

Life at The Top – Chapter 1321

“Lying to the little prince is most certainly not a good habit,” Jasper’s tone and attitude were sincere, “And I don’t like doing things that are all effort but bring no benefits.”

The little prince arched his brow and chuckled, “You mean it?”

Jasper replied sincerely, “Why would I amuse you with such a huge lie?”

The little prince narrowed his eyes and asked, “Do you know what damage 3000 points will do to the US stock market?”

“I do. As of this moment, the Dow Jones Index is at 10982 points. A drop of 3000 points means that humanity will face the biggest financial crisis in history, and more than 1 trillion US Dollars will be lost.”

The little prince narrowed his eyes but did not say anything.

“Why would I ask you to join if the market wasn’t so big?”

Jasper chuckled, his tone casual as if he was discussing the porridge he had that morning.

“Before I came to look for you, Lord Alvarado, who left you the horse, already agreed to work with me.”

“Your plan?” The little prince asked curtly. His expression was serious and... excited in a way Jasper had never seen before.

Yes, excitement.

For people with an identity and status like the little prince's, they would not feel interested in incidents that were normally seen as earth shattering to ordinary people.

Money?

The little prince would not even bat an eye at the transaction of more than a billion or even tens of billions.

Power?

There was no one more powerful than the Royal family in Waterhoof City.

Women?

Discussing this was an insult to the little prince.

Only a game involving hundreds of billions or even trillions of US Dollars, a setup that would affect the current strongest country in the world and even the entire western financial ecosystem, had the ability to excite him.

“No plan.”

Jasper’s two word reply was like cold water on Lhe little prince’s flame of excitement.

“Are you kidding me?” The little prince harrumphed.

Jasper sighed lightly and replied, “If you don’t mind me being bold, what kind of plan do you think I have to come up with to achieve such a result, Little Prince?”

The little prince frowned silently.

Indeed, this plan had to guarantee that the economy of the strongest country in the world had to suffer greatly, thus resulting in the Dow Jones Index dropping by 3000 points. Only a madman who would want to stir up trouble in the world would dare to come up with such a plan.

If not a madman, there were only so many countries who hated the United States to such an extent.

This was something not even the government could attempt, let alone a single person.

“All I can say is that there’s an opportunity.”

“And from what I see, this opportunity will arrive very soon. Once it’s here, then everything will run smoothly,” Jasper said vaguely.

He could not tell anyone about the 9/11 incident, or this Mr. Laine might get dragged to the lab to be researched on.

“What kind of opportunity will cause the entire index to drop by a third?” The little prince asked coldly, not believing Jasper at all.

Jasper had been prepared to face this question.

“Finance is like the sea, and there are always signs of ups and downs. Since the concept of macroeconomics was put forward, human economics and finance have thus faced its own set of regulations.

“I can open a door for you to walk through, Little Prince, and all you need to do is promise me something.”

“That you can transfer enough funds over so I can do what you want me to do. That’s all, Little Prince.”

The little prince smiled when he heard Jasper.

“Jasper, do you know that no one’s ever dared to talk to me like that? What do you take me for? A lackey? A money provider? Or an accountant?”

Jasper shrugged and replied, “We’re partners.”

“Interesting.”

The little prince's smile did not change.

"Alright, then, Since I don't need to do anything but promise you, I can give you my word. "

"But Jasper, even an untouchable promise comes with consequences. You have to know that I won't like it if I feel that you're lying to me."

Jasper nodded. "You have the right to feel that way, Little Prince."

"Good," The little prince chuckled then tapped the black horse under him with both legs lightly.

Professionally trained, the black horse immediately understood its master's command and began to gallop "Follow me. If you manage to stay on the horse for two rounds, I'll agree to the partnership."

Jasper copied the little prince and tapped the white horse under him with both legs lightly. He was hoping to follow the little prince, only to awkwardly realize that the white horse refused to move.

"Please? Won't you trot a bit?" Jasper asked carefully.

The beautiful white horse neighed but did not seem to understand Jasper.

The horse was confused, but not more than the man.

Two hours later, with a sore waist and the skin around inner thighs about to peel off from all the friction, Jasper winced as he got into the Bentley.

“Jasper, do you want to go to the hospital?” Julian asked concernedly when he saw how much pain Jasper was in.

Jasper waved his hand and replied, “No need. The horseback riding instructor inside said that this is the case for all new riders. I just need to soak in a hot bath for half an hour and sleep it off tonight and all will be fine.”

Jasper then began to grumble resentfully, “How did those people from ancient times do this? Transport back then was either on feet or horses.”

While in great pain, Jasper was in a good mood. Despite the small inconvenience, the objective of this trip was completed.

