

Life at the Top Chapter 536

John came to fetch Jasper the following day, and the two arrived at Ascendas Investment.

Ascendas Investment took up the entire top floor of an ordinary commercial building.

“Kai’s Ascendas Investment sure looks professional.”

Jasper told John as he took a glance at the pretty lady at the front desk.

John pursed his lips. “Kai doesn’t like being looked down on, so he tends to waste his money on formalities like this.”

Kai then walked out of his office to greet the both of them.

“Mr. Laine, John. Everything’s ready, should we go?”

Jasper glanced at the time, realizing that it was currently 7:40 a.m. There was still 20 minutes until the market opened, so he nodded and followed Kai into his office.

In the office, everything unnecessary had already been put away. All that was left was a large office desk with a few computers on it. The corresponding software had already been launched.

“Do you have the funds?” Jasper sat before the computer and asked.

Kai immediately replied, “All 800,000 dollars is in the account.”

Jasper was just about to speak when the office door was kicked open from outside with a bang.

Everyone in the quiet room was stunned, and Jasper's eyes flitted over to see a sinister-looking middle-aged man enter the room.

"Samuel!" Kai shouted in shock.

Samuel entered the room and scoffed at Kai. "Never thought I'd come and look for you myself, huh, Jones?"

Kai took a deep breath and calmed himself down. "This is my office, what are you doing here?"

Samuel merely sneered. "You f*cking went back on your word and now I have to cancel my entire f*cking plan. Of course, I'm going to ask you for compensation!

"Plus..."

Samuel glared at Jasper. "I'd like to know what kind of help you've got here. Someone even better than me, huh? Someone who has got you begging like a f*cking dog, huh?"

"A young man? Kai, you have sh*t for brains. You're going to get scammed before you know it, you idiot!" Samuel gave Jasper a once-over and turned to sneer at Kai.

Jasper frowned. "Could you get rid of unnecessary people, Kai?"

Samuel's expression changed as he pointed at Jasper. "I don't care where the f*ck you came from, you little brat, but I'm going to kill you if you dare to help Kai today!"

Jasper leaned back on the chair and spoke with interest, “Now you’ve got me curious. How exactly do you plan to kill me?”

Samuel scoffed. “At least ask around before you start doing business here. Do you even know who I am? I’m Samuel Ray! How dare you steal my business from me?”

Kai’s expression darkened. “Samuel! You’ve been taking advantage of my need for help, wanting to take a 30% commission regardless of whether I make a profit or a loss. Since I’ve already decided against working with you, I’d appreciate it if you were more polite!”

Jasper finally understood why Samuel was so infuriated. He piped up calmly, “30% commission. Are your hands made of gold, Mr. Ray? What’s with the high charge?”

Samuel’s expression darkened. “Has no one ever taught you the rules, young man? How much I charge for commission is my issue. But you’ve got to at least consider your own skills before you dare steal my clients.”

Jasper looked at Samuel meaningfully and spoke calmly, “I might not be very capable, but I’m definitely more skilled than you.”

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“You’ve sure got quite the galls for a young man!”

Samuel scoffed at Jasper’s claim.

“How much do you think you can help Jones earn with 800,000 dollars in funds, you brat? Don’t talk big if you don’t have the ability to back you up. You’ll have to pay the consequences for bluffing.”

Jasper looked at Samuel and chuckled. “You seem so certain that I’m unable to help Kai get his capital back.”

Samuel scoffed and pointed at the ashtray with more than ten cigarette buds in it. “I’ll eat the ashtray if you can do it.”

Jasper spoke calmly, “I don’t need you to eat this ashtray. How much did you lose last month in total, Kai?”

Kai replied embarrassedly, “Here and there, I’d say a total of more than six million.”

“Would you like to gamble, Mr. Ray?” Jasper slightly squinted his eyes at Samuel’s dark expression. “Kai lost six million and I have the remaining 800,000 dollars of his capital in hand.

