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Facing Erik's aggressiveness, Jasper stepped back slightly while furrowing his brows. He looked a little disgusted. He even pulled Anna with him.

It was like he had bumped into a stinky beggar on the streets, afraid that he would get choked by the pungent smell.

Jasper's actions triggered Erik.

"What do you mean by that? What do you think I am? A beggar or a bug?" Erik said sullenly.

Jasper said mildly, "Looks like we're on the same page. Otherwise, why would you say words such as beggars and bugs?"

"Pfft." Anna could not help but laugh.

Erik's gaze grew darker and colder.

This was how it was with men's conflicts. When a woman was involved, the conflict between both men would intensify manyfold.

Besides, Erik hated Jasper's guts.

At this moment, Erik felt that Jasper had trampled on his dignity.

He was very upset. He clearly had the upper hand. He had even taken the initiative to come up to taunt Jasper, so Jasper should be the one to get mad instead.

“What are you so proud of?”

“You must be hopping mad inside but you’re pretending to look calm, huh?”

Erik sneered and said, “When Easy Media is destroyed, I’d like to see how you’re going to keep pretending!”

Anna looked at Erik indifferently and said, “We don’t even know who will win yet, why are you so eager to show off?”

Erik glanced at Anna, and for some reason, Erik would put away his vicious and arrogant aura when facing her. He was afraid that he would seem too presumptuous.

However, this was something he had never felt before when he faced Henry.

It was clear that Erik was more apprehensive of Anna than Henry.

“Anna, this is between Jasper and me. It has nothing to do with you,” Erik said in a deep voice.

Anna said coldly, “Jasper is the Laws’ ally. If you lay a finger on him, you’re laying a finger on the Laws. Who are you to say that this has nothing to do with me?”

Erik’s complexion changed slightly when he heard what she said. He pointed at Jasper and said, “He’s just a boy toy, no? You must be out of your mind, Anna. You can get all sorts of men with your family background and appearance, why choose this idiot?”

Anna’s expression sank as she said coldly, “Watch your mouth, Erik Turner! You’d better clean that mouth of yours!”

Erik’s face was as black as ink as he gritted his teeth, feeling wronged as resentment bubbled within him.

He could not believe that he was swallowing his anger like that, so afraid to even irritate Anna at this moment.

At the sight of this, Jasper could not help but look at Anna in a new light. After all, she had always been meek and obedient in front of him.

What earth-shattering things had this woman done before he met her?

She had her big brother completely wrapped around her little finger.

Now, even Erik, a fearless trust fund baby, revered her?

At this point, Erik's phone rang.

Erik quickly connected the call to get himself out of the embarrassing situation.

The person on the other end said something and Erik's expression started sinking at a rate that was visible to the naked eye.

After a while, Erik hung up and looked at Jasper coldly. "You're acquiring Motley Media's stocks?"

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Jasper said mildly, "I thought you received the news a long time ago. Are you only receiving the news now? Looks like things aren't going so well for Motley Media's chairman, eh?"

Erik gritted his teeth.

Indeed, although he was Motley Media's president, there were many people in the Turner family who were unhappy about this and often set up obstacles to hinder him.

This was such an important matter yet he was only informed about it now. Clearly, someone had put obstacles in his way.

Erik said with an ice-cold face, "How dare you attack Motley Media, Jasper Laine?! You must have a death wish."

Jasper said insipidly, "You should have thought of this when you attacked Easy Media. I was just taking necessary countermeasures.

"What's wrong? Only you can fight me and I'm not allowed to fight back? I didn't know this logic exists."

Erik was so furious he burst out laughing. "Do you think you're capable of fighting back? You can't even recognize what's good for you. You're simply seeking your own doom!

"How many people gave up resisting and knelt down to beg for mercy when they found out that I'm going to deal with them? Who the f*ck do you think you are, Jasper? How dare you fight back?!"

Jasper looked at Erik coldly and said, "I'm sorry, but I'm an unyielding man, so it's impossible for me not to fight back."

Erik flashed a sinister smile and raised his hand, pointing at Jasper while saying, "Okay, an unyielding man, huh? Sure, let's see who will be the last man standing!"

After saying these words, Erik turned around and left with a gloomy expression.

He was vigilant about the sudden jump in Motley Media's stock price but never would have thought that Jasper would be so bold to touch Motley Media. He did

so with such decisiveness too. It seemed like he needed to go back as soon as possible to deal with this matter.

