

Life at The Top – Chapter 1226

Standing next to Jasper, Julian stared at White Glove's back and said, "I can make him stay if you want, Jasper."

Jasper waved him off and replied, "No need. He's just Vere's subordinate, and getting rid of him won't change anything. Vere Chavez is our main concern."

Julian did not say anything anymore when he heard this. Julian knew nothing when it came to power and planning, but he did not fear anyone when it came to physical fights.

The only person who ever posed a threat to him was the man beside the little prince. White Glove was skilled, but Julian would not lose against him.

After White Glove left, Timothy walked over to Jasper and Henry before bowing deeply to the two.

"I'm really sorry, Mr. Laine, Mr. Law. It was all a misunderstanding before and I was blinded by my hatred. Thank you two for discovering the truth behind my son's death, otherwise the true culprit would've gotten away with it."

Jasper clapped Timothy's shoulder and said softly, "Nothing is too far when a father is taking revenge for his son. Since it was a misunderstanding, all that matters now is that the misunderstanding's cleared up. There's no need to feel guilty about it anymore."

Jasper then glanced at Henry and said, "How about you two shake hands? Fatherly love is something we all have to understand."

Henry was not an unreasonable man and said tensely, "It's fine. You lost more than I did in this incident, so I won't hold this over your head either."

Timothy smiled wryly and replied, "Thank you two for your generosity."

"Mr. Burke, both of us are well aware of the truth here. While Prince was involved in your son's death, it was still an accident."

"Prince is in the wrong, but their family's power and the circumstances of the case means that he won't be in too much trouble. He might be out after some time, so what do you have planned?"

The corner of Timothy's mouth twitched and he sighed deeply. While it brought immense joy to say something cruel, Timothy had to admit that he was powerless against a figure as powerful as the Chavez family.

The man seemed to age a dozen years at this moment as she replied, "Let's see what the charges are first. From what I can tell right now, it'll most likely be a bit of financial compensation and some simple punishment."

"After all, he didn't intend to kill my son, but my son still died because of him. Therefore, it'll simply be a matter of when I take my revenge against him!"

Timothy then bowed to the two again. "I'm not in the mood to dwell here any longer, gentlemen. So, if you'll excuse me."

Timothy then turned and left. No matter how one looked at it, the man's silhouette appeared desolate.

Jasper turned around after sending Timothy away and realized that Conrad was nowhere to be seen. "When did Conrad leave?" Jasper asked.

"He left while you two were talking to Timothy. He told me to give this to you before he left." Julian handed Jasper a document.

Jasper chuckled when he saw that it was a company stock transfer agreement with Conrad's signature on it. The debt was officially between Conrad and Prince, so Conrad still had to liquidate it himself. The transfer of creditor rights was just a little performance they had put on for Prince.

It would be truly troublesome to carry that transfer out. After Conrad transferred the other two company's stocks over to Jasper, he saved the one for himself.

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Both of them remained silent and tacit. They took their respective benefits and moved on. Whether they would be friends or foes the next time they met would be up to fate.

"Now that this is finally over, let's go. I'm paying, so let's eat something good and relax." Jasper stretched his back and said with a large smile.

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Jasper and Prince's battle came and went quickly, like a tremendous gust of wind.

People within the industry were still watching the situation and predicting whether Clear Seas' huge capital would enter the market to help their crown prince when the battle had suddenly ended.

Jasper walked out away with complete victory. Of course, everyone was smart and they knew that the matter was far from over.

“Vere’s currently being held back by something outside the country. To old crafty people like him, a small issue or some trouble their child was facing is far less important than some huge partnership they were formally negotiating.”

“To a group as huge as Clear Seas, these three listed companies can hardly be considered important businesses, so it’s not worth making a big deal out of losing them.”

“The only thing that probably rattled him would be Prince involvement in a homicide.”

Jasper analyzed the current situation with Henry in the restaurant.

More than combing through the situation, Jasper was trying to guide Henry into understanding the thought process of someone from a higher status as well as their perspective.

Henry also realized that this incident had indeed affected him to some degree. It taught him that in front of true bigshots, the simple identity of the Law family’s third generation was far from enough.

In the end, having a powerful background when fighting someone of a high enough rank only ensured that he would not be killed off. After all, no one would want to risk a full out war with the Law family by killing Henry.

“What should we do next, then?” Henry asked.

Jasper shook his head but did not engage on Henry’s topic. Instead, he grabbed his wine glass and clinked it with Henry’s before he asked, “When are you going back to Harbor City?”

Henry looked at Jasper as if the other was a ghost. “How did you know I’m going back?!”

“After what happened this time, there’s no way you can still fool around here in the Mainlands. Either you get your life together once you go back this time, or you stay in Harbor City obediently for the rest of your life.”