“If I manage to earn this six million back for him today, you’ll pay me the amount I managed to earn. How’s that?”

Samuel could not help but chortle. “Who do you think you are, you brat? Do you think you can predict the future? Earning six million with a capital of 800,000 dollars, do I look like an idiot or are you telling me you print money for a living? You can’t even earn that much and that quickly from printing money!”

Jasper replied calmly, “Stop giving me all that nonsense. The more impossible it is, the more this benefits you, doesn’t it?”

Samuel scoffed. “Fine. I’ll bet, then. But what if you can’t do it?”

“Then I’ll come up with six million myself,” Jasper replied calmly.

Samuel's expression turned cold as he stared at Jasper. "Where the hell are you going to get that six million from? How do I know that you're not just pretending to be rich, huh?"

Jasper was speechless.

Ever since his reincarnation, he had fought with trust fund babies and stepped over wealthy businessmen. He had been on the receiving end of cold sneers and harsh words, but no one had ever accused him of pretending to be rich.

"I can swear on it."

John suddenly spoke.

John turned to Samuel calmly. "As the vice president of ICBS' Tefa City branch, I can testify that Jasper is able to pay six million Somer Dollars. Should an issue arise, you are welcome to take the money from me. Does this relieve you?"

Samuel pursed his lips disdainfully and replied, "Since when do you have a say in this, Jackson? You're just someone living on a salary. I could sell your entire family and I still wouldn't earn a fortune. Who do you think you are?"

John flushed in humiliation. "I still have quite the contacts here in Tefa City. Six million isn't a difficult amount to borrow considering my status here! Do not look down on me, Samuel Ray!"

Samuel scoffed and looked at Jasper. "These are the people you hang out with? How outstanding can you be?"

"Say what you guys want, but you're going to think that I'm too scared if I say no. Fine, then. We'll bet. It's just six million. I'll take it as your sign of respect to me."

John's expression darkened, and he almost asked Kai to throw Samuel out the door. However, seeing how Jasper had placed a bet with Samuel, he had no other choice but to push his anger down and watch the scene unfold.

“This is getting out of hand, John,” Kai nudged John and whispered.

John chuckled and whispered back, “What are you afraid of? Did you forget how Jasper had made a name for himself with a gamble the first time you met him back at Royce Villa?”

Kai was dazed for a moment, thinking back to how Jasper had turned the tables as the underdog and won Hugh. That had been the beginning of Jasper’s fame.

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With history testifying Jasper’s ability, Kai immediately nodded and relaxed. He replied with a grin, “Alright. Let’s just sit and watch, then.”

Not knowing what Kai and John were murmuring about between themselves, Samuel scoffed and growled. “What are you two f*cking idiots so happy about? You’re already screwed.”

“Watch your mouth.”

Jasper looked up from behind the computer and glanced at Samuel, speaking calmly, “What kind of bet will this be if you’re so noisy and affect me earning money, hmm?”

“Motherf*cker!” Samuel roared, his expression terrifyingly dark. He forced himself to calm down as it truly was not the time to say anything. He forced the words out with a huff, “Fine. I won’t say anything, then. I’d like to see how you’re going to screw yourself over. I’ll be waiting for that six million from you!”

At that point, Jasper no longer had the mood to entertain Samuel.

His focus was entirely on the screen before his eyes.

The display currently showed the official website of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The official website had the latest news released less than 20 minutes ago.

It stated that due to weather reasons, domestic cotton production was expected to shrink substantially with a 40% decrease in output than the same period last year.

When Jasper first reincarnated, he had written all the financial incidents that he remembered from his past life in a small notebook.

The cotton incident was among them, but it was only a small incident.

The only reason Jasper called it small was that the benefits from this incident were less exaggerated in comparison to the other opportunities.

Jasper might never have involved himself with this incident if Kai's affair had not happened at such a coincidental timing.

Seeing how things were now, winning this gamble against Samuel did not seem like a difficult feat.