Just as Jasper’s car left the horseback riding grounds, the little prince walked out in a new set of clothes.

“Oh, right”

The little prince seemed to suddenly remember something.

“That Jasper fled too fast. Send him this diamond membership card later and tell him to practice more. What a country bumpkin.”

The little prince could not help but laugh out loud when he thought back to how Jasper winced and grimaced today.

Coffey followed him from behind and replied softly, “I understand... It’s rare to see you so happy, Little Prince.”

“How can I not be happy when I’ve met such an interesting person and thing?”

“Oh, and send that black horse to him.”

Coffey was stunned and replied in shock, “But Little Prince, that’s your favorite horse from the few that you took from Lord Alvarado.”

“It’s just a horse. If what he said today was true, I wouldn’t even mind giving him the entire equestrian grounds.”

The little prince said before his smile slowly faded.

“Have a few trustworthy men look in on the United States stock market to check what the actual situation is.”

“Jasper might be a country bumpkin, but he’s never done anything non-beneficial to him since he started his business. He has no reason to risk offending me and make a joke like this.”

“I understand, Little Prince.”

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Upon leaving the horseback riding grounds, Jasper immediately returned to Southeast Province.

He had come to Waterhoof City for two reasons. One was so he could complete the loan procedures, and two, to invite the little prince to join him.

Now that both these things were over and done with, and Jasper still had much to do in Southeast Province, Jasper had no reason to further his stay in Waterhoof City.

It was already night by the time he returned to Southeast Province.

Jasper had underestimated the strain from riding a horse for the first time, and his legs were so sore he could hardly move them.

“The little prince definitely did this on purpose. Oh, that little rascal, I’ll make him pay for this next time!”

Jasper’s shouts stunned Dawson when the man came to greet him.

“You went to meet the little prince?” Dawson asked solemnly.

“Yeah. I went to talk about a partnership with him,” Jasper slowly made his way into the villa with Dawson’s support.

“I even rode horses with him the entire day today. I’m in so much pain right now.”

Dawson let out a sigh of relief when he took in Jasper's attitude and tone. Then, he said, "The little prince's familial background is too powerful and his identity is too high up. You have to be careful when dealing with him."

Jasper was about to reply when Julian ran over from behind him and announced, "Jasper, Mr. Schuler, Coffey, the little prince's right hand, just called to say that the little prince gave you a diamond membership card to the horseback riding grounds as well as the black horse, Jasper."

Jasper snorted. "I am not going to make myself suffer that again!"

Dawson was stunned.

He was extremely surprised to know that the little prince also sent Jasper a gift.

After all, the little prince's identity and status was just too high.

"Looks like you two are quite close."

After a long time, Dawson sighed.

Jasper replied, "Don't worry, Uncle Schuler. I know my limits. These people aren't actually too difficult to talk to. They're just a bit higher on the social ladder. But so what?"

"As long as they have desires and wants, then they'll partner with you. The smarter the person, the more worthy of a partner they are, and the easier they are to talk to."

Dawson nodded and asked, "It's related to what you told me before, about the United States stock market, right?"

"This might just be the only thing that can interest him," Jasper nodded and admitted.

He would not keep secrets from Dawson, let alone when his further father-in-law had just lent him 1 billion dollars. Logically speaking, he had to explain what he needed the money for.

"Jasper, if this is about making money, then you don't need the help from so many other forces. As long as there's an opportunity, your capabilities are more than enough."

"But now that you've accumulated so much, and even enlisted the help of Lord Alvarado and the little prince, you're going to be in a lot of danger once you make too big a movement," Dawson reminded vaguely.

Jasper nodded and replied, "I know, Uncle Schuler. But the west's capitalist market isn't that easy to deal with. I could get rich easily, but it won't be easy to get out in one piece after."

"What I need to do now is ensure that I can get the money and come out unscathed. I alone am not strong enough. If someone's actively targeting me, then instead of me exploiting the situation to gain wealth, I'll end up being the one who is exploited."

Since the beginning, Jasper's plan had been to confirm the damage the 9/11 incident would deal to the United States' and the western economy, much like the crude oil incident from years before. He planned to earn money from this incident before fleeing immediately. However, things were different now.

He was no longer the insignificant retail investor with just a few million in capital. His accumulated funds alone amounted to 9 billion, and he could turn it to 10 billion if need be.

However, these funds were nothing in comparison to the entire United States financial system. Still, as the leader of the western financial bloc, the United States would not go down without a fight.

Not to mention that the conflict between the East and the West was the most crucial worldwide conflict since the World War Two.

All international political events had stemmed from this conflict.

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He was an easterner, and of Somer descent, so naturally, the west was his enemy.

