

Life at The Top – Chapter 1331

Jasper's tone was calm, but it was filled with a lot of confidence.

Zachary's expression was solemn.

After some time, Zachary finally asked, "How much funds do you need from the Law family?"

"At least 5 billion, but with no upper limit."

Jasper's reply had Zachary's brow jumping again. According to what Jasper said before about amounting a total of 20 billion with Lord Alvarado and the little prince's input, another 5 billion meant that Jasper would have 25 billion to use.

25 billion in the year 2001.

That was enough to win an economic war of an underdeveloped country!

Even in the future, when Internet companies would have valuations of tens and hundreds of billions, only people who truly worked in the industry knew that market evaluations were much more exaggerated than they ought to be.

This market value was only a number to scam retail investors of their money. Not to mention that this 25 billion now was physical money.

There were no companies or people in the world now who could take out such a large amount.

“I can give you 7 billion.” Zachary clenched his jaw as his eyes shone with a sharp glint.

Harbor City’s economy might be flourishing, but it had already shown signs of weakening.

For no other reason than the fact that Harbor City was too small and there were no more resources to continue developing.

This was also why the four richest families, lead by the Law family, were planning to further development in the mainlands. This was even though the most renowned families had long since diversified their investments to areas like Southeast Terra and the Golden Peninsula.

However, Harbor City was still where their most important roots laid, and the moment Harbor City loses all potential for future development, then the Law family would start heading on a downward trend.

There had already been signs of limited potential.

In the face of such an opportunity, Zachary chose to risk it and trust Jasper.

This 7 billion worth of cash was the maximum amount the Law family could take out without affecting the daily operations of their properties.

After all, the Law family had still yet to recover from the fallout of the stock crisis. Had Jasper not helped the Law family earn a huge amount from the bursting of the dot-com bubble back then, the Law family might not even be able to take 7 billion out.

However, looking at the bigger picture, even if Jasper failed this time, the Law family still had their roots to fall back on.

“Uncle Law, victory is ours.”

Jasper told Zachary sincerely.

The Law family had a total asset of almost a hundred billion, but Jasper understood that total assets and liquid were different things.

Just like how Jasper would not sell JW Company to gather funds, the Law family would not liquidate their core properties.

This 7 billion had already surpassed Jasper's expectations.

This was trust that not even ordinary family members could give each other, let alone Jasper and the Law family, who were completely unrelated.

Zachary smiled generously and said, "I trust you. If you think you can do it, then I have no reason not to make use of this opportunity."

"Uncle Law, there's one more thing."

Jasper proceeded to tell Zachary about Fabian's control over Penelope.

"Fabian's setup is more detailed and deeper than I thought. I don't know how many backup plans he has waiting in the dark."

Zachary turned solemn again when he heard this and asked, “Do you need the Law family to step out?”

Jasper shook his head and replied, “The situation in Harbor City isn’t stable right now. Even if the Atticus family isn’t part of the four richest families, it’s not any weaker than the four. We’re about to do something huge and it would be unwise to involve the entire family at such a time.”

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Hearing Jasper, Zachary nodded in approval and replied, “You’ve become much more mature now, Jasper.”

The four richest families in Harbor City were deeply intertwined, and most of the time, their relationship was not as simple as mere friends or enemies.

While the Atticus family was not among the four richest families, it held an extremely unique position.

As Jasper said, the Atticus family was not weaker than any of the four richest families.

In reality, the fact that the Atticus family was not one of the four made it much more convenient for them to conduct their operations.

Take the stock crisis before, for example. When Harbor City's economy took a huge hit, the citizens and Harbor Government placed all their hope on the four richest families. They did not expect much from the Atticus family.

When it came to Fabian, anything the Law family did to him would be understood as a move against the entire Atticus family. The Atticus family was not an easy opponent either, and they might not surrender to the Law family.

The Law family, of course, did not fear the Atticus family, but Harbor City's current situation was a mess, and the whole Atticus family could potentially be triggered by a small move. Since the situation was already less than ideal, it was better not to create any more issues.

This had always been the Law family's reasoning.

