

At The Top 701

Chapter 701

"I have a plan, Mr. Monty, but I don't know if it'd work?" Valentine suddenly spoke.

Conrad had been very pleased with Valentine's performance all this while so he was very willing to hear the other's plan. He replied, "Go ahead."

Valentine smiled craftily and spoke, "According to what you just described, I think we can wait until after JW Electronics has manufactured their products. We could invite them to a press conference, and as long as their product is an MP3 player, we'll be able to expose them in front of the press."

Conrad fell silent for a moment, deep in thought. He soon got up and walked two steps before suddenly looking up. "There are two benefits to that plan. One, we can use the media's power to solidify the fact that Jasper pirated our product. And two, it's also free advertisement for Melody!

"By then, Jasper will truly have no chance to turn it around!"

Conrad suddenly patted Valentine's shoulder and laughed aloud. "Good job. After all of this is over, I'll think about promoting you to president of the company."

Valentine replied excitedly, "Thank you, Mr. Monty."

...

his team were highly skilled and they managed to complete the technological design in the shortest following day, Jasper bought Elbert and his team airplane tickets so that they could directly instruct the factory workers

a sample from Reed City. It was personally brought over by

at the shining silver MP3 player that was no bigger than half his palm and it

it? What's the passing

terms of sound and quality, it's way better than what's available on the market. We've also upgraded the storage card, so our product can save at least

screen means we're able to display the name of the song, its artist, and even lyrics. That

so it's still a little low. I'd say it's currently around 86% now? But with further practice, the workers would be skilled enough to manufacture at a

job." Jasper smiled contentedly. "How about the

like this perhaps cost around 480 Somer Dollars. But if we decide to scale up output, then the cost of raw materials like the screen and the circuit board should decrease as well. As for how much exactly our cost can be lowered, it

we want the cost to be cheaper. You have to remember that our products are luxury items, so

Chapter 702

“A set-up.” Jasper shrugged and passed the invitation to Chad.

Chad took a look and reacted completely differently from Jasper by immediately frowning at its content.

“Melody Electronics wants to invite us for a joint product launch? And they even invited a few television and newspaper representatives?”

At that, Chad instantly reacted. “This is the MP3 player manufacturer that’s been advertising their products all this while?”

“Exactly. And they have a domestic license to manufacture the MP3 player,” Jasper spoke calmly.

Chad frowned and spoke, “So they’re just intending to make a fool out of us in front of the media, then.”

“That’s why I called it a set-up. I’m afraid this isn’t as simple as making a fool of us. They’re going to use the power of the press to completely kill our product the moment it launches.”

expression on his face. He could already imagine how excited and proud Conrad must have looked when he made this

though Conrad’s move was rather surprising and sudden, Jasper was

and there was no law claiming that only Jasper could

of them were merely trying to spot weak points while they attacked and countered each other, in hopes to get rid

in Coreana regarding the patent, Jasper had found a way to counter Conrad. However, it was not a lie that Conrad’s move had almost

one attacking now, and Jasper

decided that he would

we shouldn’t attend, Mr. Laine,” Chad

when

up his mind, Chad nodded

Jasper immediately

as Jasper

Chapter 703

Three days later, a piece of news had spread among the tech enthusiasts in the country.

Domestically manufactured MP3 players were available to the public now!

People did not have to save money to get the goods imported, nor did they need to bring cassette tapes around anymore.

Through all sorts of tactics, dozens of media representatives participated in Melody’s new product launch event and countless people had their eyes on it.

The greatly anticipated event was held in the conference hall of Nauritus City's Sheraton Hotel.

Thanks to Conrad, not only did media companies of all sizes from Southeast Province send their representatives, but there were also representatives from six television stations from other provinces and two large official news stations from Swallow Capital.

The conference hall was packed with cameras and microphones everywhere. Reporters began to greet each other and exchange contacts before the event began.

It was a lively scene.

Backstage, Jasper saw Conrad standing with a smile not too far away when he arrived. From the way Conrad stood, it almost seemed as if he had been waiting for Jasper.

"I see that you've been well, Mr. Laine," Conrad greeted calmly.

"And you're as graceful as ever, Mr. Monty," Jasper greeted back.