Henry’s expressions darkened. Jasper’s words had hit him where it hurt.

While Harbor City was still much more developed than the Mainlands, and there were many better places to enjoy one’s self there, the problem with Harbor City was that the place was too small. Henry had long enjoyed his fill of Harbor City, so the Mainlands were comparatively much more attractive to him.

More importantly, he and Jill’s relationship was still at its early stages. While the two were currently in conflict, every relationship had its ups and downs, and he would not give up on Jill over something so insignificant.

“I’ll go back and see what my dad says. I’m bored of Harbor City already, so worse come to worst, I’ll just agree to some condition that involves losing autonomy, but I’d be my own man.” Henry was very confident.

Jasper smiled and replied, “There’s another month or so before I have to start setting up for the huge and profitable plan. Stay in Harbor City before then, and I’ll have your dad let you out once the time’s right.”

Henry’s eyes lit up and this good news immediately diluted most of the dejection he felt from being dragged around and locked at home by his dad.

“Deal!”

“Deal!”

Once he decided to leave, there was no point on dwelling around any longer. Thus, after lunch that afternoon, Henry bought a ticket back to Harbor City from Waterhoof City.

After Henry left, Jasper started communicating with Jake.

This was a huge opportunity Jasper had had his eyes on since he reincarnated. The biggest chance to earn big money within the next five years.

Jasper had also hoped to win big with this opportunity, and had already accumulated all the capital JW would require in its inception. It was never too early to plan for something this big.

“Clear all my securities accounts in the United States’ share market.”

Jasper’s first sentence stunned Jake in Harbor City.

“Mr. Laine, the economy is stable worldwide right now, and the plummet brought by the bursting of the dot com bubble from before has also begun to recover. According to our predictions, we’re still very far from the peak.”

“To sell the securities now would be to give up all the interest we could gain in the short term...”

As Jasper’s subordinate, and an important figure in the investment Learn, Jake had the right to propose his opinions to Jasper.

Despite this, Jasper shook his head and took a sip from his teacup. “Let me ask you. How many assets do I have in the United States share market?”

Jake immediately replied, "You currently hold six stocks in the United States Securities Exchange, four stocks in New York Securities Exchange, and twelve stocks in Nasdaq Securities Exchange. The total amount from all three exchanges adds up to..."

After a small pause, Jake continued, "Adds up to 1 billion and 468 million Somer Dollars. In addition to the 200 million reserve funds, you have a asset pool of 1 billion and 668 million Somer Dollars."

Jasper nodded, satisfied with this amount.

Jasper had control of less than 1.2 billion worth of assets in the United States' stock market when he first had Jake start managing them.

After more than half a year, thanks to the exciting recovery of the economy, he had managed to earn a profit of 500 million. This was a wonderful result no matter how he had invested it.

"Do you think it'd be that easy to liquidate so many stocks when the stock market becomes bearish?"

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Jake was stunned when he heard Jasper's question.

Everyone's dream when trading stocks would always be to buy in at the lowest point and sell out at the highest price.

This might not be difficult for retail investors, since all they needed was a sharp eye, a bit of luck, and courage.

However, a portfolio as huge as Jasper's almost 1.7 billion worth of funds was a huge sum in comparison to the countless retail investors who operated on a smaller scale.

It was impossible to pull such a huge sum out of the market when the prices were highest.

Not when the volume of this investment was big enough to interfere with a small portion of the market.

To Jake, the most important thing was Jasper's judgment of the stock market's future development.

“Mr. Laine, do you think that the stock market will drop in the future?” Jake asked impatiently.

As an extremely professional trader, Jake believed in numbers and data above all else.

However, there was no sign of a drop in the current data or the overall market. He had no idea what Jasper’s judgment was based on.

However, Jasper’s glorious records urged Jake to take the man seriously.

‘Drop?’

‘It’s going to do more than just drop.’

‘The markets are going to plummet!’

Jasper thought to himself, but he could not explain his thoughts to Jake.

He could not possibly tell Jake that a group of powerful terrorists would drive two planes into New York's World Trade Center in one and a half months, thus resulting in the biggest, most tragic, and most impactful terrorist incident in the entire world.

"You can take this as an intuition of mine. Don't think too much about it, just do as I say. Pull out from the market slowly and try your best to not attract attention."

"At the same time, open positions in the gold futures market. Open many positions but keep every market order small. As I said, keep a low profile."

Jake's brow twitched at Jasper's words.

Global trade was growing in this new millennium, and no country could close its borders and order a national lockdown. As a result, the global economic situation was deeply intertwined with worldwide stability.

The rise and fall of the financial securities market might not represent much in and of itself, but a fall in stock prices coupled with an increase in gold prices could only mean an international conflict was about to occur.

'Does Mr. Laine have intel on some outbreak of war somewhere in the world?!

