

# Life at The Top – Chapter 1286

Almost everyone had already arrived and were seated when Jasper entered the auction venue.

There was around twenty groups of people within the hall.

Every group had around two to three members, so, coupled with the officers around the room, sixty to seventy people were currently packed into the meeting room.

The majority of people took their seats, while the most attention grabbing person was Scott.

The man sat with a high profile in the middle of the room with both arms placed over two empty chairs by his side. He also had someone pouring and offering tea as well as someone giving him massages.

Upon seeing Jasper enter the room, Scott raised his eyes lazily to glance at the man. He scoffed but did not say anything provoking.

After all, this was an auction venue and not even he dared to make a ruckus.

Not to mention that Julian was right beside Jasper, and the wound on Scott's head had not recovered and still ached.

Scott retracted his sinister gaze once he saw Jasper sit down.

Scott took the coffee from his lackey's hands and asked, "Did you talk to those people we asked yet?"

"Yeah. Everyone will go according to plan when the time comes," A lackey quickly replied.

Scott nodded in satisfaction and asked, "What about that f\*cker? Did you find out who he is?"

The lackey looked embarrassed and said, "Mr. Covington, we weren't given enough time to investigate. We need more time."

"Useless! "

Scott glared at him and waved him off annoyedly, "You people can't even do anything properly. Go ask the company hosting the auction later since he's definitely registered

his company if he came to participate in the auction. You'll be able to learn about the man through them."

The lackey's eyes lit up and he praised, "I knew you'd have a great plan, Mr. Covington. I'm sure that'll work"

"My life would've been over long ago if I had to count on you people," Scott said with a sneer.

"The auction's about to start so do that later. How powerful can this f\*cker be anyway? Hmph, he's got much to work on before he can beat me."

A short moment later, the auctioneer walked up to the stage and said energetically, "Thank you for coming today. There's only one item on the agenda today, and that's Downstream Investment LLC!"

"Now, before the auction begins, let me describe the situation we have today."

"We've currently received a total of twenty two valid applications, which corresponds to the twenty two families or companies present who applied to participate."

“Downstream Investment LLC is Tefa City City Government’s first investment company operating on state funds. According to the higher ups’ policy, we will now begin the auction for this company market valued at 16 million.”

“I’m sure everyone seated already understands the specifics of this company, but just to emphasize, we are auctioning the ownership of Downstream Investment LLC as a whole. This includes existing office building equipment, various financial investment qualifications, and licenses.”

“The opening bid is at 3 million Somer Dollars.”

“Without further ado, let the auction begin!”

“At an opening price of 3 million, interested bidders can start calling their bids now.”

The auctioneer had just finished speaking when someone raised their bidder card in the corner of the room.

“Number 11 calls for 3 million, are there any higher bids?”

“Number 9 calls for 3.1 million!”

“Number 13 calls for 3.3 million!”

Under the steady stream of bidders, Downstream Investment Company’s price rose from 3 million to 8 million.

Seated in the middle of the room, Scott stared sinisterly sideways at Jasper, who had yet to bid. He scoffed.

The people calling out prices now were all helpers Scott invited. If Jasper did not call a price, then Scott would get the company at a low cost. If Jasper raised his bidder card, then Scott would make his move as well. Everything depended on Jasper now.

At this moment, the man’s eyes were slightly narrowed. He caught onto something the auctioneer had said.

This company was being auctioned along with its financial investment qualifications and licenses!

This benefit did not exist in his past life.

The official financial investment license was something extremely rare in the country, both now and in the future.

Ninety five percent of the listed investment companies, regardless of size, did not have formal qualifications.

They either relied on, or borrowed from, another company that did.

## **Life at The Top – Chapter 1287**

With the rapid development of the mainlands' economy, the importance of formal qualifications and licensing also began to grow.

With this license, it meant that the company could legally issue bonds to society and collect investments from the public. This was of great importance. Lately, this kind of license could only be held by enterprises which received state funds.

This immediately increased Downstream Investment Company's worth by a hundred fold!

“Baz...”

Jasper turned his head to call on Baz. The latter was slightly nervous since this was his first auction.

“Mr. Laine,” Baz replied courteously. He was rather excited because he knew that Mr. Laine was about to make a move.

“Call a price of 16 million.”

Baz was stunned when he heard Jasper.

The highest price at the scene was 8 million, yet Jasper immediately bid double the price.

While Baz had never attended an auction before, he knew that people did not normally bid for things like this.

However, Baz saw how Jasper showed no signs of changing his mind and did not dare to ask more. He ignored the excitement he felt and raised his bidder card.

“Number 22 calls for 16 million!”

The auctioneer’s excited voice resonated throughout the venue. The hall was in an uproar.

They immediately turned to look at Jasper, who called for such an astronomical price.

It was not just Scott and his helpers, the businessmen who heard Jasper's registered capital at the door just now were looking at the man too.

The former thought that Jasper did not know any better, while the latter understood that Jasper had the capability to do this.

"You think you can beat me with this?" Scott tilted his head and grinned cheekily.

"Number 1 calls 17 million!"