Seeing that Jasper had only brought Julian and another middle-aged man he did not recognize, Conrad smiled. "You don't seem to care too much about this launch event, Mr. Laine.

possibly be because of my glory, can

matters most is the product, no? There's no point in bringing a large group of people with me.

like that. Our products will speak for us, won't they? Though I do wonder if I could take a

it, of course. I'm sure the reporters are, too... Since a pirated version will be launched with the official one. Who knows, maybe the product you invested in to manufacture will

smile widened presumptuously. "After all, I'm the one with

you so confident that you'll beat me

confident in yourself. Too much self-confidence will be the cause of your downfall. You think that everything is within

patent rights and this launch event, for example. You know that the patent rights are with me, yet you're unwilling to give up on the MP3 player.

will mark the beginning of your downfall. It'll be the MP3 player this time, then I'll move on to target all other companies under JW Capital. Just wait. Perhaps I'll even spare you some change the day I make you lose everything. Perhaps I'll spare you

there

Conrad turned and left with light

Mr. Laine," Chad

man to go crazy before his death.

reminded of the leverage Jasper had. He said, "Now I'm really anticipating the launch event. I'd like to see the change in

...

the afternoon, with the reporters waiting
of people. On one side were the main characters of the
stood Jasper and
Jasper and Chad with curiosity. They did not understand why this
ask that you remain silent for a
then glanced at

Chapter 704

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for us, won't they? Though I do wonder if I could take a look at the product you've brought

are, too... Since a pirated version will be launched with the official one.

“After all, I’m

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Province, there will be no

turned and left

Chad spoke rigidly

a man to go crazy before his death. His time is

the leverage Jasper had. He said, “Now I’m really anticipating the launch event. I’d like to see the change in his expression when he finds out. I wonder if he can still

...

reporters waiting patiently, the launch event started on

people. On one side were the

side stood

reporters looked at Jasper and Chad with curiosity. They did not understand why this insignificant JW Electronics would be here at

friends from the press, I ask that you remain silent

at

Life at The Top

Chapter 705

Conrad glanced at Valentine. The latter nodded and gestured to the few reporters they had bribed in advance.

One of them stood up and asked Jasper, “Mr. Laine, since your company has such an outstanding product, I’d like to ask if you have the related patent rights?”

The question stunned all the reporters.

He was right. No matter how outstanding Mellow was or how it called itself an MP4, there was no changing the fact that it was derived from the MP3 player. That meant there was no escaping the issue of patent rights.

Everyone fell silent and they turned to Jasper, waiting for his reply.

However, the one who spoke was the same reporter who asked the question. They were evidently proud of the effect their question had brought about and asked another question, "Mr. Estrada from Melody Electronics has already explained just now that they've received patent rights from Mr. Damond Golding in Coreana. Melody Electronics is the only company within the country with exclusive rights to manufacture the MP3 player. So, Mr. Laine, could you tell us how Mellow decides to tackle this problem?"

Everyone was watching both Jasper and Chad. Their every word and expression would surely be released in the newspapers and reported by news stations tomorrow. As such, they had to be extremely careful of what they said.

Jasper stood

not have the domestic license

statement caused an

reporters were rendered

country, it was something that no one dared to state blatantly. After

then why would your JW Electronics continue to manufacture pirated products without patent rights?

Do you perhaps believe that you're untouchable to

you perhaps think that Melody Electronics would not dare to

sentences were

atmosphere in the room

the reporters only

normal press conference, and they had not expected the two companies to start a fight

This was earth-shattering news.

Chapter 706

Click, click.

Camera lights flashed endlessly in the conference hall, and all the video cameras were aimed right at the stage. No one wanted to miss any details.

If the fight between them was considered normal competition between two companies, then Valentine's words had instantly escalated the situation where it now involved the breaking of the law.

The man had used expletives.

The reporters present all flushed in excitement. The trip over suddenly felt really worth it.

There were too few instances of such situations in the country.

Therefore, the moment such instances occurred, they attracted everyone's attention.

Conrad was very pleased as well. Valentine was becoming more useful to him with every moment. Valentine knew that there were things Conrad was in no position to say, so he jumped out and conveyed the message Conrad wanted to say but could not.

"You're the one speaking nonsense!"

A loud shout came from beside Jasper, causing everyone present to look over in shock.

Especially Valentine. The man's expression darkened after being accused and he turned to look at Chad.

"Who says the only way to manufacture goods is with patent rights?"

Chad scoffed and pulled out a piece of document from his briefcase that he brought with him. He opened it before everyone and spoke, "Not only has JW Electronics bought 50% ownership of the MP3 player patent rights from Sentel Corporation, but we've also signed an improvement patent agreement!

