

At The Top 671

Chapter 671

Noticing conflicted look on Chad's face, Jasper could basically guess what had happened.

"Mr. Wright, there is still plenty of empty land in Reed City. Why is it only the plot of land that I wanted to buy so high in demand right now? Furthermore, the other party only showed intentions of buying the land after they found out that I wanted to buy it as well. Is he trying to become my sworn enemy?"

Chad's expression changed drastically. "Please don't say that, Mr. Wright. It's hard for us to come to a decision on this issue as well. After all, you haven't bought that plot of land yet, Mr. Laine. Since it doesn't belong to anyone, we have no choice but to consider their request to purchase it as well."

"It seems like that person is out to end me," Jasper said in an even tone.

Chad laughed bitterly. "Mr. Laine, there are some words that only you can say. Deep down, we all know how these things are. This company is renowned within Reed City. It is also quite notorious, as they have taken out several of our previous investors," he said.

"They're snatching this plot of land away from me after discovering that I had intentions to buy it. After that, they will resell it to me at a higher price. Methods like this are indeed beyond the capabilities of ordinary people," Jasper added.

An awkward expression formed on Chad's face. "Why don't you choose another plot of land, Mr. Laine?" He asked.

shook his head, rejecting

that Jasper had chosen would end up becoming the most valuable part of Reed City in the future. The 1500-acre plot

After all, since they've taken that plot of land from me, it means they're

"Mr. Laine, I really wish that I could help you on this, but I don't have the abilities to do so. However, if you want to discuss things with the other party,

for us

a calm expression on

the intention to thwart me. If I discuss things with them, they'll just ask me for money. Money didn't just fall onto my lap, so I won't hand it over to them just because they

he walked out of

did not blame him for the matter either. As they walked, he was already considering the possibility of setting up the

all, nobody could pose a threat to him over there,

to get in the car upon arriving downstairs, a black Mercedes drove

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Marcus Coine's words reflected his extreme arrogance.

Even Chad frowned after listening to what he had said.

"Mr. Wright, I've changed my mind."

Jasper turned around and told Chad.

Just as Chad's expression morphed into one of confusion, Jasper spoke in a calm and collected tone, "JW Electronics would like purchase the plot of land as soon as possible. If someone wants to snatch it from us then let's have auction to decide who gets to keep it," he said

Jasper suddenly understood something from Marcus Coine's proud and arrogant attitude.

At this point in time, there were still plenty of people like him in the country.

Most of them relied on their parents' connections to build up sizeable influence in their localities. However, they chose not to follow the same paths as their parents.

The only way for people like these to make it big was through running businesses. After all, most of them were already used to being a dominant force within the local district due to their parents' influence.

Marcus Coine thought of Reed City as his territory. Hence, anyone who wanted to enter the city had to show their respect to him by providing him with some benefits.

Reed City had Marcus Coine, but it was very likely that there were people like Marcus in other districts as well.

Because of this, Jasper could not just keep giving in to them.

He needed to do something so that those who viewed JW as an easy target would learn to take a good look at themselves before acting out of order!

as Jasper finished speaking, Marcus burst out into laughter. Chad was yet to even come up

many years. It seems like someone who isn't afraid of death

sideways glance at Jasper. His gaze was dripping with sarcasm and mockery. "I know you're from the Southeast Province, Laine. How do I describe that place? Although there are a few

me just because you're a somebody over there, you'll die a

with your performance. All you need is a nod of my head, and you won't face any trouble even if you tear down half of

how much

chuckled and said, "I won't ask for a lot. I'll make it simple. You just need to prepare a sum equal to the amount that you spent

200 million dollars enough?"

have to say things so forwardly,”

fingers three times, and now you intend to take 200 million dollars from my pocket. You earn money at a rate that far surpasses me,” Jasper

too. Just consider it a toll fee, but it’s not like you’ll walk away with nothing either. As long as you pay me this

money, this factory will have nothing to do with you, and people will come to wreak havoc on my property every day. Am

up things quickly. You seem like a smart person as well, so I suppose that you know what decision to make. It’s better to

sounds very reasonable,”

was just about to say something when

dollars, I won’t

through your own efforts. Of course, it doesn’t matter to me if you prefer to do shady activities, as everyone still needs to earn a living. However, don’t try your filthy tricks on me. I will

darkened. He stared at Jasper coldly and blurted out, “Were you mocking

of the type of person that you

his finger and pointed at the tip of Jasper’s nose. “Well, since

Laine. You’re just an outsider here. You want to go against me? Why don’t you take a good look at yourself first? Do

said, “You’re right, there’s nothing impressive about having money. However, you’re angry at me because you’re ashamed

his teeth angrily. At that moment, he realized what a smooth talker the young man

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On the way back to the hotel, Julian turned to look at Jasper. He asked while waiting for the traffic light to turn green, “Should we ask Henry for help on this, Jasper?”

