

Life at the Top Chapter 1796

The three commands Paulson were each

more shocking than the last.

Celine was a very clever person, so she reacted immediately. Colossal Investments, or rather, the entire United States Government and the Federal Reserve, had already taken measures to deal with the upcoming collapse of the subprime market.

However, it was still closing time, so it had not been announced yet, but Celine had already learned one specific piece of news regarding this.

The Federal Reserve would invest at least

300 billion US Dollars to rescue the

market.

As a dealer of shorts, Jasper and the JW Foundation under his name were definitely the thorn in the eye of the 300 billion US Dollar rescue plan this time, and he would also be the first target to be eradicated.

“Sir, am I right to assume that since the investment bank has already made the decision and even asked me to prepare to acquire JW’s high-quality assets, that the investment bank doesn’t think that Jasper has any possibility of a comeback?”

Facing Celine’s question, Paulson asked

calmly, “Make a comeback? What do you

think?”

Celine was speechless.

Indeed, when the Federal Reserve

personally came into the game, it was no

longer an even playing field.

How would they fight this?

Even the chips in your hand were made by

others, so how were you going to continue

playing?

"I know that you and Jasper have a good

personal relationship and there are even some other private collaborations between the two of you, but these are not important. I hope you can understand that you should make the most correct choice based on the current situation.

"We are very aware that the Somerland government is supporting Jasper from behind, but what bargaining chips and qualifications do the Somerland government have that they can hope to fight the United States government?

"Once the situation escalates again and when the conflict requires a victim to serve as a buffer, who do you think the victim will be? Who else is more suitable than Jasper and his JW?"

Paulson's words made Celine frown.

"Sir, do you mean that the Somerland government is likely to regard Jasper as a n abandoned pawn?"

Paulson replied, "It may not be the case right now because Jasper still holds some value, but it's all about interests whether i t is within a government or a company. However, the government considers the national interest, while the company considers the company's interest. Although their interests and needs are different, the essence of their operations are the same.

"When the benefits of giving up Jasper

outweigh the benefits that Jasper can

bring, what will Somerland choose?

"I think Jasper should know this too. National interests are above all else, and this is especially important in Somerland. It is even possible that Jasper has also made plans to sacrifice himself to accomplish a bigger goal."

Celine shook her head decisively and said,

"Impossible, I know him, and he is not

such a person."

Paulson said with a grin, "This has nothing to do with you or me. In short, if conflicts and contradictions continue to escalate, the only ones who will eventually come out to clean up the mess are the Somerland and United States government. Any other individual or company will not be qualified to handle this.

At that time, what will happen if the United States government needs to quell the anger?

“And what will happen when Somerland

needs to get more benefits from the

United States?

“On the chessboard that is the subprime market, Jasper and Wall Street are opponents sitting on opposite sides of the board, but in terms of the overall game, Jasper and Wall Street are actually chess pieces on a larger board. The players on the board are the Somerland government and the United States government.”

Celine pursed her lips and said nothing.

“Okay, Miss Maynard, my order has been issued, is there anything else you don’t understand?” Paulson asked.

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Celine hesitated for a while, then asked, "Are the things you just told me trade secrets?"

"If you ask me as a subordinate, then yes. I

f you ask me as my niece, then I can only tell you, please make the right choice."

After Paulson said these meaningful words, he ended the video call.

Meanwhile, Celine sat in her study for a long time, spaced out.

More than half an hour later, Celine called Jasper directly.

She made a choice, at least the one she thought was the right choice.

Jasper had just fallen asleep when he received Celine's call.

However, he had long been accustomed to

being called back to work by an emergency call at any time, so Jasper regained his vigor as soon as he got on the call.

He glanced at Wendy, who was sleeping

next to him, and stood up lightly. After

walking out of the bedroom, he said to the phone. "It's me."

On the other end of the phone, Celine explained to him the whole situation as briefly as she could. Of course, she did not tell him Paulson's theory of the chess player and abandoned pawn.

It was not that she had concealed something, but she was very clear that Jasper did not need this news to distract him at this time. No matter what the situation

was, the direction of the future depended on Jasper's performance in this vital situation.

"300 billion? The Federal Reserve is so

generous." Jasper did not panic after he learned of the

news.

After all, to him, the Federal Reserve would have joined the game sooner or later. He even felt that this was not enough.

One had to know that when the subprime mortgage crisis broke out in his last life, the United States lost more than tens of trillions of dollars. From this, the money the Fed injected into investment banks of large institutions to save the market alone exceeded 800 billion.

The money was not completely returned to the Federal Reserve for more than ten years, even until the point at which Jasper was reincarnated.

This time, although Jasper detonated the

subprime mortgage crisis ahead of schedule, making it less harmful than the original because the accumulation was reduced by six to seven years, the loopholes in the United States financial system were still a black hole of funds, and the United States would not smooth it out so easily without paying a heavy price.

"From now on, you will not get any help in the West, and no one will cooperate with you at this time. Even my family will wait and see things out before acting, so your situation is not favourable," Celine said.

"I know, this is reasonable."

Jasper said calmly.

"But won't you get into trouble for revealing such important news to me?"

"Do you think I'll get into trouble for

leaking trade secrets?" Celine asked

bluntly.

"It's fine, you can just leave. Before this, I told you if you can't continue to work in Colossal, you can come to find me. I can give you a position here," Jasper said half jokingly.

"I told you I only worked for venture capital, and you don't even have a bank. Should I go there to be your secretary?" Celine said with a chuckle.

"Who says I don't have a bank?"

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"What do you mean?"

Celine felt energetic all of a sudden.

It was not the same as him joking like before. This time, she could feel that Jasper seemed to really have such thoughts and ideas.

"Do you really plan to open a bank? You know private capital can't open a bank in Somerland. Even some commercial banks have a deep background and historical origin, as well as the agreement that state-owned enterprises will occupy the seat of the majority shareholder.

"Even so, opening a bank in Somerland is

definitely not an easy task."

When Jasper saw how excited Celine was about this topic, he continued even when he did not originally intend to discuss it. Further, "Who said I'm going to open a traditional bank? If I want to open a bank, I'll open a neobank. I won't absorb

people's savings, nor will I set up outlets or fight for depositors with other state-owned banks, but aside from that, I will do everything that other banks do and

nothing less.

"Of course, these are still drafts that only exist in my mind for the time being. If I am not finished after this whole kerfuffle, I don't think there will be any problems asking Swallow Capital for this. If I am finished, then this will just be hot air."

Yes, the prototype of the bank in Jasper's

mind was the two banks in later.

generations, Theybank and Youbank.

Now, he had Terizone or Abbylon in his hands, so Jasper had absolutely no reason to miss out on neobanks, a super cash cow that could utterly defeat the entire traditional banking industry, making the traditional banking industry run to mommy Central Bank, crying and screaming.

The most important thing about Neobank's establishment was not how much profits it could make, but its terrifying capital pool. Once it had a trillion Somer Dollars in the capital pool, then the daily interest accumulated by the capital pool would be an astronomical figure. Moreover, the advantages it brought would solve JW's cash flow problem once and for all.

However, these were things for the future.

If he lost this game, everything would be for naught.

"How can I help you?" Celine asked.

Jasper smiled and said, "Just follow the orders of Mr. Paulson..

"In fact, when Mr. Paulson conveyed this to you, he had already expected that you would leak the 'trade secret', but he didn't care. Instead, he was happy to do such a favor at little cost because even if he doesn't tell us now, we would have still found out when the market opens tomorrow and it wouldn't affect the overall situation.

"But you still have to cooperate with matters that are befitting of your position because I believe that there are countless pairs of eyes staring at you even inside the investment bank."

Jasper said mildly, "I will take care of everything else, so don't worry."

Celine pressed her lips together gently and said, "You have to be careful. Think carefully before you act."

"Don't worry, I am not the newbie who has only just started doing business," Jasper said with a laugh.

After he hung up the phone, Jasper looked at the morning light that was gradually appearing in the sky outside the window. Then, he pushed open the window and the fresh air poured into the room. After taking a deep breath, the cold air entered his lungs, invigorating him.

A new day had started.

After sitting in the study for a while, Jasper went back to take another four to five-hour nap. This time, he was finally not woken up by his phone.

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After waking up, he realized that Wendy had taken his phone to prevent anything from disturbing him.

Jasper was not angry about this either because Wendy did this for his own good. If there were really important updates, there were still many ways to contact him.

After eating, Jasper bucked up and

returned to the company.

As soon as he arrived in the command room, Jasper was overwhelmed by countless pieces of news.

“Mr. Laine, the rise and fall of the subprime market yesterday has greatly affected the global economic market. The real estate sector and trust assets of major trading centers around the world have shrunk in different proportions, but there is one exception.”

Jasper, who listened to Jake’s report while walking, smiled and said, “It’s Somerland, right?”

“Mr. Laine, you are so amazing,” Jake said with a thumbs up.

Jasper grinned and continued, “Our domestic real estate industry has only just started. In the future, it will take on the most important industries and tools to stimulate domestic demand and GDP growth. This is already certain.

“Throughout the development history of all developed countries both domestically and abroad, the real estate industry has played an important role in the stage of economic take-off. Otherwise, why would people call it one of the troikas of the national economy?”

“It hasn’t been long since the domestic market started, and it is far from being saturated. Moreover, the urbanization process has been written into the government’s five-year plan. No one can override this and no matter how the foreign situation changes, it is impossible to affect the food on the tables of the people in our country.”

Jasper remembered that the United States

subprime mortgage crisis was triggered by

real estate boom in 2007 and 2008. At that time, it was the hottest time for domestic real estate, but the domestic real estate tycoons were not even slightly bothered. Therefore, naturally, there would be no difference in this life.

"Tell me some other useful news," Jasper

said.

The Federal Reserve has just issued an announcement stating that it would comprehensively review all credit loans and real estate loan products within the United States, tighten the limits of these two loans, and impose corporate sanctions on some violations."

"Well, this is a good thing, but I'm afraid this bunch of United States capitalists might become bankrupt after they're fined. However, it's not a big problem since they are the ones who caused this problem in the first place and it's time to make them pay. Otherwise, where will there be money to save the market?"

"Besides this, the Federal Reserve announced their second interest rate hike

this fiscal year. This time, the rate of the hike is even greater than before even

though it has only been less than half at month since the first interest rate hike. This has also broken previous records on the matter." Jake continued to report.

Jasper paused. "This is also reasonable. The next mortgage crisis is right in front of f them, and it will break out at any time. O f course, the Federal Reserve must make everyone's deposits become hot money. If not, the pressure on the banks will be even bigger if everyone simply keeps their money in storage.

"At the same time, the rolling of social

capital will also offset the negative impact

of some financial turmoil, which is

complementary to the policy of raising

interest rates," Jasper continued.

The moment Jasper finished talking, Baz hurried over and said with a serious look, "Mr. Laine, the latest news states that the Federal Reserve will make an acquisition o f debt in the subprime market at a discount rate of 0.35. It will be executed immediately after the market opens today."

"How much is the amount?" Jake asked

keenly.

"I don't know yet." Baz looked awkward.

"The Feds are going to rescue the

market," Jake said decisively.

"300 billion US Dollars," Jasper said softly. "And it will only be more, not less. They will be ready to invest more money at any time."

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Jake and Baz looked at each other. Then,

Jake said softly, "Mr. Laine, we might be under great pressure if this is the case."

"It's more than that."

Jasper sighed and said, "Once there's a flood, everything will get out of control."

Although they had the palace guards from the SBS Bank to help them, there was a basic concept that should not be misunderstood.

The palace guards would never be able to defeat the Federal Reserve.

Therefore, Jasper needed to know how and where to use the palace guards. If he did not use it well, he would be causing trouble for the palace guards for nothing. If he used it well, then it would be a miraculous trick.

However, Jasper had his own plans for this.

"Let's wait until the market opens." The time for the market to open finally came as everyone attentively watched on.

As soon as the market opened, thanks to the rescue measures of the Federal Reserve, the points in the subprime market began to stabilize and did not continue the previous day's plunge.

It was already great news for the market if

it did not fall.

Because based on the performance of the previous day, the United States subprime market was already teetering on the brink collapse, and now the Federal Reserve's participation had imposed a backstop for the market abruptly, which was the 0.35 discount rate. In layman's terms, the maximum loss was 35 US Dollars for every 100 US Dollars.

Although it was still a terrifying loss from a numerical point of view, it was necessary to know that the trading rules of the subprime market allowed people to: directly liquidate the position.

Compared with the account being emptied

directly, the policy of providing 300 billion US Dollars to act as a backstop to ensure that the loss would only amount to 65% of the actual value was already regarded as cheating.

The most important thing was attitude.

The Federal Reserve rescuing the market

meant that the United States government

would not allow the subprime market to

collapse.

Therefore, under a trial of strength of

various factors, the current subprime

market had become the most

sophisticated and complex trading market

in the world.

It was a butterfly effect. Hence, Jasper and

Wall Street capital did not have much.

conflict after this,

However, after such a stalemate, the points in the subprime market began to

slowly rise after they had stabilized.

Once it recovered, even if it was only a 10

point gap, it would also bring unparalleled

long pressure on Jasper's huge capital market.

"Mr. Laine, we are holding too many positions now. According to the current trend, we will lose more than 70 million U S Dollars every time the market rises by 50 points, and once the snowball effect occurs, we will be faced with the risk of liquidation if there is a wave of continuous rise."

Baz voiced the concerns of everyone on

the team while Jasper sat behind the desk i

In the command room, silently watching

the market without speaking.

"Within 15 minutes, the SBS Bank's

palace guards will help us increase short

term pressure on the market. Your task is t

o cooperate with them here."

Jasper took out a laser pointer and pointed

at a node on the screen. He said, "We

must give the market an illusion, and our

goal is to defend this point."

"Ok, I see."

Baz nodded. Then, suddenly he realized

something. "Mr. Laine, are you not going to be here?"

Jasper looked at the time and said, "I have an important interview to go to, so during the trading hours in the morning, everything will depend on you.

"I've told you the layout of the plan and the palace guards of the SBS Bank will also help. I have already told Harbor City about this, so I think there won't be any problems defending it."

Jasper stood up and patted Baz on the shoulder. Then, he said in a deep voice, "Call me only if there is an emergency."

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Life at the Top Chapter 1801

Baz nodded hesitantly and said with a bitter smile, "There shouldn't be any major problems, but if you are not there, everyone will feel that their backbone is missing."

"Do you think I will accompany you for the rest of my life?"

To relieve Baz's pressure, Jasper joked and said, "I believe you will do a good job. If you don't do it well, I will reduce all of your wages."

Baz replied loudly, "You should go without worries. We'll know what to do!"

"Go without worries? Thanks for the reassurance."

Jasper chuckled, got up, and went out of the command room.

The moment he turned around, his smile disappeared, and a worrisome expression appeared on Jasper's face.

Now that all parties in the subprime market were gathering forces, one should not assume that there were only Somerland's JW Capital as well as Wall Street capital. The hidden capital of other countries or consortia was countless.

Moreover, none of these people were nice. Once there was a clear power gap between the short and long sides, they would immediately join the winner's side and encircle the loser.

At that time, it would be an earth shattering situation where they would become enemies of the world.

Even ten JWs would find it impossible to withstand this kind of attack, let alone a single JW.

Hence, Jasper's priority now was to stabilize the situation and prevent the market from showing a clear gap strength between short and long. in

However, it was simple to say but stressful to execute.

With a head full of thoughts, Jasper did not leave the company but instead, he returned to his usual office.

Wendy was already entertaining a group of

guests there.

There were not a lot of people, as only five other individuals were seated inside.

This group consisted of a professional makeup artist, a videographer, a sound engineer, the host, and her assistant.

This team consisted of all foreigners, who were from the famous Time Magazine. This time, even the editor-in-chief Ms. Swift personally came and acted as the host.

Yes, Jasper intended to use the power of Time Magazine to blow up United States society with public opinion 20 years in advance.

In his previous life before his reincarnation, a man in the United States who built an electric car could make the value of the originally worthless virtual currency soar overnight by a hundredfold, placing it just behind the famous Bitcoin. At the same time, he could also shrink its value by more than three points with just one sentence.

To put it bluntly, it was all about using online opinions to achieve capital goals.

Even though the current Internet was not so developed, Jasper's popularity and the reputation of Time Magazine were no weaker than it.

"Mr. Laine, hello."

Sixty-year-old Ms. Swift seemed to be in her forties at most. She was well groomed and had an extraordinary temperament. After seeing Jasper, she took the initiative to greet him with a smile on her face.

After shaking hands with the host, Jasper smiled and said, "Ms. Swift, to be frank, when I saw you, I even wondered if you had lied to me. You don't look like sixty at all! You're thirty-five at most, right?"

No matter back in ancient times or modern times, regardless of the East or West, there was no woman who did not like to hear this kind of compliment. It was even more appreciated if it was said by someone with Jasper's current status and reputation.

Swift smiled lightly, "Miss Schuler is really lucky. Life will not be boring with a man like you."

"Haha!"

Those two sentences showed Jasper's ingenuity and Swift's wit in conversing. Between smart people, one did not need to probe too much. They would know if the other party was not someone ordinary when they simply touched on the subject.

"Time is running out, so shall we start the interview?"

Life at the Top Chapter 1802

"Mr. Laine, this is an interview for the cover of Time Magazine. Should we get your makeup done first?" Swift said hurriedly when she saw that Jasper was about to jump straight into the topic.

Shaking his hand, Jasper said, "No, I believe in your photography and editing skills. I will use my most natural and original state to carry out your interview. The most important thing is that you should know I am very busy now, so I can't waste too much time on makeup."

Swift was obviously not an old-fashioned person. She figured that this might yield unexpected results, so she readily agreed.

It was just that she was originally looking forward to doing the makeup of such a young and rich man like Jasper who was going to appear on the cover of Time Magazine as the youngest businessman in

history, but now her hope was dashed,

which disappointed her.

"I will help you tidy up your clothes."

Wendy said softly to Jasper. As she said that, she walked over and helped Jasper tidy up his collar considerately. She only stopped when the folds of his shirt were neatly aligned.

Jasper looked at Wendy, who was bowing her head in front of him to help smooth his clothes. Then, Jasper said softly, "I appreciate this."

Although this kind of conversation was normal, Wendy was thin-skinned after all. She gave Jasper a slightly annoyed look, took two steps back, examined him from head to toe, and then finally nodded i

n satisfaction when she saw that there was nothing else out of place.

“Alright, our interview is officially beginning.”

After teaching Jasper an extremely photogenic sitting position and angle, Swift sat on the opposite side of Jasper and signaled the videographer and sound engineer to start working.

Come to think of it, this was the first time Jasper had accepted a serious interview, and it was with such influential media

despite this being his first time. Therefore, Jasper was super nervous.

It was clear that Swift was very experienced. She could see at a glance that Jasper was feeling uneasy, so at the beginning, she started with a few lighter topics to slowly ease him into it. It did not take long for Jasper to finally relax.

At this moment, the interview had also dived into the topic.

“Mr. Laine, because JW has not yet been listed, we cannot know your real wealth through traditional channels. Have you calculated it? How much money do you have?”

Jasper laughed and said, “I haven’t really calculated it, but I can confirm that I don’t worry about food and clothing. In fact, when wealth reaches a certain level, it will become a social responsibility.

“For example, at present, JW currently employs about 40,000 to 50,000 employees, and behind them are 40,000 to 50,000 families. Besides this, the stable operation of the enterprise and stable tax payment is itself a social responsibility.”

Swift was obviously dissatisfied with Jasper’s cunning evasion. She asked, “Although there is no specific number, in terms of the current scale of the industry, JW is undoubtedly the largest private enterprise in Somerland, while you, Mr. Laine, are also the number one richest man in Somerland. Do you have anything to say about this?”

“Richest man? I don’t dare to accept this title.”

Jasper waved his hand and said, " Actually, that title is just a gimmick for the nosey masses to talk about. Why would I want that title?

"However, I acknowledge the scale of the industry. It's just that JW's industry is still relatively fragmented and lacks an efficient and modern central system to integrate its management. I have already put this as the highest priority task on JW's meeting agenda so there will be soon be changes implemented.

"Because JW's goal is to be a modern multinational company, not only do we just want to earn money from the people in

Somerland, we are actually more willing to earn pounds and US Dollars."

Swift smiled and suddenly asked an extremely sharp and sensitive question.

Life at the Top Chapter 1803

"Mr. Laine, what do you think of the crisis in the United States subprime market?"

The highlight of the interview was coming.

Jasper was sitting upright and still. He said, "This is a very interesting question. First of all, what is a crisis? In my opinion, this is not just a crisis in the subprime market, but a loophole caused by the entire United States economic system.

"Gamers like us know that games or software programs will have various bugs. Some bugs are loopholes because they will bring convenience and benefits to those who find them. In my opinion, capitalists in the United States are merely a group of unruly players.

"Their greed has caused this loophole to grow larger and more serious. In the end, the ones who have to bear the consequences are the citizens of the United States. Meanwhile, they have already made a lot of money and have left the market."

Swift did not expect Jasper to say this.

However, instead of panicking, she was

excited.

People in the media were not afraid of the guests who were bold enough to speak their minds but rather, they were afraid of guests who dared not say anything.

Similar to the highly influential selection of

f the cover character of Time Magazine,

most of the previous interviewees made

some fluffy statements, such as Jasper's

answer to the previous questions.

Yet, Swift could guarantee that if they published Jasper's remarks right now, it would definitely blow up in popularity.

"So, Mr. Laine, JW Capital's role at this time is to uncover this scar, right?"

Jasper laughed and said, "It's not that noble. I just made some investments in the market on a legal basis from the perspective of commercial interests. For example, I think the subprime market will collapse and fall, so I am bearish. If I think it will rise, then I will buy more. It's that simple."

"Then, Mr. Laine, in your opinion, this is entirely from the perspective of commercial interests and does not involve any political factors?"

Any ordinary Somerland businessmen would dare not answer the question Swift asked.

However, Jasper still gave her his answer.

"No, I'm just a businessman. I do business to make money and pay taxes.. It's as simple as that. Politics is a matter for politicians to handle, and I won't participate in it."

"Mr. Laine, as one of the world's most successful investment businessmen in your age bracket, do you have anything to share with ordinary investors?"

Jasper thought for a while and said, "Respect the laws of the market. What should collapse is bound to collapse. Before investing, investigate the actual situation of the industry and learn more about it. Furthermore, I should ask the investors in the United States to prepare for the financial winter."

The interview lasted two and a half hours.

Toward the end, Swift's questions became more and more acute. She even asked Jasper if he was considering listing JW in the United States.

Even Jasper felt a little overwhelmed.

At that point, this interview which was almost ending, was interrupted by an emergency call from Jake.

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"Mr. Laine, Coreana's Sentel Corporation divested and the market is on the verge of collapsing."

The short sentence set off a storm in

Jasper's heart.

However, Jasper did not have the slightest expression or reaction on his face. He even displayed a slightly apologetic smile and said to Swift, "Ms. Swift, there is an emergency on my side, and I have to go over to deal with it personally. Can we end the interview early?"

Despite Swift's keen observation skills, she could not gather any information from Jasper's face. She thought about it and replied, "It's fine. Anyway, I have already got answers to some of the most important questions, so the interview will here."

After the videographer, sound engineer, and others turned off their equipment, Swift and Jasper shook hands again. She said, "Mr. Laine, this interview was very pleasant and unexpected. I believe it will cause a huge sensation when the annual weekly special is released."

Jasper smiled and said, "That will be the best, but when will it be released?"

"Within two days."

Swift smiled bitterly and said, "Mr. Laine, it's so hard making appointments with you. We changed the schedule three times and this was the last chance. If you still don't have time, we may really have to change the cover person."

"I'm very sorry. I hope you can

understand that this is a special period for

me."

After apologizing, Jasper said, "I won't be

sending you off then."

"It's okay, Mr, Laine, you don't have to, W

e will edit this interview as soon as

possible and a copy of the weekly special

will be sent to you after it is published.”

After bidding farewell to Swift and her team, Jasper turned and hurried toward the command center.

As the closest person to Jasper, Wendy

immediately noticed something was wrong.

She followed Jasper quickly and asked, “ Did something happen?”

Those Coreana bastards have withdrawn their capital.”

Jasper did not have to pretend too much. when he was in front of Wendy, so he cursed angrily.

“Them withdrawing their capital at this moment is tantamount to leaving us. surrounded by enemies, isolated and without help. As expected, these Coreanans cannot be trusted.”

Wendy was shocked and asked, “Wasn’t the previous cooperation always very pleasant? Why did they suddenly divest? They must be faced with an interest big enough for them to act on such a huge matter.”

Jasper nodded and said with a gloomy

expression, “We don’t need to think to

know that they must be under pressure

from the United States.”

When he came to the command center, it was already super chaotic.

Jake came to Jasper instantly. As the two of them walked, Jake reported, “Sentel Corporation’s divestment has led to a sharp increase in the pressure on us. The point you asked us to defend has been broken and the subprime market is still on the rise.

“Sentel Corporation’s capital is one aspect. The most important thing is that their withdrawal gave the outside world a bullish signal, which is very unfavorable for us.”

“Tell me how much we lost.”

“30%”

Jake looked gloomy and said, “The current loss has reached 30% and it is still increasing.

“Thankfully we have the palace guards helping us in this situation, otherwise, our loss now would be at least 50%.”

At this moment, Jasper had already walked to the screen.

“Show me the 15-minute candlestick

chart,” Jasper ordered.

The screen was adjusted almost as soon as Jasper finished talking, displaying a candlestick chart with a 15-minute node.

At this time, one could see the entire transaction quotation on the screen. 2 nodes ago, which was 30 minutes ago, the chart had been rising at an extremely slow pace among the turbulence. Even earlier, when the SBS bank of which the palace guards were affiliated entered the market, the entire subprime market fell by a large portion.

This was because the bears’ position had been strengthened by the support of the SBS Bank, which had greatly increased the market’s confidence in the short side.

However, right now, a different approach but equally satisfactory outcome came from the divestment of Coreana’s Sentel Corporation. The influence it brought could not be offset and erased at all.

“It’s time for the afternoon break.”

Jake said softly in Jasper’s ear when he saw the data stop moving on the screen as he stared at it blankly,

He sounded relieved.

Fortunately, there was still a break at this time, which allowed him and the team to get a four-hour respite. Otherwise, the pressure of watching the subprime market index rise wildly was enough to give them an emotional breakdown.

“Everyone, go and rest first.” Jasper waved his hand. Then, he entered his office in the command room and closed the door.

No one dared to bother him at this moment.

Except for Wendy.

However, Wendy knew Jasper, so obviously she had no plans to follow him. She turned to Jake, who was looking at her asking for help and said, "Go now. Everyone must be under a lot of pressure. Let everyone take a break and return to their best state for the opening afterward."

Jake said worriedly, "Actually, Mr. Laine is the most stressed person here. Is he really okay?"

"He'll be fine. Don't underestimate him. I've never seen any difficulties that can overwhelm him throughout this entire journey, so don't worry. The sky won't fall as long as he's here," Wendy said.

When Jake saw this, he nodded before turning around to leave.

Wendy turned and looked at the closed door of the office, and a touch of worry appeared in her eyes.

Currently in the office, Jasper was sitting behind his desk with a blank expression while holding his phone.

"Sorry, the number you have dialed cannot be connected."

Whether it was a domestic call or an international call, the automated system response was the same.

Jasper was making this call to Sylphie, but the automated system response from the phone made Jasper more irritable.

After making two consecutive calls in a row, the results were the same. Therefore, Jasper put the phone aside and began to think about how to deal with the next situation.

At this time, the mobile phone on the table rang suddenly. Someone was calling him.

Jasper did not hesitate to pick it up immediately.

“It’s me, Emil Lang.”

Listening to the voice on the other end of the phone, the waves in Jasper’s heart calmed down slightly. He slowly asked, Mr. Emil, aren’t you going to give me an explanation?”

Life at the Top Chapter 1805

“Jasper, I don’t think I need to explain anything to you.”

On the other end of the phone, Emil displayed a very stout attitude.

“We are just partners working together and we can’t continue to cooperate now, so such results are only to be expected, right?”

Jasper sneered, “Partners? Do you still

acknowledge that we are partners?”

“Does it mean that so-called partners just abandon their comrades and run away at the most critical moment in Sentel’s corporate culture as well as also Coreana’s national culture?”

“I don’t have any opinions if Sentel got scared and wanted to quit, but what you shouldn’t do is withdraw the capital unilaterally without prior notice. Do you think this is reasonable?”

On the other end of the phone, Emil was silent for a while. Then, he replied, “I admit that Sentel made a mistake in this, but you can’t blame me.

“Sentel is a multinational company. We have too many industries and businesses at home and abroad, so we needed to make big-picture considerations based on the current situation. Now, the potential losses we might bear far outweigh the benefits of working with you, so we must divest.

“I can tell you frankly that before the decision to divest was made, 70% of Sentel’s global business was affected. The United States Ministry of Commerce even considered adding Sentel to the national sanctions list. This would be a devastating blow to Sentel.

“Not only that, even the Blue House has opinions about our cooperation with you. This is the United States government directly pressuring Coreana through official channels. You know that Sentel had no choice in this situation.

“Meanwhile, the United States only gave me three hours to make a choice, so I could only decide on this.”

Jasper quietly listened to Emil’s words. After a long time, he said faintly, “Sentel is

Coreana’s business hegemon. It can even be said that Sentel controls all aspects of Coreana society. You acknowledge this fact, right, Mr. Emil?”

