doesn't know what's good for them today? Where's security?

guards appeared behind

F*cking hell, how dare they behave atrociously in my territory? They must

toward Jasper

two guards' wrists with one hand. In a
expression on Flynn's face turned ugly as he watched his guards clutch their wrists
them?! You dare hit my people in
angrily, "Just wait, you stupid foreigner! We're not done here. You'd best stay here if
Flynn spoke, he fished his phone out of his pocket and
yet, why would I

who could start businesses on Golden Pedestrian Street all had some level of connections and power.
After a moment's thought, Jasper asked Julian to call and inform Victor

It was best to take

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Then, two employees came forth to grab Julian.

Julian frowned and turned to look at Jasper.

Jasper stood and stared at Scully as he said, "Are you going to arrest him without even clarifying the
situation first? How high and mighty of you! Besides, what gives you the right to arrest him? Is it
because you manage the property here, or because you work as the security here?"

Scully said angrily, "I don't care what reason you had. No matter the situation, hitting people is never
the right thing to do, and you should take responsibility for your actions! If your attitude improves after
you come with me, I can choose not to phone the police. Else, you're going to spend at least a couple of
days in jail!"

Flynn became delighted and sneered as he said, "That's right, did you think you're God? Don't think you
can leave here intact!"

Jasper glanced coldly at Scully as he said, "Think twice before bringing me away. You'll have to take
responsibility for this."

Scully stared at Jasper and smiled coldly as he said, "From the looks of it, I'm guessing you have some
sort of powerful background? I'm dreadfully sorry, but that doesn't mean a thing to me. I don't care who
you are. How am I supposed to lead my team in the future if I don't teach you a lesson today?"

Scully had just finished speaking when an angered voice rang out behind him.

Herrett, just how are you going to lead your

heard that voice. Turning around, he saw Victor walking toward him with a dark expression on his face.
He hurriedly said, "Director Gul,

he knew Victor would not have come here for no

power did this young man hold to be able

that things were going to get

deep trouble if I
poked Scully in the
mayor, and he knew how much
a meeting tomorrow to place their support on everything Jasper had
could receive such
to say Jasper was Waterhoof City's God of Wealth now. Not even the deputy mayor would dare
was nearly arrested due to such trivial matters. Many people would be out of luck
all
assessed the situation and instinctively said, "Director Gul, you might not know this, but these two were
causing a ruckus in my restaurant.

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"Who am I?"

Jasper smiled mischievously. "In your eyes, aren't I just a stupid foreigner from the countryside who has
never experienced the outside world?"

Jasper's words were more effective than a slap as Flynn's face turned bright red with a sting.

As he watched the color change on Flynn's face, Jasper said calmly, "However, this country bumpkin
might very well be your landlord as well!"

Then, Jasper turned to Victor and asked, "Director Gul, is this property included in my batch of
commercial properties as well?"

Both Scully and Flynn were stunned when they heard that question.

What did he mean by his batch of commercial properties?

Could the word 'batch' be used as a measure word for commercial properties?

Victor nodded and answered, "Yes, it is."

it, then. I'm your landlord," Jasper

as he said, "Director Gul, why don't

smiled awkwardly as he said, "Mr. Laine, I can treat you to a meal if we go elsewhere. I don't think
it's suitable. Why wouldn't

ordered four dishes that

sit down. At the same time, he glared at Scully and Flynn,

dishes Mr. Laine has ordered? Are

around, he slapped Flynn

make even a peep although he had just been slapped. Frightened tears appeared in his aggrieved eyes as

brazenly walked up to Jasper and poured him a glass of water. Smiling bitterly, he said, "Mr. Laine, my food, right?" Jasper seemed to be holding back a

no. He would never

how much money your nephew pays to rent

abruptly when he heard that question. Smiling awkwardly, he answered, "Well, his circumstance was rather special, which is why he's only charged 70,000

City would cost more than 70,000 to 80,000 dollars, right? Not to mention the fact that it's on Golden Pedestrian

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A trickle of cold sweat appeared on Flynn's forehead as he hurriedly explained, "No, I would never dare to do so. I'm just trying to make it up for how I offended you just now, Mr. Laine."

"Making up for a mistake is a must, but these aren't necessary. They won't solve the problem," Jasper said coldly.

"Stupid fool! Aren't you going to take them away?" Scully gritted his teeth as he bellowed at Flynn.

Flynn had no idea what he had done wrong. However, the only thing he could do was get his staff to remove all the dishes that had been added before he stood at attention on the sidelines.

Jasper used his fork to get himself a meatball and said to Victor, "Director Gul, let's eat. Don't be shy."

Victor laughed bitterly. He had no choice but to pick up his cutlery and begin eating, even if the food tasted bland to him.

"Let's continue with our previous conversation," Jasper said as he ate.

"I don't care how the leases for these commercial properties were worded previously. Either way, the previous leases will naturally all become invalid now that I've bought these 266 commercial properties. I wouldn't want any complicated relationships getting in the way of the area's advancement in the future.

"I spent so much money buying these commercial properties, there's no way I'll rent them out for 70,000 to 80,000 dollars. I wouldn't be able to get even the interest back. Director Gull, I trust you guys would be able to understand, right?"

expression on Victor's face changed as he hurriedly said, "Don't worry, Mr. Laine. I'll take care of the relevant work

won't have to trouble anyone above you if that's the case. After all, they have a lot of matters to take care of every day, and I would be embarrassed to trouble them with

a

sounded soft and gentle, but in reality, it

in charge of this if he was capable enough. If he was

would Victor have the guts to let the deputy mayor know about the sh*tshow that had happened today? All the praises he received this afternoon would have been for nothing, and he might even end up getting punished

go weak when he finished listening

sure of one

was really

was he his landlord, but he was the landlord for all 266 commercial properties on

266 commercial properties!

f*cking much would

huge that figure was. However, he knew that even if every person he had met since he was born were Flynn nearly fell to the ground. God knew what

"There's one other thing."

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Julian seemed to have something he wanted to say to Jasper on the way back.

Jasper asked, "What's up? You can say anything that's on your mind, Julian. No need for formalities between us."

Julian scratched his head as he said, "Jasper, will the person you called Director Gul be dissatisfied with the way you treated him just now? It might be a problem if he decides to make things difficult for you in the future."

Jasper smiled as he said, "Julian, I realize that you've learned how to read people now."

Julian said rather shyly, "I've slowly picked up on some things after spending time with you, Jasper. But there are some things I still can't understand."

"Well then, I'll explain it to you."

Jasper looked out the car window at the scenes of Waterhoof City that were flashing by and said, "We cannot treat Victor Gul as an individual when we deal with him.

than subordinates. Of course, I'm willing to cooperate with the workings of Waterhoof City Hall, but at the same time, they can't merely stay on the sidelines without lifting

that will appear on the mayor's desk tomorrow. Thus, this is my way

Jasper meant, but he still nodded. He did not know that what Jasper had just told him would be the real reason why JW Consortium

how do you manage to think of so many things?" Julian asked

the average person's. He saw

take more things into consideration after suffering losses," Jasper

had suffered multiple losses due to his simple mind

be the ones suffering losses... However, Julian did not ask any further questions. He knew he

got a call from Henry when

you having the time of your life in Waterhoof

his hotel room at Nauritius City, asked