Jasper was stunned. “Why would I do that? He’s busy working on the amusement park project every day. The fact that he’s actually putting his mind to work is rare enough, so I don’t want him to lose focus.”

Julian scratched his head. “I just think it’s best to have a trust-fund child deal with other trust-fund children like Marcus. I’m sure Henry’s got a repertoire of methods to deal with him.”

Jasper smiled. “Why bother? Afraid that I’d lose to him?”

Julian smiled dumbly, "Of course not, Jasper, there's no way you'd lose. I just don't like Marcus' attitude, and I thought that Henry would have a lot of fun stepping over him."

"Henry won't be to do anything even if he did come over. After all, Marcus' family has been doing business in Reed City for decades, their influence here has already surpassed that of any other family.

"This is something that we've actually got to deal with ourselves."

Julian was slightly confused as to what Jasper meant by this, but he did not think too deep much about it. "I don't understand things like this, but if they're going to play dirty tricks, I'll give them a good beating."

...

Reed City's upper-class did not seem to care about the fact that Jasper had come to invest

Province, and Reed City was thousands of kilometers away. It

so, the fact that someone dared to oppose Marcus had indeed spread like wildfire

as Marcus' territory, and almost no one dared to offend him. People would pay others to keep their mouths

was the first time in many years that someone had dared to stand up against

had caused an uproar among Reed City's

a businessman from the Southeast Province and had come to Reed City to invest

conflict between Marcus and Jasper,

Jasper had received Chad's office notice at

auction would begin at eight tomorrow morning in the City

City Government did not want to make the reality of the situation so blatant, so they

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Marcus's expression finally brightened, and he glanced at Ned before reprimanding him jokingly, "Stop fooling around. I've done some background checks on this Jasper, he's not like other outsiders. He's got quite a name over in the Southeast Province.

"Not to mention, he did come here legally to invest our land. He's registered with the officials in the City Government too. He's not like the other outsiders who came here for small business. I'm going to have to explain to the City Government if something happens to him."

Ned pursed his lips disdainfully. His family was in the pawning industry, and his pawning company was currently the largest in all of Reed City. In this city, the other businessmen tended to treat this strong man with respect.

As far as he was concerned, there was nothing in the world that his fists could not settle. If such a thing existed, then a machete would suffice.

Even bones turned soft upon contact with a blade.

"I've got to go to the auction tomorrow. I have to at least try to get a feel of how this Jasper guy is. Come with me tomorrow, Ned."

A new round was dealt as Marcus folded again.

Royal Flush, I win. Thanks for folding,

"F*ck!"

...

at the City Hall's meeting

but he courteously introduced Jasper to a middle-aged and

is Mr. Powers. Our

them, Jasper and Mr.

to meet you,

meet you too, Mr. Laine. I'm here on behalf of the City

isn't easy investing in Reed City, Mr. Powers," Jasper commented

came here that good things come to those who persevere. People tend to have their

elated at Mr. Powers' stance and he merely replied, "We

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Mr. Powers' expression changed greatly at Jasper's carefree words.

Jasper had only said that he wanted to buy an industrial plot of land, but he never said anything about building a factory.

The government of Reed City had also done a background check on Jasper.

They knew that Jasper mainly did real estate and financial trades. He had never once taken part in any construction of industrial factories.

That was why the city government believed that Jasper had come to buy an industrial plot of land just to wait for its value to appreciate or something else. They never expected that it was to build a factory.

While the government of Reed City did value the amount Jasper was willing to invest, it had now become a business transaction of 200 million Somer Dollars. Reed City needed funds to further develop as well.