Emil obviously did not know why Jasper suddenly changed the topic, but he still patiently replied, “Yes, I won’t deny it.”

“And similar consortiums are also found in Sunrise Land, such as Trider Financial Group and Sumotomo Corporation. Their status in Sunrise Land is the same as Sentel’s status in Coreana.”

Jasper’s tone became increasingly indifferent and contemptuous. He continued, “But Mr. Emil, have you ever thought about this question? Coreana and Sunrise Land have the same national background. They are both resource-poor but economically developed small countries with small land masses. Trider Financial Group and Sumotomo Corporation are top domestic capital consortiums just like Sentel, but are the world’s top 500 companies that much more influential than Sentel?”

“How could the Trider Financial Group make the West Gate Consortium lower its head and pay reparations in 1996? Why did the Trider Financial Group win an international arbitration lawsuit that lasted 10 years?”

“Does Sentel have the courage to do so?”

“You don’t.”

“Because your weakness is etched inside your bones. Even if I have always hated the people of Sunrise Land, there is one thing you and I both have to admit. The people of Sunrise Land are forced to bow their heads to reality, but even if they do. this on the surface, they still have an intrinsic stubbornness, courage, and savageness to refuse to admit defeat carved deep into their very bones.

“While Coreana is a nation without a spine. Your body and soul makes you bow to everyone, and even your bones and genes admit that you are inferior.”

Jasper could clearly hear Emil's breathing becoming more rapid and heavier through the phone as his words became sharper. Obviously, he was going to ignite the

other party's anger, but he did not care.

"It's fine if Sentel decides to kneel, but Mr. Emil, I will say this, I will not let this matter rest. After this matter is resolved, I will start genuinely looking down on Sentel, the Langs, and Coreana. That is all from me, shape up."

After speaking, he hung up the phone

decisively.

Jasper knew that all communication and

cooperation between him and Sentel had

been wiped out with this call.

The next time they interacted, they would be doing so as enemies.

From being a nobody to where he was now, Jasper had always sought revenge when he was wronged and expressed gratitude when someone had helped him. If he could seek revenge on Christmas Eve, he would not even wait until after

Christmas because he would not be able to

enjoy his Christmas dinner until the

matter was settled.

Sentel's withdrawal of capital at this

moment was tantamount to kicking JW

Capital while the latter was teetering on the edge of a cliff Jasper would not be a man if he did not seek revenge on this kind of animosity.

In Coreana, hundreds of kilometers away, Emil put down the phone with a pale face.

At the same time, Sylphie stood opposite him with a cold smirk on her face.

"I told you, my dear father, Jasper won't be so happy. Do you really think he is a pushover?"

Emil, who was already fuming, was furious. Hence, he raised his hand and slapped Sylphie across the face. He pointed at his daughter, who staggered backward and cursed, "Am I your father or are you my father? How dare you talk to me like that? Jasper has an inflated opinion of his abilities, and he is digging his own grave. Do you want us to die with him?"

Sylphie clutched her face. The physical pain made her calm down.

She looked at Emil indifferently and said, "If Grandpa was around, he would definitely stop you from doing this."

Emil's face froze upon hearing this.

"Your grandpa is still in a coma. The doctor said he has little hope of waking up, so now I am the president of Sentel. I hope you can understand this."

Sylphie said coldly, "I understand. Of course, I understand. So, Father, please enjoy your authority as the president."

"Father, I feel that I am not capable enough. I hope to go abroad to study for some time and I hope you will allow it." Emil knew that Sylphie did not want to see him, and he was happy to fulfill her wishes.

The only person in the family who dared to provoke him at this time was his biological daughter, Sylphie. If she left, he would rule unchallenged in the family and in Sentel.

"Okay, where are you going to study?"

Emil asked.

"Swallow Capital University."

"Someland?"

Emil looked up suddenly.

Life at the Top Chapter 1806

"Why not a European country? If it is a Western country, I can arrange for you to enroll in any school you want," Emil said in a deep voice.

Sylphie said flatly, "Do you think that only Western schools are good? I am sorry, I am the one who's going to further my studies and I think only Swallow Capital University can provide me with a good enough platform."

"You're going to see Jasper, right?" Emil

said coldly.

"Father, I hope you don't think that I am so shameless and nasty. I am just going for further my studies. It has nothing to do with other people."

Emil was furious.

However, when he saw that his daughter was also staring at him stubbornly and that her cheeks were also red and swollen, Emil did not vent his anger anymore.

"You should go."

Emil seemed to have lost his strength.

"Since you have already thought about the admissions process, then I shouldn't have to worry about you. However, I will still remind you that as a man, I understand very well that people like Jasper are poison for girls your age. Although the poison is tempting, it will kill you if you eat it.

"Especially right now when there is no room for negotiation in the current relationship between us and Jasper. I would rather you marry a normal citizen than fall for Jasper."

"You misunderstood me. I have never

considered this aspect."

After Sylphie finished speaking, regardless of whether Emil believed her or not, she turned and walked towards the door. After that, she said, "It's late, Father. Rest early, I'm going to bed too."

"Right."

Holding the doorknob, Sylphie said calmly, "I hope you can remove the people keeping an eye on me. Now that it

has already happened, what can I do as a woman? Even if I do something, it won't affect the big picture."

After speaking, there was a sound of the door opening followed by the sound of the door shutting. The only person remaining in the study was the pale Emil who was feeling remorseful and annoyed.

At this moment, Mauritius City,

Jasper is not in a good mood.

After finishing the conversation with Emil, he seized the four-hour break for the next task. He knew he had to reach a consensus with the "Yu Linjun" under the Development Bank and Harbor City as soon as possible.

The first person Jasper looked for was Reuben, the person in charge of the 'Yulin Army'.

"Mr. Laine, with all due respect, judging from the current situation, it is impossible to continue the previous plan."

Life at the Top Chapter 1807

Jasper slowly said, "I understand what you mean, but...."

"There is no buts."

Jasper was rarely interrupted.

Even so, Reuben did not think that there was anything wrong with doing this. He continued, "Mr. Laine, we are throwing a sprat to catch a herring.

"In any game, whenever the difference in strength between the enemy and us is huge, the weak must find another way to defeat the strong. We created this situation with many difficulties, but the previous relatively evenly matched board has been shattered by our opponents, so we have to sacrifice something to make up for it.

"As long as our strategic goal is achieved, the loss is acceptable."

Jasper narrowed his eyes and looked at Reuben on the screen. He said, "If that's the case, what do you think can be sacrificed, Waterhoof City capital or Harbor City capital?"

"Mr. Laine, I think there is already a choice in your heart, right?"

Jasper closed his eyes slightly, leaned back on the chair, and said slowly but challengingly, "Waterhoof City capital is too small. Even if you sacrifice them, it will not produce that much power. You'll just be sacrificing them in vain."

"Correct."

There was a strong sense of relief and

appreciation in Reuben's eyes.

It felt as if he was witnessing the rise and transformation of an ambitious and ruthless character.

He had looked into Jasper's family property, which was actually no secret in high-level domestic business circles.

He started from scratch, and he came from a small family. However, he rose rapidly in the shortest possible time with a speed and method that was borderline miraculous.

He started from a small unknown role, a

small company, to become an

indispensable benchmark for the youths that was valuable for the social upbringing of the next generation in the eyes of the top leaders of Swallow Capital. In a way, he had also become a private commercial aircraft carrier that everyone knew in Somerland.

How long did Jasper take to achieve this?

Not very long.

In less time than one took to finish college, Jasper had completed his transformation from a poor boy to the richest man in the country.

However, all of this was not enough in Reuben's eyes.

The benchmark figure that Somerland needed now required not only an extraordinary manner and mind who was patriotic. The most important trait he needed to possess was savage ambition and a ruthless character.

Because of Somerland's recent

development, it would inevitably be suppressed by foreign forces, and in many places where it was inconvenient for the

government to take action, this

benchmark had to stand up.

It was a dog-eat-dog situation that was so terrifying it would turn one's scalp numb and cause one's soul to fall into the abyss.

If that person was not savage enough, they might be devoured and wiped out in an instant.

Now, Reuben saw the ongoing

transformation within Jasper.

This would be contained in the form of a top-secret report in the shortest time to be sent directly to the highest authorities.

However, it still depended on Jasper to decide how this plan would be carried out.

"I understand."

Jasper's two words ended this video call.

Then, Jasper sat alone in the office and refused to see anyone. He also did not accept calls from anyone, even immediately hanging up on all of Anna's calls. He needed a little time to think. In the last 4 hours, he would squeeze out a little time to weigh this decision.

Life at the Top Chapter 1808

Harbor City.

Zachary was studying the current situation with his team of staff.

However, no matter how the discussion went, his subordinates were still giving the most pessimistic conclusions, so Zachary was in a bad mood.

At this time, his secretary hurriedly walked in and said a few words into his ear. Then, Zachary immediately got up and announced the end of the meeting.

He came all the way downstairs to the company and at this moment, a car drove slowly to the door.

He had been in charge of Law's Corporation for many years. So, no matter where he was at, be it in the country or abroad, it was always the other party receiving him and not the way around. Yet right now, Zachary was like a student waiting for his parents to check his homework. He walked quickly to the side of the car and nervously opened the car door.

Many employees of Law's Corporation, or those who came to Law's Corporation to do business, were beyond shocked when they saw this.

It was not common to see a big shot like Zachary in real life, but today was really an eye-opener. The big shot was actually acting as a bellboy for someone else.

Which big wig was in the car?

Soon, their doubts were answered.

After that, this person also became a bragging topic for most of the people present to tell their relatives and friends in the future.

They saw a lean old master getting out of the car.

His skin is dark, and his eyebrows were sparse and thin, yet, his eyes were bright and full of expression.

However, he was too old and was walking with some difficulty.

This old master who looked more like a farmer than a bigwig was the true bigwig whose sneezes were like claps of thunder in

the global circle of Somerland descendants.

“Old Master Law!”

Immediately, someone exclaimed, revealing the identity of the old master.

Everyone was shocked.

Old Master Law had not shown up in the company for more than ten years since he retired. So why did he show up today? Did something huge happen?”

“Dad, why did you come here in person?”

Zachary was also full of doubt. He walked

forward to help the old master and asked

while he was at it.

The old master pushed his hand away and

said, “I don’t need your help, I can walk b

y myself.

“Find me a large reception room. I have made appointments with the elders from other families. They will all be here soon.”

Old Master Law’s face was calm, and after giving the order, he said, “Also, if Jasper calls you, you can just transfer it to me.

After he said that, the old master walked. into the building.

Zachary’s heart skipped a beat.

He knew that if the old master could treat this matter like this and even make appointments with the few remaining elders in Harbor City, it had to be something huge.

Zachary did not waste any time. He immediately arranged for people to prepare the best and largest reception room. Not only that, but he also asked someone to immediately call the best medical team in Harbor City to be on standby at the company.

After all, these people who were coming soon were very old and their statuses were very high. If any of the old masters got emotional or too excited, it could spell trouble.

Soon, the luxury cars came to the building of Law's Corporation one after another, while the ones who got out of the cars were all old men who had retired from the business world many years ago.

Almost all of the elders from Harbor City's four richest families and the top families under the four who were alive were present.

Of course, the J. Langdons and W. Langdons were not here. They had stated clearly that they did not get along, so of course, they would not be invited to this kind of event.

Soon, the few old men were sitting in the reception room that had been meticulously prepared.

Meanwhile, Old Master Law sat in the

center.

He looked at the old men around him who were around the same age as him and chuckled. "My old friends, it's been so many years and now we're sitting together again. Back then, the financial crisis in Harbor City didn't even force us to this stage."

"Yeah, the last time we sat together to

talk was during the Handover, right?"

The old master from the Boyle family

grinned and said.

Old Master Law nodded and said slowly, "We're old now, and no one knows how much time we have left. Perhaps after I close my eyes tonight, I won't be able to open them tomorrow morning. So, I won't waste everyone's time and I'll get straight to the point..."

When Old Master Law was about to speak,

Zachary's phone rang while he was

standing at the corner near the door.

He lowered his head to look at the caller 1

D and immediately jolted awake.

He quickly walked to the old master and

leaned down to whisper, "Dad, it's

Jasper."

Old Master Law nodded and took the

phone. He said, "The star of the show is

here. Allow me to answer this call."

Half an hour before the trading resumed, Jasper finally called Zachary. However, he did not expect the old master to answer the phone.

"Old Master, how are you?" After Jasper learned who the person on the other end of the line was, he greeted respectfully.

"I'm fine, I'm fine. I can still sleep and eat well. Everything is fine and dandy," Old Master Law said gleefully..

Since he called Zachary but the person who picked up was Old Master Law, Jasper knew everyone had already had a tacit understanding.

However, Jasper still had to say the matter out loud.

"Old Master, I've never been clumsy or negligent in front of you, so this time, I'll go straight to the point. I don't think I can protect the funds in Harbor City in the next opening."

"You can't or you don't want to?"

Old Master Law's question went straight

into Jasper's soul.

This was the first time Jasper found it so difficult to answer a question.

"I am unable to, and I can't."

Jasper took a deep breath and answered, "Sentel's divestment caused a chain reaction in the entire market. If we don't make sacrifices, Somerland's capital will

totally crash. If I let Harbor City spiral into a life-and-death struggle, I might have enough time to flip this chessboard. So, I can only play the game like this.”

“Very well.”

Old Master Law only answered with two words. Then, he continued asking, “Tell me, what will happen if we lose?”

Jasper was stunned.

Then, he thought about this question

properly before replying solemnly, “We’ll

start over if we lose. There will be a day.

where we’ll make a comeback.”

“You may be able to do that, but I don’t

have much time left.”

Old Master Law said softly.

Jasper did not know what to say to that.

“But...”

Old Master Law laughed and continued, When Harbor City was under the rule of the United Kingdom, I once transported a batch of very important goods to the mainland even as the governor of Harbor City asked someone to point a gun to my

head. If I was scared back then, the Laws wouldn’t exist right now.

“Jasper, go ahead. I’ll make a bet with my family.

“Not for you.

“But for Somerland.”

|

Life at the Top Chapter 1809

'Not for you.

'But for Somerland.'

Those six words displayed the strength of the old master's character vividly and thoroughly.

Somerland had suffered so much hardship and torture over the past 100 years.

However, no matter how hard it was and how hopeless the situation seemed, this country could always escape these hardships and difficulties.

It was not because of anything else other than the fact that the country of Somerland and the Somerland descendants would never have a shortage of heroes who would sacrifice themselves for their home and country.

"Homeland. Home and land come hand in hand, so without land, how can there be a home? If our country's economy is destroyed, my old chaps, we will all become rootless duckweed.

"We all come from the era of the great wars. You know better than anyone else. Once we don't have the support of the country, even if we have an endless amount of money, in the eyes of foreigners, we're still just slabs of meat with no form of resistance that can be slaughtered at any time."

Old Master said this statement in front of everyone while still staying on the phone with Jasper.

After he said that, everyone's expressions was solemn.

After a long time, someone slowly said, But now, we each have family businesses and we have offspring. We're not rash young men who only need to feed ourselves and can sacrifice our lives at any given time."

"I won't force you."

Old Master Law glanced at the person who was talking and said lightly, "It's entirely up to you whether you want your entire family to become dogs or become the hero yourself."

After he said that, the old master who had stated his concern roared, "What do you mean by that? When did I ever reject you?"

"You don't have to say anything

anymore." It was the old master from the Boyle

family who spoke this time.

He waved his hand and said, "I only have one request. Leave some ships for my descendants so that they won't die of hunger. I fought for the rest, and now, I have no qualms about giving it all up for the country and my home."

After he said that, the room was silent.

"Alright, then it's settled."

Old Master Law concluded.

At the same time, Jasper, who had heard the whole thing, did not know what to say at all.

"Jasper, you heard that, right? There's still some hot-blooded folks in Somerland."

Old Master Law's mild voice interrupted Jasper's train of thought

Jasper took a deep breath and said in a solemn and respectful voice that no one had ever heard him use before, "I am a man with no virtue, and I am

incompetent, but I will forever remember

this huge favor and act of grace.

"I promise everyone in the room that as long as I have food on my table in the future, that I will definitely make sure all of your descendants are safe and sound.

"Perhaps this might sound crazy right now, but this is my promise and also a promise that I'll fight to keep throughout my entire life."

Jasper's words made the elders in the room feel very pleased.

It could be seen that if this battle did not

end too badly, Jasper's development in Somerland would be unstoppable.

Even if he lost JW this time, his

meritorious service would be enough to allow the government to help him build a second or third JW.

Even if all of them were at the top of Harbor City's pyramid, how old were they, and how old was Jasper?

Even after they passed on, Jasper would still be going strong.

With Jasper's promise, it could be said that their descendants would flourish for the next two generations.

This was equivalent to solving their future worries.

"Alright, I will accept your kindness on behalf of everyone."

Life at the Top Chapter 1810

Old Master Law was very relieved. He said in a warm voice, "Time is running out, so you should get ready first. We will gather all the funds here and wait until trading resumes. When the times comes, we will d o whatever you say.

"Jasper, remember not to let our sacrifice be in vain. We will be losing 10 years of Harbor City's lifeblood by doing this."

"I understand."

After hanging up, Jasper took a deep breath and stood up. Then, he pushed open the door of the command room office.

The moment he opened the door, he saw the whole team staring straight at him.

After taking a deep breath, Jasper said in a deep voice, "There are still a few minutes before the trading resumes. Everyone, get ready."

Upon hearing those words, everyone on the team suddenly became energetic.

It was because they suddenly saw the man come back.

It was as if nothing in this world could stump that omnipotent man.

He was back again!

Everyone got into position and the busy preparation work began.

Under everyone's expectant gaze, the time to start trading again finally arrived.

The moment the time arrived, the data that had stopped moving began to refresh quickly.

"The point continues to rise and the pressure is still increasing."

"The bulls are starting to attack. Our positions are starting to liquidate, and we need to add funds!"

"Funds! Funds! Inject funds into my account, otherwise, all positions will liquidate. There's an early warning now!"

The moment trading started, it was as if the resume button was pressed on the previous doomsday.

Although everyone was given four hours of respite, once the time came, everything would continue as usual.

The bears were under tremendous pressure and the entire subprime market had started rising morbidly,

It seemed that at this moment, all investors in the world had become Jasper's enemies and they were all bullish on the bulls position.

"Benett's investment and management company announced that he believes the real estate industry in the United States has not yet reached the point of collapse and that it still has investment value and opportunity."

Jake's words caused Jasper to lift his eyebrows.

"It seems that our old friend has also made a choice."

Jasper did not blame Benett.

After all, despite how free capital was, Bennett was still from the United States. His wealth, family, and properties were

all in the United States. So, wouldn't he be

a traitor if he still sided with Jasper at this

critical moment?

"Mr. Laine, the pressure is too huge."

Jale wiped the sweat from his brow and said in terror, "It's only been ten minutes. since trading resumed and the funds that entered the market have exceeded 600 billion US Dollars. Moreover, the transaction amount is nearing 2 trillion U S Dollars. It seems like the longs are determined to kill us directly this afternoon."

"Don't worry, I'm waiting."

Jasper pressed his lips together.

After he said that, the phone rang.

It was from Zachary.

“Jasper, the funds are ready, and we can transfer it to you at any time. The total is 200 billion US Dollars.”

“Why is it so much?” Although Jasper was prepared, he was still shocked by those old men’s huge fortunes. Zachary chuckled bitterly, “We took out almost everything we have. There is also 80 billion here that belongs to the Harbor City Ministry of Finance. You should understand.”

Life at the Top Chapter 1811

Jasper's heart trembled.

If the palace guards of SBS Bank were under Jasper's command, then this was a kind of private support that Swallow Capital was extending Jasper. However, if the Harbor City Ministry of Finance came into the game directly, it would be tantamount to telling the world, 'You guessed right, the Somerland government is behind Jasper and the Somerland government will support Jasper.'

The core executives of Swallow Capital knew very well that in such a difficult situation, what Jasper needed the most was not necessarily capital, because no amount of capital could match the Federal Reserve.

What he needed was them to declare their position and their support.

The current Somerland was no longer the Somerland from decades ago that was built on the ruins and was so poor that everyone looked down on it anymore.

Since the reformation and opening up, more countries and capital had begun to witness this eastern country burst forth. To Jasper, having such power backing him so openly was tantamount to them giving him aid in his time of need.

After putting down the phone call with Zachary, Jasper immediately contacted Reuben.

"So?"

Reuben knew that Jasper already had obtained a result if he was receiving Jasper's video call request at this time.

"200 billion US Dollars."

Jasper simply reported a number with a heavy tone.

Even Reuben took a sharp breath at that moment.

In this operation, the funds he brought to the game only amounted to 50 billion US Dollars, but the wealthy families in Harbor City alone collected 200 billion US

dollars. While lamenting the profound heritage of these Harbor City families, Reuben was feeling sorry that these old

men had taken out all of their life savings for this.

“To be honest, in the beginning, I fought this battle because I was selfish.”

Jasper said suddenly.

The capital finance field was essentially the same as other industries. The greater the risk, the greater the benefit.

The degree of difficulty in this financial battle with the United States was so high that it was difficult for outsiders to imagine.

If he knew that things would get so bad, Jasper would definitely have changed his tactics at the beginning so it would not get so intense and direct.

After all, JW was still too weak to support the requirements of such a financial war.

However, in the beginning, Jasper did it for profit.

Once they won this financial war and the subprime mortgage crisis was detonated ahead of time, Jasper would become the biggest winner, instantly bridging 20 years of worth of growth and allowing JW to form a consortium and develop economic strength comparable to those century-old conglomerates the moment it entered the international market.

“But later, I realized that if I lost this financial war that had already been set off, then it would be as if a tunnel was opened in an abyss and the demons in the abyss would follow this tunnel to reap all of the achievements Somerland obtained since the reformation. Therefore, I cannot lose. At that time that I felt I was fighting for the country.

“But now, I suddenly realized...”

A bitter smile appeared on Jasper’s face, and he continued, “Who am I to fight for the country? There have always been countless people like Old Master Law who supported me behind the scenes, and that’s how I came this far. Otherwise, I would have already lost everything on the Dow Jones Index as early as a few months ago.”

Reuben looked at Jasper, who appeared tired and regretful on the screen, and fell silent for a while.

Life at the Top Chapter 1812

"Japer."

Reuben said in a deep voice, "This is not the time for you to be depressed, and it is also not the time for you to preach false modesty. Think about the billions of people in Somerland, but recognize that at this time, this kind of heavy burden can only be placed on you.

"It's not that you chose all of this, but that all this chose you."

"At this time, anyone can fall, but you must not. If you really can't handle this expectation and responsibility, then immediately tell Swallow Capital and let Swallow Capital send someone to clean up the mess for you. However, if you do this, everything you have done in the past few years will be in vain. Have you thought seriously about it this

"You don't need to spur me into action by making negative remarks about me."

Jasper rubbed his face and said, "I know what I should do."

"Very well then."

Reuben stared at Jasper and said slowly, "Mr. Laine, please give the order."
Jasper gave Reuben a deep look, laughed,

and called Jake and Baz over,

"At the moment, it is a struggle between life-and-death. Hence, I give you the authority to mobilize the 200 billion US Dollars from Harbor City. There is only one goal, and that is to crash the subprime market for me."

Turning to look at Reuben, Jasper said in a deep voice, "The mission of the palace guards is to follow the main funds and to siege all the long positions that are exposed after the main funds are pushed. I only have one request for you and that is to liquidate any positions that you find!"

Jake, Baz, and Reuben perked up and replied at the same time, "Roger!"

Financial trading seemed complicated, but it was essentially a game of hurting

people with capital. When the amount of money reached a certain scale, all the fancy tricks were useless. There was only one operation that really needed to be performed, and that was inputting the

target price and position, then clicking to the order button.

After that, the funds would do everything for you.

Just a minute after Jasper gave the order, everyone was ready.

Standing in the corridor of the command room and holding the railing with both hands, he looked up at the huge screen hanging in the center and said softly, "Execute Operation Slaughter Eagle."

After he said that, in the capital battlefield that was invisible in the real world, a torrent of funds whizzed past Harbor City and instantly crossed to the other side of the ocean, flooding into the subprime market of the United States.

What would happen if short-selling orders amounting to 200 billion US Dollars rushed into the market in an instant?

At this moment, all the buy orders in the entire subprime market were swept away. This global market with a daily trading volume of trillions of dollars was

liquidated.

The three supercomputers used to support the calculation of the subprime market transactions unexpectedly froze at that moment and all the data halted. After just a few seconds, the supercomputer calculated the market according to the formula and then reflected that data in the form of a candlestick chart on the computer screens in front of all the people around the world who were watching this financial war.

Stock market crash!

The real stock market crash!

The huge subprime market looked as if it had been sliced in half by a huge knife. It plunged straight down, almost penetrating the screen.

After scanning through all the long orders on the market, the system displayed a full 130 billion empty orders hanging on the sell column, indicating a complete collapse of the market.

It was not unusual to see individual stocks reach the limit down, but had you ever seen the market reach the limit down? Today, the subprime market of the United States experienced this miracle and witnessed a scene unprecedented throughout all of human financial history.

Life at the Top Chapter 1813

"In 13 seconds, the subprime market crashed 22%!"

Jake screamed in a borderline croaking voice, attracting everyone's attention.

Immediately afterward, cheers almost blew off the roof.

The 22% flash crash not only meant that all of JW's funds would not face the risk of liquidation, but more importantly, it directly penetrated the defensive line built by the United States capital in the subprime market.

Once you broke through the defensive line, the rest of the subprime market was like a woman that was stripped naked such that you could do whatever you wanted with her.

However, although Jasper had a smile on his face as he watched Jake and the rest cheering and jumping in joy, there was a touch of melancholy and worry in the deepest part of his eyes.

He knew very well that the current battle progress was paid for by the decades worth of savings had been accumulated by those elders in Harbor City.

Moreover, if the United States government or the Federal Reserve was determined to rescue the market at all costs, he might not even win even after sacrificing all of the resources from Harbor City.

Although at the end of his previous life,

the United States government and the Federal Reserve realized that the subprime mortgage crisis was a problem with the United States economic system itself and did not desperately rescue the market, the subprime mortgage crisis in the previous life only broke out because the contradictions accumulated to the point where they could not be suppressed anymore.

This time, it was blown up by him, a man from Somerland.

The cause was different, so the result.

might change.

He could not use his previous life's experience to determine what the United States would do now.

At this moment, the situation in the subprime market was still getting worse.

A 22% flash crash within 13 seconds. Even financial practitioners from around the world were so scared that goosebumps started appearing on their skin, let alone the investors in the subprime market.

Once upon a time, nobody could have imagined that the local financial market in the United States would turn into a crater blown up by the people of Somerland.

This was completely unheard of in the world, let alone in the United States' financial market.

No matter how arrogant the financial tycoons were, they dared not make such a suicide attack.

However, facts were facts.

10 minutes after the flash crash, the busiest individuals happened to be the

paramedics from emergency centers all around the world.

This was because a lot of long-term investors went bankrupt at this moment. Their hearts could not stand this pressure of this, so they fainted and were sent to the hospital.

The United States was in turmoil.

"The Twin Towers and the Pentagon were just bombed, and not long after, another explosion that had more serious consequences than the terrorist attack happened in the financial sector."

In the office of the secretary of the Treasury of the United States, Hamilton sweated profusely while listening to the roar from the president of the United States.

Life at the Top Chapter 1814

"I'm sorry, Mr. President. We didn't that Jasper to sacrifice all of Harbor City and crash the subprime market at once. We will immediately discuss this and come up with a solution."

"If it were not for the emergency, I would tell you to resign and leave immediately, but Mr. Hamilton, I hope you can understand that both my and the people's patience is limited. If you still can't stop the current situation from deteriorating, then you shouldn't be sitting in that chair,"

On the other end of the phone, Hamilton's eyelids twitched as he felt the anger of the president. It felt like a volcano that was about to erupt.

He took a deep breath and said, "Mr. President, according to the information provided by the intelligence agency, not only did funds belonging to Somerland's SBS Bank participate in this attack, but when the 200 billion US Dollar suicide attack just happened, 50 billion US Dollars were contributed by the Harbor City government.

"In this regard, we must ask Somerland to immediately divest and pay compensation, otherwise, we will put pressure on it in from all directions."

The president on the other end of the phone gritted his teeth and said coldly, "Do you think I didn't expect this? I asked to see the ambassador in Somerland before calling you, but their embassy told me that the ambassador has gone to Hawaii for vacation!

"Damn those Somerland punks, they are despicable to the bone! They actually used such shoddy means to prevaricate me. They are not respecting our country at all!"

Hamilton sighed deeply when he heard that. He said, "If necessary, please use the special telephone line with the highest authority in Somerland. Once the Somerland government participates in this matter, it is likely to become a financial war between the east and the west."

“Even the ambassador has gone to Hawaii for vacation. Do you think their highest

authority will succumb to us as before?

“Mr. Hamilton now is not the time for you to tell me how to do handle my affairs. I am asking you to save the current situation!

“The government’s attitude is the final expression of the will of the state. At that time, if we and the Somerland government have a fall-out, then it will cause unpredictable consequences. These Somerland people will not sign any treaties surrendering their territory under humiliating terms like a hundred years ago anymore.

“So whether it is me or the highest authority of Somerland, we will try our best to restrict things to just the financial industry, so your task is very important.

“If you lose, the United States will become the laughing stock of the world, and if you win, the entire Somerland will be our ATM. Then, the world will once again understand the majesty of the United States and no one will dare provoke us again, understand?”