In addition to that, he must punish Jasper for his arrogance!

After walking out of the hotel's entrance, Erik's eyes shifted and he made a call immediately.

"It's me, Erik.

"I heard that Jasper is really close to Jim Yapp... Yes, teach Jim a lesson and let him know that he will face very serious consequences for following the wrong person."

When Anna saw Erik leaving in a rage, she said to Jasper, "This person is an extremist. He can do anything. He won't let this matter drop so easily."

Jasper said nonchalantly, "What can he possibly do? Does he think he can shut the domestic stock market down after what happened there? He can't stop this from happening. If he uses other means to deal with us, then we'll just endure it.

"When we have enough stocks in hand after a few days, that's when it'll be his doom."

Anna nodded in agreement.

...

In the evening, Jim was driving to the entrance of a reputable high school while humming.

It was his son's birthday today and he and his wife had decided to host a celebration for him.

In addition to that, Jasper had helped him tremendously during this period of time. He had successfully acquired George Powell's consulting company. With his company's smooth development, business was booming. Everything was moving in the right direction.

Therefore, Jim was in a good mood. He was wondering if he should invite Jasper over tonight as well so that his family could thank him themselves.

At the thought of this, he asked his wife who was sitting at the front passenger seat and holding a cake to keep an eye on the entrance of the school while he gave Jasper a call.

As soon as the call was connected, several burly men suddenly surrounded the car from all sides. Before Jim knew what was happening, both car doors were opened and he heard his wife yelp.

Anxious, Jim tossed his phone aside, and before he could say anything to those men, the clubs they held in their hands started raining down on the couple.

In a shopping mall on the other side of Swallow Capital, Jasper listened to the commotion coming from the phone. He heard the cursing and yelling of strangers as well as Jim's screams.

"Jim is in trouble!"

Jasper stood up abruptly, anger coursing through his veins.

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It was in the hospital when Jasper saw Jim again.

Covered in blood, Jim was lying weakly on the hospital bed. He had just regained consciousness after receiving emergency treatment.

When he opened his eyes and saw Jasper, Jim asked hastily, "Jasper, my wife..."

Jasper pressed Jim down and said, "Don't worry, she's fine. Her injuries are less severe than yours. They're just superficial wounds. The doctors are treating her wounds as we speak."

Jim breathed a sigh of relief.

"Dad!" A teenager squeezed through the crowd and walked over while choking with sobs.

Jim consoled his son and said, "I'm okay."

Jim spoke to his son for a while before sending him out to check on his mother. He then turned around to say to Jasper, "I'm sorry you had to make this trip, Jasper."

Jasper said, "I should be the one feeling sorry. You're in trouble because of me. I didn't know where you were, but someone called the cops in the end. It was only after the hospital called me that I rushed over."

Jim sighed and said, "I was about to pick up my son from school today and planned to invite you over for dinner. I didn't expect this to happen. It's the Combes, huh?"

Jasper did not intend to tell Jim about the Turners lest he felt more pressured.

“It’s not the Combes. I’ll take care of this for you. They won’t give you trouble anymore.”

Jim said to Jasper seriously, “I think these people are trying to warn you, that’s why they attacked me. These people can do anything. You must be careful.”

When Jasper saw how sensible Jim was, he said earnestly, “I’ll pay attention to that. The doctor said you need to be hospitalized, so while you’re recuperating in the hospital, I’ll ask Julian to take your son to school and pick him up after.”

Jim said in a hurry, “No, they aren’t bold enough to attack a child. That’s just plain cruel. Julian needs to protect you because you’re the one who is in most danger right now.”

Jasper said seriously, “I have my own means. Don’t worry about it.”

“Oh, what sort of means? Let’s hear them.”

A grating voice was heard.

The door of the ward was pushed open and Erik walked in grinning from ear to ear as he stared at Jim who lay on the bed with gauze and bandages wrapped all over him. He tutted.

“Tsk, ts, look how pitiful you look. You must be Jim, right? Does it hurt? Hahaha.”

Jasper stood up and looked at Erik, saying, “You’re more shameless than I thought.”

Erik roared with laughter and asked, “Are you angry?”

As he said that, Erik moved closer, looking carefully at Jasper and saying in surprise, “Are you really angry?”

“Then it’s really worth it. I did so many things and even came over in person just to see the angry look on your face.”