This thought terrified Jake.

However, the man did not dare to ask further. Jake had always known his limits when extremely important and secretive information was involved.

“I understand, Mr. Laine. I’ll get to it immediately.”

Jasper nodded after receiving Jake’s reply, then ended the video call.

As of this moment, Jasper’s business in Waterhoof City was pretty much completed. Counting the days, Jasper realized he had stayed in Waterhoof City for almost a month.

Jasper was just about to start planning his return to Southeast Province when he suddenly received a surprising phone call. It was from Stephen.

“Mr. Laine.”

Stephen sounded very courteous over the phone.

“My new movie Monastery Soccer’s about to be released in the mainlands for the first time tomorrow. Its first stop is in Waterhoof City. I was wondering if you’d have the time to join the premiere.”

Stephen was an extremely talented man.

Coupled with the fact that the man had made extremely little progress in the early years of his start up, Stephen ended up seeming aloof and cold most of the time.

His character meant the man did not have many friends, while bad rumors about him also began to circulate.

However, this did not stop the man from shining. If he was involved in the movie, the movie was basically set to be a blockbuster.

Moreover, Stephen was not an idiot either. He knew to whom he had to act high and mighty in front of and who to remain humble and honest toward.

Jasper was currently the biggest mogul in Harbor City and the Mainland’s entertainment industries. The man’s resources could easily decide which artist would flourish and which could wave goodbye to their careers. It did not matter how many fans you had or how many big bosses you knew. If Jasper shook his head, then you had nothing but a blacklist waiting for you. A blacklist on all aspects, too.

This was the range of Jasper's influence in the Mainland's and Harbor City's entertainment industry.

Capital was what determined the king in the entertainment industry; A ruthless reality truer here than in any other industry.

This was also why businessmen with resources and contacts had never lacked women, and were constantly being fawned over by female celebrities that civilians considered of superior status.

After much difficulty from Scarlet's side, Stephen had managed to get in contact with Jasper and gotten the man's investment. With that, Stephen's career began to pick up as well.

Thanks to Jasper's investment, Monastery Soccer was the first film Stephen's filming company produced after its establishment. With Jasper's support, Monastery Soccer's box office sales in Harbor City was even more impressive than they were in his past life. Here in the Mainlands, Stephen needed Jasper's support even more.

While Jasper... in all honesty, the man would have forgotten about his investment in Stephen's film company had the man not taken initiative to call him.

There was nothing that could be done. Jasper's business spread too far. If not for the quarterly financial evaluation his company ran, there was no way Jasper would remember all the assets and projects he invested in.

With this result, Stephen's box office sales would certainly do well in other places around the world in the future.

Not to mention that Monastery Soccer could not be shown in mainland cinemas in his past life. Thanks to Easy Media's help this time, there seemed to be no issue with showing the movie in the Mainlands.

Tomorrow would be its premiere.

"As expected. Film productions really do make a lot of money."

Jasper thought back to the 10 million US Dollars he had invested into Stephen. From this film alone, after paying production, advertisement, theater distribution, and sales channel expenses, he would be able to gain back more than half of the principal sum.

Jasper was soon in a good mood as he had a great feeling about the entertainment media's future.

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The following day, Jasper first went to fetch the gentle and soft Tiffany from Hoofmorn University.

This lady loved watching Stephen's movies in his past life and she always used to complain about how one needed to watch Steph's films in the cinemas. Thus, every time Stephen's films premiered in cinemas in his past life, she would always drag Jasper along to watch it with her.

This was a feeling shared by a majority of eighties children in the mainlands.

Therefore, Jasper did not forget her this time.

"Really? Do you mean it, Jasper? Can we really go to the premiere?"

"A few of my classmates and I have already heard about this long ago. This is the first time Steph's film is launching in the Mainlands and a lot of classmates are planning to line up overnight to buy tickets once it's released in the cinemas!"

Jasper smiled when he heard Tiffany's excitement. Everything was worth it if it made Tiffany happy.

Not to mention, Jasper could tell from Tiffany and her friends' reactions that Monastery Soccer would earn a lot of money this time.

Whether it was due to the production quality of Monastery Soccer, Stephen's branding, or the Mainlander's appreciation for Stephen, a miracle was destined to happen with the box office sales.

"Of course I mean it. Since when have I lied to you?" Jasper asked with a smile.

"Jasper, will there be a lot of celebrities there?" Tiffany asked worriedly.

Jasper gave it some thought before he replied. He had never attended a premiere before, but he had seen the scene from all sorts of entertainment news channels before. The host would normally invite good friends and formidable figures they knew in the industry to hype up the premiere.

Not to mention that both the mainland's Easy Media and Harbor City's Advent Entertainment Group valued this premiere greatly. This film was the first attempt Harbor City was making to introduce their films to the mainland market, so there would almost certainly be a lot of fuss surrounding it.