Hamilton was silent for a moment. He

was digesting what the president had said.

In summary, it was just one sentence.

In this current situation, whether it was the somerland government or the United States government, they would try to keep the matter under the table to control the situation, that is, they intended to leave this to the financial sector. However, if the matter could not be controlled, no one would be able to bear the consequences.

Meanwhile, he, Hamilton, had become a chess player for United States government and would be handling the following war in the financial sector.

When he thought about this, Hamilton could not help but lament about his old friend. Greenspaner’s foresight was vicious, and he was scheming, so this was all within his expectations.

As a result, Hamilton also took advantage of the opportunity to voice the plans and

methods Greenspaner had already proposed to him.

“Mr. President, at present, the collapse of the subprime market and the resulting financial crisis are inevitable.

“The reason the subprime market crashed 22% in 13 seconds was not only because Jasper paid the price of sacrificing Harbor City, but also because of the loopholes in our system. This problem would have appeared sooner or later even without Jasper and his hundreds of billions of dollars.

“So, I suggest that we use the bloodletting treatment to blow up this financial crisis directly. At the same time, we need to focus our energy on another place.

“Since Jasper burned our backyard with a torch, why can't we go directly to Somerland's A-share market and overturn his nest?”

Life at the Top Chapter 1815

Hamilton's words caused a moment of silence on the other end of the phone.

"Mr. President, I have already written the relevant report and I will send it to your email immediately. Please approve and put in your comments after you review it with your team."

Hamilton's words brought the president on the other end of the phone back to his senses.

"Okay, I look forward to your report."

After he finished speaking, he hung up the phone.

Hamilton sat next to the computer in excitement and sent an email from the encrypted USB flash drive to the business e-mail of the president in Washington.

Hamilton knew that if this went smoothly, this report would be classified as top secret and would be kept permanently under wraps.

As the initiator of this report, Hamilton felt a sense of accomplishment from participating in a major historical process.

Facing the current tense domestic economic situation, Washington had obviously raised the priority of this report to the highest level.

Hamilton only waited for an hour before he received an official notice.

Approved!

That word perked Hamilton up.

He immediately contacted his partner, Greenspaner.

"Washington has passed our report and we can start at any time."

Hamilton's words did not surprise Greenspaner too much.

No one knew the economic system and economic rules of the United States better than him. This idea was proposed by him, so he was confident that Washington would pass it.

“Those people from Somerland need to be taught a lesson to let them understand who has the final say in this world.”

Greenspaner said to Hamilton.

“However, we need some time to prepare before entering Somarland’s financial market. Before that, we must maintain the subprime market so that it does not collapse too much.

“I heard that Layman is already looking for investors to acquire them, and we can manipulate this. We have to find a way to facilitate this transaction and at least help them find a good buyer. In this way, the blow on Wall Street capital from the crisis this time will be greatly reduced.

“In addition to this, in terms of policy, I am considering exempting 70% of the interest on housing loans across the federal government.

“The most important item in the subprime market is the housing credit loan trust. If we exempt interest, it will be a benign stimulus to the real estate market, so that people will not be burdened with debt pressure that might

ward off interest.”

Hamilton nodded as he listened.

However, when he heard about the 70% interest exemption, he frowned slightly and said, “Isn’t this ratio too large? If such a heavy burden is transferred from the people to the banks, many banks may go bankrupt.”

“Then so be it.”

Greenspaner spread his hands and said, “Who said that the bank can’t go bankrupt?”

“Those small and medium-sized banks can’t contribute much to the federal government. If they go bankrupt, then so be it. After all, in a financial crisis, there will be sacrifices. Who cares whether they live or die?”

“The problem is that once banks go bankrupt on a large scale, it will lead to the collapse of the bank’s credit system, then, the interests of a large number of depositors will be impaired. Furthermore, banks, as the main distributing body of loans, will inevitably lead to large-scale personal loan defaults throughout society if they fail. It will be very serious.”

Hamilton still hesitated. serious.”

“That’s why Layman can’t collapse.”

Greenspaner’s thin and sunken eye sockets glimmered terrifyingly. He said, “ We need to find a rich and affluent buyer for Layman, preferably someone for Somerland. Aren’t they the most willing to acquire large assets to show how rich and powerful they are so that they can squeeze into the world’s richest circle?

“Hence, we’ll sell Layman to them as the world’s fourth-largest investment bank. That’s enough for them, right? Of course, one of the conditions is that they must provide an insurance contract, that is, if small banks and medium-sized banks fail on a large scale, they will be responsible to provide a backstop.”

Hamilton replied in horror, “Why would they agree to this condition? Unless they are crazy, this is a loss of at least tens of billions of dollars!”

Greenspaner chuckled, “But only you and I know what will happen in the future, no? The buyer doesn’t know.”

Hamilton savored it carefully, then looked at Greenspaner in admiration. He said, “ All we have to do is dig this big hole and let those who are ready to buy Layman jump in.”

“Whoever jumps will die, so it’s best if this buyer is from Somerland. Of course, if no Somerland capital is willing to enter, we won’t force it-whoever has the money can be responsible.” Greenspaner smiled and said.

At this time, an assistant came in and told the two that the subprime market had fallen again, and it had fallen below its lowest point in the past three years.

The two looked at each other and smiled.. They were not as tense and irritable as they were before. Instead, they looked carefree and calm.

Two hours later, the Federal Reserve issued a joint announcement with the United States Department of the Treasury.

“First, we announce that 70% of interest will be exempted for all housing loans in all our federal territories.

“Second, we’ll comprehensively relax the access restrictions on the subprime market and welcome investors, big and small, as well as institutions, to invest

“Third, we’ll urge Congress to pass a tax

bill to reduce taxes by 10% for companies in the real estate industry.”

When Jake reported the news, Jasper was drinking tea with the little prince and Lord Alvarado.

The two had just arrived in Nauritus City.

As the host, Jasper naturally wanted to receive them properly.

“Hmm, not bad, but they are a bit rash.”

Jasper put down his teacup and laughed, “The second one is just rubbish and the third one is basically useless. The political system means that even if the Federal Congress passes this bill, the following state capitals and state assemblies will most likely not implement it because it will affect the income of the state government.

“But the first one is pretty interesting.”

Jasper looked at the little prince and Lord Alvarado. Then, he said relaxedly, “The crisis this time will be detonated no matter what. No one can stop it from happening.”

The little prince and Lord Alvarado looked at each other. They both saw the excitement in each other’s eyes.

“There is finally some good news after such a long time. When can we start exploiting them?”

As the main short-selling institution, JW Capital’s profits in this round’s subprime market crash were sky-high.

“Not yet. The best time to do that is when the storm has completely swept across the United States. To be honest, it’s almost impossible for them to make up for the previous deficit now.”

Jasper narrowed his eyes slightly and said

meaningfully, “What’s more, we still

haven’t brought out our two big bombs.”

Life at the Top Chapter 1817

As Half-the-Harbor Langdon and his son talked, the convoy entered the underground parking lot of the Layman Investment Bank Headquarters on Wall Street.

Meanwhile, at an outdoor cafe across the street, Henry and Conrad put down the newspapers they used to hide themselves and smiled at each other.

'Well done. You said that they would come today, and I didn't believe it. It seems that you're right.'" Henry gave Conrad a thumbs up and praised him.

Conrad chuckled and said, "The J. Langdons are not in a good state now and it can be said that they can't even go home even if they have one. Since they have deviated from Somerland, they must show their value in the West and integrate themselves with their interests. Once they receive news that Layman Investment Bank is on sale, they will behave more eagerly than anyone else.

"Sprinkling in a few specious facts, the news that the Laws also intends to acquire Layman makes them even more unable to sit still."

"Do you think Layman will give them the same terms as they gave us? 70 billion dollars? Are they not ashamed to even say this out loud?"

Henry recalled when Layman quoted. them the price. They were about to go bankrupt and yet were still so arrogant. In addition to that, they even asked for such an astronomical price. Even if this was just play-pretend and the Laws would never actually acquire Layman, the other party's attitude truly pissed Young Master Law off.

"They won't."

Conrad narrowed his eyes slightly and said, "In the eyes of the United States, Half-the-Harbor Langdon is more reliable than the Laws. Behind the Laws is the Somerland government and everyone knows this, but Half-the-Harbor Langdon is a businessman through and through. He doesn't care about national

interests or the country's interests at all. He only cares about his own interests.

"Layman needs this kind of character right now.

"So, Layman's offer to them should be much more sincere, but there may be other more restrictive clauses among them which I can't think of right now."

At this moment, in the chairman's office o

In the top floor of Layman Investment Bank.

"Mr. Dugg, thank you for meeting us. I think we will have a very pleasant meeting."

There was a meek smile that was exclusive to people from Somerland on Half-the-Harbor Langdon's face as he greeted Dugg, who had an evident look of exhaustion on his face.

In the past few days, Dugg was sick with worry about selling Layman. He looked at the J. Langdon father-son duo in front of him with a very gentle smile on his face.

"Of course, You are my distinguished guests, so of course we will have a very pleasant meeting."

After the three were seated, Dugg said straightforwardly, "As you know, I'm not a person who likes to beat around the bush, so I'll just get straight to the point.

"Currently, Layman is caught in a crisis. To tide over this, we have to seek external funds to help us overcome this difficulty, but the amount of funds needed will be huge."

Half-the-Harbor Langdon said lightly, "We came with the utmost sincerity, so Mr. Dugg, you can directly put forward your terms."

"First, we need at least 48 billion US Dollars, and it must be given via cash injection."

After Dugg mentioned his first condition, the expression on Half-the-Harbor Langdon's face did not change much. It seemed that he was prepared for this.

Dugg secretly gritted his teeth when he saw this. How rich were these damn

Somerland people? They did not even blink at the mention of 48 billion US Dollars.

"Second, we need to retain more than half of the seats on the board of directors, which means that the operating rights must remain in the hands of our people in the United States."

Life at the Top Chapter 1818

Half-the-Harbor Langdon smiled and said, "Is there a third condition?"

Dugg nodded and said, "There is one more thing. You must provide an insurance contract to all small and medium-sized banks that cooperate with Layman Investment Bank to ensure that they can survive this subprime mortgage crisis."

The third condition made Half-the Harbor Langdon frown slightly, which was also the first time there was any change in his expression.

Soon, after making sure that Dugg did not have any more conditions, Half-the Harbor Langdon spoke.

However, he did not directly oppose these conditions. Instead, he said, "I want to know what I can get after meeting your requirements."

Dugg immediately replied, "40% of

Layman Investment Bank."

"That's it?" Half-the-Harbor Langdon asked.

"Of course. Didn't you come because of Layman Investment Bank? Even at 40%, you are already the largest single shareholder, and you can declare that you own Layman Investment Bank," Dugg said.

"Mr. Dugg, first of all, you have to understand that if I take out so much money, what I want is to control Layman Investment Bank. Therefore, if I'm only going to less than 51% of shares, then we can end the discussion now.

"Secondly, the seats on the board of directors can only be divided according to the distribution of equity, but I can personally assure you that after the success of this merger, you will still be chairman so you and your team will not face the risk of being laid off.

"As for the provision of insurance

contracts for small and medium-sized

banks, I'm sorry, I don't think I can agree

to this because it is too risky."

Dugg frowned slightly because he could sense the unreasonableness of the old Somerland man in front of him..

“Since there won’t be a discussion, let’s stop here today. I still have a few guests to see. We’ll talk when we reconsider each other’s bottom lines,” Dugg directly hinted at them that it was time to leave.

It was impossible to succeed in negotiations of this scale in one day, and it was not surprising for it to last for a year or more. Even though Layman could not wait that long, it was okay for them to wait a few more days.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon obviously knew this too. He got up and said, “Alright, I look forward to our next meeting.”

After sending the father-son duo to the door, Dugg shrugged and said, “If you can provide us with that much capital, we can solve the issue regarding the shares easily. However, the problem is that there is no room for compromise on the insurance contract. Layman Investment Bank will also participate in this

insurance contract, so you can rest assured on this aspect.

“But of course, if you really don’t want to, it doesn’t matter. However, this is our bottom line and I hope you understand it.”

After the two parties bid farewell, Half-the-Harbor Langdon took Kayden to the parking lot.

As soon as they got into the car, Half-the-Harbor Langdon said, “There is something problematic in this matter, and it is a big one.”

Kayden was shocked when he heard those words, so he subconsciously asked, “Dad, are you talking about the insurance contract? But didn’t Dugg say that Layman Investment Bank would also participate in that?”

Half-the-Harbor Langdon shook his head and said, "I just have this hunch, but I'm not sure. However, what I can be sure of is that since Layman is so insistent on the contract, they might not be the one asking for it."

Life at the Top Chapter 1819

"Dad, should I contact the spy I placed among the Laws to see what the Laws said?"

After Half-the-Harbor Langdon asked that, Kayden also felt that something was not quite right, so he proposed this.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon said after he nodded, "If something goes wrong in such a big matter, we will go bankrupt instantly. It won't hurt to be too careful, so we must use all available resources to make things clear."

"Okay, I'll do it right away."

After Kayden finished speaking, he picked up his phone and sent a text message.

More than ten minutes later, he received a reply.

Kayden frowned as soon as he saw the contents of the message.

"How is it?" Half-the-Harbor Langdon asked.

Kayden said, "Their conditions are the same as ours and Dugg's request to them is much higher than ours. 70 billion US Dollars. The Laws are still negotiating with Dugg.

"70 billion."

Half-the-Harbor Langdon sneered and said, "These United States punks are really crazy about money. How could the Laws agree?"

"Dad, the spy says that the Laws is seriously considering this proposal. They're thinking that they'll lower the price to 40 billion before they sign. Moreover, the Laws are not the only ones behind this acquisition, and it seems that there is a powerful force behind them while the Laws are just representative in the negotiation."

Kayden's words made Half-the-Harbor

Langdon frown.

"A very powerful force? Is it Jasper again?"

Half-the-Harbor Langdon was a little irritable.

He felt that Jasper was everywhere, and that he would see Jasper wherever he

went.

“It’s very likely.”

Kayden said, “When I was still chummy with Jasper before, I heard him mention that he intends to start a banking business in Somerland. If he really has such an idea, it would be best to acquire Layman, who is on the verge of bankruptcy.

“Moreover, I suspect that JW Capital is not the only one behind this, but the power of the entire Somerland capital. Jasper can’t dominate this huge market himself, and what Jasper is best at is extending the market and allowing others to come in. By then, he will reap the most benefits. Even though he divided the remaining portion, he’ll be getting rid of his risks at the same time.

“Out of all the people I’ve seen, this guy is the only one who’s able to make superb artistic achievements in fundraising. He’ll make at least 15 billion in a 10 billion

market. After that, he’ll bring the others in and he’ll devour 80% of the benefits while the others will get the remaining 20%. At the same time, they share the same amount of risks as him, or even higher. What’s even more confusing is that others will still be grateful to him.”

Kayden shook his head as he spoke. He lamented, “He has gotten his reward, but at the same time, he didn’t lose his image. What a character indeed.”

“If this is the case, we must speed up the progress. We will completely lose the right to speak in the country once we lose Layman. At that time, we will have to immigrate to the west even if we don’t want to. However, the domestic market will certainly be the core market for world economic development in the future. If we lose at this stage, we’ll die a slow death.”

Half-the-Harbor Langdon sounded very

To be honest, if he had anticipated the current situation, he would have never made such a choice.

He underestimated the determination of Swallow Capital and also underestimated Jasper’s cruelty.

Jasper unexpectedly forced Swallow Capital to directly freeze all his business in the mainland because of his withdrawal, and Swallow Capital actually agreed.

Life at the Top Chapter 1820

Didn't they know that once this kind of thing spread out, it would have a huge negative impact on foreign investment?

However, even though the negative impact on the mainland had been felt yet, the negative impact of this incident on him has been far-reaching.

For example, he could not go back to either the mainland or Harbor City.

"We will only have the capital to force Swallow Capital to compromise if we acquire Layman. They need our reputation and the benefits that the bank can bring. Once this benefit is greater than that which Jasper can offer, then Swallow Capital will immediately side with us. Make an appointment with Dugg. Tell him I will invite him to have tea tomorrow afternoon."

"Okay." Kayden nodded heavily and said in a deep voice.

Just as the Langdon father and son concluded their negotiations with Layman, the subprime market also officially closed for the day.

"The United States subprime market crashed today. The entire first half of the trading day was calm, and, due to various positive factors, the market even regained some of the points lost in the previous trading day during the turbulence.

However, the moment the market opened on the second half of the trading day, there was a 22% flash crash. In the end, the subprime market closed with a daily drop of 38%.

"Not only did the United States stock exchange market have the largest single day decline, but due to the collapse of the subprime market, United States stock and futures markets fell across the board.

"According to our financial analysts' calculations, more than 130,000 accounts of the United States investors were liquidated in just one day, and the

evaporation of wealth reached an appalling 400 billion US Dollars.

“Through economic observations, we can now basically determine that this economic crisis caused by excessive credit in the United States real estate market has

taken shape. As for what serious

consequences it will cause, how severe the United States’ economic losses will be, and what impact the economic crisis that occurred in the United States will have on the global economy, let’s welcome the chief commentator...”

Outside the command room in Nauritus City Trading Center, everyone cheered thunderously at this moment.

Everyone was celebrating the brilliant results achieved today.

After all, they had successfully triggered this economic crisis and dealt a heavy blow to the United States economy both in theory and in practice.

In other words, they had achieved their basic purpose. This was something none of them dared t

o think about before.

No one dared to imagine that they would actually cut a piece of meat off the financial empire that was the United States.

However, inside the command room,

Jasper did not look very relaxed.

“The United States government and the Federal Reserve’s response was too flat.”

Jasper threw the news reported by the United States financial media today on the table and said, “This is all about how serious this economic crisis will be, and how the major consortium and capitals on

Wall Street are saving themselves. However, there is very little news about the Federal Reserve and the government.

“Could they be thinking about what to do? After all, whether it is the Federal Reserve or the United States government, the bigger the institution, the bigger the power. They will not be able to make any decisions in such a short window,” the little prince said.

“This is possible.”

Jasper continued, “But in any case, it doesn’t make sense that they didn’t even make a single announcement. Even after market confidence has collapsed, they are still staying silent. Are they planning to let this economic crisis erupt and develop without restrictions?”

“That’s enough.”

Lord Alvarado shook his legs and said in a very good mood, “Say, can you be a little more optimistic? You’re worrying too much. This shows that they have run out of options, so they can only let it be. The money lost doesn’t belong to them anyway, so they’ll just do whatever their boss says.

“Furthermore, you said that the economic crisis has officially started, so what can they do? If it can be prevented, they would have prevented it long ago. Since it can’t be prevented and they’re unable to stop it, they’ll just think of other tricks.”

As soon as he said this, Jasper was stunned.

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Life at the Top Chapter 1821

“Other tricks? What else could they do?” Jasper looked at Lord Alvarado and asked.

Lord Alvarado, who never thought that his words would make Jasper react so much, was stunned for a moment. Then, he said, “I’m not one of those bigwigs from the United States, so how would I know what they’ll come up with?”

After speaking, Lord Alvarado and the little prince saw that Jasper was still pondering. So, they looked at each other and Lord Alvarado could not help saying, I just said it casually. You don’t have to be so serious about it.”

“No, I think what you said makes sense.”

Jasper looked at Lord Alvarado and said seriously, “The United States has the world’s top think tanks, while the global economic situation is shaped by them. How can such an opponent be a fool who can’t even react in time?”

“Perhaps they have already foreseen this. Although this crisis is indeed a serious blow to the United States economy, it has also helped them find and solve the problem in advance like a surgical operation.

“In this case, they may really transfer this loss somewhere else. After all, the United States is great at turning their own domestic issues into foreign wars.”

Jasper’s words shocked Lord Alvarado.

“Are they going to war with Somerland?”

Upon hearing that, the little prince glared at Lord Alvarado like he was looking at an idiot before Jasper could speak.

“How could two nuclear powers go to war? What are you thinking?”

Lord Alvarado breathed a sigh of relief and said, “That’s fine, that’s fine. I thought they’re going to war after hearing what Jasper said, and I was scared to death.”

The little prince ignored him, instead, he looked at Jasper and asked, “What do you think they will do?”

“No idea.”

Jasper shook his head and smiled bitterly, "This is just my current speculation. I haven't even seen the slightest indication, let alone be sure of what they'll do. After all, I am not a god."

"In this case, I don't think it's helpful to overthink. It's better to concentrate on handling the things in front of us. As for everything else, we'll just have to be cautious."

Jasper approved of what the little prince said.

"Very well."

At this moment, Swallow Capital.

It was the same villa that was filled with birdsong and fragrant flowers.

Adele ran into the villa gleefully and spotted the man in the wheelchair who was reading under a tree with a parrot on his shoulder. Then, she ran over excitedly.

After slapping the parrot away, Adele said excitedly. "They triggered the subprime

mortgage crisis!

"The subprime market of the United States fell by 38% and the financial world is wailing right now. I was so shocked when I saw the market."

"Yeah, I know."

The man who had his head lowered and focused on his book replied indifferently.

"Hey, what attitude is that? Give me some

reaction."

Life at the Top Chapter 1822

Adele was angry when she saw the man acting like a corpse.

The man said lazily, "We expected this, so what's there to react? Should I force myself to be surprised? That would be too boring."

Adele pressed her lips together and said, "Who was the one who was not optimistic about Jasper before? How did you suddenly turn to expect this? You changed so fast."

"It is indeed expected, but it does not mean I've changed my mind. I am still very worried for him."

The man closed the book and raised his hand. Then, the aggrieved little parrot who had been driven to stand on the branch immediately flew back with flapping wings. It rested on the man's palm and rubbed its head affectionately against his arm.

"I'll turn you into stew sooner or later."
Adele glared at the little parrot and huffed.

The man ignored Adele's childish remarks and said slowly, "The current situation is actually not as optimistic as expected. Indeed, the subprime mortgage crisis has broken out, but what happens then?"

"For the United States government, they need to control the scope and extent of the crisis and then retaliate. For Jasper, what he has to do now is determine how to expand upon the results and then deal with the United States government's retaliation.

"The United States has never been a country that suffers a loss and swallows its anger. There are too many lessons and examples for us to learn from in this regard.

"Hence, all you can do now is to pray that Jasper will not indulge in the illusion of victory. What's more, this victory does not belong to Jasper but to the capitalists in Harbor City who have ties to the politicians.

"They sacrificed 200 billion and it can be said that Harbor City has been emptied

now. Hence, Jasper needs to consider how to pay back this money and favor now."

Adele thought for a while and said unwillingly, "They're willing to do this. What's more, they are not doing this for Jasper. Even if they want someone to pay back the favor, it should be Swallow Capital. What does it have to do with Jasper?"

"How foolish."

The man shook his head and said, "Imagine if it was someone else in Jasper's position. Do you think the people in Harbor City would be so eager even if it were me?"

"Even the seniors at the very top are alarmed by this.

"Have you realized that initially, everyone thought that the biggest backer behind Jasper was the Laws, and it was unknown when everyone started sharing this sentiment? After that, Jasper was valued by the higher-ups for a series of achievements, and when they decided to list him as a benchmark to cultivate him,

many people thought that Swallow Capital

was the one backing him.

"However, Swallow Capital does not exist to be anyone or any forces' backing. If they did so, Swallow Capital would only back up its people.

"So now, Jasper's real backer are the capitalists in Harbor City."

After he said that, Adele shuddered as if she had been electrocuted.

She only felt that a lot of things about Jasper became clear after these words, as if she had suddenly been enlightened with perfect wisdom. She had always felt muddleheaded as if she was separated by a layer of glass, but now everything seemed to be incomparably clear.

"I guess it is that way," Adele murmured.

"So, Jasper can sacrifice anyone, but the Harbor City capital absolutely can't perish in this battle. Otherwise, do you really think no one will contest Jasper for this position?"

"The merit of achieving something big is great, but to set a benchmark for an era is no loss significant than the general

election. Furthermore, it might be even more influential. Who is willing to lose this identity?"

"If a death-exemption plate still existed i

n this time and age, this would be it."

When Adele heard this, she was

immediately anxious,

"I have to go. I need to take care of

something."

Looking at Adele's hurrying figure, the Iman shook his head. An extremely rare touch of worry flashed across his tranquil eyes that normally could never be disturbed.

"Adele, my dear sister, you can marry

anyone in this world, but not him."

Life at the Top Chapter 1823

Jasper was eating when he received Adele's call.

After he listened to what Adele said, he heard a final sentence which he could not tell if it was said seriously or out of professional habit. "The above news is worth 5 million, please transfer it to my fixed account."

Jasper almost sprayed the soup from his mouth onto the face of the little prince, who was sitting opposite him.

"I already have a preliminary plan with Harbor City capital. I won't say how much I'll earn, but there will certainly be returns, but the biggest problem now is that Harbor City is very weak. I am worried that their safety will be threatened."

Adele was not a fool. When Jasper said that, she immediately understood what it meant.

"The local area surrounding Harbor City will be fine because Swallow Capital is keeping an eye on them. Do you mean their overseas assets?"

Jasper nodded and said, "That's what I'm saying. You have to know that at least 70 % of the top families in Harbor City have assets overseas. After all, Harbor City is too small, so how could it support so many top capital families?"

"Wall Street capital and the United States government will turn their attention to the overseas assets once this is over. When that happens, it will be very troublesome.

"If I can't protect the industry that I have worked so hard to build for so many years, what's the use of making up for the money deficiency afterward?"

Jasper sighed, "You must know that any industry is the same. Once the scale of the industry reaches a certain level, it cannot be bought with money."

For example, Volkswagen, BMW, and Mercedes in the automobile field, mobile phone brands like Apple in the future, and also large groups such as Siemens and Rony were all unable to acquire with money. Hence, it would be useless no matter how much money you had.

However, Jasper's worries were not shots in the dark.

Sentel Corporation, who had just withdrawn and left, was the perfect painful example of this.

Harbor City's capital was certainly strong, but unless they grouped together, no individual was Sentel Corporation's opponent.

However, even if they were grouped, they would also barely win against Sentel because their power was too scattered. They were involved in all industries, so they became bigger but not stronger.

If this was the case with Sentel, then Harbor Capital would be no different.

"Do you have any plans?" Adele asked curiously.

"No,"

Jasper answered directly.

Adele found it hard to accept this kind of directness.

"Hey, are you giving up just like this?"

From what I know, nothing can stump you."

Jasper snapped, "Do you think I am God? Even though there is a god here, there are still some things that they can't do, let alone me."

"So should we just watch and do nothing?" Adele asked anxiously.

"How much hush-hush money do you have then? Do you want to sponsor me? Of course, things will go smoother if the money is enough," Jasper joked.

Unexpectedly, Jasper's unintentional words sounded genuine to Adele.

"I really don't have much money. I have donated the money I have earned over the years to children's education, but I can still get you 60 to 70 million if you want."

Upon hearing Adele's serious tone, Jasper was surprised, "You don't do much business, but all of them make you a lot of money. Have you donated all of it?"

"Yeah, what do I want so much money for? Even if I don't make a penny and I just lie at home motionlessly, I'll get a fixed allowance. I live in military housing,

so I have shelter and food. Do you think that I am money crazy? I'd be insane to keep so much money that I couldn't spend. I have allowed thousands of underprivileged children to go to college anonymously over these years."

Jasper could not help but admire this top political third-generation upon hearing her proud words.

He knew that according to the temperament of Swallow Capital, how could they allow Adele to jump and fool around in this gray area?

Moreover, as far as he knew, the surviving leading figure of the Browns was a man who was not prepared to turn a blind eye to such a thing. That was the way of the older generation.

However, they could even acquiesce to Adele doing this. At the end of the day, it all still depended on Adele's pure and innocent heart.

"Awesome. I have a whole new outlook on you, but you have to keep an eye on the donated money. After all, most of the so

called charitable funds in Somerland are

not very professional."

Jasper's request made Adele giggle. She said, "Don't worry, they won't dare to embezzle a single cent belonging to me."

Jasper patted his forehead. This was true. Only those people in the charity who were not right in the head would embezzle the money Adele gave them. If they did so, they would not have the life to enjoy it even after they took it.

"Seriously, do you want me to lend you my money first?" Adele asked.

“No, I was just kidding. You should keep it for yourself. That little amount doesn’t help much anyway,” Jasper said helplessly.

“Alright, I’m a bit reluctant to give it to you anyway.”

“By the way, the annual weekly special of

Time Magazine will be released tomorrow. I suggest you pay attention to it. There is news about me,” Jasper laughed and said.

Adele was taken aback when she heard that. She replied, “You were interviewed by

Times Magazine? What did you say? Your current status is not the same as before, so you have to be very careful when you speak.”

“What else could I say? It’s just some random nonsense. You’ll know after reading it.

“Alright, I have some friends here, so I won’t talk so much with you. I’m hanging up now.”

After the phone was hung up, Adele was still a little unhappy because she had not fully expressed herself.

“Hmph, I don’t even bother to pay attention to the ones who want to chat with me. Don’t expect me to answer your call next time, you arrogant rascal!”

After grumbling for a while, Adele ordered someone to buy the latest annual weekly special of Times Magazine tomorrow and send it to her.

"It must be some small interview, yet he's still so proud of himself. Forget it, since he told me to, then I'll show my support."

On Jasper's end the little prince and Lord

Alvarado looked at Jasper with amorous eyes.

"I'm very sure that's not Wendy." The little prince laughed.

"And I'm very sure it's a woman." Lord Alvarado smirked evilly.

"Also, I'm very sure it's a young and beautiful woman." Then, the two of them said at the same time.