As far as Jasper was concerned, it was important to recognize that the Law family and himself were different entities. This was a personal issue between Fabian and himself, and it was evident from the man's setup that he intended to kill Jasper.

With this premise in mind, unless the Law family completely destroyed Fabian, he would not give up on attacking Jasper.

Otherwise, Fabian would not have plotted against him so openly despite knowing Jasper's relationship with the Laws.

Not to mention that Fabian was also the Atticus family's only heir, and unless the Law family was ready to fight the Atticus Family to the death, they would not completely destroy Fabian.

"Uncle Law, I just need you to keep a close eye on Fabian. Especially the transfer of the Atticus family's or Fabian's personal funds," Jasper said.

Zachary frowned slightly and asked, "You're worried that Fabian will see through your plan?"

'He most likely already did.'

Jasper sighed internally.

When he found out that someone was targeting him on the United States stock markets, Jasper's first guess was Fabian.

The man had the motive and the capability.

Fabian was certainly the most difficult opponent Jasper had ever encountered.

It was either Fabian or a capitalist from Wall Street, but the latter was not very likely.

The only Wall Street capitalist Jasper had crossed paths with was Quantum Funds, but they should be busy profiting off retail investors in the European financial market. They could not keep an eye on him all the time. Therefore, Jasper was more inclined to believe that Fabian was behind this.

“It’s just a precaution,” Jasper replied.

“Harbor City is too far away for me to do anything, especially if its something as subtle as the transfer of funds. Without your help, Uncle Law, there’s no way I’d be able to keep an eye on Fabian. Thus, I’ll have to ask for your help with this considerably important matter, Uncle Law.”

Zachary nodded solemnly and replied, “Alright. You have my word. I’ll contact you right away if I have any news.”

Jasper replied in relief, “I can rest assured with your promise, Uncle Law.”

“I also hope to have Henry by my side during this incident. It’s also a chance to let him feel the risks of a fight involving huge sums of capital.”

Jasper's suggestion had Zachary laughing out loud. Within the family, Henry, who previously refused to take up any form of business, was the thing that worried him the most.

However, Zachary had watched how his son matured ever since he became friends with Jasper. He was also very impressed with the old master's insistence on having Henry stay by Jasper's side since the very beginning.

Therefore, Zachary was overjoyed to hear this suggestion.

"I'll have him leave tomorrow."

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"But remember to keep a good eye on him this time. Don't let him fool around with his useless friends. He almost got involved in a murder last time and that's not a small issue."

"The Law family is powerful, and that's why we're very strict with who succeeds the family business. The moment his record is tarnished with a charge like that, it'd be a huge hit to him and the Law family."

Jasper nodded and replied, "I know what to do."

“Right, and Uncle Law? If possible, perhaps you could release news of this to two of the other four richest families, excluding Wallace Langdon’s family.”

“You want them to join..?”

“I don’t have such plans in mind yet, but like I said. It’s just a precaution.”

“Alright. I’ll invite them out for tea.”

After a few more idle exchanges, the video call ended since Zachary had some other business to attend to.

While Jasper began to plan in the mainlands, his operations against the market trend in the United States financial market finally attracted the attention of some forces, particularly due to his astronomical amount of funds.

Somer Descents might be the most hardworking and smartest people, but that did not mean they could overlook the western world’s power.

After all, the west had been the true rulers of the world for the past few centuries.

The west was led the world almost all aspects, be it modern economies, finance, governments, and armed forces.

The blood filled sufferings of Somer descents a century ago was a lesson to them not to look down on these blond haired and blue eyed men.

“Mr. Rogers, according to the evaluation report, Jasper’s began to operate against the market trend 11 days ago. He first sold a majority of the stocks under his name and gained no less than 200 million US Dollars.”

“Then, he gathered his funds from mainland Somerland and began to short-sell the Dow Jones Index while buying gold futures.”

“As of this moment, he has a total position worth 530 million US Dollars.”

As the chief of Quantum Funds’ think tank, Vincent had a scholarly air about him. The elegant gentleman had a pair of gold-rimmed glasses sitting on his nose and he looked like a university professor.