"So as long as we've succeeded in improving the MP3 player, we're automatically granted the user rights to the patent."

of reporters proudly as he continued, "In addition, JW Electronics will hold complete ownership over our improved

be very proud of the fact that they have a license. So what if they do? They're still working for the foreigners, aren't they? A portion of the profit made from very first-generation Melody has to be distributed to Mr. Damond Golding. Can you still call

words stunned

who did not understand much about patents, licenses, and their pertaining laws, but they all came to an understanding after asking

managed to sign an improvement patent agreement when they could not get a license.

what a

all wanted to know how

The man remained calm.

microphone and spoke softly, "I merely wish to show you with my actions that our Somerland is capable of

Clap, clap, clap!

at Jasper's statement. The entire conference hall was

Valentine had a very

Conrad, who had never expected

improvement patent agreement, does it actually exist?" Conrad

international patent law. As long as the owner of the patent agrees, it's very much possible. But the issue is that he'd need all of the people with ownership to agree before it's granted. Damond Golding only has 50%, so how

such a shock. He turned

going to happen, Jasper, so that's why you had everything prepared, right? You were just waiting for me to play my role.

Furious, Conrad asked directly.

you accuse me of making you into a fool when you were the one who

Mr. Monty. It looks like I'll get to cut down on

to combust from

get dozens of media representatives over, including those two large stations from Swallow Capital. Now, he had given the advantage to Jasper on

part of this all was that his first-generation Melody had its reputation crushed before

there was a stuffy gust of air that suffocated his chest.

slightly at

Life at The Top

Chapter 707

"Forget the fact that you're dominating everything, Jasper, but you're not even going to give others a chance to make money? Aren't you afraid that your ruthlessness will come and bite you back in the *ss?"

Conrad's gaze darkened as he roared. He felt the urge to punch Jasper in the face.

Jasper looked at him confusedly and asked, "What do you mean? You're making this into more of an issue than it is, Mr. Monty. I don't think I follow."

"Stop f*cking pretending to be clueless!" Conrad roared.

"We're all intelligent people here, what's the point of this clueless act of yours?"

"What's the meaning behind the official music library, huh? Tell me what MP3 player doesn't need to download music! You're just trying to make the entire market yours with that official music library and wanting to attack pirated sites, aren't you?!"

Conrad was infuriated when he thought about how the mountain of goods in his warehouse was done for and could not be sold. It was a loss not even the Monty family could endure.

Coupled with the aluminum mine incident, Jasper had struck the Monty family hard twice.

'The Monty family is rich, but it can't take such a series of attacks.'

At that train of thought, Conrad felt like his heart had been pierced through with needles.

“Weren’t you the one who kept saying I have to do things legally, Mr. Monty? Supporting the official version and ownership, correct? Or perhaps you don’t agree with me attacking pirated music?” Jasper asked with a smile.

Conrad took a deep breath and spoke sinisterly, “You’ll anger a lot of people like this, Jasper.”

“That’s alright. After all, the official music library is free to everyone who buys Mellow. As for imported MP3 players, sure, as long as the consumers pay. After all, I need to pay my employees in the entertainment companies salaries, and who wouldn’t take money served on a silver platter?” Jasper spoke calmly.

So this is what you have in mind then, making money? You’re a

Mr. Monty.” Jasper shook his head. “I meant those with imported foreign MP3 players are allowed to pay for access to my music library. But as for competitors within

heard Jasper. The next second,

me off, then?!” Conrad

market is a battlefield, Mr. Monty. I’m sure you wouldn’t have let

Jasper! What a

you spent tens of millions on your manufacturing lines, Mr. Monty? In addition to the

such a small loss.” Conrad spat out coldly as he suppressed the flames of

anymore, Mr. Monty, I wouldn’t mind acquiring all your factories and equipment. It just depends on whether you’re willing to

widened his eyes. He could not believe such a

one billion Somer Dollars and now you want my factory and manufacturing lines as well? How

I’ve caused such a grave loss to you, Mr. Monty, that I was thinking of a way to make up for it. There’s nothing wrong if you don’t want

out on all that money than ever benefit you!”

then. Well, if that’s the case, please excuse

about to leave when he heard Conrad speak behind

“Wait.”

and

Conrad tried to speak in the calmest tone possible, “I can give

did not speak. He knew that

for a moment before speaking again, “But

Jasper chuckled. "Sure."

at Jasper, asking in disbelief,

Chapter 708

"I'll hand in my resignation to you tomorrow, Mr. Monty."