The auctioneer's voice rang out after Scott raised his tablet.

"17 million going once, is there anyone willing to offer more?"

Downstream Investment Company had a revaluated value of 16 million. However, auction revaluations were normally 10 to 20 percent lower than the market value, otherwise there would be no point in an auction. Therefore, it was not shocking to see the price reaching 17 million.



Scott sneered at Jasper after calling his price.

“Weren’t you rich? Didn’t you want to challenge me? Come one then! Did you lose your voice?”

Scott laughed out loud.

Jasper was currently telling Baz something.

The former looked casual and calm, while the latter had an expression of shock and disbelief.

After talking, Jasper immediately stood up.

He straightened his clothes and told Baz, “I still have a few things to do so I’ll be leaving first. Do you remember what I told you?”

Baz gulped and nodded excitedly.

“Then I’ll get going. I’ll leave this to you.”

Jasper then walked toward the doors with Julian in tow while everyone watched.

“He’s running away?” Scott was stunned and laughed out loud.

“Here I was wondering how powerful you are. But you’re just running away like that?!”

Before Scott could act proud, Baz rose his tablet. “Number 22 calls for 100 million!”

Everyone present was dumbstruck by what they heard.

## **Life at The Top – Chapter 1288**

100 million!

That was a nine digit number, a 1 followed by eight zeroes.

Somerland had a population of more than one billion, but ninety nine point nine percent of its people could never get their hands on so much money within their entire lives.

As everyone sucked in a cold breath, the meeting room door coincidentally creaked as Jasper opened it.

His footsteps slowly moved further away, but the sound of the attendees' thumping hearts in the room only grew louder.

Once the door closed, the venue erupted into chaos. Everyone began talking among themselves.

'100 million!'

'That's 100 million Somer Dollars!'

'Not even the net worth of everyone in the room equals such a sum!'

Even Scott was stunned.

He did not even have the chance to wipe the prideful expression off his face before his expression froze.

He even doubted if he had heard correctly.

Scott shot to his feet and shouted, "What the f\*ck! How much did you bid?"

Jasper had already left, so Scott could only stare at Baz and ask.

Baz was completely unafraid.

He shrugged and touched the bandage over his head. Seeing how Scott looked pretty much the same as he did, Baz replied calmly, "I bid 100 million."

Scott's heart raced and his breath quickened. The Covington family would have to sell everything they had to take out 100 million Somer Dollars.

Yet, Jasper had so easily taken this money out to acquire Downstream Investment Company.

'What? Was he kidding?'

At this moment, Scott felt like some bigshot had destroyed his plans while he and his group of people were playing house.

"What did your boss tell you, brat? Don't play around, you're going to have to pay the price you called out! Otherwise, both you and your boss will die tragically!"

Baz thought back to what Jasper told him when he heard Scott's sinister tone and replied with a smile, "My boss told me that he doesn't have time to waste with you people here. He's calling 100 million right off the bat to deter you people."

"Of course."

Baz added with an extremely domineering smile.

"My boss also said that if you continue to raise to price, then we'll also call for 200 million. Up until you cannot take it anymore."

Everyone present exchanged a look when they heard him.

'There's more?'

'This 100 million is already beyond our capabilities, okay?!'

Scott ground his molars.

He had originally planned to crush Jasper with money during this auction.

However, before he could do anything, Jasper immediately pulled 100 million out to completely overwhelm him.

Indignance, disbelief, and fear flooded Scott's chest. He only had one thought in mind now.

"Find out who he is! Right now! He's got to be someone powerful otherwise he can't possibly pull out 100 million just like that!"

"I don't care who he is, but I'll make him pay for humiliating me!"

In the quiet room, the auctioneer gulped and asked carefully, “100 million going once. Is... is there anyone willing to offer more?”

This sentence had everyone who was shocked by Scott’s wretched expression snap back to reality. Everyone shook their heads and sighed. Who were they kidding? This was 100 million! No one could afford to call for a higher price.

This was an auction of Tefa City City Government’s assets. No one would dare to risk angering the government by joking about this.

Was 100 million a lot?

## **Life at The Top – Chapter 1289**

Not really.

Jasper was in a great mood as he rode back to the hotel. There was a reason why JW Capital only did angel investments and had rarely been involved in the country’s securities financial market.

This was because JW Capital, whom Jasper was the majority shareholder of, did not have a financial license.

It was almost impossible to get such a thing.

Most importantly, there was no way anyone could get their hands on it without the support of state funds. Supervision over this licensing would only be founded slightly later on, after 2008.

Jasper could involve himself in the securities market secretly, and like a majority of financial companies, the government would normally turn a blind eye.

However, Jasper did not plan to take this risk. Fortunately, while he was picking up scraps in Tefa City, he had managed to come across this license.

He had hit jackpot with this opportunity.

Forget 100 million, Jasper would be willing to pay 500 million for this company and license.

However, Jasper was now curious about why Downstream Investments had a license this time despite it not having one during his past life.

Jasper had no idea of what had changed in these two timelines. He had just gotten back to the hotel when Baz arrived



soon after.