More importantly, Jasper had already realized that someone was targeting him so he had to deal with this issue extremely carefully.

Dawson patted Jasper on the shoulder when he heard the man and did not say anymore.

As of this moment, Jasper no longer needed to be reminded at every turn.

“Alright, then. Go take a bath and rest, we’ll eat dinner in a few.”

Jasper soaked comfortably in the bathtub upstairs.

He could not help but think that the rich had nothing better to do. ‘Instead of enjoying life as it is, why do you have to make yourself suffer with horseback riding?’

The next day, Jasper and Wendy went to the office together.

Jasper arrived at his own office and began to chisel at his pile of work.

While Malcolm had managed to help shoulder a large portion of his responsibilities, there were still a lot of things Jasper had to deal with himself.

There had been many accumulated matters that had to be dealt with immediately. Many of which were forced to be put on hold since he did not sign his agreement.

A day passed before he knew it.

By evening, the large stack of documents had finally been completely dealt with.

Jasper rubbed his sore neck and called someone to take out the pile of documents and distribute them to their respective departments.

“Come on, let’s go eat dinner.”

Wendy walked through the doors and saw Jasper massaging his neck. So, she naturally made her way over and raised her hands to give him a massage.

Jasper exhaled in comfort and asked, "Why are we eating out?"

"Dad went to do business outside and he's only coming back in three to five days. It's just the two of us and it'll be a trouble to ask the auntie at home to cook. So we might as well eat out," Wendy replied.

"Alright. You choose the place, my treat," Jasper took Wendy's hand and said with a smile after getting up from the chair and grabbing his jacket.

Ever since the successful development of the South Bank of the Southface River, Nauritus City's development seemed to have sped up as well.

The most evident change was that there were more shops selling luxury items on the street.

As long as you had money and the desire to spend it, shopping areas, restaurants and cafes, shops of different varieties could be all over the place.

Jasper and Wendy had originally planned to have something simple, but when they passed by a new and chic restaurant called New Garden Residence, Jasper brought Wendy in.

The servers were respectful and polite as they asked how many people were dining. When Jasper requested somewhere quiet, they immediately brought the two to a private room.

The room just happened to be a two-pax room, designed for couples or guests who needed some privacy.

After ordering and their waiter leaving, Jasper turned to Wendy who was taking the cutlery out, and said, "My first dream was to open a restaurant with average business, then I'll spend the rest of my life running that business with my wife and kids."

"I did not see that coming." Wendy glanced at Jasper and smiled mesmerizingly.

"Forget the situation back at school, when I met you again in Faith County, the impression you gave me was of someone who wanted to make money. A lot of money."

Jasper smiled but did not explain himself to Wendy.

The dream he brought up just now was real. It was just a dream he had in his past life.

The restaurant was not too busy so the food came quickly, its taste was not bad.

While he ate and chatted with Wendy, Jasper suddenly heard the sound of cutlery smashing in the adjacent private room.

Followed by shouting.

These things were not worth Jasper's attention, but the extremely familiar voice of a woman had him frowning.

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“Calvin! I thought that you would change for the better once you got out of jail, but you didn't change at all! I'm so disappointed in you!”

Jasper could not tell himself to ignore the woman's voice, especially when she called the other man Calvin. It was Penelope.

Jasper did not forget what Penelope's voice sounded like.

'But didn't I ask John to arrange some work for Penelope in ICBS?'

'Why's she suddenly in Nauritus City?'

Before Jasper could think about this, another voice rang out from the adjacent private room.

"Enough, Pen. I'm your brother. You know that I went to prison and people end up looking down on me because of this. Stop reminding me about the fact that I've spent time there. Don't you know that our mom will be sad if you keep saying that?"

This was Penelope's brother, Calvin's, voice. The man who was once the source of the so much misery in Jasper's past life.

He was still uncaring and casual.

"How do you have the shame to bring mom into this? If not for you, she wouldn't have gotten so angry that she got Alzheimer's! She doesn't even recognize me now."

"Not counting the first few days, have you visited and taken care of her even once since you came out? I'm the one who's been taking care of her this whole time, so how do you have the shame to talk about her?" Penelope said angrily.

Calvin was also mortified and he shouted, "Enough! Are you done yet? You think I alone am the sole cause for how mom is now?"

"If it weren't for you stupid f*cking boyfriend Jasper Laine, she wouldn't be so angry now either! You bear at least half the responsibility here!"

Even Wendy's gaze changed when she heard the man, let alone Jasper's.

Meeting Wendy's meaningful gaze, Jasper replied with a wry smile, "It should be Penelope and her brother. I don't know why they're here, though."