Valentine sighed and spoke softly.

Conrad looked at Valentine sinisterly and spoke coldly, "What, you're just going to wash your hands off this incident just like that?"

Valentine shook his head disappointingly and spoke, "That's not what I meant, Mr. Monty. You know that someone has to take responsibility for all of this. It's only right that I take the blame."

Conrad halted and spoke solemnly, "Go back and calm down. I'm busy, we'll talk about everything else next time."

Conrad then left without turning back.

Exiting the hotel, Conrad drove straight to the quiet villa.

In the backyard was a middle-aged man in traditional clothing fishing by the lake. The sun was bright and the weather was good, but Conrad's mood was despondent like an impending storm.

Master," a servant

"You're all excused. I want to talk to my dad

left and Conrad sat beside Steven. His tone was full of despair when

the particles floating on the surface of the lake. He did not seem

"I expected it."

at Steven's words. "Isn't it a bit too

smiled and replied meaningfully, "Do you know what the biggest difference between

replied coldly, "The brat is too good at scheming and

He always

"That's just the surface

you dug up information on him and found

stunned for a moment and replied with a sneer, "He earned himself millions from the futures market a year ago and then kept making more money based on pure luck. Then the international crude oil incident gave him a ton

didn't you take those chances?" Steven

he

Chapter 709

Without waiting for Conrad's reply, Steven gave his opinion.

"Because you're a Monty. You started on a finish line that most people could never reach even if they worked hard from the moment they were born till the end of their lives. You're used to living a pampered and protected life. You were set for a comfortable life even without fighting for it."

Steven tossed the fishing line out and spoke calmly, "That's also the difference between a king who fought for his throne and one who inherited it."

Conrad clenched his jaw. "I lost almost a billion dollars again this time. It's not fair!"

"What's a bit of loss? The Monty family can take much more than that. Jasper is the best target practice I can give you. This isn't an easy target and you might get hurt if you're not careful. You've lost twice against him, each loss worse than the last.

"Meanwhile, Jasper is growing stronger every day. He gains profits every time you lose and if this keeps going, the distance between the two of you will only reduce until you two end up as equals."

Conrad was not pleased with Steven's words. "Who does he think he is? As if he's worthy of being my equal!"

"In reality, I'd say he's somewhere above you in my eyes," Steven spoke solemnly.

won't let him get away with

clear your mind. Then decide what you want to do next." Steven passed

many important things. The more

until

got

"Oh, one more thing."

while he was walking and asked,

but he's decided

keep him by your side,"

replied, "He's

get your men to be utterly loyal to you. How will he see you if instead of pushing all the blame to him, you keep him by your

about it before

...

Chapter 710

Jasper's words were thought-provoking.

After all, as a man who had spent more than half his life working with state-owned enterprises, Chad was not a man to be underestimated. After a moment of thought, he mostly understood what Jasper meant.

“You really are a natural-born businessman, Mr. Laine,” Chad exclaimed with admiration.

Jasper smiled and passed Chad a cup of coffee. “Perhaps start nurturing a few well-trusted confidants for the electronics company, especially at the factory. That’s going to be the company’s important source of income in the future.

“But my plans for you lie in the position of director of the Human Resource Department in my investment company. You can’t stay in JW Electronics forever to cultivate a team of managers. You should get this done as fast as possible.”

Chad nodded in understanding. “Alright, I’ll train a few leaders.”

“I’ll hold an overall assembly with all companies under JW Capital by the time you assume your position. One, so that everyone can get to know you and thus make future work easier; two, to deal with some of the company’s internal issues.”

temples and spoke in a

quite a big problem with the investing company and due to various reasons,

investment company’s managerial team, for example. Excluding Chad, Jasper had no idea how the

thing now was that Jasper needed someone who could take on the role of a commander when Jasper

position and one with very high authority. As such, Jasper could not trust hunting companies to help him look for such professional

ahead of him and there

to those reincarnation novels that he had read before, Jasper realized how unrealistic they were. All the main character had

...

of the launch event in

methods of gaining intel so they had gotten news of it earlier. Ordinary

the internet had yet to be as advanced as the future, where news all over

day when the news of the launch event had simmered