Jasper said, not knowing what reaction to give them, "You can tell she's young by her voice but how do you know that she's beautiful?"

"Did women that are not beautiful appear around you before?" Lord Alvarado said jealously.

Jasper thought about it and seemed to find it true.

The women who were always around him were always outstanding and extremely beautiful.

"It's Adele. We were just chatting."

Jasper said carefreely. When Lord Alvarado and the little prince heard her name, their expressions changed.

Life at the Top Chapter 1824

As the young generation leaders who were

as famous as the crippled Brown, it was

only natural that two knew Adele.

Not only did they know each other, but they also interacted with each other a lot.

It could even be said that they knew more about Adele than the crippled Brown.

However, it was precisely because of this that they were so surprised after knowing that Adele was the woman who flirted with Jasper on the phone.

“Dude, are you for real? Was that really Adele?” Lord Alvarado asked incredulously.

“Why do you guys look like you’ve seen a ghost?” Jasper asked suspiciously.

The corners of the little prince’s mouth twitched, and he replied, “The Adele we both know is arrogant and unreasonable, and she also has a fierce temper. No one in Swallow Capital dares to provoke that woman. Do you know what she’s most famous for?”

“In her senior year of high school, two brainless boys from the residence harassed her and bullied a female classmate of hers. That woman went straight home and stole a gun from their home security team. Then, she drove the military jeep straight into the compound, held the gun against the two idiots’ foreheads, and forced them to kowtow to admit their mistakes.

“The most outrageous thing is that after this matter was over, she got away scot free. The elders of the two guys from the residence were asked to keep their mouths shut. I heard that Grandmaster Brown took care of this personally.”

The little prince added, "I heard that the woman spotted a pair of antique vases worth more than ten million Somer Dollars in those two guys' house. Coincidentally, these vases had appeared in an auction not long ago.

"The grandmaster slammed his fist on the table on the spot and asked the authorities to catch them that very night. They would be very dignified politicians in

any generation, yet, they fell from grace

like that."

"Since they are public servants, how would they have the money to buy vases worth more than ten million at the auction and place them at home? There had to be something fishy going on," Jasper said.

"This is true. We are not saying that Grandmaster Brown is wrong, but you see, how old was the girl back then? She was in her third year of high school and had just reached adulthood. However, she went to their place seeking revenge in a fury. After that, she noticed something that shouldn't have been in their home and could even recognized it. How many children at that age could do such a thing?

"So, after this incident, almost no one at Swallow Capital dared to provoke her. It's not because she's doughty, nor is her grandfather so powerful, what really annoys people is that the woman is so cunning. The Brown siblings are truly the same in this aspect.

"So how can we not feel shocked when we saw you flirting with such a tigress?"

Jasper was dumbfounded after listening to the little prince's sorrowful explanation.

In reality, this was the first time he had heard about Adele's past. It seemed that there was quite a history to her.

If this matter was true, then Adele must be even more cunning than he thought.

Besides, there was no need for the little prince and Lord Alvarado to lie to him about this.

“Perhaps we just clicked easily. That wasn’t flirting. We’re just close, and that’s why we can talk so carefreely.”

Even Jasper did not believe what he said.

However, no matter what they thought, it

was over now.

After they ate, the exhausted trio went back to rest.

Because of the time difference, the United States was turning bright the moment Jasper lay down.

A piece of huge news broke out on this new day that attracted countless people’s attention. Its popularity surpassed even news of the subprime mortgage crisis.

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Life at the Top Chapter 1825

The annual special of Times Magazine was released.

Originally, this was not something remarkable. It was just a magazine no matter how many people read it as it was not as important as the money and stocks in their pockets. However, the key to this issue was the cover photo. It featured someone from Somerland who countless people from the United States wanted to skin alive.

Jasper Laine!

Since the founding of Times Magazine, there were only a handful of Somerland people who had been on the cover of the annual special. The people from Somerland who were featured before Jasper could be counted by one hand.

Now, in this special period, Jasper, a man and businessman from Somerland who fundamentally detonated the subprime mortgage crisis, was appearing on the cover of Times Magazine. This felt like a resounding slap to the faces of the people of the United States.

“This businessman from Somerland, who is less than 30 years old, used his actions to tell the world that nothing is impossible.”

This short sentence was the caption on the cover.

On the cover photo, Jasper was in a formal suit and was sitting idly on the sofa, looking up at the sky outside the window.

This profile was selected for the Best Photography Award in 2001 and was

nominated as one of the 100 most influential celebrities in the world in 2001.

Times Magazine transcribed the last interview with Jasper and fit it in three pages. They did not change any of the contents and they tried to show Jasper's original attitude to everyone in the world as authentically as possible.

"He said that he was a businessman who didn't care about politics, but his commercial means caused the United States to be in terrible shape.

"He said he doesn't care about his wealth, but his every move has profoundly

affected all aspects of Somerland society. Tens of thousands of families rely on the jobs he provides to make a living.

"He said he was not a nationalist, but he kept his best industry in Somerland and gave the United States a financial war.

"He is only 27 years old. When most of his peers were still looking for work to adapt to society, he set off financial turmoil that is about to take over the world.

"Real estate, internet, and finance are known as the most promising and explosive industries in the 21st century. When everyone remains ignorant of the unknown, he has completed the industry layout in the East.

"In five years, this man has grown from nothing to being at the top of the wealth pyramid. This is him, the cover character of this issue of Times Magazine, a controversial man, Jasper Laine."

This admonition was known as the most profound textual sketch of Jasper in the Western world.

From the upper class to the lower class,

from the grassroots to the rich, from the bigwigs to the common people, everyone was focusing on this photo and cover.

There was no doubt that this time, the Times Magazine annual special had become a hit.

The civilians wanted to know how Jasper did it.

The rich also wanted to know how Jasper did it.

However, each class was different, so

their perspectives and goals were also

completely different.

The former wanted to imitate Jasper and wanted to be the second Jasper.

The latter gritted their teeth and dreamed about killing Jasper.

As the admonition on the cover stated, a controversial figure had emerged in the 21st century. He had become the first businessman to truly spread his name around the world since Somerland's reform and opening up.

Life at the Top Chapter 1826

If the foreign public opinion was mixed, then domestic public opinion tended to be flattering.

From financial news to entertainment news, from local reports to SCTV, all the media outlets were doing the same thing, which was praising Jasper consistently.

This kind of praise reached an unprecedented peak under the manipulation of an invisible hand.

In this promotion, Somerland's media obtained all the detailed information about Jasper's fortune that foreign media could not.

From starting in real estate stock speculation to the establishment of JW now.

Naturally, there was inevitable beautification on certain aspects. For example, Jasper's initial property selling and stock trading were promoted to being a post-planned move and exploits of someone with a unique vision and a surprisingly keen grasp of the stock market.

They never mentioned any of the grievances throughout Jasper's rise. What was left was the pristine image of an excellent entrepreneur who grew with his own two hands.

This publicity that was overdone was interpreted by Somerland's elite as an attempt by Swallow City to thoroughly support Jasper as a benchmark figure of the era.

After all, before Jasper appeared, no one had been treated like this and even Swallow Capital remained hesitant.

No one dared to say whether the society could accept it or whether the people could accept it once such an image is truly established. Furthermore, no one knew whether Jasper himself could still be true to himself in this endless glory and spotlight.

Especially the last point. If Swallow Capital spent great effort to establish Jasper and Jasper eventually became a disappointment and started misbehaving, then he would be slapping Swallow Capital across the face and it would also b.

an extremely curious waste of social resources.

In this process, public opinion on the Internet had truly entered the high-ups' field of vision for the first time.

People were surprised to find that the cornerstone of the domestic Internet today actually belonged to Jasper.

Terizone, the undisputed overlord in social media, Abbylon in the field of online shopping, and Sena in gaming.

These three domestic giant Internet companies had exploded dazzlingly during this wave of propaganda.

At the same time, people saw the advantages of online media overwhelming traditional media in the new era.

Furthermore, they were promoting their boss, so there was no reason for Terizone, Sena, or Abbylon to not work hard.

"Jasper, hurry and look at this."

Jasper, who had just gotten up and was about to regain his senses to rush back to the trading center, was caught by Wendy.

Jasper leaned in front of the computer to take a closer look, and when he did, his face fell.

He did not know which bastard actually posted a speech he made at JW's internal meeting on the Internet.

"In terms of corporate management, organizational structure, and cultural construction, JW has to learn from large foreign groups because they have much more experience than us. They have already emerged as multinational companies while we were still at war. If someone is better than us, we must learn from them. This has nothing to do with the stand of the nation and state.

"But you have to remember one thing, JW will always belong to Somerland. Any branch or subsidiary projects that need a partner will follow the same conditions. We will always choose domestic suppliers to partner with unless there is none in the country, or if there is a huge disparity between local and foreign companies, we can partner with foreign companies for the sake of the final result.

"One more thing. Recently, I heard that some branches did not sign labor contracts with their employees, which has led to a series of disputes. This is the hard limit of JW. I have already fired the human resources manager while the head of the branch has been demoted. They won't be allowed to have a post-level promotion within the next three years.

"Signing a labor contract with an employee and paying five social Insurances and one housing fund as per the law is a legal obligation of an enterprise. Just like paying taxes, this is a very serious matter, and I can't run from it no matter what reason I have or even if the employee disagrees. The ones who work for me but provide sh*tty jobs will not be hired. Anyone who goes against this principle in the future should just leave the company.

"I have to praise Terizone on this because they have done a good job, but I have to criticize Abbylon.

"This branch is a business department within Abbylon, and currently, Abbylon is

always working overtime. Wayne, I heard

that you advocate voluntary overtime within Abbylon, is that true?"

Facing Jasper's questioning, Wayne, who already held a dominant position in the domestic Internet circle, looked embarrassed in the video.

"Um... I didn't mean that, I meant that

the company needs dedication..."

"Bullsh*t."

Jasper interrupted Wayne directly and rudely. He did not care if he had humiliated Wayne, the internet tycoon. He said sternly, "The company belongs to the boss. Of course, the boss can have a dedicated spirit, but what does it have to do with the dedication of the employees?"

"If an employee does not work hard during work, they can be dealt with as per the rules and regulations, but they are free to do whatever they want outside of working hours. How can you ask others to contribute their extra time to the company for free?"

"There are a few urgent projects, and I don't have a choice. The entire

management committee has been working overtime for several months," Wayne replied while smiling bitterly.

"Then spend money to recruit more people. If you can't do it, transfer some from Terizone or Sena. Even if you work overtime, you have to pay enough overtime compensation for those who volunteered. I gave you 2% of your turnover every year for extra labor. What did you do with that money?"

"In short, I only have two opinions in today's meeting. One is the choice of suppliers. We can choose the ones in Somerland to help out. If there is really no way, then we'll consider foreign companies. The other one is whoever tries to pull dirty tricks with me in terms of employee treatment, I'll let them experience how it is to be a regular employee.

"Regarding the second one, I will issue a document in the name of the president's office and send a copy to the main leaders of the head office, branches, and major business groups. That's it, the meeting is adjourned."

At the end of the video, Jasper could see that the webpage was full of praises for him.

After all, most netizens were ordinary white collar workers or people who had ordinary 9 to 5s. They needed a conscientious boss like Jasper who could be considerate of them.

Among them, there were many employees from JW telling others their opinions. They stated how good the benefits of JW were and the boss rarely put on airs. Even the deputy or head of the branch would roll up their sleeves and quarrel with the employees about problems they encountered at work. Other than that, there were also occasional examples of employees who contended on strong grounds and got promoted or a pay raise.

“Bullsh*t.”

Jasper laughed and cursed.

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Life at the Top Chapter 1827

Running a company took profound knowledge.

One could not always act rashly or keep pandering to the consumers.

Jasper knew this very well.

Jasper remembered that at this meeting, he also mentioned the need to strengthen the training for employees' abilities and qualities, as well as introduce some stricter assessment methods. To put it bluntly, his capitalistic nature was also exposed at this time, but the video did not mention it.

After he looked at this webpage again, he realized that the truth had been revealed.

This was the news channel on Terizone's official website.

It would be impossible for them to talk bad about their big boss.

Besides this, Terizone had purposely emphasized Jasper complimenting Terizone and criticizing Abbylon in the video,

Although the two companies did not overlap in business, everyone wanted to be the number one in the field of the Internet within JW, so the fight between Hudson and Wayne had never stopped.

The employees of the two companies even often ridiculed each other and looked down upon each other.

Abbylon called Terizone a group of coders who only created chat windows.

Terizone called Abbylon a bunch of street vendors selling goods.

In short, it was a love-hate relationship.

On the contrary, Sena understood that they were in the gaming industry under Jack's leadership. They were making money, but at the same time, they knew they were destined to not be number one. Hence, they decided to make a fortune quietly so that was why they were the safest.

Jasper knew this but he did not care.

If everyone under him was getting along well, he would become agitated as their boss.

"Look at this."

Wendy took out a magazine mysteriously...

"The special from Times Magazine is out?"

Jasper took the magazine over to have a look. Then, he beamed and said, "Not bad, not bad. This picture looks good. It shows my handsomeness in great detail."

"Not only that, a lot of the netizens are calling you the people's husband now!" Wendy mocked.

Jasper almost vomited blood.

He never expected that he would snatch the title belonging to Cody Whorton ten years later.

However, he fitted this title much better than Cody.

Jasper did not have time to feel pleased with himself. He quickly flipped open the magazine and spent a few minutes reading the report.

"Sigh."

He tossed the special on the table and sighed.

“What’s wrong? I read the interview and they didn’t say anything bad about you. Why do you look so upset?” Wendy asked quickly.

“The write-up is fine, and they managed to get the message I wanted to convey without contorting any facts. However, I’m disappointed because of this.”

Jasper shook his head and said, “The reason I accepted this interview is to essentially use this chance of being on the cover to promote myself and increase the United States’ fear toward their domestic financial crisis. Also, I want to enlarge the degree of the influence of the subprime mortgage crisis. However, the focus is all on me now and the thing I wanted them to exaggerate has been weakened and brought out of the limelight.

“This is not what I expected.”

Wendy said, “How could everything in the world be in accordance with your wishes? Not to mention, they have already published the last few words you said. Anyone who invests in the United States financial market has to pay attention to what you said, so I don’t think you need to

be too worried and pessimistic.”

“You are right.”

Jasper nodded. Then, he kissed Wendy on the cheek and said, “I’m going to the trading center now. You should also take a break. Just treat these as entertainment and don’t take them too seriously. There are definitely advocates deliberately promoting this. The most important thing is to do our own business well.”

Wendy blushed, nodded, and gave him a reply in the form of a hum.

Jasper and Wendy talked for a while. Then, when it was almost time, Jasper headed to the trading center.

Unexpectedly, as soon as he arrived at the

company, he heard a female voice yelling right after he got out of the car, "Mr. Laine!"

"Honey!"

Jasper was taken aback.

After he turned around, he saw a few well dressed girls looking at him with excitement..

Jasper immediately understood that he was caught by his 'fans'.

Jasper turned around and entered the company after he waved and smiled at them.

"Mr. Laine, I'm really sorry. Those girls insisted on waiting for you at the door of the company. We tried to get rid of them a few times, but were unsuccessful. There are even two law students and they said as long as they don't come in, we don't have the right to kick them out."

The head of the security department came over to apologize.

"It's okay, I'm not a celebrity. However, if you continue to run into similar situations, you can set up a canopy outside the door and get some chairs for them to sit on. I will come through the basement from now on. If they can't see me, they will eventually stop coming. This way, we won't offend anyone after getting a good reputation, plus I will avoid myself the trouble." Jasper said as he walked.

"Okay, Mr. Laine, I will do it now," the head said with a smile on his face.

"Thanks for your hard work."

Patting the head of the security

department on the shoulder, Jasper went

straight into the elevator.

The head of security watched the elevator door closed with excitement. Then, he took a look at his shoulder that had been patted by Mr. Laine, raised his head, puffed out his chest, and shouted at his men who were feeling envious, "Did you

hear that? Hurry up and execute what Mr. Laine ordered. Go build canopies outside!”

Upon arriving at the top floor of the trading center, as soon as Jasper stepped foot into the command room, Jake approached him.

“Mr. Laine, I was about to call you. There is a new situation that had developed.”

After he said that, Jake did not wait for Jasper to ask before taking out a document. He said, “The latest announcement issued by the United States Ministry of Commerce shows that the Ministry of Commerce is launching a commercial investigation against a total of 13 companies in the United States. The

contents include tax review, business

scope review, and transaction review. The Ministry of Commerce is pushing for a bill to increase tariffs on a total of 7 categories and 19 minor categories of products, including rubber, leather products, and seafood.”

As Jasper heard that, he took the document over. The more he looked at it, the tighter he furrowed his brows.

“Almost all the 13 companies under investigation are companies belonging to Harbor City, and the product categories for which they want to increase tariffs are also important industries for Harbor City capital. This is a targeted response.” Jasper frowned.

“Mr. Laine, if this is the case, the pressure on Harbor City will be very high. Considering that they have almost no liquid funds, once a chain reaction occurs, it will be very troublesome.”

Upon hearing what Jake said, Jasper narrowed his eyes and slowly said, “It seems that the United States is not in enough pain. Let’s increase our strength today.

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Life at the Top Chapter 1828

Right after Jasper and Jake discussed what they were going to do after the market opened, far away in Harbor City.

Zachary pushed open the door with a tired look. He threw the briefcase onto the sofa, sat down, and raised his hand to loosen the button on his collar. When he saw the empty home, Zachary called out impatiently, "Mrs. Inez? Where's everyone? Didn't I say that I want to have a bowl of dessert every day after getting off work?"

At this time, a servant hurriedly came from the direction of the kitchen. She said aggrievedly, "Mr. Law, yesterday you said you wouldn't want it today."

"I said I wouldn't want it? When did I say that? Do you still want your job?"

Zachary was furious.

Mrs. Inez was feeling very aggrieved. Just as she was about to explain, an old voice could be heard, "Mrs. Inez, you should go on with your business. Zachary is in a bad mood lately, so please don't split hairs with him."

When Mrs. Inez saw Old Master Law's gentle smile on his face, she quickly bowed and said, "Old Master, you are here. It's great that you're here. I'll go on with my business now."

After Mrs. Inez left, Zachary said gloomily, "Dad, why are you here?"

"Did something happen to the company?"

Old Master Law sat across from Zachary and asked.

Zachary sighed and said, "Several companies we hold are currently being investigated by the United States Ministry of Commerce, and no business activities are allowed during the investigation. Therefore, the contracts we have with

those companies will be breached. Now,

those companies are seeking compensation from us. I am seriously in deep trouble."

Old Master Law said, "If the company has no problems, then they can just investigate however they want. They won't find anything anyway."

Zachary smiled bitterly, "Dad, do you still

not know how those people are? Even if there are no problems, they are suspending our business for the sake of this investigation. After doing this for a few months, it doesn't matter how good the performance is, the company will be finished. Plus, we also have to face compensation lawsuits from our partners for breach of contract."

"These costs are expected. The others are in a similar situation, and it is not just us, right?" Old Master Law asked.

Zachary had a gloomy expression. He nodded and said, "Yes, especially the Boyles. Almost all shipping involving the United States has been halted and the losses are extremely heavy. Now those cargo owners have to call another ship to pick up their cargo on the high seas. All the expenses must be paid for by the family, not to mention overdue compensation. However, the cost of transshipment itself is an astronomical

figure.

"I also heard that the Boyles'

granddaughter, the one who was studying

in the United States, was also taken away for investigation. Right now, they do not know whether she is even alive. They did everything they could, but they still could not contact her. They are panicking right now.”

Old Master Law raised his snow-white eyebrows and said, “Did our friend in the United States try looking for her?”

“They tried, but the United States government is being very stubborn. It’s useless no matter what anyone says,” Zachary said angrily.

“She is just a female international student in her twenties, and she has nothing to do with these things. They’re just looking for a reason to detain people. What insufferable bullies!”

“It’s useless to say anything now. Contact Jasper to see if he can do anything about it. Money doesn’t matter, it’s just something trivial, but we can’t let anything happen to her,” Old Master Law said.

Nodding, Zachary sighed, “Now I can only

ask Jasper. I didn’t expect that one day, we would also ask Jasper for help.”

“Why? Do you feel uncomfortable with that?” Old Master Law asked with a smile.

“Dad.”

Zachary sighed and said, “I admire Jasper very much, and you know this. I will help him as much as I can and will do so very willingly. To put it bluntly, I treat him of our entire family and even all of Harbor City capital to help him. What will we do in the future now that our foundation has been hollowed out?”

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Life at the Top Chapter 1829

“Who said the foundation has been hollowed out?”

Old Master Law raised an eyebrow.

“Our foundation has never been pinned on anyone or a certain force, let alone that wealth. Our real foundation is Somerland and the mainland. Do you still not understand such a simple truth?”

“Dad, I understand these principles very well, but the actual situation is that it is not just our family—all the other families are also struggling. At this point, it will be difficult to even scratch out a living, so what do you say?” Zachary seldom retorted the old master in this manner.

“You fool!”

Old Master Law shouted, “Let me ask you, what will Wall Street do if Jasper loses? What will the United States government do?”

“We have discussed this issue a long time ago and we have reached a consensus. If Jasper loses, the entire Somerland financial market will be attacked by Wall Street. If that were to happen, the fruits of

the reformation and opening-up will become something that everyone can pick at will. If the mainland’s financial system collapses, the Laws and the other families will truly be in huge trouble!

“Why else do you think those old guys would bet on this with me? They can all see this clearly.”

Zachary rubbed his face and said in

distress, “Dad, what if we lose this time...”

"I've left you a fund. This fund is enough for Henry's children to live comfortably throughout their lives. This is our last life saving card, but I don't think we need to use it. As long as Jasper is still alive, he won't allow us to fall to that point."

As soon as Old Master Law finished

speaking, Zachary's cell phone rang.

Zachary was shocked and immediately

answered. After a while, Zachary abruptly got up and

said in surprise, "Are you for real?"

Old Master Law looked at Zachary quietly, and he had no idea what was said on the other end of the phone, but he knew it

would not be a trivial matter if it was able to shock his son so much.

"I'll go back to the company right away."

After Zachary finished speaking, he hung up the phone and spoke to Old Master Law with a smile on his face, "Dad, Jasper did not let us down. He took the opportunity presented by the subprime mortgage

crisis to short all United States' stocks relating to basic infrastructures like real estate, building materials, transportation, and so on. Now, the entire United States stock market is like a cripple whose backbone has been broken.

"And just now, the Agricultural Bank, ICBS, and Construction Bank jointly issued an official letter to several families in Harbor City, stating that whenever there is a need for funds, they can provide an interest-free loan of 10 billion Somer Dollars!"

Old Master Law chuckled softly upon hearing the words. "Good. Very good. How spectacular."

"Dad, I'm going to the company first."

The old master said with a nod, "Ask Jasper to find a way to help the Boyles granddaughter first and then straighten out the company's affairs. You can take care of the rest."

"Okay." Zachary nodded and went out excitedly.

Soon, the house was empty and Old Master Law was left alone.

The old man stood up and walked to the window. At this moment, the spine that had been slumped this whole time was upright. His awe-inspiring aura from back then was once again present. How could a mad dog dare to bare its fangs at a ferocious tiger?

Life at the Top Chapter 1830

On the way to the company, Zachary called Jasper.

Upon learning about the Boyles' situation,

Jasper frowned slightly.

He could not help but think of an event that happened in his previous life before he was reincarnated.

The boss of HW, Mr. Reagan's daughter

was detained by the United States for

various reasons.

This incident caused a great uproar at the time, but since the United States had done it, they were not afraid of a bad image, and decided to continue this until the very end.

Thus, she was unable to go back to Somerland until Jasper was reincarnated.

Although the Boyles' granddaughter's was far less influential than Mr. Reagan's daughter, who was detained in Jasper's previous life, the nature of the matter was exactly the same.

Hence, it might be quite difficult to help her.

"Tell Mr. Boyle and Old Master Boyle that I will try my best to at least bring her back home safely," Jasper said firmly,

"That's good. If you encounter any difficulties, don't force it, we can come up with other methods," Zachary said.

With a smile, Jasper said, "It's nothing more than a matter of interest. As long as the interest can be discussed, there won't be any difficulties in this world. Please wait for my good news."

After finishing the phone call with

Zachary, Jasper looked up at the screen.

At this moment, all the US markets had plummeted, whether it is the Dow Jones Index or the NASDAQ.

Leading the decline were the real estate, building materials, and infrastructure sectors.

Whether domestically or abroad, these sectors had a common feature, which was a large market cap and a large amount of funds.

Their stock price might only be a few dollars or even a few cents per share, so they appeared cheap, but the total value of the available shares was quite unbelievable.

However, this would bring about a problem because it accounted for a large proportion of the large inventory points, and it is difficult for the ordinary market to produce large fluctuations.

Hence, such shares belonged to the class suitable for long-term investment and long-term financial management.

However, these stocks also had a very important feature.

Once it collapsed, it was hard to save it.

It was like a giant walking on land. It would be hard to take down such a giant, but once it was overthrown, it would be difficult for it to get up.

Had it not been the subprime mortgage crisis that caused all the same types of stocks to fall, coupled with the panic in the market that caused huge amounts of funds to retreat from the stock, futures,

and other securities markets, it would be unrealistic for Jasper to crash the market so easily.

Now, thanks to those fleeing funds, Jasper only spent 20 billion US Dollars to crash the two major stock indexes of the United States into the abyss after Jasper issued an order in the morning.

At this moment, the United States finance market was like a buff man with a broken spine. No matter how fierce he looked, he could only lie on the ground and let those who were much weaker than him take advantage of him.)

This situation would continue to develop and deteriorate before the Federal Reserve and the United States government took further measures.

By this time, Jasper had already dialed Celine's number.

"Tell me, what's the matter? I knew there won't be anything good when I saw your number."

Life at the Top Chapter 1831

On the other end of the phone, Celine sounded relaxed.

Jasper chuckled. "Say, I really have something special which can only be solved with the power of the Maynards."

Celine frowned. She was initially sorting some things out, but now she sat back in the office chair. She asked, "What is this thing that can only be solved by my family? Tell me, but I can't guarantee it will be done."

Jasper told her about the Boyles' granddaughter.

Celine frowned as she listened.

"Normally, this will be solved with just one phone call, but in this special period, the reason they did this was to teach a lesson to the Boyles or the entire Harbor City capital... So, I am afraid it will be difficult," Celine said bluntly.

"If we were not in this special period, I wouldn't ask for your help to find someone, and I could take care of this myself. It is precisely because it is not easy so that I called you."

Jasper paused for a moment and then said, "As long as the United States government can give her back, I can make some concessions on interests, I think your father knows what to do."

"But there's nothing in it for the Maynards, so he may not agree," Celine sighed and said.

"There is, and I will give the Maynards a gift which he will like." Jasper chuckled.

Celine was Celine and the Maynards were the Maynards. Jasper could distinguish this clearly.

Although the cooperation with the Maynards was achieved through Celine, they were still in a cooperative relationship where all accounts had to be settled clearly. They would do it if there was interest and would stop if there were none.

Jasper never expected the Maynards to help him unconditionally because of his relationship with Celine as this would be unrealistic.

“Well, I will contact my family as soon as possible and I will get back to you once I have an answer,” Celine said.

“Thanks for the trouble,” Jasper said sincerely.

The corner of Celine’s mouth upturned into a faint smile in her office. She lazily said, “It’s good that you know you’ve been bothering me this whole time. You’ll need to pay back for this in the future.”

After speaking, Celine hung up the phone when she saw that her office door was being pushed open.

As soon as she hung up, someone walked into Celine’s office.

“Miss Maynard, I didn’t expect you to be here. Why? Do you need an hour to pack your things? Or are you very reluctant to leave this position?”

The woman who came in was a well dressed middle-aged woman. This Latina’s looks, figure, and temperament were nothing like Celine’s. When she stood in front of Celine, she was more like a clown, and because of this, she looked at Celine with hatred and animosity.

Celine looked at the woman coldly and said insipidly, “Gaia, should I congratulate you once again for getting something I don’t want?”

Gaia’s face turned pale, and she said angrily, “What did you say?”

“Don’t you know what I’m saying?”

Celine scoffed and continued slowly, “ Ever since you joined the company, you’ve been treating me as your rival, and you’ve always been jealous of me. You pursued the men who pursued me, and you used the things that I’d use. Furthermore, you even bought the same clothes I wear and did everything you could to get the position I was in.

Gaia smirked and replied, "Stop feeling so pleased with yourself, Celine. I am replacing you as the new president of the Terra regional branch while you're being fired by the bank and can only get kicked out of the company with your tail between your legs."

"Right, perhaps this job means that you're at the pinnacle of your life, but to me, this is just a normal job. I don't care about it," Celine said coldly.

"Hehe, continue your act. You were fired because you leaked commercial secrets. Who will dare to hire you once news of this gets out? You will never be able to find another job!"

Life at the Top Chapter 1832

"Your face right now makes me pity you."
Celine stood up and walked straight

toward Gaia.

Facing Celine, who was exuding a strong aura as she walked over with her head raised like a queen, Gaia stepped back subconsciously.

Celine smiled even more sarcastically when she saw Gaia taking a step back.

It also made Gaia feel so ashamed and angry. She hated herself for being such a disappointment.

Even if she thought that she was the winner in front of Celine at this moment, the innate inferiority and lack of confidence still made her subconsciously fear Celine.

Standing in front of Gaia, Celine proudly raised her chin slightly. She said, "To me, you are just a poor woman who picks up the trash I don't want."