"Do you want to go say hi?" Wendy suggested courteously.

She did not have an ex, and her dating history was empty. Jasper was her first, and he would be her last too. However, she did not mind the fact that Jasper had dated before.

She knew that Jasper had long since moved on from Penelope.

"It's fine."

Jasper shook his head.

Since their relationship was already in the past, they were just strangers now. There was no need to see each other again.

Just as Jasper was about to move on from this topic, the quarrel in the adjacent private room grew louder.

The noise was loud enough to be heard outside, and it was evident that their dinner was doomed to become a disaster.

As Penelope and her brother fought at the private room doors, a waiter came to bring Jasper his dish.

The private doors opened and two pairs of eyes locked. The shouting instantly stopped and Jasper put his chopsticks down as well.

Calvin stared at Jasper with wide eyes and a curious expression on his face.

He had just come out of jail, so Calvin naturally had no idea of Jasper's sudden change. He still believed that Jasper was just a poor boy.

Calvin scoffed and stared at Jasper to say, “What a small world we have here. You probably never expected to meet me here, huh?”

Penelope’s expression changed immediately. She stood beside her brother as she dragged him away. “Let’s go!”

Calvin flung Penelope off, then pointed at Jasper while telling her, “Are you kidding me, Pen? Why’re you so afraid of him?”

“You’re already the owner of your own company now. Your status is much higher than his! It’d be a disgrace to your identity now not to humiliate this f*cker when you see him!”

Penelope was both angry and frantic. She raised her hand to slap Calvin.

“You’re taking this too far, Calvin!”

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Calvin cupped his face and looked at Penelope in disbelief. He shouted at Penelope angrily, “How dare you hit me!”

Calvin's eyes were filled with anger as he raised his hand to hit Penelope back.

Suddenly, Jasper grabbed his hand.

"No matter what, she's still your sister and she hit you for your own good. You hitting her is disrespectful," Jasper said indifferently.

Calvin glared at Jasper harshly and tried to pull his arm back and fling Jasper's wrist off, but his struggle was to no avail.

"F*cking let go of me!" Calvin shouted wretchedly.

"Don't assume that I have no idea what you're thinking of! Now that Pen is rich and has her own company, you want to get back together with her, don't you? You f*cking wish!"

Calvin pointed at Jasper's nose and shouted, "I've seen too many people like you! You have no f*cking right to be called a man! I'll beat you to death!"

Jasper ignored Calvin's crazed clamor and turned to Penelope, "This is your brother, you bring him back and teach him some manners."

Calvin wanted to say more when Penelope stared at him icily. “Leave this place right now, Calvin! If you keep causing trouble, then I’ll never give you another cent again! I swear!”

Calvin’s fury was immediately replaced with fear.

He had just gotten out of jail, and he did not have any income. Even if someone was willing to give him a job, the man was still too lazy to take up any manual labor. Not to mention, Penelope was rich now, and ran her own company. All Calvin wanted to do was to take money from Penelope.

This was why they had fought tonight.

Calvin could tell that Penelope was not joking. He clenched his teeth and told Jasper resentfully, “Look, you piece of crap. I don’t care what kind of tricks you have up your sleeve, but there’s no way I’d let you come back and be with Pen now that she’s rich!”

“Calvin!”

Penelope shouted.

“Do you even know what you’re talking about?!”

“Go out there and ask around who Jasper is! The entire JW Company is his. Ask any businessman here in Nauritus City if they know about JW Company!”

“What do you take my small company for? In comparison to JW, my company can’t even be considered a workshop!”

“Jasper is extremely wealthy here in the Southeast Province and his character isn’t something any normal person can compare to, let alone me. Do you even know how hilarious and embarrassing your words just now were?”

Calvin was stunned when he heard Penelope.

From the beginning, his impression of Jasper had always been of a poor boy from the village.

His family was in the county, and it was a blessing to Jasper that Penelope had wished to be with him in the past.

Yet, Jasper had turned things around and became someone with overwhelming wealth in the province. Calvin looked at the man before him. Ignoring the fact that he had previously spent time in prison, even his sister, the only person who could back him up, was nothing in front of Jasper.

The huge difference caused Calvin's expression to turn into something extremely interesting.

"What are you still waiting for? Get lost!"

Penelope shouted, waking Calvin from his daze.

The man glanced at Jasper with resentment and fear before he clenched his jaw and turned to leave. No one knew what he was thinking of, but his eyes shone with ferocity and envy.

Jasper did not stop him from leaving.

Looking at Penelope, Jasper said calmly, "Looks like you're doing better than I thought."

Penelope smiled sadly.

Only she knew her own suffering.

At that moment, Wendy also walked over from behind Jasper.