"There should be," Jasper nodded and affirmed.

"I'm so nervous," Tiffany said softly.

“Celebrities are people too. There’s nothing to be nervous about. Who knows, maybe they’ll be the ones trying to please you when the time comes,” Jasper said with a crescent eyed smile.

Due to Jasper’s current status in both territories’ entertainment industries, the man was not showing off when he said this.

However, Tiffany did not know that, so she thought that Jasper was simply joking with her.

The car soon arrived at the booked venue, Golden Exchange International Cinemas.

As a state own enterprise, Golden Exchange was the first national theatre chain and currently the most high-class cinema in the country.

At this moment, the cinema had already been decorated for the premiere of Monastery Soccer.

Many reporters were conducting interviews on both sides of the carpet as a bunch of excited movie fans who had been chosen to watch the premiere lined up outside the venue.

Before they could enter though, the more important agenda on the itinerary was the arrival of celebrities. Quite a few celebrities had already arrived by the time Jasper brought Tiffany to the scene.

One had to admit that both Easy Media and Advent Entertainment Group were unrivaled in the entertainment industry.

Every celebrity, regardless of status in the Mainlands and Harbor City, had tried their best to participate in this premiere.

Attending this premiere would give them a chance to meet Stephen and potentially work with the man. More importantly, luckier celebrities might even get in contact with senior executives of Easy Media or Advent Entertainment Group, at which point they would be set for life.

When Jasper and Tiffany got out of the car, the sight that met them was the grandiose of an extremely sophisticated award ceremony.

“Ms. Flowers, could I ask...”

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“Mr. Williamson, I heard that you and...”

“Ms. Barlow, your recent project in...”

All renowned and top-notch celebrities in both the Mainlands and Harbor City seemed to have arrived as well.

Jasper had not informed Easy Media or JW Entertainment Group that he was attending. Jasper had even told Stephen that he wished to come in a relatively low profile manner.

Thus, Jasper’s attendance was completely incognito such that no one was aware of his arrival.

Jasper and Tiffany had just gotten out of the car when cameras began to flash and blur his vision.

“Relax a little. These reporters are only taking pictures of celebrities. All we have to do is ignore them and walk in.”

Jasper comforted her when he saw how Tiffany tensed slightly.

Tiffany grabbed Jasper's hand tightly and nodded. She looked on with shock at the celebrities that were being surrounded and interviewed by reporters.

"There are so many people clamoring after them for interviews, Jasper. It's so majestic."

Jasper followed Tiffany's gaze and looked at these so-called prestigious actors and actresses. He naturally thought back to how humbly and courteously these people bowed, toasted, and spoke to him when they ate together before.

Jasper said with a crescent eyed smile, "I can raise you to their level if you want. You could be as famous as them."

Tiffany beamed into a smile in response. "No thanks. I can't sing and my acting skills aren't that great either. I won't be able to do it."

"When it comes to the performing arts, it all comes down to money. If the money says yes, then you'll get it no matter how unskilled you are. If the money says no, then you'll never make it big regardless of your capabilities," Jasper said meaningfully.

Tiffany blinked. Innocent and unaccustomed to the harshness of reality, she did not really understand what Jasper meant.

As the two conversed and were about to enter the venue, a voice rang out from behind.

“Those in front! Don’t you two know that this is a red carpet for celebrities only? Get lost immediately!”

An ear piercing shriek caused Jasper to turn around. Only to see a woman, dressed to the nines with decent features and a slim figure.

“This is where the guests enter. I’m here to attend the premiere as well, so it’s only natural I enter from here.

You can walk first if you’re in a rush, but what’s with your aggression?” Jasper asked calmly.

The woman scoffed and looked Jasper and Tiffany over. After confirming that they were not from within the industry, she said, “You guys are guests? Bullsh*t!”

“All the guests here are huge celebrities, and I don’t recognize you two. What right do you two have to walk in here?”

“With one look I can tell that you two are just nobodies non-famous artists trying to take advantage of this opportunity to walk the red carpet! Either that or you two are mindless fans! Stop acting already!”

The woman then pointed at the car behind her arrogantly and said, “Do you even know who’s in the car behind? It’s Terra’s idol prince! You’d get lost and not block the roads if you knew what’s good for you! Otherwise, I’ll make life a living hell for you two! ”

The woman’s arrogant and domineering attitude had even Tiffany infuriated, let alone Jasper.

“You, you’re being too unreasonable!” Tiffany said angrily.

The mockery on the woman’s expression deepened. “Are you getting lost or not? Did I not make myself clear? This isn’t a place for questionable people like you!”

“Run off to the back if you’re here for a celebrity’s signature. They might give you one if they’re in a good mood. Otherwise, I’ll call security to throw you out right this instant!”