The man spoke calmly and at a normal pace, but his words were clear and his gentle voice sounded very friendly.

Sitting behind the office table, Rogers looked at the evaluation report in his hand expressionlessly.

“Vincent, tell me. What do you think Jasper’s intentions are?” Rogers asked.

Vincent replied calmly, “We don’t have sufficient material and data yet to profile him or logically predict what he’s about to do.”

Rogers put the report down and got up to take a bottle of red wine from the wine cabinet in his office. He poured Vincent a glass first before he said, “My old friend. Forget the data, why do you think Jasper’s doing this?”

Vincent sipped the red wine and replied with a shrug, “Maybe he’s crazy.”

“The Dow Jones Index might be oscillating, but anyone with more than six months of investment experience could tell that this is just a technical pullback of the market.”

“This alone is something our Quantum Funds as well as the other financial companies in Wall Street have arrived at a consensus of.”

“But based on Jasper’s current operations, we can tell that he thinks a stock crisis is about to happen and he wants to profit from the United States citizens.”

Rogers chuckled and replied, "That's impossible unless there's suddenly war on United States grounds, and the United States loses."

As the president of Quantum Funds and one of the main financial forces of Wall Street, Rogers had the qualifications to say something like that.

"What do you think we should do, Vincent?"

Vincent glanced at Rogers and replied, "This Jasper Laine from Somerland might have achieved extraordinary success according to our intelligence, but he's still nothing in comparison to Quantum Funds, let alone strong enough to go against Wall Street."

"There's no entity in Somerland powerful enough to challenge Wall Street's capital."

"So I think we should do nothing."

Rogers shook his head and replied, "No, Vincent. I've fought Jasper before, and he... the feeling he gives me is that we can't look down on an opponent like him."

Rogers' words caused something to finally flicker across Vincent's gentle expression.

One was the president of Quantum Funds and the other was the chief of the funds' think tank. The two had been working intimately together for more than a decade, so they were both very familiar with the other's character.

This was also why Vincent was so shocked about Rogers's high regard for Jasper.

"From what I know, this is the highest praise you've ever given a youth."

"Even Winston Bennett admires him a lot, so it's only natural that I don't underestimate him." Rogers clapped Vincent's shoulder.

"My old friend, there's a saying in Somerland that goes 'Don't overlook the young for their inexperience.' This sentence teaches you not to underestimate an opponent just because they're young and not as powerful as you. Because one day in the future, he might just become someone extremely formidable."

"So, as the chief of Quantum Funds' think tank, I need you to give me a more comprehensive evaluation and counter suggestion."

Vincent put the glass down and got up to say, "I'll need more information and intelligence on him."

“I’ll grant you full authority.”

“Three days.”

“Okay.”

A similar situation was also happening in the investment banks Layman, as well as Colossal Investments.

The situation in Layman was similar to the one in Quantum Funds. While Colossal Investments was reacting differently because of their partnership with Jasper.

In Colossal Investment’s Terra regional branch headquarters, Harbor City.

Celine crossed her legs where she sat on the chair in the conference room.

In front of her was a huge electronic display, separated into six portions with a video feed playing out on each of them.

This was a managerial meeting of Colossal Investments' headquarters and the large regional branches around the world.

Without question, this was an extremely high profile video conference.

At this moment, Celine voiced her opinion to the president

“President Paulson, I think the investment bank’s senior executives are overreacting to Jasper’s actions.”

Celine’s first sentence immediately had Paulson, the president of Colossal Investments, frowning slightly.

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“Miss Maynard, you have to understand that Jasper’s actions have already attracted the attention of a portion of Wall Street’s financial companies. His high risk operations against the market trend require the investment bank to reevaluate our partnership with him.”

Paulson’s voice was calm but powerful.

Not that it affected Celine.

“Pardon my boldness, President Paulson, but excluding our involvement in Sena’s listing, does the investment bank have any other important partnerships with Jasper?”

Paulson fell silent

The other presidents of the other major regions around the world fell deep into thought as well.

“As far as I know, there isn’t. Jasper has only entrusted the investment bank to manage a portion of his portfolio.”

