

Life at the Top Chapter 501

Jasper smiled. "This is of great importance. Tell me the truth, how's your relationship with him?"

John patted his chest and spoke, "I was the one who helped his daughter enroll in school. We've been friends for over 20 years. It's no problem if you're asking about something normal."

"That's great, then. Could you help me ask if their branch is intending to sell a piece of land around Pearl Tower?" Jasper chuckled.

In his past life, the ICBS branch in Waterhoof City had made a loss trade.

By the shore of Harpoon River, right next to Pearl Tower, was a piece of commercial land owned by ICBS' Waterhoof City branch.

With the piece of land next to Pearl Tower, which was a significant structure in Waterhoof City, an awkward situation emerged because no one dared to buy it despite their praises on how nice that plot of land was. Mainly, it was because no one could predict Waterhoof City's future.

Therefore, the ICBS decided to shift and sell the land to a state-owned real estate company at an extremely low price in the year 2002.

One may ask how much it was sold for.

230 million Somer Dollars.

This was the renowned Z3-2 land.

Construction to build the country's tallest high-rise building began in the year 2008. In Jasper's past life, everyone who went to Waterhoof City would undoubtedly take a look at the magnificent skyscraper.

It was Waterhoof City Financial Tower, which had a height of 632 meters and a whopping 119 stories.

There it stood, in Waterhoof City, looking at the opposite shore while rooted on the other shore of Harpoon River. It had Pearl Tower on its left and the building in a shape of an upward spiral on its right.

The building, before Jasper reincarnated, had collected up to a few million Somer Dollars worth of rent annually.

One would be an idiot to see an advantage and not take it.

Not to mention that Jasper had always wanted to build a large building for JW Company.

There was nothing more suitable than Waterhoof City's significant structure and what would be Waterhoof City Financial Tower in the future.

In addition, Jasper had asked about the plot of land at such a time for another important reason.

While that piece of land had yet to be sold off, it was still a plot of land next to Pearl Tower in Legends District. It was far from an unwanted plot of land.

There were also a few office buildings on it.

Those buildings were, coincidentally, Ian's and Norman's office buildings as well as the base for Haddock Chamber of Commerce's Waterhoof City branch!

As long as he successfully got hold of that plot of land, then he could easily uproot the Hull family and the Gardner family of Waterhoof City. He could also break up Haddock Chamber of Commerce's Waterhoof City branch.

He would earn a fortune while completely crushing the Hull family. This was Jasper's innermost intention.

Just then, John's call to his old colleague was connected.

A few minutes later, John looked at Jasper confusedly. "I've asked him, and there is a plot of land like you said. But my old colleague was curious since their branch had only just held a meeting deciding to sell it out. How did you know about this?"

Jasper smiled. "I have my ways, John. if you could help me all the way, I'd like you to come with me to Waterhoof City tomorrow and meet with this old colleague of yours. If possible, I'd like to sign that contract as fast as possible."

John grinned. "No problem. The branch has been wanting to sell that piece of land long ago, but you know how it is with systems and protocol. Now that they've finally had a meeting and decided to sell it, I'm pretty sure you can even negotiate for a lower price if you're adamant about buying it. I'll come with you tomorrow!"

Life at the Top Chapter 502

In Suesville, while Jasper and John were meeting.

As one of the two renowned older cities in Riversloth, Suesville's air of grace was a quality that most other cities did not possess.

In a gray-bricked manor hidden within the mountains and rivers in the outskirts of the city, Ian stood courteously in the middle of the traditional-styled main hall.

A few servants were waiting soundlessly at the hall's corners, waiting for orders.

Soon later, footsteps approached and were followed by a strong-looking old man who entered the hall from a room inside. The man had a head full of white hair and was wearing traditional clothes.

The man who seemed no different than any other old man who did daily morning exercises was Gale, the spiritual leader of the country's Haddock Chamber of Commerce

Despite being in his 80s, Gale was still very lively and full of vigor. While he did need a cane to walk, his pace was not slow at all.

"Mr. Hurlbutt..."

Ian felt his body become taut at the sight of Gale. He nodded and bowed courteously when he greeted.

Gale nodded and sat on his grandmaster's chair. He pointed at an empty chair beside him and spoke, "Come, sit and speak."

However, Ian did not move and only clenched his teeth to continue speaking. "Mr. Hurlbutt, forgive me for my shameless behavior, but I've come to ask you to get justice for me!"

Gale's white brows furrowed slightly.

While Gale had retired, his students could be found all over the world.

Ian was merely one of his many students, and as hardworking this student was, he was not one of the outstanding ones in comparison to the rest.

Yet to see Ian, a man in his 40s, tattle to him like a mistreated child, Gale immediately realized that something was wrong.

“What happened? Sit first and speak slowly,” Gale spoke gently and notified a servant to bring coffee over.

Ian finally sat and told him what had happened.

However, instead of Ian screwing with Jasper’s building materials, the story had changed to Jasper being arrogant and cornering them.

Then, it turned to the Hull family begging for mercy and giving in every time.