As Erik spoke, he laughed and said smugly, “The angry and helpless look on your face just makes me so f*cking happy!”

“Do you really think you’re capable of making me mad?”

Despite Jasper’s calm tone, his aura revealed that a storm was brewing.

Erik sneered. He was filled with contempt and disdain as he said, “I feel sick when I look at your pretentious face. I’m pissing you off on purpose. What can you do?”

Erik patted the hospital bed and sneered. “This is just a warning, kid. You’d better keep this in mind and be smart. Close position for all the Motley Media stocks you acquired today.

“Otherwise, no one knows who will be the next one lying on the hospital bed next time.”

Jasper said in a lukewarm tone, “Is that why you’re here? Just to tell me to sell off Motley Media’s stocks?”

Erik said sullenly, “What else? Of course, I’m also just dropping by to see you tremble in fear.”

Jasper smiled lightly. “Well, I’m not trembling in fear. You must be really disappointed, huh?”

“Oh, right, there’s even more disappointing news for you. I won’t sell off Motley Media’s stocks and will instead increase acquisition.”

Erik’s complexion darkened gradually. “So you’re going to fight me to the end, huh?”

Jasper pointed at Jim who was on the hospital bed with an edge in his gaze. “You’ll pay for his and his family’s injuries sooner or later!”

“Idiot!”

Erik sneered, “Who the hell do you think you are? Since I’ve done it, that means I’m not afraid of your so-called retaliation!

“Since you insist on fighting with me, sure, bring it on then. Don’t think I won’t touch you just because you bought some f*cking stocks of Motley Media. I won’t hesitate to end you!”

Jasper looked at Erik coldly. “I’ll be waiting for you to make a move then.”

With a sneer, Erik said, “Let’s hope you can still act so pompously in front of me the next time we meet!”

At this moment, Jasper’s phone rang.

It was a call from Anna.

“I’ve contacted several friends. Several domestic brokers who hold Motley Media’s stocks have agreed to transfer the stocks to us at about 15% premium, which will cost about 60 million in total.”

Jasper said calmly, “Take it. I’ll transfer the money to your account later. Make the deal as soon as possible.”

Anna said softly, "Okay, I'll get it done soon."

"Thanks," Jasper said.

Anna chuckled and hung up.

Erik stared at Jasper coldly. His instincts told him that the call Jasper received had something to do with him.

"Whose call was that? What did you do this time?!" Erik asked sullenly.

Jasper shrugged and said mildly, "Nothing. I just bought some shares of Motley Media from a few big brokers. My acquisition speed was too slow, so it would be easier if I acquired their stocks directly."

"Jasper, you have a f*cking death wish!" Erik roared.

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Erik was eager to end Jasper's life right now.

He was clearly at an advantage every time he came to Jasper. He would try to mock Jasper and then admire the exasperated look on his face so the man would regret going against him.

Toward the end, however, he would always be the one who ends up suffering a crushing defeat.

He had indeed gotten an exasperated reaction out of someone, but that someone was him instead!

He had been warned by the elders in the family today because of the unusual jump in Motley Media's stocks.

If news that Jasper had acquired Motley Media's stocks from these brokers spread out...

His family would no doubt be skeptical of his ability to continue leading Motley Media.

Erik never would have expected Jasper to act so quickly and decisively, going straight to the brokers to acquire stocks.

One must know that those brokers were blood-sucking vampires who would ask for more than 10% or 20% premium or they would not sell their stocks.

However, facts had proven that Jasper did buy them!

"Are you crazy? Do you have too much money with nowhere to spend?! Why are you spending several hundred million dollars to acquire Motley Media's stocks just to hammer the market?! Is it really necessary to cause destruction for the both of us in which you'll have to suffer heavy losses as well?"

Erik stared ferociously at Jasper and raged.

Jasper smiled and said slowly, "Is several hundred million dollars a lot? Will the young master of the Turner family even care about the loss of hundreds of millions? Well, I certainly don't. There are always ways to earn money, but not many opportunities to watch the fascinating expressions on Young Master Turner's face."

Erik gasped, feeling a malicious fire surging from the pit of his stomach. It made him feel so uncomfortable that it was like he was being pricked by needles.

If he could, he would certainly choke Jasper to death right now.

He had never loathed a person this much.

“Jasper, nothing good will come out of this for you. Why don’t we each take a step back?”

A flame of humiliation flickered in Erik’s eyes. In his opinion, he had saved Jasper’s dignity big time by saying those words.