After speaking, she chuckled and spoke

without looking at Gaia's humiliated expression, "Since you like this office so much, congratulations, you picked up another piece of my trash. It's yours now,"

After speaking, Celine walked away.

After she heard the sound of the door closing, Gaia gritted her teeth and cursed, "You b*tch, just you wait! I want to see how much longer you can remain arrogant."

Jasper had no idea what happened to Celine.

He received a call from Celine's father,

Alan, half an hour after he spoke to Celine.

“Celine told me what happened. Tell me, what can the United States get in this transaction, and what do I stand to gain.”

Jasper was relieved by Alan’s words.

He was not afraid of Alan’s greed, he was afraid that there was no room for greed in this matter.

As long as Alan confirmed his interest, it would mean that he had the space he needed to operate.

“I can turn a blind eye to the Fed’s plan to give up Layman Investment Bank,” Jasper

said.

Jasper’s words made Alan laugh.

“I’m afraid the United States government may not be willing to accept your condition.”

Jasper said calmly, “They will accept it regardless of if they want to or not. I know they are seeking to promote the overall sale of Layman Investment Bank, but at the same time, they must know that I am the largest creditor in the subprime loan market in the United States right now.

“The vast majority of Layman’s debts are caused by the collapse of subprime loans. If I don’t agree or release Layman’s money, Layman’s debt remains with me. How can this transaction be successful without my consent?”

Alan was silent for a while. Then, he said, “Jasper, it seems that you know more about the United States than we thought.”

“Are you talking about my knowledge of Layman’s sale, Mr. Maynard? This is not surprising, and I also have my own channels. In short, I think the United States government should accept this condition unless they are willing to risk universal condemnation forcefully emptying my position.

“But if they do, I bet that there will no longer be any institutions or individuals in this world who dare to invest in the United States financial market.”

With a chuckle, Jasper continued, “Who will dare to sit down at this gambling table when they know that they are facing a banker who may

play a rogue at any time and unreasonably confiscate all the players' chips? This is the rule of the game in this world, as well as the rules. the United States created, right?"

Alan said flatly, "Okay, so what can I get from it?"

Jasper narrowed his eyes slightly as the plan of killing two birds with one stone was achieved.

Giving benefits to the United States, but what benefits could Jasper give to the United States now?

Divestment? Impossible.

Even if Jasper was willing, other individuals and capital who had followed Jasper to the present point would not. The most dangerous period had passed, and now was the time to harvest the fruits of victory, so who would be willing to divest for the sake of Boyles' granddaughter?

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Life at the Top Chapter 1833

Jasper's life was not worth the money, let alone the granddaughter of the Boyles.

Hence, Jasper came up with this plan at the last minute.

Originally, Layman was a sinkhole, a pit that lured Half-the-Harbor Langdon and his son into the game. However, he could now take advantage of the situation and put on a performance to pay back the favor. After he succeeded, the granddaughter of the Boyles could come back, and Half-the-Harbor Langdon and his son would be smoothly pulled into the game.

Right now, Layman was a bomb disguised as a cake that Jasper and the United States government had baked with a tacit understanding.

The victims of this cake were the J. Langdon father and son.

The United States government would not care. They only needed someone to eat this poisonous cake.

However, Jasper was the one who appointed the victim of this cake.

Hence, they could cooperate in this matter.

As the saying went, there were no absolute enemies or absolute friends in this world. As long as the interests were the same, I could fight with you with my left hand and shake your hand with my right.

Of course, the United States government did not know about Jasper's plans, let alone his eagerness to sell Layman quickly so he could poison Half-the Harbor Langdon and his son.

However, it would be fine even if they did find out. Their interests were aligned anyway.

“Mr. Maynard, if I tell you there is a person who is very likely to become the 44th president of the United States, would you believe me?”

Jasper’s words quickened Alan’s breathing on the other end of the phone.

“No way.” Alan’s first reaction was not to believe it.

It was only 2001. According to the term and time, the election of the 44th president would be in 2007. The political arena would change drastically in 6 years, so how could anyone know who this person was in advance?

However, if what Jasper said was true, then this knowledge would hold immense value.

Especially for a family like the Maynards,

as it could even influence the Maynards’

standing for at least another 20 years.

This kind of knowledge provided greater returns than any other form of investment in the world.

Therefore, even if Alan was someone deep and shrewd, he could not stay calm at this time.

“Mr. Maynard needn’t be too shocked. I have channels to get some very secret information. Presumably, Mr. Maynard knows better than me that the world is far more complicated than it seems, and the more important something is, the more controllable it is, right?”

Jasper purposely said these words to pretend to be dumb and to hide his ability to predict the future.

The more mysterious, the better. Alan would not have a way to verify the authenticity of this thing anyway.

Yet, Alan’s reaction was beyond Jasper’s expectations.

“It seems that you have already had contact with that organization. We thought you didn’t even know about it.”

Alan’s words made Jasper’s heart beat wildly.

That organization.

Those two words made Jasper's scalp tingle.

He did not expect to catch such a big fish by playing dumb.

Could it be that the novels he read in his previous life were true? Were there really mysterious organizations in this world that could control the world?

Jasper thought it was unlikely.

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Life at the Top Chapter 1834

The higher Jasper's level, the deeper his understanding of the world and the more sophisticated his worldview.

Jasper knew very well that a so-called mysterious organization or some random bigwig could not manage a country, much less society as a whole.

It involved military, politics, culture, technology, finance, people's livelihood, and so on.

When he was reincarnated, and even before he was reincarnated, Jasper often wondered whether this world was really controlled by a mysterious organization. After all, there were a lot of similar conspiracy theories about this matter.

Now, he understood that this was

impossible.

If an industry or a region were controlled by such an organization, he might still believe it because it did not require that much power to influence.

However, if it was the world's number one power like the United States, or even all of Western society, it was absolutely

impossible.

"But even for that organization, it is impossible to appoint the forty-fourth president so far in advance. This requires the cooperation of the candidates themselves and the compromise of various forces. Everything will involve conflict of interests, so I don't believe

what you said."

Alan's next sentence gave Jasper a better understanding of this so-called organization.

At the same time, it also made him

understand how to deal with this.

What was certain now was that such an organization did exist, but Jasper had no idea what it was called, what it was like, or who was in it.

Therefore, he should not expose himself in this regard.

Furthermore, from what Alan said, even this organization could not decide who was the next president of the United States.

This made Jasper breathe a sigh of relief because he felt this was pretty normal.

After all, that was the president of the United States. Once in office, he was the most powerful person on the planet with the most advanced military weapons and the most powerful economic power. How could such a person be the puppet of an organization?

Or perhaps it was some kind of compromise on interest.

This system was similar to the political contribution system of the United States,

which was open and legal.

The businessmen of the United States would look for candidates who could bring them interests before the general election, and then provide funds to the party to support the election. Once the election was successful, the candidate would reciprocate and give the businessman some preferential policies or

bills in the company or industry.

“But there are already several candidates, right? The one I told you of is the one I think is the most likely candidate.”

Jasper worked hard to prevent any flaws and loopholes in his language. After all, the person on the phone was not an ordinary person, but the patriarch of the Maynards in North America, and he was a very smart old man. If Jasper revealed even the slightest flaw, the man would catch him.

Upon hearing Jasper, Alan did not say another word. It seemed that he had tacitly agreed to this.

This also made Jasper breathe a sigh of relief. It seemed that he did not say anything wrong.

"I can tell you who the candidates, but as for whether you choose to invest in them is entirely up to you. I believe you have a set of evaluation methods and standards to determine whether this person is worth investing in."

Jasper's words made Alan completely abandon the last trace of doubt and hesitation in his heart.

Indeed, Jasper was right. As long as he got the list of candidates, he could investigate it secretly and observe slowly before deciding whether to invest in them.

For the Maynards, political resources were not scarce. Even if they made a mistake once or twice, the possibility of them losing something was not too big.

Moreover, in this deal, the Maynards would get huge benefits once it was completed, and nothing would be lost if it failed. Now, what they needed to do now was to act as a lobbyist between the United States government and Jasper.

This was completely acceptable.

"You can tell me the name of that candidate now," Alan said.

"What a coincidence. He is now within your sphere of influence. He is the Senate of Illinois in the Midwest, Breck... Hossein ... Omar."

Jasper said the name directly.

He was not worried that Alan would become hostile and not own up after he got his hand on the goods.

With Alan's status and position, it would be near impossible for him to do such a thing.

"Him?"

What surprised Jasper was that Alan knew the name.

"It seems that you already know something about him, Mr. Maynard."

Jasper laughed.

"I may not have any impression of the person if you mentioned someone else, but when it comes to him, I know that he has a very wide voter base in the local area, and some of his ideas are also in line with the needs of the current political environment... It's just that..."

Alan obviously had something to say, but he did not continue.

"Well, just wait for my news. She'll be able to return home safely within two days at the earliest."

Originally, the deal between the two would be concluded successfully now that they were at this stage. However, when Jasper was about to hang up, Alan spoke again.

"I plan to ask Celine to come home, but she is unwilling. The world outside is not peaceful now, so I hope you can take more care of her."

Jasper was taken aback.

"Isn't she working in Harbor City?"

These words stunned Alan.

After the two recovered from their mutual shock, Alan immediately exploded in rage.

"You don't know?"

"You don't know anything?"

Jasper was indeed startled by Alan's

sudden fit of rage.

“What do I know?”

It sounded like Alan was mad because his precious baby had been tarnished by someone and then the person was even playing dumb after they took advantage of her. Hence, Jasper asked while feeling slightly guilty.

“Hmph!”

Alan scoffed coldly and replied, “That disappointing thing has been fired by Colossal Investments because of you! It’s because she leaked the company secrets. She did so many things for you, and yet, you have no idea!

“Listen to me, Jasper, if you treat my daughter as an idiot whom you can take advantage of whenever you want, then you’re wrong!”

After he said that, Alan slammed down the phone.

Meanwhile, Jasper was very confused

after he had been screamed at for no

reason.

However, he was not in the mood to split hairs over this. Now, he only wanted to know how Celine was.

Without any hesitation, he asked Jake, who had just came in to report some work -related issues, to wait. Then, he called Celine’s number.

However, he was told by the automated message that the call could not be connected.

He tried three more times, but met with the same result.

Jasper gritted his teeth and immediately called Henry.

“Use all of your connections in Harbor City to find Celine Maynard, the president of the Terra regional branch of Colossal Investments. I want to know where she is and if she’s safe. Also, find out how she is right now.”

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Henry, who rarely heard Jasper speak in such an urgent and serious tone, did not hesitate and decisively agreed.

Seeking out Zachary for other things was definitely more useful than asking for Henry's help, but if you needed to find someone in Harbor City, it was clear that Henry, the overlord of Harbor City, would be the better choice.

After an hour, Jasper received a call from

Henry.

"I found her. She is going to the mainland from Lowe District. She's alone and doesn't appear to be threatened or coerced. My boys didn't bother going up to disturb her when they saw this. As for what happened during this time, I still need some time to figure it out.

"So do you want my boys to go over now, or?"

Jasper frowned slightly and glanced at the time. It was 30 minutes before closing.

"Don't. I'll go over now."

Jasper's words stunned Henry.

"What? Are you going there?"

Jasper said, "Yes, this matter is very important, so I have to do it as soon as possible. I will arrange the rest of the matters, so don't worry. How are your plans with Conrad?"

When Jasper finally asked the important question, Henry said with a smile, "What else can happen? Of course, everything went well. We are negotiating with Layman and waiting for the Langdon father and son to enter the game. They are already anxious now and they are contacting

Layman's executives closely. It seems that they are afraid that we'll take this piece of fat first."

"Layman's requirement to provide insurance to small and medium banks in the United States have not changed?" Jasper asked.

As someone who was reincarnated, Jasper saw through the dirty tricks of the United States government at just a glance.

This was also the fundamental reason

why he realized that he was

unconsciously cooperating with the

Uninst Statis government to make a

poisonous cake.

Providing an insurance policy to the small and medium sized banks in the United

States would be digging one's own grave.

Jasper knew very well that this subprime mortgage crisis would cause 10% of the United States' small and medium sized banks to go bankrupt while the savings and financial compensation involved would form a super sinkhole of more than 100 billion US Dollars.

Even all of Somerland capital and the capital from the people of the United States could not fill it up, let alone Half the Harbor Langdon. Otherwise, why would they look for someone to take the fall.

Right now, Jasper just wanted to wish Half -the-Harbor Langdon and his son a joyous downfall.

"It hasn't changed, and they were very firm regarding this. It seems that if they don't agree to this point, there is no need to discuss things further."

Henry's answer further confirmed Jasper's internal guess.

"One was willing to fight, and one was willing to endure the pain, so it just depends on who gets the bait."

After hanging up the call with Henry, Jasper looked at Jake and said, "There are more than 20 minutes left before the market closes. In this time, release Layman's money market on the subprime market. They will take it away."

Jake was taken aback for a moment, wondering why Jasper did not take advantage of such a good opportunity to completely destroy Layman.

However, since Jasper had decided so, Jake could only obey.

"Got it, Mr. Laine."

"Okay, then you should help me keep an eye on things here. I am going out now, and I will be back before tomorrow's opening."

"Then should we continue the action against the United States financial market tomorrow?" Jake asked.

"Yes."

Jasper narrowed his eyes slightly and said, "Continue to short the financial market. The collapse of the subprime market is just the beginning. We have to take this opportunity to crash the entire financial securities market of the United States. We have to strike them where it hurts as only then will they be scared. Not only that, but by breaking the stock price barrier, we have the opportunity to acquire high-quality assets at low prices."

Why did the United States like to play financial wars and destroy a country's economy through stock and securities markets?

Not only could they plunder a large amount of wealth from other countries in this process, but it was also because once the stock market crashed, the stocks of those high-quality listed companies in the country could be acquired with the lowest stock prices.

This was a really profitable business model.

In fact, Trider Financial Group in Sunrise Land could be regarded as the top five

plutocrats in the world with the rise of the

Sunrise Land economy, but why was it so

low-key now?

It was because the Plaza Accord back then made the accumulation of several generations of wealth under Trider Financial Group disappear overnight. Not only that, a lot of people in the United States own a large proportion of stock rights in many core asset companies belonging to Trider Financial Group.

Jasper laughed at the thought of acquiring Apple, Qualcomm, Weresoft, and General Motors, the countless companies that held the intellectual property rights of global high-tech core industries.

After explaining Jake's next job, Jasper got up and left the company.

On the way to the airport, Jasper asked his people to prepare his plane. Once he arrived at the airport, he would fly directly to Cavern City.

Two hours later, Jasper landed at Cavern City Airport.

Since Henry's men had been following

Celine, Jasper found her easily.

When Celine, who was wandering aimlessly on the street, saw Jasper appearing in front of her suddenly, she was so surprised that she could not speak.

"You... You... You...."

Jasper chuckled softly when he saw the

speechless Celine. "What? Are you

surprised?"

At this moment, Celine came back to her

senses, and she said in horror, "Why are

you here?"

Jasper said, "I heard someone has been fired by the company, so I quickly came over to ask them if they are interested in working for me."

People were coming and going on the street. However, in Celine's world, the bustling flow of people and cars seemed to have suddenly

disappeared at this moment, leaving only the warm smile of the man in front of her with stars in his eyes.

“But shouldn’t you be in Nauritus City now? How can you leave your post willy nilly at this critical time?” Celine asked. She was struggling to control her voice and hold back her tears.

“There is no special situation happening today, so I took off work half an hour ahead of schedule and took a two-hour flight over here.”

Jasper chuckled and continued, “So? You haven’t answered me yet. Are you interested in working for me?”

“But I don’t know anything else,” Celine said aggrievedly.

“I’ll start a bank. I’ll start one for you to manage.” Jasper’s tone was unquestionably firm.

“This time, no one can fire you. Also, let’s come up with a trap and make Colossal regret their decision of firing you dearly. What do you think?”

Looking at Jasper, who had a smirk on his face like a kid conspiring to steal candy, Celine could not hold back her tears anymore and she threw herself into

Jasper’s arms.

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“Is it really okay for you to leave Nauritus City and this time to come here like this?”

Celine asked with a fork in her hand as she tilted her head to look at Jasper as the two were seated in a restaurant.

Jasper chuckled, “I have a team for the specific operation. I have already made arrangements and deployments for the decision-making process, and there are people under me who can solve some small problems. Even if there is an emergency, the network is so developed now that I can just find a computer to take care of it at a moment’s notice, so there won’t be any big problems.”

Celine nodded; The feeling of guilt in her heart was only slightly relieved.

“I contacted your father before this.”

Jasper said, “The cooperation is not a big problem, and it has been negotiated. Moreover, I learned about you and Colossal from him.

“You should not have hid this from me.”

Jasper’s tone was obviously accusatory in the following sentence

Jasper figured that Celine was not treating him as a friend. She was fired from Colossal because of him, yet she did not say anything.

Celine smiled bitterly and said, “Actually, even if this matter had never happened, I would have still left my current position sooner or later. The headquarters has long been very dissatisfied with my stance and some choices I made, so they would have

eventually found opportunities for my dismissal.”

“The preparation of the bank will take some time, so you can take a good rest during this period. After the bank goes online, you will be busy.” Jasper did not continue to delve into this topic, and he said gently.

Celine replied, “Do you really want to open a bank? It won’t be easy.”

“There have been prior banks which operated with private capital in Somerland, but those are also special cases. For example, Pearson bank and People’s Bank cannot be used as a reference. According to my judgment, Swallow Capital will gradually deregulate the banking industry in the future, such as allowing the local government to become the major shareholder to establish a local commercial bank.

“This is an opportunity for us, but the bank I want to start does not have any specific offline or physical outlets. I will rely on Sena’s gaming business and Abbylon’s online shopping platform business to develop online banking.”

Celine was very familiar with JW’s business system, and immediately said, “You mean the online payment system used in Sena’s gaming industry?”

Jasper was really surprised this time.

“I didn’t go into details, and you related it to online payment? Indeed, when I started the online payment system, it was to accumulate and prepare for the opening of a neobank today.”

Celine looked at Jasper like she was looking at a monster. She said, “When was that? Did you already think about this back then? Are you a man or a god?”

“I am human, of course.”

Jasper laughed and said, “Actually, the business map is like a big tree. First, it has a trunk, and then the branches and leaves are drawn according to the direction and shape of the trunk and main branches. From here, everything will have its veins and traces.

“The bank’s main business in the future i

s divided into three sections.

“The first section is the savings business. Users will transfer money to the bank’s virtual account through online payment, and I will pay the user a higher interest rate than commercial banks.

“The second sector is the payment business. This one is easy to understand. This one will be the easiest to establish because it’ll be relying on the gaming industry and online shopping industry within the JW system.

“The third sector is the financial business. We have absorbed our users deposits, so we must use the money to make even more money. This is no different from traditional banks.”

Considering that Celine would be the person in charge of the bank that was still in Jasper’s mind in the future, she had to understand the concept of the bank as a whole. For the first time, Jasper told her the concept of him starting a neobank.

“In these three sectors, the first sector is the foundation, the second sector is the derivative, and the third sector is the future. The three are complementary to each other. Without the first savings business, everything will just be empty talk. After that, the payment business will facilitate all internet users in JW, and finally, the financial business is the core of the bank.”

Following Jasper’s description, the basic framework that a bank should have gradually appeared in front of Celine.

This bank was born out of a traditional

bank, but it was completely different from the former. It had fewer functions, but it was lighter and more flexible, while the remaining functions were the core business model of the bank.

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“The most important thing is that once this bank is set up, JW will never have to worry about cash flow again because of its huge capital pool. You have also considered this, haven’t you?”

Staring at Celine, who was looking at him with twinkling eyes, Jasper chuckled.” According to financial policies, neither I nor JW is allowed to embezzle these deposits.

“The higher authorities have policies, and the localities have their countermeasures. It’s impossible for banks to never give out loans, so you can give yourself a loan.”

Celine had been toying with financial concepts for half her lifetime. Thus, she was very familiar with this kind of operation.

“See? This is why I must leave the position of CEO of this bank to you.’ Jasper laughed.

Just as the two of them were eating and chatting, Jasper’s phone rang just as they were starting to enjoy themselves.

It was Reuben.

Jasper’s heart froze when he saw this call.

Reuben would not take the initiative to contact him unless there was an emergency.

However, there was no movement on Jake’s side, indicating that the United States market was not the one with the problem.

After answering the call, Jasper’s expression gradually became serious as he listened to what Reuben said through the phone.

Celine also fell silent when she saw this. She stared straight at Jasper’s expression and did not speak.

“Are you sure?”

Jasper asked.

Celine did not know what the other person said. After that, she then heard Jasper say, “Got it.”

Celine hurriedly asked when she saw Jasper hanging up the phone, "What's wrong? Did something happen?"

"It's fine."

Jasper smiled and replied, "Just some small problem."

"However, we have to go back to Nauritus City immediately after we finish eating."

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"What are we waiting for then?"

Celine quickly tossed her fork away and stood up.

"Let's go now."

Jasper did not hesitate when he saw that. After they got up, he paid the bill and left the restaurant alongside Celine.

The two rushed to the airport and found the plane already waiting for them.

After they went through the special terminal, Jasper called Jake as the plane was gliding down the runway.

"Notify all investors of JW Foundation that there will be a meeting in three hours. Those who can come to Nauritus City, please do, and those who can't come will be connected via video conference. Just today, more than 200 overseas accounts have been opened in the domestic A-share market. The amount of funds involved in this overseas account exceeds 100 billion US Dollars.

“In other words, the counterattack of Wall Street capital is here.”

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What were 100 billion US Dollars like in the domestic A-share market at this time?

In 2001, the total share capital of the Somerland A-share market was 4352.2 billion Somer Dollars.

Based on the current exchange rate, 100 billion US dollars would be 780 billion Somer Dollars.

Therefore, for this attack, Wall Street Capital had gathered wealth that was more than one-sixth of the total market

capital of the entire A-share market.

This meant that if no measures were taken, the 100 billion US Dollars alone could completely destroy the entire A share market.

This was something that Jasper and the Somerland government never wanted to see.

“It happened.”

After Jasper hung up, Celine sighed.

“Neither Wall Street Capital nor the United State government will give up. If you destroy their subprime market, they will destroy your entire financial market, and this time they are being aggressive. If they don't get something out of it, I'm afraid they won't give up.”

Jasper nodded and said, “In truth, I always intended to avoid such a situation, so the main battlefield has always been in the financial market of the United States. Even if it is not good for JW Foundation to fight in a different location, it is better than fighting it in my own home.

Unfortunately, Somerland's finances are

still too fragile to withstand the effects of

such a big war.

“I originally thought that as long as I kept them in the United States financial market, then they wouldn’t have the energy to attack the Somerland financial market.

“But now that the subprime mortgage crisis has erupted, Wall Street Capital has hardly any countermeasures other than to help themselves over the past two days. It

seems that this crisis has also caused

them to continue in the direction that will bring more disadvantages to them, while also dragging Somerland down at the risk of this huge loss.”

“This will be a huge loss to you.” Celine was worried and said, “The United States financial market is the world’s largest economic center, and Somerland, which has only just been reformed and opened up only a decade or two ago, can’t compare to them in terms of history and foundation.

“Moreover, such a subprime mortgage crisis would have broken out sooner or later. If it broke out early, it would only benefit them. It is equivalent to removing the tumor before it festers. It’ll only cause some pain at this moment in time, but if it is delayed until the points where it gets so bad it finally bursts, it will cause even greater losses for the United States.

“They obviously understand this. It’s just some losses and they can afford to lose 100 billion or more, but Somerland doesn’t have the same luxury. Just the 100 billion US Dollars in funds is enough to

completely break Somerland’s finances.

The fruits of reformation and opening up after so long will completely collapse.” After that, Celine looked at Jasper

worriedly and said, “So you must figure out how to deal with this matter. Now I am afraid that it is not only your investors, even Swallow Capital is waiting for a plan from you.

“If you want to wear the crown, you must bear its weight. This immediate crisis is the biggest and most important challenge for you before you can wear the crown”

"I know."

Jasper nodded and looked at the sea of clouds outside the window. He could have been saying it to Celine, or perhaps to himself. Then, he continued softly, "I don't care about the crown, but I will never allow the United States to treat Somerland as Sunrise Land. A Plaza Accord will set back Somerland's economy decades, and Somerland can't afford to lose."

"Somerland can't afford to lose."

This was what Jasper said to all the investors in the meeting after urgently returning to Nauritus City.

At this moment, all the large investors who invested more than 100 million Somer Dollars into JW Foundation attended the meeting.

Most of them could not get there in person because they were out of town, but even so, they canceled all their plans to participate in this video conference.

At this time, dozens of small windows gathered on the huge screen in front of Jasper.

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In every window was a man or woman, from young to old.

It also included the bosses of the top ten venture capital companies, the five major domestic securities companies, the founders of private equity firms, and the founders of large chambers of commerce and large conglomerates. These people could be regarded as the top elites in Somerland's economic and financial circles today.

Everyone's expressions were very heavy after Jasper briefly told them what had happened.

No fools could participate in this conference. Everyone understood that when the nest was overturned, with no egg left intact. No matter what industry they were in and how good the relationship between them was, no one could stay away from the tumultuous attack of the Wall Street capitalists right now.

"Mr. Laine, everyone understands what

you said, but the question now is, what

does Swallow Capital think?"

The boss of Vast Mountain Capital asked.

"Right now, the heads of Swallow Capital should be in the same meeting as us to discuss countermeasures. After that, they will definitely communicate their plans with us accordingly. So, before that, you have the right to know what is happening now. Please make preparations

immediately after the meeting is over so

that you will be prepared for the

upcoming stock market crash."

Jasper's words made the faces of the

people present more serious.

"Mr. Laine, has it really gotten to this stage?"

The boss of the country's largest daily necessities group asked this question. He was an industrial man and did not know much about finance, so Jasper could understand when he asked such a layman's question.

"Mr. Charles, I'll put it like this. If we lose

this fight, your industry will become

abandoned factories tomorrow."

Mr. Charles' face changed when Jasper

said that.

He could not understand why his well run industry would suddenly devolve into abandoned factories, but he understood the truth. There were professionals that handle professional matters. If one did not understand it, one should not question the opinions of professionals.

Besides, he did not dare to question what Jasper said.

"Once the stock market crashes, all listed companies in all walks of life will be the first to suffer. Stock prices will plunge to the bottom and the company's market value will shrink, resulting in companies not being able to obtain cash flow for production and operation. If a foreign company in the same industry comes into the market and uses a lower price to dominate the market, what capital and confidence do you have that can beat those foreign companies?

"This is a big social and environmental issue. This is why they say the country is our home, and without it, we'll be homeless. If the country's economy is destroyed, we'll become fools that others can take advantage of. We won't have any room for resistance-none at all."

After Jasper provided some further

explanation, he got the third question.

This question was from a rich man in

Waterhoof City, Quarterman.

"Mr. Laine, has JW Foundation ever

considered divesting from the United

States market and coming back to the

domestic market?"

Upon hearing the question, Jasper looked at Quarterman.

Quarterman was very low-key, but Jasper knew that his son was not. Right now, Quarterman Jr. was in his teens, and in the future, he would be called the top second generation of Waterhoof.

However, right now, his old man still needed to politely address Jasper as Mr.

Laine.

"No,"

Jasper's calm answer caused huge stormst o form in everyone's hearts

Life at the Top Chapter 1840

Indeed, Jasper had considered withdrawing funds from the United States

capital market.

As for why, he did not explain.

It was not that he did not understand that when there were many people, there would be many differing opinions, as well as the chance of side issues arising. More importantly, he needed to reach a tacit agreement with Swallow Capital for such an important decision.

However, at least for now, Jasper's

opinion was that he must not divest.

If the capital was withdrawn, the destruction of the United States financial turmoil that was personally set off by JW Foundation would decrease too much.

Aside from the previously lost funds, Jasper's subsequent plan of searching for shares in the United States domestic high tech heavy industry and companies would also have to be aborted.

This was obviously what the United States government would like to see most.

You could regard the United States'

actions against Somerland's financial market as a fight against them. They were eager for Jasper to divest and come back to consolidate the domestic financial market.

Naturally, Jasper absolutely would not do something that the enemy wanted.

This meeting, which was not planned to go on for long, was forcibly interrupted by a phone call to Jasper.

“Swallow Capital is contacting me. Everyone, the meeting will stop here for the time being. I have already said everything that needs to be said, anyway.”

Jasper stood up and said seriously, “No matter what, I sincerely hope that everyone will be united to overcome the national crisis.”

It was unknown if they were influenced by Jasper’s aura, but everyone in the meeting suddenly felt emotional.

After this meeting, Jasper answered the

phone. About half an hour later, he met

Tony in his office.

However, this time Tony came as a guest.

He accompanied a middle-aged man with extraordinary bearing. He looked like he was in his early fifties, and from his gestures, one could tell that he had held a prominent status for a long time, to the point where it could not be concealed.

“Jasper, this is Mr. Mason, and he will be chiefly responsible for the response to Wall Street capital’s attack on the mainland financial market this time. You can directly discuss anything with Mr. Mason.”

After hearing Tony’s words, Jasper immediately understood.

If they were in ancient times, Mr. Mason was probably similar to a minister or imperial envoy who would go on patrols and tours on behalf of the emperor.

If Jasper had been more concerned about politics, he would know that the Mr. Mason in front of him was the vice

president in charge of national financial affairs when he was reincarnated.

It was a pity that Jasper remembered the highest authorities, but never the deputies.