In the year 2000, much had happened with the country's futures market. The cotton pricing incident before the new year would be the last monumental incident for the year.

The country's cotton production would shrink greatly, triggering the rise in prices for cotton's futures market. That afternoon, the official website would announce that import trade had been agreed on with a few other countries.

These two news announcements would cause the price of cotton to rise steeply and then crash down once arriving at the peak like a roller coaster.

“You operate it, Kai,” Jasper glanced at Kai and spoke.

Kai was excited as he ran over.

“Huh?! The price of cotton dropped?!” Kai shouted in surprise at the sight of the screen in front of Jasper.

Both John and Samuel were surprised by the news.

John laughed loudly and freely.

Meanwhile, Samuel’s expression darkened in anger. “You’re just lucky, you brat. But so what, news has already gotten out. The price will only rise if you enter the market now.”

Jasper did not seem to hear him for he turned to Kai calmly. “Don’t look at my screen. Keep an eye on your account. How much is the price for cotton?”

Kai quickly stared at the market and saw the frightening inflating line. “The market’s already reacting. It’s been ten minutes since the market started and the price has already risen by 2,000 Somer Dollars. It costs 14,500 now.”

Without much thought, Jasper immediately instructed, “Buy the entire position. Don’t leave a single cent.”

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At that, the three other men present were dazed.

Even John, who trusted Jasper the most, was shocked. He knew that Jasper was someone who would never hesitate once he found an opening, but he had not expected Jasper to be so brave.

“Won’t you give it a deeper thought, Jasper? After all, the bar for the futures market is too high. We only have 800,000 dollars. I’m afraid we’ll hit liquidation right away with the slightest pullback in price if we buy in the entire position.”

“That’s right, Mr. Laine. The prices have already risen by 2,000 Somer Dollars. That’s a 16% increase. While it is exciting, the market price is bound to return to normal once it reaches a high enough amount,” Kai spoke carefully.

Samuel could not help but guffaw. “I can’t believe I actually got startled when you talked so big and surely just now. You’re just a useless nobody, after all. Hahaha!

“You’re f*cking stupid. Do you think you can just rush in because it’s good news? What do you take the futures market for, a taxi? Do you think the prices will spike just because it’s raining?

“Do you even know what a pullback is? It’s rare for idiots like you to continue trading in the market when prices reach a certain high. There are people who’ve been holding futures stocks for a long time and if they see that there’s a profit, some of them will choose to sell. Most people tend to look at the trend first and then the price will of course drop back to normal. That’s called a pullback.

“Do you even f*cking understand me? A slight drop of 1,000 bucks will have your capital of 800,000 dollars hitting liquidation. It’ll be too late for you to cry then.”

Samuel then sneered at Kai. “You’ve wasted 40 years of your life, Jones. It’s still not too late for you to regret it now since you haven’t bought in. But I’ll be charging 40% for commission and procedures this time if you want me to help!”

Kai clenched his jaw quietly and turned to Jasper.

Jasper sighed and spoke, "If you trust me, then do as I say. If you don't want to trust me, then I'll get up and leave."

Kai fell silent for two seconds before he clenched his jaw and spoke, "I'll listen to you!"

"Then buy in."

Jasper shook his head when he looked at the market. There had been a 400 dollars increase in the price of cotton during the one to two minutes Kai hesitated.

People tended to speak of legends about the wealthy with envy, claiming that they only grew rich because they were lucky.

However, what they did not know was that luck had never played a part in becoming rich when it came to the financial market.

Even if you stood right where the wind blew and a chance had found its way to you, you still needed the courage to risk your entire wealth and life to catch it.

Or you would still be the plain, ordinary person you were.

Kai was not someone with that sort of bravery, so there was a limit to his success.

Seeing how Kai had begun to buy in, Samuel's expression turned colder as he sneered sinisterly. "Go ahead, then. Buy in, it's just 800,000 dollars anyway. I'd like to see if you're going to jump out from this window when you hit liquidation."