Faint mockery and disdain graced Celine’s exquisite features.

“So what do Jasper’s actions have to do with the investment bank? Or perhaps I should rephrase myself, can the investment bank even control Jasper?”

Paulson answered with displeasure, “Please watch your choice of words, Miss Maynard. You are now on the video conference involving presidents of Colossal Investments’ large regional branches from around the world. Everything you say and do is recorded.”

“I will take responsibility for my behavior, President Paulson.”

Celine replied strongly.

“But I stand by what I said. Jasper will take responsibility for his own actions, he is just one of our many customers.”

“At the same time, the investment bank is also one of the many options Jasper can choose from. There is no binding relationship, we are but customer and service provider.”

“The investment bank can choose not to help in times of need, nor does it have to add salt to his wounds.”

“Because of all this, I greatly disagree with the reevaluation of our partnership with Jasper.”

Paulson looked at Celine calmly, as if his gaze could traverse half the globe and fall on her.

“Alright. The head quarters will consider your opinion.”

“I’ve said my part,” Celine stated calmly.

An hour later, the conference ended.

The first thing Celine did when she returned to her office was to call Jasper.

“What have you been doing lately?”

Jasper smiled when he heard Celine’s question and replied, “Let me guess, your superiors gave you a hard time?”

The corner of Celine’s lips lifted beautifully.

“I really can’t hide anything from you. But there’s no way you can hide your actions from Wall Street or the investment bank, it’s unrealistic.”

Jasper gestured for his subordinate, who was sitting and reporting some information in front of him, to leave the office before he smiled and replied, “I never intended to hide it from anyone.”

Celine sighed and asked, "Can you tell me what you have in mind?"

"I'm investing! I think that the United States economy will go downhill, so I'm setting things up to make some money. What's wrong with that?" Jasper asked calmly.

"Even an idiot can tell that the current drop in the United States Stock Market is a technical pullback. The ratio isn't anything major and you've lost at least 100 million US Dollars over these past few days. Everyone's wondering what you're trying to do!"

Celine said in displeasure when she heard Jasper's perfunctory reply.

Jasper rubbed his temple and replied, "I have my own reasons."

"The investment bank's senior executives are very confused and our think tank might be analyzing your every move as we speak They'll be trying to find your true intentions," Celine told him.

Jasper replied playfully, "Since when did I get so influential? It's just a small sum of funds and Colossal Investments' already engaging their think tank to analyze me?"

“Jasper, you might not be aware of this, but you’ve already got quite the reputation after the fight over Harbor Stocks. Many people have information on your path to wealth, and they know that you started your business operating in financial markets.”

“That’s why your irregular operations now is attracting the attention of many people.”

Celine then paused for a bit before continuing, “I don’t know what you’re thinking, but trust me when I say that it’s extremely difficult for you to profit from the United States stock market.”

“It’s always been the United States capitalists profiting off other people, be it the Plaza Accord with Sunrise Land or the siege on the European Union. Right now, no one can challenge Wall Street’s absolute authority over the financial system.

“Because these people are the founders and rule makers of the modern financial system.”

“That’s what a lot of people think.”

Jasper did not refute Celine.

This was what everyone around the world thought, including people from the United States.

The US citizen's arrogance and sense of superiority was the main cause of the subprime crisis in 2008.

At the time, the powerful Layman Investments would fall, while countless financial enterprises of various sizes collapsed alongside it. This was accompanied by the loss of trillions of US Dollars.

With memory and experience of the next 20 years, Jasper knew that while the United States citizens were powerful, they were not untouchable.

"Don't worry. There's no way I'd risk making an astronomical mistake and do something irrational. I know my limits and what I can or cannot do."

Celine finally relaxed slightly when she heard this.

"But if possible, I do hope you can use your contacts and help me keep an eye on the movements on Wall Street," Jasper said.

Celine harrumphed and replied, "I'm not powerful enough to keep an eye over the wealthier capitalists in Wall Street."

Jasper smiled and said, "I'll treat you to dinner next time."

"Don't think that just because I grew up overseas that I don't know what you mean. Words like I'll treat you to dinner next time, another day, one day, all mean I won't see you again."