Ian had very rationally hidden the relationship between Jasper and the Law family since it was a significant relationship. After all, Gale might not wish to offend the Laws.

Ian also did not say anything about what Ben and Hans did to Wendy.

He claimed that he had started a small project in the Southeast Province and Jasper had stolen it from him with sheer dominance since they were in his territory.

“Not only that, but he also tortured my brother and my son. Now one of them is crippled while the other has gone mad!

“Oh, my poor son, Ben. Sure, he’s not some handsome youth, but he was still a polite, humble, and understanding boy. Now, he’s been driven mad!

“And my brother too! That Jasper just destroyed any chances my brother has of having children!

“Mr. Hurlbutt, he’s ending my Hull family bloodline here!

“And he still doesn’t plan to stop. He said he’ll come to Waterhoof City and crush all of us Hulls to death.

“I’m a man in my 40s. How am I supposed to just let him do what he wants? But Jasper and Dawson Schuler are very powerful while I’m all alone with no one to hang on to. I had no other choice but to come to you, Mr. Hurlbutt.”

Facing Ian’s agony, Gale remained silent as he heard the tale and did not comment.

Life at the Top Chapter 503

Having lived for more than 80 years, Gale had seen too many of such power struggles ever since he began to do business in the last era.

He did not need to think into it to guess that there was more to the story than Ian claimed.

While he did not know what kind of people the rest of the Hull family were, he knew very well what kind of person Ian Hull was.

“You are my student, Ian. You followed under me for seven to eight years before you made a name for yourself. I would like to think that I know you well.

“Perhaps in this incident, this young man called Jasper and Dawson Schuler have done you wrong, but can you be true to your conscience and claim that you were in the right this entire time?”

In face of Gale’s question, Ian clenched his teeth and replied, “I was doing my business properly, Mr. Hurlbutt. If I were to have offended them, then it would be taking that project in the Southeast Province and taking their benefits.

“But that’s just normal business competition. If I lost, then, of course, I wouldn’t be saying anything about it. I’d accept my failure.

“But they’re not following the rules here and they’re even using dirty tricks. Not only did they use their resources and power in the Southeast Province to pressure me, but they even crossed the line and hurt my family. They’ve ended the Hull family’s bloodline.

“This is more than just disrespect to me! They’re disrespecting all the businesspeople from Haddock!”

At that, Gale only laughed and looked at Ian intently. “So you are forcefully dragging the Haddock Chamber of Commerce into this?”

“You mean to say that if I do not help you today, then it will be the fault of everyone in the chamber? That it will be my fault?”

Ian immediately stood. “That’s not what I meant, Mr. Hurlbutt...”

Gale waved a hand dismissively and sighed. “I think I know very well whether that was what you meant or not, but I have decided that I do not wish to care so much about such matters anymore.

“Many of your classmates and seniors have come to me when they found themselves in trouble over the past few years, but when have you seen me helping them?”

“You must understand that I’m a retired old man. I no longer involve myself in business, nor do I wish to care so much about matters of the later generations.”

Ian felt his heart sink along with Gale’s words.

Finally, Ian clenched his teeth and turned to Gale. “Mr. Hurlbutt, my father told me before he passed that you owe him a favor.”

Gale's expression darkened.

The entire atmosphere in the hall froze along with his words.

Ian felt his heart clog his throat.

In front of his old teacher, Ian was well aware of how powerful this old man was.

One mere command from him was enough to turn Ian into a street rat the moment he walked out of those manor doors. Everyone would shun him.

Unless necessary, he did not want to threaten Gale.

After a long while, Gale spoke, "In specific, I owe your father two favors. The first was repaid when your father asked me to take you in as my student. The second favor, I never had the chance to repay him. Are you certain that you wish to use it?"

"Think carefully, for I will help you should you decide to use the favor, but you will no longer be a student of mine after this is over."

Ian's threat had evidently angered Gale, but an old man like him seemed to consider a promise heavier than his own life. As such, he let Ian make the decision.

Ian did not think too much of it and looked up at Gale with his jaw set. "Please help me, Mr. Hurlbutt!"

Gale did not seem surprised by Ian's choice. Both his eyes closed partially as he asked indifferently, "Very well. What do you want me to do?"

Life at the Top Chapter 504

Excitement and glee flashed through Ian's expression at Gale's words.

"I know that you've already retired for many years, Mr. Hurlbutt, so I wouldn't dare to request that you deal with this in person. Not to mention that Jasper's just a mere junior. He isn't worth you entering the business world again just to deal with him.

"Which is why I hope that you could ask a few of your students, my seniors, to spread the word so that they can support my next move."

Ian's understanding attitude slightly smoothed Gale's expression.

After all, considering his age, Gale was no longer as enticed by the prospect of money or benefits after experiencing so much of life.

However, his reputation mattered a lot to him.

Otherwise, he would not change his mind just because he owed someone a favor.

At the same time, the last thing Gale wanted to happen was for Ian to threaten him to reenter the business world.