"Shut up!"

Under immense psychological stress, Kai no longer feared Samuel's power and shouted at him darkly, "This is my office. I can and will call someone to throw you out!"

Samuel took a deep breath and pointed at Kai angrily, "What the f*ck did you say? How dare you talk to me like that?!"

Kai's expression was dark as he ignored Samuel and turned to Jasper. "It's done."

Jasper spoke plainly, "People like to call the financial market a legal gambling table and they're not wrong. Especially the futures market that comes with the biggest risk.

"This gambling table has a daily cash flow of trillions of Somer Dollars. Money and lives aren't worth anything here.

"If you want to win, then these are the most important traits you need. You need to be crazy enough to sacrifice everything and the sensitivity of a monster. And perhaps a little bit of luck as well.

"If you want to be careful and risk-free, then you might as well deposit your money into the bank and wait for interest."

Kai was a good man at heart, so Jasper decided that he was worth a few reminders here and there. As to how much Kai understood, well that would be up to him. Jasper would not concern himself with it.

Kai seemed slightly confused while John fell deep in thought.

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Samuel, who heard Jasper's words, immediately scoffed. "So pretentious. Do you think you're the only one who knows how to bluff? We might as well ignore everything and throw all our money in one direction in that case, then! Do you think that'll secure your victory? F*cking hilarious!"

Jasper glanced at Samuel calmly and spoke, "That explains why you can only be all high and mighty within the county. I suppose there's a reason why you can't make it in the cities."

As if he had his tail stepped on, Samuel immediately shot up and roared, "You f*cking brat! What did you just say?!"

It was Samuel's biggest regret that he could not be a part of the city's circle of wealthy people.

The last thing he could tolerate was people telling him he was a county tyrant. He dreamed of nothing more than to enter an even more sophisticated social circle, but they all looked down on him.

At the same time, Kai suddenly shouted, interrupting Samuel's exploding anger.

"It's a pullback! The prices are pulling back!"

The crowd all turned to look, only to see the price of cotton on the screen make an abrupt turn at the peak of the market and begin to drop.

It was a 500 Somer Dollar drop right at the beginning.

Kai immediately lost 400,000 of the 800,000 capital that just entered the market!

This was what made the capitalization game so thrilling.

“Hahaha. I already told you two idiots that you’ll be screwed if you follow this f*cking idiot. You lost half your capital with a 500 pullback. Another 500 and you’ll hit liquidation!” Samuel chortled.

Even John, who trusted Jasper the most, felt his heart thump nervously as he sneaked glimpses at Jasper—what more Kai?

However, Jasper remained calm. “It’s going to be okay.”

Jasper had already expected all of this.

There would indeed be a pullback in the price of cotton, but Jasper could not remember when the pullback stopped.

However, Jasper was certain that the pullback was a minor one, and the prices would then skyrocket afterward.

The risk was not huge to begin with, but Kai’s previous hesitation had him entering the market after a 400 Somer Dollar increase. As such, the risk now seemed more dangerous.

Kai took a deep breath. It was too late for him to turn back now, so he clenched his jaw and spoke, “It’s alright, Mr. Laine. This was my choice and I can’t blame you even if I end up hitting liquidation.”

Kai’s words had Jasper reestablishing his impression of the other.

“Don’t worry.” Jasper chuckled and replied.

There was another sharp drop in the price of cotton once Jasper finished speaking.

This time, it was a drop of 480 Somer Dollars!

Kai's account showed a loss of 780,000, leaving 20,000 dollars left.

At the same time, Kai's phone rang as well.

It was a call from the trading center informing him that he was about to hit liquidation and they asked if Kai wanted to add more funds.

Kai was despondent as he did not have any more money to add in, so he hung up the phone amidst Samuel's mocking chortles.

"Mr. Laine, I'm afraid this time I'm really..."

Before Kai could finish talking, the screen showed a sudden spike in the price of cotton!