“It’s done, Mr. Laine!” Baz was still extremely excited.

It had cost 100 million.

While it was not his money, Baz still felt extremely giddy to be the one to call out the price. It was a great feeling.

“Scott didn’t raise the price?” Jasper asked.

Baz laughed out loud and replied, “Raise the price? Mr. Laine, you didn’t see how sour he looked then. It’s like he swallowed a fly. 100 million crushed him completely, he doesn’t have enough money to raise the price even if he wanted to.”

“That’s good, then,” Jasper nodded and said in satisfaction.

After the excitement passed, Baz sat down and said, “Mr. Laine, I originally thought that we’d be able to acquire this business for around 10 million, but we ended up spending 100 million. I’m afraid we’d make a loss.”

Jasper shook his head and replied, "It won't be a loss. We'll make huge profits with this acquisition."

Baz was stunned and he did not understand what Jasper meant.

However, before he could ask about this, a round of fierce knocks was heard at the door.

Baz immediately got up to open the door.

Before Baz could see who was at the door after opening it, someone outside kicked Baz back into the room.

Baz yelled and staggered backward, cupping a hand over his stomach. He turned to shout to Jasper, "Mr. Laine, Scott has brought some people over!"

Jasper's gaze grew cold, and he went to help Baz into a chair.

At the same time, Scott entered the room.

He looked at Jasper sinisterly.

“Wow, Jasper, how could you lie to me like that? JW Company’s owner?!”

Jasper looked at Scott expressionlessly and asked calmly, “Who kicked him just not?”

Scott had a group of burly lackeys behind him as he shouted, “Mot1erf\*cker, I’m talking you! How dare you change the subject?”

“I’m asking you, who kicked him?”

Jasper stared at Scott and shouted fiercely.

Scott was stunned. He did not expect Jasper’s voice to be louder than his.

Just then, a strong man move forward from behind Scott and snickered. “I kicked him. Why? You don’t like it? Then come and fight me!”

Scott sneered and said, “You’re so arrogant because your lackey can fight, right, Jasper? This is the best fighter in Tefa City’s Tiger Head Gang. Let’s see who the better fighter is, hmmm?”

“Julian, break his legs!” Jasper said icily.

## **Life at The Top – Chapter 1290**

When it came to Jasper Laine’s character. This man was easy to talk to most of the time.

This was true so long as you did not step over the line. Such was the case with Henry before and Baz now. Henry was one of the few true friends Jasper had in this life.

Therefore, Jasper valued him a lot.

As for Baz Willis. Jasper more so wished to repay the man for the kindness he had showed in Jasper’s past life.

Jasper might not have survived until he got reincarnated if not for Baz. He might have chosen to kill himself after being hounded by online loans and loan sharks asking for repayment.

For a long time, Baz had also counseled Jasper as an elder. Because of all this, Baz was someone of unique importance to Jasper as well. There was no way Jasper could tolerate it when he saw Baz get beaten up by the people Scott brought over.

Meanwhile, Julian did not think twice after he received Jasper's instruction.

Once Julian moved, the scene immediately turned into a mess.

It took less than two moves from Julian for this number one fighter of the Tiger Head Gang to be kicked onto the ground.

Julian placed a foot over the man's right leg and pressed down.

They heard the crack of bone fracturing followed by the man's tragic wails. A split second later, the room erupted into utter chaos.

"How dare you, Jasper!" Scott was terrified. He did not expect Jasper to be so protective and fierce.

It was just his subordinate. A kick for a kick should have been enough, yet Jasper broke the attacker's legs!

Scott did not understand. Someone like him would never understand how much Jasper valued the people beside him.

This was also why Scott would never have any subordinate who was truly loyal to him.

“So what if I dare?”

Jasper’s voice was strong.

He looked at Scott sinisterly and said, “Be it you, Scott, or your Covington family, I urge you to do your best. I’ve seen more tricks than you can think of since I started my business and paved this path of mine.”

“But if you touch the people beside me, then I can tell you right now. An eye for an eye? I promise no one will be able to stop me and protect you!”

Baz heard Jasper say this as he stood behind the man. Despite the hand over his stomach and his face paling in pain, the man’s gaze was filled with gratitude.

At this moment, Baz would not f hesitate to do whatever Jasper asked.

“F\*ck you, Jasper!”

Scott shouted and stamped his feet.

“This is Tefa City, not Nauritus City! Don’t think that just because you’re rich, that it means you can do whatever you want! The Covington family’s power in Tefa City is beyond what you can possibly imagine! Do you really want to go against me?!”

Jasper sneered and replied, “Go against you? Did you only just realize? Or did you think we could be friends? Who are you to be my friend?”

Scott’s complexion paled at Jasper’s words.

In all honestly, while he had come to the hotel room thinking victory would soon be his, he did actually feel afraid once he witnessed Jasper’s ferocity.

More importantly, Jasper was not the slightly wealthy businessman he initially thought the man was.

Jasper was a businessman, yes, but the man was truly wealthy. This wealth could completely destroy the Covington family.

Scott's only advantage was that Tefa City was the Covington family's territory, and he had home advantage.