“Each take a step back?”

Jasper smiled and pointed at Jim who was lying on the hospital bed. He said, “Sure, why don’t you pay back the injuries you inflicted upon him inch by inch, and when you’re done paying them all back, I’ll then discuss with you how we can both take a step back?”

Erik clenched his fist tightly, staring coldly at Jasper with a sharp gaze. “You really want to have a life and death struggle with me, huh? If all else fails, I’ll just go back and admit my mistakes then use the Turners’ resources! When the time comes, you won’t be able to end this even if you want to!”

“Erik,” Jasper said lightly, “I’m afraid that you still don’t understand. From the moment you sent someone to beat Jim up, the fight between us had already begun!”

Erik did not say any more. He glanced coldly at Jasper then turned around and left.

In the ward.

Jasper watched calmly as Erik left the ward, his eyes as cold as an iceberg.

“Who is he, Jasper?” Jim finally asked.

Jasper gave Jim a reassuring smile, saying, “The mastermind behind all this, but it’s fine now. I have ways to deal with him. I’m sorry for dragging you down with me.”

Jim shook his head and said, “I’m not afraid, but you, Jasper, have to protect yourself. These people will do anything.”

Jasper smiled and said, “I know my limits.”

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When Jasper returned to the hotel, Henry was seen boasting to Anna about his extraordinary achievements in the meeting today and how great of an achievement he had made.

“The magnate that presided over the meeting praised me three times in a row for the excellent plan I gave them and said that he’ll give careful considerations for it. Other families and all those idiots in the company are just a bunch of dumb geese. Oh, that was so incredibly cool, hahaha!”

As she drank her juice, Anna frowned at Henry who was standing in the center of the living room blabbering away. She said, “You’re blocking the TV.”

Henry walked away cursing and scolding.

Anna glanced at him with a lukewarm gaze and said, “You only got the chance to be in the limelight because of the creative design Jasper gave you. You must remember his kindness.”

Henry said enviously, “Oh, enough, Sis. If we both fart, then my fart will always be the smelly one while Jasper’s will be the fragrant one.”

Anna frowned and criticized him, "How vulgar!"

After thinking for a while, she said again, "You're right, though."

Henry nearly vomited blood out of anger.

Jasper came back at the right time, and Henry ran over with a serious expression.

"I heard that the idiot Erik came again today?"

Jasper nodded and roughly told him what had happened.

Henry roared with anger, "F*ck, he's so arrogant! Should I get some men to put him in a sack and toss him into the sea?"

Jasper was caught between laughter and tears. "You look pretty skilled. You must've used this method many times before, huh?"

For the first time ever, Henry was honest. "I've used it many times indeed, and it works every time."

Jasper waved his hand and said, "This is an underhanded trick used by kids and is better kept under the table. It's no fun, and they'll also have something to use against you."

"The Turners sickens me. They turned up at the meeting today as well. Damn, they're all the same, arrogant as if they're kings themselves. Like us, they're also trying to snatch the Olympic Village project."

Henry said with a sullen expression.

"They won't be able to snatch it away," Jasper said lightly.

Since learning about the Olympic Village project, Jasper had regarded this as something that was in his grasp. He would never let anyone touch it.

This was related to his business topology, so even if a much higher-level force came into the picture, Jasper would not give in to them—let alone the Turners.

...

In one of the villas in Swallow Capital, Erik slammed the wine glass in his hand down. The more he thought about it, the more upset he was. He walked back and forth with his hands behind his back and suddenly took out his phone.

“It’s me, Erik.”

“How can I help, Mr. Turner?” On the other end of the phone, a senior executive of Motley Media was heard saying reverently. This person was also Erik’s trustworthy confidant.

“There’s an unusual jump in the company’s stock price today and it has brought a terrible impact. Keep a close eye tomorrow. If the other party continues to acquire stocks, then we will sell the shares on hand. But if he sells his stocks directly, then we will use the company’s funds to take over,” Erik said in a sinister voice.

The senior executive said hesitantly, “Sir, taking over isn’t the main issue here. It’s illegal for the other party to buy and for us to sell. If the Securities Regulatory Commission catches us, then we will be in big trouble.”

Erik roared furiously, “This is my decision. I’m informing you, not discussing it with you. I, the chairman, am responsible for the consequences, so what are you afraid of?! Have you forgotten that I’m a Turner?! Who will have the audacity to control me?!”