They just did not expect such a large amount.

have Jasper provide such news out of the blue, Mr. Powers knew that he had to make the proper preparations

investment of at least 700 million on a plot of land and an electronics factory in Reed City would be an extremely important

the annual tax received, the most important part of this transaction would be the increased quota for jobs, and in extension, the

normal to have 5,000

exponential increase in profits of the food and beverage, transportation, and shopping industries

would always need to buy components. That meant that

factory would easily turn it into an important weight that would greatly affect

no prior knowledge of. Please wait for a moment,

with a smile. "Go ahead, Mr. Powers. I'm still discussing it with a few other cities as well, so

Mr. Powers had no other choice but to smile. "There's no reason to search anywhere else, Mr. Laine, since you're already here and you like this plot of land. Just give me a bit of time. I promise to give

smiled and glanced at the meeting room. "Then could you pass a word for me too,

Mr. Laine," Mr. Powers spoke

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Jasper was carefree as well and took a seat on the chair with the name 'JW Electronics' written behind it. He took a sip of the hot coffee a staff member brought over.

By then, Chad had arrived as well.

Seeing Chad, Jasper suddenly spoke, "Mr. Wright, I heard that Reed City used to be making losses every year until you arrived. You managed to turn that loss into profit and have become quite the taxpayer here in Reed City now, haven't you?"

Chad waved him off and smiled. "That's nothing. It's just a small achievement, incomparable to the work you've done at such a young age, Mr, Laine."

Chad was not being humble, for there really was not another person within the country who could compare to Jasper's achievements.

The man was an entrepreneur who made tens of billions in a year.

How could anyone compare?

Jasper merely spoke, "I beg to disagree. I know that the biggest problem with your industries here is with the people. It's too complex with people belonging to different groups and whatnot. They transferred you here so that you could save the situation because the person

in Reed City. While there were exaggerated bits, they were not complete

“It’s all in the past now. It

here to save the situation, yet you managed to solve a problem no one

words, Chad prodded.

“My investing company is in need of a Director of Human Resources. They’ll mainly be in charge of internal management and human

as how you managed to give order to a state business that was riddled with loopholes and turned losses into

Chad’s expression shifted.

promotions, he was technically not someone’s employee. As such, he was unwilling to have to work under

so quick to reject me, Mr. Wright. There’s only so far you can go while working

the electronic equipment manufacturing industry, the entertainment industry, and the internet industry.

It’s a company now, but it’s only a matter of time before I expand it into

walking out of Reed City and into the entire country before your eyes, Mr.

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Marcus strutted into the room arrogantly with a heavily tanned man next to him who was named Ned.

The two entered the room and their eyes immediately fell on Jasper.

Seeing how calm Jasper looked while sitting, Marcus snickered and walked over to him. Marcus raised his hand to knock on the table before Jasper as he spoke, “I heard that you paid a big amount just to have this bidding meeting here with me, Mr. Laine? Is there even a point to this?”

“If I want you to have it, it’ll easily be yours. But if I don’t want you to have it, you can spend as much money as you want and all you’ll be getting is trash.”

Jasper looked at Marcus and spoke, “Oh? Now I’m curious how exactly you consider 1,500 acres of land trash, Mr. Coine.”

Ned scoffed beside him. “Are you actually stupid or are you just pretending to be stupid, outsider?”

“Without Mr. Coine giving the red light, it doesn’t matter if you’ve bought it or not. There’ll be people troubling you every day and you’ll have no other choice but to leave it empty in the end.”

you think that you can’t take it anymore and want to pawn the land off, I promise I’ll give

broad, and his loud laughs resonated around

you laugh softer? You’re a

say

who had been standing behind Jasper all this while, stepped forward. From his stance, it was evident around that it makes you better than all of us? How dare you pick a

up and smiled apologetically. "Mr. Adkins, Mr. Coine, please calm down. This is the city hall's meeting room, after all. The bid will begin soon. It'll look bad on all

gave a carefree smile and replied, "Fine. So you're not completely stupid, Wright. I'll let him go to blame when you regret it later. You're not the first to fight me for something in Reed City, so to the designated seats of

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Chad did not mind. He knew that most of the time, knowing too much would only turn out troublesome, especially since he was not a formidable person.

Thankful, Chad quickly excused himself and walked over to the podium.

Chad then began to give an unnecessary opening speech to introduce the plot of land for formality's sake.

Meanwhile, Mr. Powers and Jasper began to chat privately between themselves below.