Otherwise, Gale would truly turn into a huge joke in the business world. An old retired man in his 80s reentering the business world just to deal with a young man in his 20s.

"What is your plan? Tell me what you have in mind first, then I will think about who I should help you contact," Gale spoke calmly.

Ian took a deep breath to suppress the bubbling excitement within and replied, "Mr. Hurlbutt, I originally planned to use commercial tactics to win Jasper, but that method takes too long. When dealing with vile scum like Jasper, the only option is to match his vile tricks.

"I've thought about it, and what I need first is three billion Somer Dollars worth of funds. These funds will be used to attack Jasper.

"We have to account for Jasper's father-in-law, Dawson Schuler, as well. According to what I know, Dawson's Schuler Group is currently the largest supermarket chain group in the Southeast Province. Schuler Group has been expanding exponentially lately, and it has even acquired the largest supermarket business in the country.

"That means their supermarket company will currently be tight on cash flow. I remember that one of my senior classmates also works in the supermarket business. I can use the funds and the help of my senior to crush Schuler Group!

"Jasper will be even easier to deal with. With enough funds, I'll be able to get rid of all his assets in less than half a month.

"After all, there's too big a difference between his and Dawson's foundations. He's just a young brat in his early 20s. How could he have any backup plans or connections?"

Ian's words were filled with hefty amounts of confidence and pride.

However, he kept the most important plan to himself.

With the funds and support from the businesspeople of Haddock, he would be able to use all these connections to dismantle Jasper's capital chain in the shortest amount of time.

By then, both Dawson's and Jasper's businesses would suffer attacks from all sides. Their capital chain would rupture. After that, he would appear and

forcefully acquire all the businesses and assets under their names at the cheapest price.

In other words, he was planning to make the Haddock Chamber of Commerce into his weapon and pierce Jasper with it in the most heinous and abominable way. Then, he would sit and reap the rewards of others' hard work.

Ian did not feel an inch of guilt with his plan since he truly believed that he was entitled to these rewards and Jasper deserved these consequences.

Gale neither agreed nor disagreed after listening to Ian's entire plan.

Gale did not know, nor did he care, who Jasper was.

All that mattered to him was to go through with whatever Ian had planned so that he could return the favor he owed the Hull family.

Gale did not care who would end up suffering losses in the process, let alone the fact that Ian's plan was abominable and sinister.

"I will get you the three billion in funds you need and contact the people you require for this plan of yours."

Life at the Top Chapter 505

Beneath Gale's pure white brows were a pair of wise and experienced eyes. He looked at Ian indifferently and spoke.

"Like I said. After this, you will no longer be my student."

Ian replied calmly, “But you’ll always be my most respectable teacher, and I will continue to be a member of the Haddock Chamber of Commerce.”

“Haha...”

Gale smiled ambiguously and picked up the coffee cup by his side before speaking faintly, “The help you require will appear by tomorrow.”

Ian secretly clenched his fists to hide the excitement in his heart.

However, he could tell from the way Gale drank his coffee that he did not want to entertain him as his guest anymore.

Now that he had gotten what he wanted, Ian did not dwell and courteously bade Gale farewell. He quietly exited the century-old manor.

Returning to the car, Ian turned his head back to see the subtle silhouette of the old manor hidden away in a land of green. His expression was no longer courteous but rather wretched and fierce.

“Just wait, Jasper. Tomorrow, I’ll show you how stupid your actions are in the cruelest way possible!

“I’m going to make the three of you—you, that Dawson, and his daughter Wendy—kneel before Benny after I snatch everything from you, Jasper. I don’t care if Benny has gone mad and won’t be able to understand you, but you three are going to apologize and repent!”

He had already contacted the people for hire for that.

After he had prepared everything on his side, Ian would immediately attack Jasper’s and Dawson’s properties from all sides.

“You think you’re vile? You’re too young to know what’s truly vile!”

Taking a deep breath and closing his eyes, Ian shook excitedly at the thought of his impending victory.

Just then, Ian's phone rang.

The urgency of his ringtone broke through the silence in the car and Ian's brows furrowed slightly at the sound.

Seeing the display, he realized that it was from his company's second-in-command.

Ian accepted the call without thinking too much.

"It's me. What is it?" Ian asked straightforwardly.

His current priority was to get rid of the b*stard, Jasper. As for happenings within the company, he could push off whatever he could.

"Something big has happened, Mr. Hull. Two of our cargo ships were seized by customs inspectors in Harbor City!"

Ian's eyes widened as he heard the words from his confidant.

"How could it be?! Our import and export trade has been steady this entire time, and the people in Harbor City have never come to trouble us before. Why did they suddenly detain our ships?!"

"Our people in Harbor City have already asked around, but the customs seem very adamant this time. They claim that they've found illegally smuggled goods on our ships.

"They're refusing communication and even issued a restraining order on our people there. No one's allowed to leave Harbor City until the incident has been fully investigated so they can be subpoenaed."

Ian felt his scalp grow numb as if he had been struck by lightning.