Jasper laughed out loud when he heard Celine.

"Alright, I know what you're thinking, but I really can't explain the details to you. Just give me some time and you'll understand what I'm doing without needing me to explain it further," Jasper said.

Celine fell silent for a bit before she whispered, "You think that the United States will go into war?"

Other than war, there was nothing that could result in the United States' economy plummeting suddenly.

“But that’s not possible. The United States systems have decided that capital can affect the will of the country.”

“Ignoring the other titans on Wall Street, Colossal Investment alone has a great influence on the entirety of Congress. There’s no way we wouldn’t know if something like war was about to break out”

Jasper replied mysteriously, “There’s no way I’d be able to predict war. I just think that the United States Stock Market is in for a huge change soon.”

Celine harrumphed when she realized she could not get Jasper to speak about his plans and replied, “Alright. I’ll stop wasting my time as you put on your mysterious persona, but there should be a lot of people in Wall Street waiting to watch you make a fool out of yourself.”

“Your slightly famous title as the Somer Genius might soon turn you into a laughing stock. Do what you believe benefits you most.”

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After ending the call with Celine, Jasper called Jake next. Not for anything else but to tell him to keep opening positions without hesitation.

The 9 billion Somer Dollars Jasper had gathered yesterday had been converted into 1.1 billion US Dollars which he had transferred to Jake.

Jake immediately started opening more positions after Jasper instructed him to do so.

Wall Street, which was already closely monitoring Jasper's funds, immediately caught on to this.

Everyone was confused.

'Did Jasper really go crazy?'

Everyone could not help but think this.

The current situation was too calm, and after the latest technical pullback ended, the market began to grow again.

The increase of every point in the index meant Jasper lost one hundred thousand US Dollars.

Not even a mountain of gold could last two days with the way the money kept disappearing.

“Looks like the legendary Somer Genius has been blinded by victory and praise.”

Someone sat in their office in Wall Street and shook their head while sighing as they stared at the steadily climbing market trendline.

“I really wonder who gave him so much confidence to think that he could challenge the United States’ financial system on his own.”

Someone drank champagne and began to mock him. Shock at the very beginning turned to confusion. Meanwhile, Jasper continued ignoring the questionable gazes of everyone around the world as he continued to open more positions. Due to this, the people who had their eyes on Jasper soon began to target him.

Whenever Jasper sold stocks, they would snap it up. Thus profiting from the money Jasper invested.

The feeling of earning money just by issuing buy orders had countless people mocking Jasper and calling him a money gifting child from Somerland.

In Harbor City, Fabian had also immediately received news that Jasper had opened more positions.

“He’s already invested 600 million US Dollars.”

Fabian narrowed his eyes and said.

“Coverting that back to Somer Dollars, he’s basically deposited all the liquid funds JW Company holds. According to our evaluation of his company, JW’s already tight on cash, and doing so will only increase the pressure on them. Did he really go crazy?”

Mitch was utterly dumbfounded.

“What’s the situation over at Wall Street?” Fabian asked.

Mitch snorted and replied, “What else? The bigshots there all think that he’s looked at the trend incorrectly. They were nervous in the beginning and did a thorough investigation, but after realizing that there was genuinely nothing wrong, they left him alone.”

“After all, it’s just 600 million US dollars. It’s not enough to do anything at all.”

“Not to mention that as things stand, he’s losing more than 10 million US Dollars a day. He’ll get himself killed after a short while without us needing to do anything.”

Mitch felt overjoyed.

After losing to Jasper a few times, he was extremely relieved to see Jasper actively screw himself over.

Even better, he had earned quite a bit for every cent Jasper lost.

“It’s all thanks to you targeting him in advance, Mr. Atticus. Now we earn 3 million from every 10 million he loses every single day. Haha, he might just vomit blood in infuriation if he found out about this.”

Fabian glanced at Mitch and swallowed the curse at the tip of his tongue.

Mitch was still a useful pawn now and Fabian did not mind letting him act prideful for a little while longer.

“Jasper won’t hand out money for no reason. I still think that he has an ulterior motive that no one knows of yet.”