However, this did not prevent Jasper from being polite to Mr. Mason at this moment. “Mr. Mason, please sit down.”

Jasper personally led Mr. Mason and Tony into the office to sit down.

The huge conference was to decide on the trivial matters while the small conference was used to decide on the huge matters. On the other hand, everyone needed to attend the huge conference, while only a few people were needed to participate in the small conference.

This sentence clearly explained the true essence of both of Jasper's meetings.

"Although I have read Mr. Laine's information a long time ago, but I still have to say that you're so young now that I am seeing you in person. When I was about your age, I had only just joined the workforce and was just a senior staff

member. I can't compare to you at all."

It could be seen that Mr. Mason was very easy-going. Even if the situation was tense right now, his calmness in the face of calamity was able to make them unconsciously feel relieved.

"Mr. Mason is too polite. If I may boast, it's because of the good policy, but if I have to put it humbly, it's actually all thanks to the cultivation of the country." Jasper laughed.

With a wave of his hand, Mr. Mason said, "You slick talker, I am not here to exchange courtesies with you today. The policies given by the state are equal to all, so how come you're the only one who's successful?"

"As for cultivation, it is even a bigger load of poppycock. What the country can do now is to guarantee nine-year compulsory education, but the rest of it will depend on individual efforts.

"So, this is your intrinsic ability to succeed. You can't be arrogant, and you

also can't be too modest, otherwise it will make others feel that you are too vain and

unapproachable."

Jasper nodded approvingly and said, "Mr. Mason, you're right. If someone talks to me about a similar topic in the future, I will just say that I am a genius and not shirk responsibility."

"This little slick talker is really interesting. Haha."

Mr. Mason pointed at Jasper and laughed

alongside Tony.

Tony echoed, "Mr. Mason, he may act like

this, but you will be pleased with his

work."

"Yes, it's good to be reliable. Right now, what we need the most are people who can and know how to get things done."

Mr. Mason stopped laughing and looked at Jasper seriously, then began to delve into the important topic.

"Jasper, tell me the truth. Do you have the confidence that you'll be able to defend against Wall Street coming to our A-share market with 100 billion US Dollars this time if I let you?"

Mr. Mason's directness did not just stun

Jasper, even Tony was shocked.

According to Somerland's tradition of not expressing something too directly because they were good at reasoning and speculating, such straightforwardness was obviously not suitable for such serious occasions. However, Mr. Mason said it out loud.

Jasper took a few seconds to recover, then

immediately replied, "No."

As soon as he said this, Tony's face turned dark. He felt his blood turning cold from his head to his toes, and could not help but angrily say, "Jasper, what is this attitude? We need you to help with this, yet you're giving all sorts of excuses."

Jasper looked directly at Tony and replied, "Mr. Pratt, I'm not shirking the responsibility, nor am I unwilling to contribute. How much is the total market value of our A-share market now?"

"4.3 trillion."

"And Wall Street is taking out 780 billion

this time. Sure, I can defend against them.

If you give me half of the country's foreign exchange reserves, not only can I prevent this attack from Wall Street, but I can also directly crush the US Dollars! international debts.

"However, what will happen as a result of this? World War Three.

"Do you think you can make this decision to start a war with the United States? Do you think I can?"

When Jasper said that, it was not just Tony's face that turned from dark to pale with fright, even Mr. Mason appeared to become more serious.

"Jasper, you're speaking too seriously," Mr. Mason said in a deep voice.

"Mr. Mason, I may be young and inexperienced, so I might not know the severity of this, but the way I see it, if Swallow Capital does not have the courage and determination to burn their boats, it will be impossible to resist this wave of attacks."

"But you just said that if they burn their boat, we will face the risk of war with the United States." Mr. Mason frowned.

"This is a question of scale. We want to bully them, but not bully them intolerably. If we want to defeat Wall Street, but not completely destroy them, we must leave this difficult decision to the United States government rather than take it on ourselves."

Life at the Top Chapter 1841

Many people could not grasp the concept of 100 billion US Dollars.

Basically, in 2001, Somerland's foreign exchange reserves totaled just over 210 billion US Dollars.

While the GDP was only 1.43 trillion US Dollars.

It was no exaggeration to say that the 100 billion US Dollars that Wall Street brought right now was completely capable of setting Somerland's economy back 10 years.

"One more thing we have to understand is that this 100 billion US Dollars is just what we are aware of right now. Wall Street is backed by the United States government, so they can bring in more money at any time. When that happens, what should we do?"

Jasper's words made Mr. Mason and Tony's faces become more serious.

"Then tell me your opinion," Mr. Mason said after a long time.

"A two-way battlefield," Jasper replied unhesitatingly.

"What do you mean?" Tony asked.

"I have to focus most of Wall Street's energy in the capital market of the United States. Fortunately, we have achieved results before, so this is relatively easy to do. We have to force them to invest more manpower, material, and financial resources in the United States to fight with the funds from JW Foundation. If not, their hometown is at risk of being ransacked.

"As for the domestic market..."

Jasper pondered for a moment and

hesitated whether or not to continue.

According to the memory of his previous life, there were several big news and moves in the domestic stock market in 2001.

In the case of the overall market, the government officially started the high pressure situation of key supervision this

year, and at the same time, they made more concessions toward the market for the listing of state-owned enterprises. More importantly, this year, the National Social Security Fund was approved to enter and operate in the stock market.

Naturally, there was no such thing in the current life, but a series of market stimulus measures had already been introduced.

Generally speaking, this year, the government wanted to rectify the financial market and make the financial market develop in a more orderly and healthy manner, followed by the introduction of favorable measures to stimulate economic growth.

Now, what Jasper had to do was to pre emptively propose the policies that were already going to come out, but he was not sure whether doing so would alarm the government.

After all, many of these policies were confidential right now, and according to the timeline, some of them might still be i n the drafting stage.

If Jasper came up with the plan at this time, would the officials be unhappy even though they would enact this in the future anyway?

Or he might make me the officials suspect him of having underground sources for this information.

This was not a good thing.

As if sensing Jasper's hesitation, Mr. Mason solemnly said, "This is not a formal meeting, so just speak your mind. I will use the spirit and character of my political party and principles to guarantee that it will definitely not have any negative impact on you."

“Sigh, Mr. Mason, you’re too serious.”

Jasper sighed.

He knew that now was not the time to hide. As for whether there would be any impact in the future, he would worry about it when the time came.

“My opinion is that the domestic market still needs to deal with this while relying on the strength of the domestic market.

“No matter how rich the country is, it will never be wealthier than the total wealth of all its citizens. The stock market is a market that can make money. As long as this market is built up, social capital will flow in. Everything else aside, we will at least be able to devour the 100 billion from Wall Street.”

“Be specific.” Mr. Mason frowned.

“First, strengthen market supervision. Why are so many large retail investors or institutions willing to invest in Harbor stocks or foreign markets? It is because the domestic market believes that the traces of trading are too heavy and too simple. Various illegal operations are common, and they are breeding like flies.

“Investors will be unwilling to enter an unhealthy market because everyone is not playing the game with the same rules. The winner takes all while the ones with huge capital can devour all the small investors easily, which is very unreasonable.

“Therefore, the strengthening of financial market supervision and the introduction of high-pressure policies when necessary to deter the bad seeds with heavy penalties is a step that must be taken. Just look at the large foreign financial markets, they also went through similar periods. In this way, it will inevitably guide more private capital to come in and revitalize the water in this pond.

“Second, speed up the listing of state owned enterprises. Due to our special national conditions, the real giants of the real industries are state-owned enterprises, especially in certain monopolistic industries, such as petroleum, tobacco, and telecommunications. The state-owned enterprises in these industries are good assets, and they do not need to worry about bankruptcy because of their monopoly status. Therefore, once they are listed, they will inevitably increase market enthusiasm.

“At the same time, listed state-owned enterprises must be bound by policies and must give the market a profit of at least 10 % of their total equity. Otherwise, the benefits will not be sufficient and fewer people will be enticed to invest.

“Third, promote the entry of the National Social Security Fund into the market.”

of these three suggestions, Jasper only mentioned the third one in part, and did not offer any further elaboration. However, everyone knew that the third one was the nuclear bomb.

“Social security fund!”

Tony took a sharp breath and said, Jasper, the social security fund is an important guarantee for the stability and order of our society. If something goes wrong with this fund, it will cause a huge mess and no one will be able to bear this responsibility.”

Jasper frowned. He knew that social security funds would definitely encounter huge resistance when entering the market, and the most important factor was the viewpoint of conservatives like Tony. They would be scared to take responsibility, so they would simply not act.

However, could this kind of mentality ever achieve great things? Hence, Jasper answered

unceremoniously, “Our ancestors used their flesh and blood to forge our current national fortune, and we’re backing down now?”

“Inflation and currency devaluation are inevitable for a country’s economic development. As long as the economy is developing, the currency will inevitably depreciate, and their purchasing power will deteriorate. This has already begun to appear as our country’s economy starts to boom.

“Meanwhile, the social security fund is dead. If it is left there untouched, after ten, twenty, fifty years, its rate of depreciation and loss will eventually crash the market.

“So many foreign countries invest their social security funds. If you let it make money on its own, it will at least outpace the rate of inflation. This is the only fundamental way for a fund of this kind to last for a long time.

Tony still wanted to say something, but M r. Mason stood up and said excitedly, Yes, Jasper’s words went straight to my heart!”

Life at the Top Chapter 1842

Mr. Mason's words made Tony, who originally wanted to scold Jasper for saying such outrageous things, shut up in an instant.

"Jasper, although you are an outsider, you see more clearly than a lot of the insiders.

"If you didn't already control such large industries, and I couldn't afford your salary right now, I would have liked to take you as my assistant."

Mr. Mason's words made Jasper laugh wryly.

Although this was an exaggerated joke, it also represented Mr. Mason's appreciation of Jasper.

"I'm not afraid to tell you that there are many opinions and voices regarding the use of social security funds, but at the end of the day, they are divided into conservatives and radicals. I agree with you very much and I will definitely repeat every word you said in the meeting with Swallow Capital."

Jasper said with a smile, "Actually, after I said so many things, I only have one core belief, and that is to launch the market's own forces against external forces.

"Now that we are reforming and opening up, the economy is just at the stage of taking-off. The citizens won't starve as they did in the past so as long as they can see that this is beneficial to the country and the people, I believe that it won't only be Wall Street, as even we will be shocked by its power."

Mr. Mason nodded thoughtfully and said, "Okay, I understand your opinion now, and I will bring them back to those in authority."

"Please hurry."

Jasper said earnestly, "We can't wait."

"I know."

Mr. Mason nodded solemnly and said to Jasper, "We shall not wait and I will go back immediately. Don't worry, I can promise you now that Swallow Capital will never allow any foreign power to incite trouble in the country. Besides, everyone can see the sacrifices of the people with knowledge and experience. The country and the people will not forget you guys.

The two of them shook hands again at the

door. Then, they looked at each other but did not say a word. Everything was being said in the silence.

After bidding farewell to Mr. Mason and

Tony, Jasper summoned Jake and Baz.

“From now on, Jake is mainly responsible for keeping watch of the United States market, and Baz, I will assign you a team. You are mainly responsible for keeping an eye on the domestic A-share market.”

It was only when he needed to assign tasks did he realize that he did not have enough people under him. Although Jasper had already begun to cultivate the talents working under him, at this time, he still felt that there were too few people whom he could really use and trust.

In the face of the two-way combat, he had to split up the team, otherwise, there would be no one available to him.

Jake hesitated, “But if this is the case,

won't we lack manpower on both sides?”

Jasper replied, “I know, but please bear with it. Right now we will face a shortage of manpower, but we have a serious matter at hand, so we can't allow a team who's background we are unaware of to come in and help us.”

Jake nodded and replied, “You're right.”

“Mr. Laine, what's our main duty while

watching the A-share market?” Baz asked. This was the first time he was leading a team project, so he was slightly excited

and anxious.

“Keep an eye on every single cent belonging to the Wall Street capital.”

Jasper ordered.

“This is what I need you to do. Just keep an eye on the Wall Street capital. I want to know their every move, and I need to know everything from the number of accounts, their positions, and the direction of their funds.”

Life at the Top Chapter 1843

Baz froze for a moment and said, "But this needs data support from the Securities Regulatory Commission..."

"I will make arrangements in this regard and ask them to give you a data interface so that you can monitor their capital positions at all the time."

Under normal circumstances, it would be absolutely impossible to ask the Securities Regulatory Commission to help them cheat.

In market transactions, even the top professional team could not 100% guarantee that they would be able to perfectly capture the flow of funds in the other party's account. After all, there would be no name written on a transaction in the market.

So, this required a powerful intelligence collection team to monitor all transaction data in the market, filter out those trading orders that were most likely to be from the other party's account, and then determine the other party's position and how many more positions they held.

However, right now it was a duel between two state's capitals. So, needless to say, Jasper could get the full support of the Securities Regulatory Commission for this small convenience.

"Because of the time difference, the domestic market will open during the day and the United States market will open in the evening. So, for the next period, our work intensity will be very high. Please make appropriate arrangements and try to ensure that the people in your teams have a sufficient amount of rest."

Jasper rubbed his temples and said, "I will find a way to increase manpower, but you should not have too much hope. I can only say I will do my best."

Jake and Baz looked at each other. Then, Jake said, "Mr. Laine, the most important thing is your physical condition. During this period, your sleep schedule has been messed up and you haven't had much rest. If you collapse, we will be finished."

With a wave of his hand, Jasper smiled and said, "I know myself best. There is nothing wrong with my health."

Jasper stood up and stretched. Then, he continued, "There are still four hours before the United States market opens. After the United States closes, the

domestic market will open five hours later. Right now, everyone should leave everything and rest while you still have time. I have a hunch that the people of the United States will not give us a chance to breathe.”

Right now, on the other side of the Pacific Ocean.

“Mr. Dugg, we agree to your terms.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon pondered for a long time and finally said to Dugg from across the negotiating table.

The eyes of Dugg and his team lit up upon hearing that.

“But there is one thing I need to emphasize, that is, we must occupy the majority of Layman’s board of directors in the future.”

Half-the-Harbor Langdon’s words were indisputable. “Otherwise, it would be meaningless for me to spend such a large amount of money. I need to use Layman’s influence and assets to expand the family business and influence of the J. Langdons.”

“Sure.”

Half-the-Harbor Langdon had already given in on the most critical core issues, such as funding and providing insurance services to small and medium-sized banks, and Dugg did not intend to pursue these trivial matters.

He was already planning to get out of this fire pit anyway.

Dugg, who had obtained the inside information from certain sources, understood that in the upper echelons of the United States, Layman had already become an abandoned chess piece, and this decision was made by the Freemasons. Hence, Dugg had no power to resist.

He could only escape as soon as possible.

“Then, let’s sign it.”

Dugg asked his people to prepare the

contract as he beamed. He was looking at Half-the-Harbor Langdon with an overwhelming friendliness in his eyes.

This guy from Somerland took the initiative to get into this sinkhole that the people of the United States could not get rid of. Therefore, why would he not have great affection for this man from Somerland who was helping him survive at this most critical moment?

Life at the Top Chapter 1844

Now that the bigwigs on both sides had reached an agreement on the core conditions of the negotiation, the negotiation could be said to be successful.

There were bound to be many details in such a large merger that needed to be negotiated, but this would not longer affect the overall situation anymore.

Hence, the atmosphere that followed was very enthusiastic.

Both of their senior management teams immediately held a celebration party. They were holding wine glasses while chatting and laughing.

Kayden found his father, Half-the Harbor Langdon, after some socializing. Then, he said in a low voice, "Dad, is that it?"

Half-the-Harbor Langdon said flatly, "We can't afford to delay it, and Layman also lost patience. If we still didn't reach a deal this time, they were likely to have started contacting others."

Kayden nodded and said, "That's true. The spy I planted next to Henry came back and told me that the Laws were ready to accept Layman's terms."

With a smile, Half-the-Harbor Langdon said, "This is the reason why there's the rule of first come, first serve. While the Laws were still hesitating, we have already taken over Layman."

As he was saying of this, Half-the-Harbor Langdon patted Kayden on the shoulder and said, "This acquisition is basically a gamble using all our assets. Therefore, there must not be any slip-ups. By the way, has a deal been reached in terms of the funding?"

Kayden nodded solemnly and said, "It's settled, we can mortgage our assets in Harbor City and abroad with banks in various countries. After adding our own

liquid funds, it's enough to complete this acquisition."

He let out a sigh of relief. Even a character like Half-the-Harbor Langdon was feeling a little excited at this moment. He whispered, "This is the most important step for us to move from Harbor City out into the world. I will eventually prove to everyone that the stupidest thing they can do in business is to care for relationships and emotions."

At this moment, Dugg came over with a wine glass in his hand.

"My friend, a toast to celebrate?" Dugg lifted his glass at Half-the-Harbor Langdon and said with a smile.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon recomposed himself and clinked his glass with Dugg's. Then they took a sip.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon smiled and said, "Mr. Dugg, I hope that after the acquisition is completed, you and your team can still stay in the investment bank. This is also the promise I made to you at the beginning."

Dugg shook his head and said, "No, I changed my mind. I am tired and I have been working for so many years. I think I should spend some time with my family and children now."

As soon as this statement came out, Half the Harbor Langdon's eyes turned cold..

He was having mixed feelings.

He was happy that Dugg was willing to give up the position of chairman, but at the same time, he was worried that Dugg had given up too decisively and suddenly. The suspicious Half-the-Harbor Langdon wondered if there was any conspiracy behind this.

"Mr. Dugg, you are very familiar with the business and internal conditions of investment banking, so I need a veteran like you to help me navigate the investment banking business as soon as possible," Half-the-Harbor Langdon said sincerely.

At least, his expression and tone of voice were very sincere, which did not seem odd to others.

However, Dugg laughed. He waved his hand and said, Langdon, you don't have to keep me. It's not good for you if I continue to serve as chairman.

As for my team, I'll try my best to hide the news of me leaving until the end. It depends on you how many people you can retain. With their help, I believe you can also master investment banking within the shortest possible time."

With a smile, Half-the-Harbor Langdon said half truthfully, "It's a shame then, but I respect your choice."

Dugg shrugged. Then, he said strangely, " Langdon, trust me, you won't regret this purchase."

Half-the-Harbor Langdon laughed and said, "I think so too."

They touched their wine glasses again, creating a crisp sound. However, they were the only ones who knew what they were thinking.

A few hours later, a shocking piece of news broke out from the global business community.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon and his son from Harbor City in Somerland had successfully acquired Layman Investment Bank.

As a well-known Somerland merchant

company, Fongroup, had swallowed Layman Investment Bank, the world's fourth largest investment bank, like a snake swallowing an elephant. This merger involving tens of billions of dollars had become the largest commercial merger in human history.

Moreover, it had occurred in this special period when Somerland Capital and Wall Street Capital were fighting each other to death. This merger and acquisition case successfully attracted the attention of countless people.

Some people even thought that this was just a trial for Somerland capital to conduct sweeping acquisitions after the United States economy was destroyed.

The great citizen of the United States and the fourth largest investment bank in the world was actually acquired by a Somerland company.

This made countless racists in the United States feel terribly uncomfortable.

In addition to this, Jasper had just appeared on the cover of Times Magazine, and the appearance of Half-the-Harbor Langdon and his son had made people

exclaim that Somerland capital was controlling the world.

However, no matter what the outside world said, the United States Ministry of Commerce still approved the acquisition.

Hence, this M&A case of the century was officially declared a success.

While the outside world was talking about this merger, Henry and Conrad were celebrating.

“Cheers!”

Henry laughed. Right now, he was blushing and was in a great mood.

“Not bad. The whole plan is proceeding as you said. Sure enough, there won’t be a problem if we go forward one stage at a time. The Half-the-Harbor Langdon father and son duo have entered the trap step by step, almost as if they had planned this alongside us.

“Before this, I was really worried that we would not be able to get out of this mess. If Half-the-Harbor Langdon and his son ran away, this plan that we worked so hard to set up would have failed. It

would’ve been such an embarrassing

situation.”

Conrad smiled and said, “Actually, they had no choice.

“They are different from big families with long histories, like the Laws. The latter have their own fortune which was accumulated over a period of nearly a hundred years. Meanwhile, the father and son duo emerged from Half-the-Harbor Langdon . Most of their industries are in the Harbor City, but Harbor City is too small in terms of area or population, which severely restricts the development o

f Half-the-Harbor Langdon and his son.

“This is not a problem that’s exclusive to them, big families like yours are also burdened by this. So, everyone has to seek development outside of Harbor City. But now the problem is that whether it’s Harbor City or the Mainland, Half-the Harbor Langdon and his son have already offended too many people to go back now.

“Thus, they can only set their sights overseas. On the surface, Layman Investment Bank seems fine, but they’re on

the verge of bankruptcy because of the subprime mortgage crisis. Yet, the world's fourth-largest investment bank has the background and foundation that is enticing beyond measure, so of course, they wouldn't be able to resist taking this bait.

"Unfortunately..."

When Conrad said that, he shook his head and said flatly, "This is a bait laced with poison."

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Life at the Top Chapter 1845

Jasper knew the news that Half-the Harbor Langdon and his son finally succeeded in acquiring Layman Investment Bank before the financial media outlets did.

Looking at the television broadcast of the news by the host, Jasper smiled and turned to Wendy who was massaging his shoulders behind him, and said, "Say, what are these people thinking? Are things abroad really better than in the country?"

Wendy pursed her lips and smiled. "I don't know whether foreign things are better, but I haven't seen you relax like this in a long time."

Jasper closed his eyes and sighed. Then, he raised his hand to cover Wendy's tender little hand and sighed ruefully, "I have no choice. There's always one thing after another. I want to take a good rest too but the world changes, whether you want it to or not.

"I feel that the biggest reason I wanted to make money back then was that I don't want to give up on the things I want to do simply because I don't have enough money. I want to do anything I want.

"As a result, I am getting richer and richer now but why am I getting less and less freedom? This is no better than staying back in town and occasionally going to the stock market to casually earn people's wages for several years. At that time, I was at ease and happy."

Wendy thought for a while and suddenly said with interest, "Why don't we go back to take a look at the scene there after this is all over."

"Okay."

As soon as Jasper raised his hand, he pulled Wendy into his arms and onto his lap. Jasper chuckled softly as he felt the softness and sweet scent of the woman in his arms. "I have already decided. When this matter is over, I

will plan a vacation for both of us. Then, it will be up to you where we go and what we do.”

“You’ve said this many times now, so you have to keep your promise.” Wendy raised her eyes to Jasper and said seriously.

“Definitely.” Jasper laughed.

A few hours later, the United States stock market officially opened.

Jasper walked into the command room full of energy and said to Jake, “Now that the Layman and Half-the-Harbor Langdon’s acquisition is successful, don’t hesitate anymore. Set off the financial turmoil for me.”

The reason why they had been operating steadily and not taking advantage of the chaos before was that on the one hand, they were worried that Wall Street and the United States government would have a way of escape. On the other hand, they could not set off too big of a storm in case Layman went bankrupt instantly.

Now, the United States government and Wall Street capital had shown their escape route, and Layman was now in the embrace of Half-the-Harbor Langdon, so naturally, Jasper would not hold back anymore. When Jake excitedly went back to execute the plan, Jasper approached Reuben, the person in charge of the palace guards,

“Let’s do it,” Jasper said.

Reuben did not hesitate, but he also did not appear too excited. Instead, he answered plainly with two words, “Got it.”

After putting down the phone, and without waiting for Jasper’s order, the huge display screen began to show the real

-time conditions of the major stock index markets in the United States.

There was also a window in which it displayed the exchange rate of the international dollar to gold.

The entire financial market of the United States immediately gapped five minutes after the opening.

In the beginning, many people thought that this was just because of the stock market crash, which was why the market fell naturally.

However, they soon discovered that the short-selling went far beyond their

imagination.

All stock indexes were falling like crazy, including the Dow Jones and Nasdaq.

Moreover, this decline immediately

radiated to the international exchange

rate of the US Dollar.

The modern financial system was a complex and sophisticatedly engineered system.

A drop in a single link would trigger a series of chain reactions.

When it dropped to a certain level, it would cause turbulence in the exchange rate of the domestic currency.

The US Dollar, as the cornerstone of the world monetary system, had not fluctuated much in the past 100 years because its value was directly linked to gold.

Moreover, the US Dollar itself was the settlement currency selected by most countries and organizations in the world, and its circulation rate was also the highest in the world. Therefore, when its exchange rate fluctuated, it could instantly have a huge impact on the global economy.

Life at the Top Chapter 1846

This kind of fluctuation was not obvious at the beginning, until...

“The US Dollar 20-year treasury bond has matured and there has been a lot of selling orders in the market!”

When the news reached Soros, he was taken aback.

“National debt? Someone shorted the United States national debt?”

The hair on Soros' body stood up and he immediately pulled up the trading chart of US Dollar treasury bonds.

As a wealth management product operating on national credit, treasury bonds also had a special market for trading.

It was very simple. If one used 100 US Dollars to buy the United States' treasury bond, and the national debt was due in 10 years, the United States government promised to give them 120 US Dollars with principal and interest after maturity. So, the interest rate in 10 years would be 20%.

However, many people might not be able to wait for the date of its redemption, so they could choose to sell the treasury bond at a lower price in the market.

There was a more esoteric economic

factor too, which was the fluctuation of the US Dollar exchange rate. Once the US Dollar depreciated, a large number of selling orders would appear in the market, which would cause the value of the United States treasury bond to depreciate rapidly.

Once the treasury bond depreciated, it meant the decline of the country's credit.

This was a very serious matter.

"The subprime mortgage crisis broke out,

the domestic financial market plummeted, and the US Dollar depreciated, but at this time, they chose to dump a large number of treasury bonds! They are blatantly sucking the United States' blood!"

When Soros saw that the market had fallen by 5 percentage points, he was furious.

Immediately after, he seemed to have thought of something and immediately asked his men to pull up the international gold futures trading chart.

Indeed, just as he expected, gold was rising!

The US Dollar was depreciating while gold was appreciating!

This meant that the exchange rate between the US Dollar and gold would become larger and larger.

As an international settlement currency, this would put the dollar system into a dangerous situation and on the verge of collapse

Soros was so angry that his lips were trembling

"JW Capital, damn JW Capital! Are they

going to start a world war?" There was no time to think about it. Soros

immediately asked to speak with Greenspan, the chair of the Federal

Reserve.

However, he was told that Mr. Greenspan was negotiating with senior

Washington officials.

He did not even need to think to know

that this incident must have alarmed the

highest authority of the United States

government.

Time passed slowly. With every passing second and minute, the domestic financial market in the United States was falling. A large number of investors who were trapped and unable to sell watched as their accounts got liquidated.

The economic crisis brought about not

only the evaporation of wealth, but also

social unrest.

Racial rights issues, human rights issues, and wealth disparity that had always existed in the United States society were slowly unveiled under the intensifying subprime mortgage crisis.

At this moment, in the Nauritus City Command Center.

“Continue to sell US Dollar treasury

bonds. Make sure the exchange rate of US Dollar to gold falls by at least 0.8% before the market closes today.”

Standing in front of Jake, Jasper looked up at the massive amount of transaction data refreshing on the screen, narrowed his eyes slightly, and said, “Totally enrage this group of capitalists. They will only panic if we hurt them enough. When that happens, it’ll be up to them whether they want to continue to target the domestic A shares market or defend the US Dollar system.”

Life at the Top Chapter 1847

Under the huge economic pressure, speed of response of the officials in Washington of the United States was amazing.

Just three hours after the opening, when the exchange rate of the US Dollar to gold had fallen by 0.3%, the United States Department of the Treasury issued an announcement.

“Within the next 30 delivery cycles, the United States Federal Reserve Treasury will release more than 800 tons of national reserve gold to stabilize the current US Dollar to gold exchange rate, which is currently experiencing huge fluctuations.

“The overall interest rate of the 20-year treasury bond that is about to mature has been raised by 5%.

“In the 30 trading days before the maturity of the treasury bond, the bonds will enter a blockade period and will not be tradeable.”

These three provisional bills made Jasper frown.

“The first and second ones are still normal economic control policies, but are they going to play dumb with the third one?”

Normally, countries would not use political power to influence the economy unless it was a last resort.

This was because it looked bad in terms of moral standing.

Who would dare to engage in your country's financial market in the future if

there was such a precedent?

Your government would throw out new

policies at every turn and flip the table

without abiding by the rules. Who would

dare to risk this?

However, Jasper obviously forced the United States government to desperate measures, so they started to shed all pretense of cordiality and had flipped the table.

“Mr. Laine, what shall we do now?” Jake

asked

“The road to the national debt is blocked, and a blockade order makes all operations impossible. Withdraw.”

Jasper looked at the Nasdaq Index. Then, he pondered slightly and said, “Smash the Nasdaq by 2000 points today.”

“Understand.”

Jake received the order and promptly left.

JW Capital’s massive funds instantly withdrew from the treasury bond trading market and entered the Nasdaq stock

index.

The stock index of a stock market was calculated based on the proportion of a certain number of large stocks in the trading stock market.

In other words, to short the stock index, what Jasper had to do was smash all these big stocks.

Such a thing would be impossible during normal times.

However, the collapse of the entire financial market brought about by the subprime mortgage crisis made the impossible possible.

The first ones to bear the brunt of this were those listed companies that did not have physical industries and instead specialized in finance.

These companies relied on sucking the blood of the financial market to survive. If the financial market thrived, they would make a lot of money, but they would be the first to die in such a stock market crash.