"Mr. Laine, the higher-ups state that as long as what you spoke of was the truth, then we're willing to provide the best discounts for you," Mr. Powers relayed.

Jasper was not surprised. It was a large investment, one every city in the country needed. Reed City's stance on the matter was rather satisfactory.

the

tax payable for your business in Reed City for the first five years would be free for the first two, then for the following three, there'll be a 50% discount. Tax for the next five years after that will also be halved. Tax will only be paid in full after the ten-year mark. In

no way I'd look for workers from elsewhere.

city government will be in charge of the traffic and road work around your electronic equipment factory.

city government promises

"Then comes the most important question. What

knew that the conversation now involved the

of land for his factory, while the city government also needed Jasper's 600 to 700 million investment as well as occupational quotas. It

now was that Marcus and his friends wanted to make Jasper lose money, and

Marcus and his friends' existence was already affecting

of thought, Mr. Powers clenched his jaw as he thought back to what the higher-ups had told him and he replied, "To be frank with you, Mr. Laine, the city government is on

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"What are they murmuring about?"

Ned asked curiously and glared at Jasper on the other side of the meeting room. He was currently engaged in a conversation with Mr. Powers.

Marcus, who was watching the scene, forced the unease down within him and spoke aggressively, "How would I know?"

"What if they're discussing how to deal with us?" Ned suddenly asked.

Marcus' expression darkened as he growled. "Can you shut up? Why would the city government join forces with Jasper to work against us?"

Ned had a weird look on his face as he spoke. "I refuse to believe that you haven't heard the rumors, Mr. Coine. The city government this term has already been displeased with us for a very long time. If not for the fact that both our grandfathers are alive, they'd have done something to us long ago."

"Your grandfather hasn't been feeling very well lately, right? While the number of people aware of this isn't a lot, it's not a few either."

Marcus' expression darkened at Ned's words. "My grandfather is just a little sick. He'll get better in no time. These people wouldn't dare to attack me at such a time."

"That doesn't mean we don't need to be careful around them. Look at how close Powers is with Jasper. You can't expect me to believe that they're not plotting together," Ned spoke.

Marcus scoffed. "We'll deal with it when the time comes. We'll know if there's anything going between them once the bid is over. Something is definitely wrong if the city government is unwilling to let us bid, or you're just overthinking this."

...

begin the bidding ceremony. We'll be using an open-bid method this time and the four companies present are free to call out your prices as you wish. The one with the highest bid owns

1,500-acre plot of industrial land by Brac County. With a starting price of 150 million, every following bid is to have an increment of five

other companies that came to join the bidding

for 150 million

done their part and now

for 160 million, Marcus knocked on the

price by 90 million in one go, exceeding Jasper and the
was a simple and direct
the price and snickered. "You're a wealthy man from outside Reed City who has
at all, Jasper called his
"600 million."
fell silent
there were only ten people in the meeting room altogether, clear gasps
"Oh!"
to call out

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In comparison to this 600 million, his 250 million seemed like an embarrassing figure now.

He had made a fool of himself.

"F*ck!" Marcus cursed internally.

"Fight him, Mr. Coine! If that brat is so confident, then we'll make him pay more. I'd like to see how much he can afford." Ned was a cruel man as he urged beside Marcus.

Marcus nodded and shouted without hesitation, "800 million!"

Another gasp.

This time, everyone's gazes fell on Marcus.

Marcus' unease had now turned into pride.

"What are you being so arrogant about? Do you think you're the only rich one here? As if I'd be afraid to compete with you money-wise," Marcus sneered at Jasper.

Jasper remained calm as a smile appeared at the corner of his lips.

the future will tell,

out stubbornly, unwilling to back

million to 600 million and then to 800 million, and now, Jasper had added another 100 million to

was already victorious. "And here I wondered how capable

"Very well, then. We'll wring

"950 million!"

played well, assuming that

was no way he would spend so much money for a plot of land, so Marcus decided that he would raise the price to one billion, which

doing so, Jasper would end up paying 800 million more for a 200 million plot of

was extremely

Jasper calling out one billion only to realize that Marcus would not be calling out a higher price. Oh, how delightful Jasper's expression would

provokingly, thinking that victory was in

Yet... Jasper ignored him.

of calling for

began to feel

Chad had already been waiting for a while and stated, "950 million from Fortune Co., Ltd, is there anyone willing to pay a higher