The arrival of JW Capital was the straw that broke proverbial camel's back.

The Nasdaq market, which was already in a huge decline, began to collapse immediately after JW Capital redirected its spearhead.

There was almost no resistance. 60% of the stocks on the market plummeted, and 20% of them were directly blocked off the list of decline.

This was a financial disaster that one could never imagine unless they experienced it first-hand.

Those stockholders who held the stocks of these companies wanted to sell, but the price was falling every minute and every second. There were only massive selling orders in the market but no buy orders.

Because of this, their sell orders could not be traded.

Hence, they could only watch the stock price fall.

Before eventually falling through the market.

Helensel Investment Company was a financial company that had gained fame on Wall Street in recent years. It relied on a group of professional salesmen recommending junk bonds to investors who did not understand stocks to make a fortune.

For normal stocks, they could get a 2% commission after the transaction, but for those junk bonds that no one cared about, the commission could reach 20%.

With this crazy profit Helensal had risen rapidly in just a few years, and its boss, Caspian, had also relied on this company to instantly become wealthy. He bought villas, luxury cars, and entered the upper class circle of the United States.

Not only him, but all of his salesmen had also made a fortune, and everyone has become a veritable Wall Street elite.

They wore constantly expensive suits, carried briefcases, computers, and a cup of coffee in their hands. They lived more comfortably than 99% of people in the world.

However, after the stock market crash, all the stocks became junk bonds, so no one was willing to invest anymore and the company quickly encountered operational difficulties.

Caspian pledged all his property and planned to save the company, but today, his company was directly blocked on the declining list.

This meant that he had lost all of the assets in his company.

Meanwhile, he even had to shoulder huge

debts. He went from a rich man who lived in a villa and would take helicopters to go out to a poor man facing bankruptcy.

Unable to accept the blow, Caspian walked up to the top of the office building. He wanted to end his life silently, but found that there were already people who were there with the same purpose as him on the roof of the building as well as on the roof of the building across the street.

Standing in the cold wind, these poor and bankrupt people who never knew each other looked at each other, and then each made the same choice...

Ending one's life and issuing brutal layoffs had become the main theme of Wall Street.

The majority of the cars currently occupying Wall Street were not luxury cars like it had often been in the past, but instead, were replaced with ambulances.

Someone new would choose to end their life almost every hour.

Below those buildings, employees who had nothing left after being laid off

numbly carried their personal belongings and walked out onto the road. They did not know what the future held, and they did not know whether they could find another job to pay off their monthly bills.

The entire financial market of the United

States was in a great dilemma.

Just as Wall Street fell into great despair, the Federal Reserve made another move.

This time, their actions were simple and brash.

"800 billion US Dollars rescue plan."

The Federal Reserve began to enter the Nasdaq and Dow Jones New York trading markets with huge amounts of funds and began to rescue those listed companies that were on the brink of desperation.

This rescue plan, which was announced by the chief executive of the United States in a nationally televised speech, was like a booster to strengthen the United States' financial market.

Then, the market of the three major exchanges miraculously stabilized.

“Mr. Laine, there is a lot of pressure on the bulls. It is not just the 800 billion US Dollars from the Federal Reserve, but some capital from other developed countries have also come in. They seem to plan to take advantage of the low stock prices to acquire some important companies in the United States.”

Jake’s words made Jasper frown.

“The harvesters are here.”

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Life at the Top Chapter 1848

"We can't let them enjoy themselves too much. What a joke. How much did we spend to create the current situation? Now they're planning to harvest before it even reaches the climax?"

"Then shall we take a little action?" Jake asked excitedly.

Jasper said with a smile, "There is only one thing to do, and that is to buy Weresoft stock. We'll go to the stock market to brazenly buy it."

Jake thought for a while, and he seemed to understand. He immediately nodded and said, "Okay, I'll do it right away."

Currently, countless pairs of eyes were staring at JW Foundation's every move, and confidentiality measures were pretty much useless.

Thus, when JW Foundation started buying Weresoft stock, the news could not be concealed, not that JW Foundation had any intention of concealing it anyway.

As the chairman of Weresoft, Granger, the

world's richest man on paper, received

the report immediately.

"Mr. Granger, the current stock market plunge has seriously affected Weresoft's market value. At this time, if a competitor wanted to buy Weresoft stock or even snatch the control of the company, we will be unable to relate."

In Weresoft's investment department,

Romney, the person in charge, reported to

Granger.

"Our worries have become a reality. JW

Foundation has begun to buy our stocks, s

o we must take some measures to deal

with this.”

Granger crossed his fingers below his chin. His iconic round-frame glasses made him look like an intellectual, but at this time Granger’s expression was gloomy and heavy.

“JW Foundation is under the umbrella of J W Capital, and JW Capital’s core industry in Somerland is the Internet industry. It can be said that they are our peers. Them wanting to control Weresoft is very possible.”

Granger raised his eyes and looked at Romney. Then, he said, “Start the company’s stock repurchase program and compete with JW Foundation for Weresoft. stocks in the market. Weresoft’s control must never fall into the hands of some fella in Somerland.”

Weresoft, a global computer operating system company, was not only of commercial significance, but more importantly, had social, political, and military significance.

Imagine that in the modern age where everything was inseparable from the computer, the computer’s operating system belonged to someone else such that there was no privacy at all if they wanted to do something.

What Granger was worried about was not that Weresoft’s controlling rights would be sidelined. What he was really worried about was that the JW Foundation would trigger crazy acquisitions by foreign capital outside the United States. If this triggered a chain reaction, it would cause a huge blow to the entire economic ecology of the United States.

Thinking of this, Granger dismissed Romney then immediately picked up the phone and called the Ministry of Commerce far away in Washington.

At this time, Jasper was not paying attention to Weresoft’s stock price at all.

He also did not look at how many Weresoft stocks he had acquired.

He knew very well that right now was not the time to acquire high-tech companies in the United States.

The people of the United States had not yet subdued, and if they targetted the United States’ weak point at this time, they would only attract crazy revenge by the United States.

Jasper certainly did not care about the United States' revenge. After all, he was now public enemy number one in eyes of the people in the United States, so he did not want side issues to keep arising at this juncture.

What he had to do was to alert the United States government and use their hands to fend off other developed countries' capitals like the United Kingdom to make them not act against evil to prevent harm to innocents and also to make them not think about coming in right now to harvest the fruits.

Jasper was paying close attention to the three major stock index markets: Nasdaq, Dow Jones, and NYSE.

"The 800 billion US Dollar rescue plan is indeed very powerful. The Nasdaq has fallen by 870 points since its opening today, but with the start of the rescue plan, there is great pressure to continue short selling."

Jasper nodded at Jake's words, knowing that the situation in front of him made it impossible to accomplish today's goal of smashing the Nasdaq by 2000 points.

800 billion dollars was no joke.

One must know that the total funds raised by the entire JW Foundation up to now had not even reached this number..

When it was placed throughout financial market of the United States, which was on the verge of collapse, the 800 billion US Dollars was like rain during a long drought. The market needed this rain so much that even the main funds JW Foundation would not even be able to resist this huge force if it exploded.

"The listed companies with a large proportion of their stocks in the three major trading centers have received different amounts of funding. Their stock

prices have begun to stabilize, and these large listed companies are basically the leading stocks in their respective sectors. With them in the lead, individual stocks drive up the sector, the sector drives up the market, and now, the market is warming up again. This is the general trend right now.”

Jasper pondered a little and said, “What are the capital inflows and outflows of the three major trading centers today?”

The so-called concept of capital inflow and outflow was actually very simple. It was basically how much money had

flowed from outside the stock market into the stock market today, and how much

money flowed from the stock market to outside the stock market.

Whether it was a transaction of a few hundred dollars for small investors, or a transaction of tens of millions or billions of dollars for large institutions, a basic rule had to be followed, which was that they needed to transfer funds to a securities account through a bank transfer. This was called inflow.

After the stocks were cleared and the funds were transferred from the securities account to the bank account, it was called outflow.

The funds were still in the securities account. Selling one stock to buy another o

r not doing anything could not be called a

n inflow or outflow.

This data could depict the general situation of market confidence. Once the inflow was greater than the outflow, then it would prove that the financial market was optimistic about the funds. Once the outflow was greater than the inflow, then it indicated that foreign capital was aware

of the risk and they were starting to run

away.

“So far, the inflows of the NYSE and the Nasdaq Trading Center are basically the same as the outflows, except for Dow Jones, where the outflow is greater than the inflow by about 1 trillion US Dollars,” Jake reported.

Jasper knew this in his heart, and he nodded. He narrowed his eyes and looked at the three major trading centers on the screen. Then, he suddenly said, “Sell the real estate sector of the three major trading markets with everything you got and break the real estate industry of the United States.

“The disorderly development of the real estate industry that has gone on for more than a decade is the core factor behind this subprime mortgage crisis. At the same time, the United States has determined that land should be privatized, so an extra high property tax must be paid every year. Once the real estate industry collapses and the value of the real estate depreciates significantly, it will undermine the financial security of the vast majority of the people of the United States. Our best choice at the moment is to let public opinion force the government to make compromises.”

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Life at the Top Chapter 1849

Jasper's decision was like a shiny knife as it precisely pierced the most vulnerable joint in the United States' financial system.

The United States real estate industry was fragile because of the subprime mortgage crisis, and now I was faced with flood of funds from the JW Foundation. Hence, their stock price melted instantly like snow under the sun.

However, even as the real estate financial market in the United States was in turmoil, strangely enough, the 800 billion US Dollars in aid from the Federal Reserve seemed to be turning a blind eye to it and did not care about the life and death of these real estate companies at all.

Thus, the Dow Jones Index suddenly reached a trading curb.

All transactions stopped.

This was a defensive method to deal with the violent market turbulence so that it would not lead to an incalculable loss on the market. Once the single-day increase or decrease exceeded the set ratio, the entire market would reach a trading curb and all trading would stop. After this, it would only resume on the second day.

This was the second trading curb in the financial sector of the United States this year, with both trading curbs being caused by Jasper.

However, instead of being happy, Jasper frowned and felt worried.

The United States government is using our hands to squeeze out the bubble in the

real estate industry.”

The United States government's methods were not smart, and their purpose could be seen at just a glance.

They were even doing it brazenly in front of Jasper to see whether he would take action or not.

Eventually, Jasper chose to take action.

It was because Jasper had to suppress the United States real estate industry to achieve the goal of catalyzing the entire

subprime mortgage crisis.

This was an overt plot.

It was open and brazen, but people had no

choice but to make this choice. Those from the United States are so

cruel."

The moment they reached a trading curd, Jake came to Jasper's side and sighed.

"When I was an intern on Wall Street, I knew that they had a surgical mindset. Once they noticed that they had an unrecoverable weakness, they would use someone else's hand to squeeze out the pustule on their body. Although it would be very painful, many problems could be resolved once and for all. I think they are doing this right now, so in a way we have become people who are operating on them."

"Are they not scared that we will insert a scalpel into their heart?" Jasper asked insipidly.

With a wry smile, Jake said, "That's the United States after all."

"Yes, that is the United States after all."

Jasper sighed.

No matter how good the situation was right now and how much the outside world was bragging about him, discussing how he managed to defeat the United States, the most powerful capital country on the planet alone.

Jasper knew very well that this was just nonsense.

Until now, all Jasper had done was mildly hurt the United States; He was far from the point where it hurt them to their bones..

Moreover, this pain was due to the problem of the United States' economic system and it was also the core of the subprime mortgage crisis. They were the ones who caused the crisis while Jasper was only the one who picked out the pustule for them.

The longer he became entangled with the United States, the more Jasper could feel the power of this country.

Life at the Top Chapter 1850

To be honest, any other country would be i
beaten to the ground under the rhythm
and intensity of the JW Foundation's
attack.

However, the United States was still as
steady as a rock.

"Do you know what is the scariest thing
about the United States Bretton Woods
system?" Jasper asked suddenly.

Jake immediately replied, "This system
makes the US Dollar the basic settlement
currency for global trade, so that no
matter how many bills the United States
prints, people from all over the world will
pay for them."

"That is just one-side to it."

Jasper sighed and continued, "The most
terrifying thing about it is that it closely
integrates the United States' economy and
finance with global finance. Before the
collapse of this system, the United States'
financial collapse was equivalent to the
global economic capital. If it collapses,
whoever wants to destroy the United
States economy must first face an

economic network covering the world

Thus, the plan would fail unless that

person could push the global economy. back 50 years.

"Who can do such a thing except for aliens? No matter which national
power o r individual attacked them, they are engaging with the global
economy, so it is impossible to do so. That is why, after World War II, no
one can provoke the economic hegemony of the United States from the
outside.

"And that includes us."

Since World War II, the Sun Dollar, Harbor Dollar, Pound, Euro, and even the Somer Dollar have been sniped, but when have you heard of a lunatic attacking the U S Dollar?

The US Dollar could not be attacked. Because attacking the US Dollar was equivalent to attacking all currencies on the planet at the same time.

Jasper's words caused Jake's face to look gloomy.

"So, Mr. Laine, are we destined to not win from the very beginning?" Jasper smiled and patted Jake on the shoulder. He said, "It depends on how we define winning.

"If we define it as destroying the United States economy and causing the United States to fall from the status of global economic hegemon, it is indeed impossible.

"But if we just want to stab this giant with a knife and make him bleed, then it is possible to slice a piece of flesh from it. We're very close to this step."

While talking, Jasper picked up a piece of information sent by the intelligence team and looked at Half-the-Harbor Langdon and his son celebrating with Dugg while smiling brightly in the picture that was attached to the news article.

Jasper said, "When the market opens tomorrow, continue to short the subprime market and release all the remaining chips. Coupled with the continued trading curb of the real estate sector, these real estate companies will soon go bankrupt and personal loans will continue to default.

"Once the debt crisis affects the bank's capital operation, then my friends over there will experience the end of the world."

Jake's eyes lit up and he nodded heavily. He said, "I understand, I will do this immediately after the market opens tomorrow."

The backstab from Half-the-Harbor Langdon and his son caused great harm to

JW Foundation. If it were not for the palace guards and Harbor City capital entering the market to turn the tide at the critical moment, it was likely that JW Foundation would have been in dire straits.

Therefore, be it was Jake or others, they all hated Half-the-Harbor Langdon and his son to the bone and they have long wanted to teach them a painful lesson.

Now, the time for this big trap Jasper had set up to hurt them had finally come.

At this moment, Half-the-Harbor Langdon and his son were holding a press conference on the other side of the Pacific Ocean. This conference was jointly held by Fongroup and Layman Investment Bank to officially reveal the success of this merger to the world.

Various financial media flocked from all over the world, crowding the press conference venue that could typically fit hundreds of people.

Kayden had just arrived, and when he looked at this scene, his heart was filled with pride.

“Jasper, so what if you started so many things in the country and you got featured on the cover of Times Magazine. You’ve worked so hard to defeat Layman, but in the end, I’m the one who got the benefit. 1 In the end, you are still inferior to me.”

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Life at the Top Chapter 1851

“Mr. Kayden, the press conference is

about to begin, please take a seat.” At this time, the host came over and said t

o Kayden respectfully.

Kayden nodded. When he was about to walk towards the main position, the host asked again, “Mr. Kayden, isn’t Mr. Joe attending?”

Kayden glanced at the blond hair and blue-eyed host and said, “The president of Layman Investment Bank is here, isn’t h e? My father and Mr. Dugg are still busy with the handover, so I’ll be the one attending this conference.”

The host clearly felt Kayden’s dissatisfaction and hurriedly said, “Yes, I understand.”

Kayden would be representing Fongroup, while another middle-aged man named Kissinger would represent Layman as the president of Layman Investment Bank.

After the press conference, Kayden came t
o the Layman Investment Bank
headquarters on Wall Street. As he raised
his head and looked at the towering
building that was Layman’s headquarters,
he finally felt a little more relaxed.

“Jasper, you are still fighting to your
death in the mainland while facing the
risk of bankruptcy at any moment, but I
have just entered Wall Street. The gap
between you and me will truly widen from
this moment. You have to understand that
such an opportunity will never come by
again, and you will never be able to catch u
p with me.”

The United States financial market
announced the early end of this trading
day with a trading curb.

However, Jasper could not relax.

This was because Baz, who was keeping an eye on the domestic market, came to him with a lot of data.

“Mr. Laine, it doesn’t look good.”

Baz said to Jasper with a report in his hand, “According to our data, Wall Street funds continue to grow and has now reached 130 billion US Dollars. At the same time, they have separated into 600 accounts of different sizes.

“All of this indicates that they are waiting for the opening to deal a thunderous blow to the domestic market.”

Jasper looked at the report carefully with

his eyebrows tightly knitted together.

“The market hasn’t opened yet, so we can’t see which sectors they are mainly targeting, but we can generally guess some of them.”

After using a pen to circle the two major sectors that read Internet and infrastructure, Jasper said, “The Internet is the general trend of the future, and infrastructure is currently an important means of driving domestic economic growth, so they will definitely target these two industries.

“Our focus should also be on these two sectors, but the specifics will not be known until the opening tomorrow.”

Baz nodded his head at Jasper’s words.

Then, he said with some worry, “Why won’t the government consider making this news public in advance? Otherwise, domestic investors will suffer heavy losses.”

Jasper glanced at Baz and said, “Publishing the news in advance will inevitably cause panic in the market. If that happens, all the funds will flee, and we will collapse them before Wall Street makes their over here.”

At this moment, Jasper’s cell phone rang.

It was from the little prince..

“You should go out first.”

After he dismissed Baz, Jasper answered

the call.

On the phone, the little prince's voice sounded a bit heavy. He said, "Wall Street will take action when the market opens tomorrow. I've discussed with Lord Alvarado, and we've decided to sell most of the stocks belonging to our families' companies immediately after opening."

Jasper said noncommittally, "Yes, but

once the capital of Wall Street arrives, you must stop immediately, otherwise you will become their accomplices."

With a sigh, the little prince asked, "Do

you think the A shares can take this one?"

"No idea."

Jasper rarely gave an indeterminate answer. He said, "Our domestic financial system is too fragile. Frankly speaking, the number of funds used by Wall Street alone can completely crash the A-shares. The strength of the enemy is huge, so this battle will be difficult to fight."

Jasper's words clearly hurt the little

prince.

His eyebrows twitched. Before this, he always felt that with his family background and mind, he would flourish no matter the circumstance.

However, now he understood that even a country's power seemed so miniscule in the face of the invasion of Wall Street capital, let alone his own family's.

"Just do your best," said the little prince.

"If doing my best works, then it'd be very easy. The problem now is that we can't lose we can't afford to lose."

Jasper rubbed his temples. Then, he closed his eyes slightly and said, "In short, everything depends on the actions of Wall Street after the opening of tomorrow. We will know whether they are coming like thunder or wind tomorrow.

After hanging up, Jasper walked to the french window to look at the night outside with a frown on his face.

Life at the Top Chapter 1852

The next day, Jasper came to the command room at nine o'clock sharp,

Since they had to fight on two sides, only one-third of the team members remained in the command room at this time.

After all, the current team was mainly responsible for the financial market in the United States, so even after the allocation of the staff, the strength of the team managing the United States were given priority to be left undisturbed. Therefore, Jasper only allocated one-third of the manpower for Baz to monitor the situation in the mainland market.

"Mr. Laine."

Baz immediately greeted Jasper when he saw the latter arriving.

With a serious expression, he accompanied Jasper, but at the same time maintained a distance from him as the two walked to the command room together. "The market will open in about 20 minutes, but it seems that the market has gotten hold of some rumors. In short, the atmosphere is very tense.

"Some signs can be seen in the call auction stage. Let's continue this inside."

Jasper walked to the command room and said.

"Are there any changes in Wall Street capital's account and the number of funds?"

"There is no charge for the time being, but the funds held by the accounts change very frequently. It seems that they are deliberately adjusting their strategies or trying to confuse us. The amount of funds held in each account is different and I don't understand what their intention is."

Jasper said in a deep voice after remembering this detail in silence, "You should go and prepare first. I want to contact Swallow Capital."

Jasper did not have Mr. Mason's contact, so he looked for Tony.

"Mr. Pratt, it's me, Jasper."

After the call went through, Jasper said straightforwardly, "The market is opening soon. I wonder what Swallow Capital is thinking right now."

Tony's voice sounded a little tired as he said, "At present, we have agreed in principle to speed up the listing of state owned enterprises. State-owned enterprises in monopolistic industries such as oil and tobacco companies will take special procedures to prepare for listing as soon as possible. On the other hand, the participation of the social security fund is huge, so I can't provide an accurate timeline for that yet."

Jasper knew this in his heart, and asked, "I can't draw any funds here. When will the palace guards enter the market?"

Tony answered in a deep voice, "It depends on the specific situation. Now, no one can determine what kind of situation we will be facing."

Jasper said with a sigh, "I will follow the real-time dynamics. If necessary, you can

contact me at any time.

"Alright."

At this moment, not only the mainland of Somerland was nervously waiting for the opening of the market, but Soros was also looking forward to the opening in the United States on the other side of the Pacific Ocean.

Because of the time difference, it was late at night in the United States.

The trading center where Soros was located was brightly lit.

He listened to the report of the team under him. Everything was ready, and a satisfied smile appeared on the corner of his mouth.

Since the start of the war, Jasper had always gained the upper hand and he was always pressing Soros on the ground as he beat him violently.

Now things had changed for the better, and it was his turn to enter the market of the Somerland mainland to attack Jasper's nest.

"This time, we have gathered the most elite forces on Wall Street, and Somerland must be prepared too, but this is not important. They are not our equal because their financial market has only had a few years to develop."

Soros looked at Rogers vigorously and said, "So, we have to use the most severe means to teach Somerland a tough lesson so that they'll understand that no matter when, they will not have a good ending if they provoke the United States, Wall Street, or us."

Rogers nodded and said, "I really want to see their desperate expressions after we overturn Jasper's nest."

"Hahaha!"

Soros guffawed and said, "The senior officials in Washington hope to use Jasper's hands to complete the surgical operation on the United States economy, but since Jasper is about to complete this operation, he is not needed anymore, so we'll just stab this knife into Somerland's heart fiercely."

"What feels strange to me is that the Somerland government hasn't done anything at all until now." Rogers

frowned slightly.

"What else can they do?"

Soros sneered and said, "Today, the Foreign Minister of the United States will start a three-day visit to Sunrise Land. The theme of this visit is to discuss the financial situation in Terra and the Foreign Minister of Coreana will also follow. This is a clear and obvious signal that if Somerland doesn't want to start an all-around economic war with the United States, then it can only surrender.

"You know, Somerland's foundation is still very weak and they have just begun to develop. Do you think they can afford an economic sanction at this time?"

"I see."

Rogers' eyes lit up and he said, "I thought those damned politicians would only squander taxpayers' money. It seems that they've made the right decision this time."

At this moment, the team leader came in.

"The call auction stage has begun."

Soros immediately displayed the content on the television screen.

Although the opening time had not yet arrived, there will be a period before the opening of the market where pending orders could be traded. This period was called a call auction. Once the market officially opened, these transactions would be executed immediately if they met the trading rules.

However, at this time, the call auction on the mainland stock market in Somerland caused a lot of people's jaws to drop.

Some large institutions started to dump the stocks of various listed companies they held as if it was agreed upon.

Regardless of whether they had made a profit or whether they had held them, they were like catfish that could foresee the imminent natural disasters and were starting to flee frantically.

In this situation, some people were overjoyed and they began to take over the market, while others began to wonder and feel doubtful. They were looking back to the economic news to see if there was an upcoming bad news or negative policy. Even so, some well-informed large institutions had already begun to flee wildly regardless of losses and costs!

Life at the Top Chapter 1853

“Mr. Laine, the collective fleeing of institutions has caused panic to spread in the stock market. The market is not opened yet but the net outflow of funds in the stock market is already at an astronomical figure. It has reached a third of the usual trading volume. I am afraid this number will soar instantly when the market opens, which is very detrimental to the defensive plan.”

Baz said to Jasper, looking off-colored.

Jasper was not surprised by this.

“Even husband and wife will leave each other when there’s trouble, let alone in the financial market.

“These institutions have their own connections, so they can source the news from their own channels. They will inevitably flee in advance. You can’t force them to stay and wait for their doom.

“In truth, this is fine. You can consider this as retaining a portion of vitality.” After Baz heard that, he said helplessly, “But they fled at this critical juncture regardless of the overall situation, even if they are retained, what can we expect them to do? These people will sell their souls for gain. How disgusting.”

Jasper smiled and said, “Baz, old chap, don’t judge others by your values. They just have their own stand and attitude. When we’re in this position, we can’t flee even if we want to, and we’re also unable to flee because we gained a lot, so naturally we’ll have to bear a heavier burden.

“Even if we flee, we would still die once the overall situation collapses, but these institutions are different.

“The composition of the shares of an institution is complex. Every shareholder has their own tricks and plans. Right now they’re allowed to run, but when the time comes, as long as the institutions find a way to show the shareholders some interests and benefits, they will naturally come back.”

Pointing to the market that is about to open and entering the countdown, Jasper

said meaningfully, "The idea of a leader using people and the idea of a dealer controlling the market are roughly the same. Even if we want to protect the market now, we need to think of ourselves as the dealer of this market, while the institutions are just hot money.

"When the dealer enters the market, what they need to think about is how to use the power of hot money to expand their own strength. You can't expect all the hot money to play games with the dealer unconditionally. If you go short, let the hot money see the possibility that the stock price is about to fall, but if you go long, you will make hot money feel the hope that this stock will inevitably rise. It is nothing more than guiding the profit following the trend of development.

"To put it bluntly, it's profit.

"You have to let the people see the benefits, so that they will be willing to be used by you and it's because they can get the benefits. However, what they see right now is not a benefit but a collapse so it will only be weird if they don't run away.

"These people's ideological consciousness is not high enough to make them willing to sacrifice themselves to benefit everyone. If you want to be famous in the financial circle, the first thing you need to abandon is your conscience."

Jasper's words obviously had a big impact on Baz.

Looking at Baz's thoughtful and confused expression, Jasper let out a sigh of relief.

He did not plan to give him more

explanations.

Baz was intelligent and talented, but he

lacked Jake's cruelty and savageness. In the financial market, letting one's emotions affect one's decisions would get them into big trouble.

He hoped Baz could figure it out.

It would be the best if he could, then he and Jake could contain each other and take responsibility for each of the markets.

If he did not, he could only be Jake's deputy forever.

"It's open.

Jasper's words interrupted Baz's thoughts. At this moment, the Somerland domestic A-share market officially opened.

The moment the market opened, most of the sell orders of those institutions that had fled during the call auction stage were immediately traded, and the impact was that the market directly plunged right after trading commenced.

Since this was an all-round escape,

almost all major sectors were affected.

The plummeting of the market meant that the trend of the sector began to fall. As soon as the sector fell, the individual stocks in the sector would immediately begin to fall.

The normal stocks would be fine. The most terrifying ones were those odd stocks or leading stocks that originally had institutions as dealers. These stocks were speculated by dealers initially. Once the dealers began to retreat, their stock prices would immediately fall.

In the eyes of stockholders who did not understand the reason, they were the so called odd stocks and magic stocks that were hyped up by the dealers back then and were now plummeting without warning at the same time. Some of the stocks that the dealers pushed up high were even declared limit down a few minutes after the market opened.

This scene stunned the domestic investors.

The mainland stock market had only developed for less than 20 years. Domestic stockholders had experienced bull and bear markets, but under the intervention of national policies, they were limited to this. When had they seen what a stock market crash looked like?

What was in front of the domestic investors now was a stock market crash that would sweep the country.

Then, Wall Street capital entered the market before the domestic investors realized what was happening.

At this moment, countless tycoons in the country including Jasper and even Swallow Capital focused their attention over here.

It did not matter if the institution fled early, or whether the stockholders were: trapped in the middle without anyone to help them, this was nothing to those top tier bigwigs in the country. This was just a snowflake in a snowstorm and it was not worth their attention at all.

What they really needed to prepare for was the prehistoric behemoth of over 130 billion US Dollars that Wall Street Capital brought over.

Wall Street Capital was making a shocking big move.

“Mr. Laine, they have taken action. The

first sectors that are affected are the

liquor, medical, technology, and Internet

sectors.”

Since JW Foundation was not involved in the actual defense of the country this time, what Baz’s team needed to do was to keep an eye on the movements of Wall Street capital and be responsible for intelligence collection.

“Liquor?”

Jasper raised his eyebrows slightly and said, “They have investigated and understood our domestic market.”

The liquor industry was a sector unique to Somerland, with Brandy as the number one. Jasper, who had been reincarnated from 20 years in the future, knew that Brandy was far from being the first in the later generations of Somerland, but it had already shown some success.

“Wall Street capital is starting to take action. They are using money to crush the entire market regardless of costs and losses. Right now in the four sectors, liquor is down 7%, medical is down 6.4%, technology is down 10%, and the Internet sector is down 6%.”

Even after dealing with Wall Street capital for so long and he was mentally prepared, Jasper still could not help but sigh deeply when he looked at the data of the first 15 minutes of the opening.

“The foundation of the domestic market is too weak and it is even weaker than I thought. It can't stand the fight at all. If this continues, a stock market crash will break out today.”

Life at the Top Chapter 1854

Baz was taken aback by Jasper's decision.

Until today, no one would question Jasper's financial and economic judgments, let alone Baz who was with Jasper day and night, witnessing him making the correct decisions and creating miracles time and time again.

"So, Mr. Laine, do we want to inform

Swallow Capital?"

With a wave of his hand, Reuben, who always gave Jasper a feeling of mystery, flashed across Jasper's brain. If the person in charge of the palace guards under the SBS Bank had such skills, what more the excessive number of wise people in Swallow Capital.

"No, they would have seen what we see

even earlier and with more detail."

"Let's watch the battle first. This may also be the pain that the domestic stock market must go through in order to mature."

Camden Securities was a private securities company that started relatively early in Somerland.

The founder of this company, Irving Smalls, was one of the first people in Somerland who had access to advanced foreign financial methods and circles. After the domestic securities market began to develop, he returned to Somerland and founded Camden Securities.

Relying on his experience and processes that was always one step ahead of others, Irving achieved financial freedom early and became the richest man in the locality.

As he got older, Irving also gradually

transferred this family business to his

son, Asher Smalls.

Now in Honor City, the Smalls were a big family through-and-through.

However, today, the father and son were sitting in the chairman's office in the company. They had frowns on their faces as the office was filled with smoke. Cigarette butts had slowly piled up into a

hill by their hands.

"Dad, what should we do now? Our loss is

too great." When Asher spoke, his lips were

trembling, and his eyes were terrified.

As a securities company, they could easily obtain the transaction data of clients who had opened an account in their company. At the same time, they could also embezzle the clients' funds.

This whole time, Asher had become accustomed to misappropriating their clients' funds to invest in stocks for the company.

Although they made countless losses and gains under the supervision of Irving, who had a steady investment style, the overall profit was still greater than the losses, so that was why the Smalls' lifestyle was constantly improving.

However, with today's unexplained plunge in the market, they temporarily went back in time to a period before the liberation. Boom!

Irving slammed his hand on the desk and said with regret, "I heard some rumors that the domestic stock market was going to collapse over the past two days, but I didn't believe it. Now, it's too late. Our funds are all trapped in those stocks. I don't think there is a solution at all after looking at the situation."

"Dad, is there any other way? Why don't we find someone else to dismantle it? Or perhaps find the listed companies we operate and strike a deal with them?" Asher asked in a panic.

Irving's lips trembled and he said, "This is a stock market crash, and it's a real one. They are now overwhelmed too and can't even save themselves. Who has time to take care of us? As for those listed companies, I am afraid they are more anxious than we are now. We don't have a

choice and there is no other way at all."

"Dad, don't you have a good relationship with the vice president of JW Foundation in the domestic financial industry? Would you like to try to contact Mr. Laine of JW Foundation through that vice president? Even if it means we have to merge our entire company, it's still better than to be

caught embezzling client funds and going

to jail," Asher suddenly proposed.

"JW Foundation...."

Irving repeated the name silently in a conflicted tone.

In today's domestic financial world, people would inevitably feel a sense of worship whenever they mentioned those two words.

That was simply a behemoth of another level and another world. How would their small family be seen by such a behemoth?

"I will give it a try, but our chances are slim. The gap of several hundred million in funds is too big...."

As Irving said that, he sighed deeply. There were a few more wrinkles around his eyes and he seemed to have aged more

than a decade in an instant.

The Monty Manor in the province.

Steven had been in charge of the Montys ever since Conrad stepped down as the head of the house.

After listening to the situation of the three

listed companies controlled by the
Montys, Steven considered for a moment
before getting up and saying, "I'll make a
few calls first. Wait for me here."

"Yes, sir," the butler replied respectfully.

Although the situation was not optimistic,
the butler was not too worried because he
knew that the head of the family could
directly contact Jasper, the boss of JW
Foundation through various connections.

Nowadays in the domestic financial
industry, it was generally accepted that as
long as Jasper nodded his head, nothing
was impossible.

When Jasper received a call from Steven, h
e was surprised.

"Mr. Monty, please tell me."

Jasper was actually pretty fond of Steve,

He was very humble, but he had a sense of
wisdom and experience in dealing with
people from all over.

In Jasper's view, this kind of person fitted
the image of the first group of people in Somerland to obtain wealth.

This kind of elder could be regarded as a form of heritage if they were
present in a family.

Besides, even though Jasper and Conrad were fighting to their deaths at
the beginning, there was no dramatic scene where after the young got
defeated, the old would come seeking revenge. Steven had done nothing
to Jasper from beginning to end, be it good or the bad.

However, Jasper felt that Steven only used himself as a whetstone for Conrad and that Steven was hoping that through his constant engagement against Jasper, Conrad would grow after the multiple blows.

Steven also succeeded in this sense because the current Conrad was very different.

Life at the Top Chapter 1855

“It’s like this. There are three listed companies under my name, but the situation is very bad now. Did something happen in the market that is independent from market and national policies?”

Steven’s question made Jasper smile

wryly.

This was not the first call he had received

that was essentially asking him for help.

He did not know any of those people except Steven, but somehow they were all able to find his phone number. There was even the boss of a securities company who persuaded a vice president under him to come to ask for favors.

Could Jasper help? Obviously not.

It was not that he was unable to, it was

that he could not.

In the face of the impending stock market crash, thousands of domestic companies had been victimized. If he was able to help one company, he would not be able to help the other one. Jasper was not a god, and he could not print money. Hence, he could not help everyone.

However, he could not be too harsh when

he rejected them.

The boss who came to ask for help naturally did not dare to say anything, but Jasper would make things awkward for the vice president who came asking for

favors due to his professional relationship with Jasper. Hence, Jasper had to be more considerate in dealing with this.

Somerland was a society of social relationships, and this was vividly reflected at this time.

“It is true. Wall Street capital is attacking the domestic stock market with 130 billion US Dollars. This is just the beginning, and the future situation will be more severe. More and more listed companies will suffer until it radiates outward to the real industry chain. At that point, the social and economic operations of the entire country.”

Jasper’s words left Steven silent for a moment.

“Is it because of the revenge of those guys from the United States?”

Jasper nodded and replied, “Yes.”

“Alright, I got it.”

Steven did not ask Jasper to help, and this made Jasper feel very apologetic.

After all, Conrad was working under him now. He figured she should aid Steven for the sake of Conrad and was willing to break his rules once in a while.

“If you need help from JW Foundation, I will find a way to help you apply for a trading suspension. The time period can be extended as much as possible too. In terms of funds, if the amount is not particularly large, we can also disassemble part of it,” Jasper proactively

said.

Steven laughed when he heard this.

“You think I came to ask for help, right.”

Jasper did not reply, which meant that he was tacitly agreeing to this statement.

“I don’t know much about finance, but I understand that the current situation is critical. This is the general trend and both you and I can’t prevent it. The things that you’re facing right now should be more complicated than the ones that I’m facing, so you don’t need to worry about this little thing.”

“Mr. Monty, you’re being too kind. I haven’t repaid you properly for the small courtyard you gave me. So, this is something I should do.”

“It’s nice that you still remember that. I’ll end this conversation here then, I won’t bother you anymore.”

“Okay, I’ll bring Conrad to meet you for tea another day.”

“I’d be delighted.”

Jasper hung up the phone in a hurry because, at this time, the Securities Regulatory Commission issued an emergency notice on the impending stock market crash.

“Notices on standardizing the domestic stock market.”

After reading the entire notice, Jasper saw that they mainly strengthened supervision and the authority of the securities regulatory authority. At the same time, they punished more than a dozen listed companies and individuals who had violated regulations.

However, the most important part of this announcement was the contents of its latter half.

“Accelerate the listing of large state owned enterprises such as Somerland Petroleum, PetroSomer, and Nobile to ensure that state-owned enterprises are steadily listed. Furthermore, it is stipulated that any state-owned enterprise must distribute no less than 15 % of the total

equity to the market to truly allow the citizens to benefit from the people-owned enterprises...”

Looking at this announcement, Jasper inexplicably felt the influence of the butterfly effect.

The affects of this announcement was large and far-reaching.

Because of Somerland’s special national conditions, before the rise of super private companies like Abbylon and Terizone, everyone in Somerland knew

the truly powerful and profitable companies were still those big state owned companies.

Therefore, when such a large state-owned enterprise with a legal monopoly in the industry went public and promised to distribute at least 15% of the total equity shares to the market, it was nothing short of a shocking benefit for the domestic market.

Moreover, the market’s reaction to this would be absolutely genuine.

After the announcement, the entire tragically green A-share market recovered in an instant, and a large amount of private capital began to pour into the stock market.

The energy sector with Somerland Petroleum and PetroSomer as their representatives and the communications sector represented by Nobile were the first two major sectors that turned from green to red.

“Although Wall Street capital has a huge amount of funds, its power is too scattered. They tried to defeat the A-share market on the first day, so they launched

a full range of blows.

“With the favorable stimulus of state owned enterprises going public, the energy and communications sectors have become the best place for safe-haven funds in the entire market.

“The force emitted from these two sectors is too strong, and the entire market has stopped falling due to their influence.”

Baz sat beside Jasper as he analyzed the current situation in front of him like he was very familiar with this matter.

Life at the Top Chapter 1856

Jasper nodded, confirming Baz's

judgment.

Indeed, if Baz could not even see this, all his time spent beside Jasper would have been in vain.

"The market opened with 2653 points today and then fell to 2400 points after the escape of institutional funds and the sniping of Wall Street capital.

"But now the rise of the communications and energy sectors has caused the market to hover around 2410.

"The competition between the short and long sides for the 2400 support point is extremely fierce."

Baz said as he stared at the market while frowning. "But I always feel that this is just the relative calm before the storm. Wall Street capital definitely has the strength to break through the 2400 support point in one breath, but I wonder why they didn't do it."

"They are fishing," Jasper said.

As soon as these words came out, Baz was shocked.

However, Jasper did not explain much because the market had already changed at this time.

The market which was originally fluctuating at 2410 points suddenly plummeted. Not only did it break through the support level of 2400 points in one breath, it plunged by 30 points and came to near 2370 points.

“It’s the energy sector. There is a problem in the energy sector!”

Baz shouted as the trading situation of the energy sector was immediately displayed on the screen.

Originally, after the news of the listing of Somerland Petroleum and PetroSomer went public, the energy sector became one of the few rising sectors in the market fueled by numerous hedge funds after this major positive stimulus.

Yet, at this time, several leading stocks in

the energy sector suddenly announced major bad news.

It was as if they had promised to announce the resignation of the chairman, the collective resignation of the executives, and major losses in the business simultaneously.

At the end of every announcement, there was a notice that the trading suspension would be applied, revealing what they intended to hide.

Baz was so angry that he almost vomited blood when he looked at the stock price that went from rising to falling.

“What are these companies doing?”

“They are scared.”

Jasper frowned and said, “Almost all the safe-haven funds in the market are pushing up their stock prices. These funds are not actually buying their stocks, but waiting for Somerland Petroleum and PetroSomer to go public.

“So, these companies simply issued a series of few announcements together, and even used the old trick of the chairman’s resignation. They are obviously really scared.

“Once Wall Street capital succeeds in fishing, or Somerland Petroleum and PetroSomer go public, their stock prices will fluctuate wildly.

“Instead of being at the mercy of others at that time, it is better to take advantage of the current stock price initiative that is still in their own hands. Let it fall and then decide – this is the best solution to stay alive.”

Baz gritted his teeth and said, "But this will increase the risk of the market crashing."

"The risk is always there. It just depends on what Wall Street capital does," Jasper said.

The loss of the 2400 support point within half an hour of the positive announcement by the Securities Regulatory Commission was a huge blow to the domestic stock market.

Market confidence was on the verge of collapse, and this critical moment was the chance to reel in that Wall Street capital had been longing for.

The sudden explosion of several leading listed companies in the energy sector was like a big plot twist in a drama where a counterattack was originally staged.

This plot twist made the uncertain future of the Somerland stock market even more ambiguous.

The ones who were most surprised at this sudden accident were Wall Street capitals.

When Soros saw the sharp turn in the market, he burst out laughing.

"Hahaha! These guys from Somerland really are the best at fighting amongst themselves. They have given us a godsent opportunity!"

After Soros finished laughing, he gave out his order.

"Sell the energy sector with all your strength, and don't forget the financial sector. I want to see these two sectors fall by 400 points before the market closes by Somerland morning."

Money from Wall Street Capital poured in instantly.

No matter how complicated and smart one's strategy was, it would all be useless when facing the absolute capital advantage of Wall Street capital at this moment. All that was left was to watch the stock price fall again and again.

The short selling in the stock index market directly reflected the entire stock market trading market. A large number of sell orders densely filled the trading column of the screen. At this moment, there were only sell orders, but no buy orders.

There was only one possible outcome of such a market, and it was the limit down!

The 10% limit down seemed to be a lot, and it was one-tenth of the market value, but it would be reached in just a few breaths under the intensity of this capital attack.

The trading graphs of 80% of the listed company stocks were plummeting. Even the global stock market had never seen such an exaggerated precedent, let alone the young Somerland stock market.

Somerland's domestic stock market was full of grief, which satisfied Soros.

He gazed at the horror that he had created on the screen and could not help turning his head to smile at Rogers beside him, Old chap, how desperate do you think those guys in Somerland are now?" "

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Life at the Top Chapter 1857

Rogers shrugged and said, "Someland's stock market has a 10% limit down, so you are destined to stop at this step, but what I am responsible for is different.

"Here, I can bring down any industry in

Someland, and it'll only take 1 day.'
On the screen in front of Rogers, the real time futures trading chart was on display.

If there was an unannounced crash in the stock market, then the investors would exclaim that this was Someland's first stock market crash. Yet, the sudden collapse of the futures market would make most people realize that foreign forces were deliberately targeting Someland's economic system.

The former was just the natural law of economic development. As long as the development period was long enough, no country or society could avoid an economic crises like stock market crashes, and Someland was no exception.

However, the latter was the blatant result of financial war.

The kind that would kill people at every turn.

During the Cold War, why did the Red Empire, one of the two figureheads of the world, collapse overnight? The United States did not use a single bullet to make the Red Empire that stood proudly in the east and made the world tremble fall to ruin, all because they started a financial war.

And this time, Wall Street capital directly targeted the domestic futures market. This method was far more terrifying than targeting the stock market.

What were the things that could be listed o In the domestic futures market?

Copper, aluminum, oil, wheat, cotton, white sugar, soybeans, and so on.

A closer look revealed that these goods were either basic materials needed for production and construction, or staple consumables required for daily living.

It could be said that these things were the lifeblood of society, and even the country.

Once it collapsed, the social turmoil caused would simply be unimaginable.

Thatcher Crawley, who just graduated from university, was a very ordinary speculator in the domestic futures market.

He got into futures trading when he was in university, and after he realized his talent in this industry, he immediately went out of control.

He initially started this to earn living expenses, then to cover tuition fees, and continued until now. When his university classmates were still looking for jobs, he already had assets of more than a million.

In this year, 1 million was a huge wealth that ordinary people could not even imagine.

According to Thatcher's judgment, the cotton futures might rise slightly today, so Thatcher bought the cotton futures order a long time ago with the delivery day being today. He bought 10 lots and the margin was exactly 500 thousand.

This was in line with his investment strategy. As long as he seized this wave of quotations, he could buy himself a house in Waterhoof City.

Originally, the market and his judgment had not changed much in the first 30 minutes. Everything was as calm as he expected.

"This year, our neighboring country's cotton was not harvested due to natural disasters, but our country had a bumper harvest. With less imported cotton, domestically produced cotton will naturally be in short supply, and prices will inevitably increase.

"Furthermore, today is the official

announcement of the cotton treasury purchase price this year. According to the law, it will probably rise by about 10%. With such a series of good news, cotton futures will definitely rise."

Recalling and reviewing his trading logic, Thatcher, who felt that there would be no problem, was about to turn off his computer to go out to happily grab a bite.

When he moved his mouse to the software window and was about to close it, the originally calm futures trading market became turbulent.

And this turbulence was equivalent to a level 17 super typhoon.

There was no sign nor any prelude as the domestic cotton futures market collapsed without warning.

The candlestick chart that suddenly plunged straight down caused Thatcher's brain to crash.

His first reaction was to wonder whether he was hallucinating or wonder if there was something wrong with the system.

Many people felt the same way as him. After all, such an occurrence was too rare.

All fluctuations in the market required a reason. As the production of raw materials decreased and the demand increased, the price would inevitably increase. These two reasons were the causes for the price increase.

There was a bumper harvest of raw

materials and the demand decreased, so it would inevitably fall. This was the reason for the price drop.

However, was no reason and indicators at

all for the market that currently looked as

if it was on a guillotine.

Thatcher felt his blood go cold in an instant. His first reaction was to look at his backend. The shocking loss figure and the liquidation fund pool that had already shown a balance of zero caused him to lose his breath. Then, he fainted in front of the computer.

Similar things happened all over the country.

Everyone who dabbled with cotton futures today had witnessed this scene that was destined to be recorded in history.

When this news reached Jasper's ears, Jasper pulled up the candlestick chart of futures trading. The sky-high selling order that made people's hearts race pressed the cotton futures price all the way down. The whole process only took more than ten minutes, but the price of cotton futures fell by a full 30%.

"It's over."

Jasper only said these two words.

Life at the Top Chapter 1858

The impact of the futures market crash on the real economy was definitely ten times greater and ten times faster than the stock market crash.

It could be said that when the influence of this 30% drop in cotton prices took effect, the entire cotton industry would collapse completely this year.

The collapse of the cotton market would affect a series of downstream industries such as textiles, garments, and weaving. By then, it would cause a devastating blow to the entire industrial chain.

At this moment, the morning trading ended, and the trading was closed at noon.

Jasper walked into his office without a word.

In the office, Jasper reviewed his general trading process in the United States as well as all of Wall Street capital's moves in the domestic market today.

Finally, he sighed deeply.

Then he picked up the phone and called

Tony.

This time, the phone rang for a long time before connecting.

"Mr. Pratt, I watched the entire operation of Wall Street capital in the morning and concluded that our previous estimates were probably too optimistic.

"We have ignored the power of Wall Street capital and their proficiency in attacking other countries' economies. Most importantly, we had forgotten the futures market.

“After my review, I came to a frustrating conclusion. Comparing my actions in the United States to theirs’ in ours, we are at a disadvantage in terms of economic strength, technical operations, and judgment of the economic situation.”

The breathing on the other end of the phone became heavier. Then, Tony’s tired voice sounded, “What should I do now?”

“Organize the power to form a defensive counterattack. We must use this force as the core to confront Wall Street capital, otherwise, there is no chance of winning,” Jasper said.

“The problem now is the lack of a leader,” Tony said in embarrassment.

“Although we have also cultivated a lot of talents in economics and finance, they are good at being generals, but none of them can be marshals. What they lack is experience of macro-confrontation with large funds in the market. If you choose the wrong person at this time, it will be impossible to recover.”

For someone like Tony who was so high up in this system, saying those words proved that the situation had reached an extremely critical point.

“I’ll do it,” Jasper said softly.

Tony got excited, but immediately said, “No, you have to keep an eye on the United States market. The time difference between the two sides is exactly 12 hours or so. This means that you have almost no time to rest. You won’t be able to take this on even if you’re made from iron.

“You have done enough this time.”

Jasper smiled bitterly, “Mr. Pratt, I don’t want to take on so many responsibilities too if it could be helped, but in the current situation, can anyone else volunteer except for me?”

These words made Tony speechless.

Jasper then said, “In other words, I am

actually the most suitable person.

"If someone with a political background comes out to take the lead, then we run the risk of them not being familiar with private capital and being unable to integrate government and private forces. We are already at a disadvantage in terms of capital, if we run into problems again, what are our chances of winning?"

"And if you are looking for a person with a private capital background, the problem is even greater. Ability aside, the issue of insufficient prestige is fatal."

"Hence, only I am suitable for the role. I have the prestige to unite civil and government forces, and I have enough experience. Therefore, I have to volunteer right now."

Jasper's words struck Tony's heart.

At the same time, he understood that Jasper was only doing this out of helplessness.

To be frank, the government was in the same boat.

There had long been voices claiming

Jasper should become the domestic

commander in chief, but considering that Jasper was now in charge of the situation in the United States and could not leave his post, this opinion was suppressed.

What was embarrassing was that apart from Jasper, there was really no other qualified candidates.

Those who had this ability did not have this prestige, while those who had this prestige did not have this skill.

In short, the most suitable candidate was

Jasper.

After a few minutes of silence, Tony said in a deep voice, "I see, I will tell the higher-ups what you think."

“Let me know as soon as possible once there’s news.”

After hanging up, Jasper pondered for a while, then made a call.

After a while, the phone was connected. Jasper smiled and said, “Are you free to come to my place with Lord Alvarado? Let’s talk about something.”

That night, Jasper met Lord Alvarado and the little prince together.

“I’m at this familiar place again.”

Lord Alvarado came in and said to Jasper while grinning.

On the contrary, the little prince looked slightly off-color.

Jasper looked up and smiled at Lord Alvarado, “Lord Alvarado, you seem to be i

n a good mood.”

Lord Alvarado shrugged and said, “I was initially in a bad mood. The stock market crashed this morning, and the market did not move until the afternoon. There are so many orders and it’s estimated to take around ten days or even a half month to clear them all. It’ll only be over once Wall Street capital is satisfied and our market is

swept clean.”

“This wave has caused my family to lose more than one billion Somer Dollars. Do you think I can be in a good mood if we keep losing this much money with every passing day?

“But today, cotton futures fell by a full 50 % in the morning and the afternoon. Suesville has always been the place for weaving since ancient times, and the little prince’s family is the largest textile producer in Somerland. Every year, one seventh of the cotton production in South Borderland and North Borderland comes from their family. Now, they are suffering from this huge loss.

“So, I immediately felt much better. Hahaha!”

Facing the gloating Lord Alvarado, the little prince grumbled coldly and said, “ Don’t be too happy. Sooner or later, they will get involved in mineral futures. When that happens, I’d like to see whether your family can stay calm. Hehe, you produce a full 40% share of the domestic private minerals output. Lord Alvarado, when that happens, you won’t be a lord anymore, I guess I’ll call you Beggar

Alvarado next time I see you.”

Through their banter, they exposed the current situation of their families.

Even families like the Alvarados in the Northwest and the Royals in Waterhoof City had suffered so much. It could be seen that the other companies, groups, or even families would be in even worse situations.

Although the two companies had deep and strong foundations, their reach was also. wide, which was why their losses were so severe and the numbers so terrifying. However, one should not forget that their ability to deal with risk was several times. that of others.

Yet, they still suffered from painful loss,

and when they reached the other sub

level, the pain would be debilitating.

“I intend to integrate the power of domestic private capital to counterattack Wall Street in the futures and stock markets, but I need your help in this matter,” Jasper did not interrupt the two as they compared their family situations, but instead, spoke directly.

Life at the Top Chapter 1859

Jasper's words made the two people who were still chirping and chattering instantly stop.

Lord Alvarado stared at Jasper with wide eyes and said, "JW Foundation is coming back to Somerland? Are you abandoning the United States?"

Jasper waved his hand and said, "JW Foundation is JW Foundation, and I am me. JW Foundation still has to cause enough trouble for the United States in their financial sector, but I can be diverted to take care of the domestic base."

The little prince frowned and said, "Do you want to die?"

The little prince's worry was similar to that of Tony's.

"The opening time in the United States is at night. Basically, when it ends over there, it is dawn here. Moreover, the opening time in Somerland is during the day. Do you really think you're made from iron? Is that why you want to do this?"

Jasper smiled bitterly. Why were they all the same?

Jasper was not as polite with these two guys as he was when he was facing Tony since he was already acquainted with the duo.

He spread his hands and said, "That's why I plan to let you take charge of the domestic market."

These words startled Lord Alvarado and the little prince.

The two waved their hands and rejected, "No, no! We can't."

If this was something else, these two
would think they were better than anyone
else.

However, when it came to such a big
thing, Lord Alvarado and the little prince
would not take on this responsibility no
matter how conceited they were.

One had to know if they screwed this up, it
would not be as simple as killing people.
They would become sinners.

To put it bluntly, they could not bear this
responsibility, and they were not arrogant
enough to believe that they were the equals of the old foxes on Wall
Street.

After they finished talking, they raised their eyes and saw the half-smile
on Jasper's face. How could they not realize that Jasper was just joking
with them?

"Look, if even you don't dare to take this job, who else would dare to?"

Without waiting for them to speak, Jasper took the initiative to speak.

"But the question is, can you stand this? If you take on both sides but can't
manage them well, you will lose," the little prince said with a frown.

Shaking his hand, Jasper said, "I have conveyed my ideas to Swallow
Capital. I believe there will be results soon and there should be no further
problem. Since I took the initiative to assume this responsibility, I
naturally have the confidence to do it well. You guys and Swallow Capital
should both be clear about this."

"Then why did you ask us to come?" Lord Alvarado asked.

They were not idiots, and it was clear that Jasper did not ask them to
come just to report this to them.

"I just told you, didn't I? I need you to
help me integrate the power of private
capital."

Jasper paused for a while and continued, " When JW Foundation was established, almost all the top forces in the domestic financial and industrial groups participated in its founding. That's because only these top forces could help i n this big event.

"But this time is different. This time it is t o defend our home and our country. We need to unite every single entity that can b e united. Only when all forces are intertwined will it be possible to repel Wall Street capital.

"If we fight separately... Frankly

speaking, it'd be better to prepare to

emigrate."

Life at the Top Chapter 1860

Jasper's words made the corners of Lord Alvarado and the little prince's mouths twitch.

Those small bosses could emigrate. They could sell all their belongings or just throw them away and go directly to live abroad and start anew with the cash they could carry and their family members.

However, their family and business were so big. They could run this time, but they would have to come back eventually. So, where could they go?

They were used to being rich in Somerland, so how would they endure a servile life abroad?

Besides, their foundation belonged to their ancestors, and they could not lose this.

So, Jasper was clearly telling them the truth.

If they could get through this, then they could live just as they wanted, but if they could not, then it would be the end of the road for them, and everyone would be finished.

"Moreover, once you get involved, you must be prepared for bankruptcy."

Jasper's words made the little prince and Lord Alvarado smell the intense smell of blood wafting in front of their noses at the same time.

They looked up at Jasper, frowned, and said, "Jasper, who would want this?"

"Nobody's money is brought by the wind. It is good to fight for self-protection, but i

t is too scary to think that there's a risk of bankruptcy at any time."

Jasper answered flatly, "If you aren't aware of this, then why are you even involved? This is not even a choice.

"If we win, we will still need the capital to fight. The losses and wear and tear of this process are immeasurable.

"If we lose, then it goes without saying that we're all finished.

"In other words, there is still a little hope if we fight back. If we don't, there is none. You have seen the situation of cotton futures and the stock market on the last trading day.

"I can tell you with certainty that the economic foundation and heritage of Somerland is incomparable to that of the United States, I have been doing so much in the United States, but it is far from the point where I hurt the United States to the bone.

"On the other hand, it's only the first day here, but those guys from the United States have already hurt our domestic economy. Tomorrow, they will pull out our nerves, while the day after tomorrow, they will pull out our bones. The day after that, they will break out bones to suck out our bone marrow."

"Okay, stop scaring us. Tell us, what do you need us to do?" Lord Alvarado asked with a sullen face.

Jasper looked at the little prince and said, "As the economic center of Somerland

Waterhoof City is also the core of the economically developed Tri Delta region. This region has the largest number of listed companies and large conglomerates, so I need the Royals to

come forward and integrate these powers.

"The first target is those listed companies, followed by those large industrial groups. Tell them the current situation and then tell them the consequences of refraining. After that, let them decide by themselves."

The little prince nodded and said, "That won't be difficult."

Jasper looked at Lord Alvarado again, and Lord Alvarado hurriedly waved his hand and said, "The economy of the Great Northwest is not comparable to

Waterhoof City, and there are only a few listed companies."

"I know this, so what I need are the industrial companies of the entire Northwestern region. This task is not easy because most of the Northwestern region's industrial companies are basically from the older generation. They may not be so sensitive to the financial market, so your task is actually tougher than the little prince's."

Lord Alvarado waved his hand and said, "I'll do my best. Everything else aside, the Alvarados still have prestige in the Northwest."

"This thing can't be done by prestige alone. You need to make them understand the current situation."

After staying silent for a while, Jasper continued, "In addition to this, I will contact the Davidsons and the Millers. In short, you four will be under me in this matter. From where, it'll depend on you four how much power you can radiate and gather.

"And hurry up. After you get in touch with them, I will take the time to hold an economic forum in Waterhoof City to gather everyone together. When the time comes, I will invite some people from the government to influence them. As for who, I don't know yet. This can be regarded as giving everyone a little confidence."

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Life at the Top Chapter 1862

To be honest, Jasper himself was also taken aback, let alone Simson and Moses.

He was a man who had lived two lives, and yet he only had a bachelor's degree from a diploma mill in this life and his last life.

He did not think ever think about furthering his studies. He did not need a postgraduate degree and a bachelor's degree was already enough.

However, he never expected that he would be able to become an honorary guest professor at Evergreen University.

One had to understand that this was

Evergreen University.

Together with Swallow Capital University, they were known as the top universities in the country.

However, Jasper's attention quickly shifted from this letter of appointment to the one that was previously read out. In a practical sense, the title of a special

consultant would be the most helpful to

him.

Although he had no real power, Jasper had never thought about going into politics anyway, so he did not need real power at all. In this case, official power would only cause trouble for him.

All things considered, the most unique

benefit would be the special allowance

from the State Council.

This thing would last for a lifetime, and he would be able to enjoy it until he died. The most important thing was that its quota was extremely precious. If one did not make any great contributions in their respective fields and industries or had extremely high reputations, it would be impossible for them to obtain this.

The people who got to enjoy this were mostly scientists conducting academic research and development, or scholars with prominent statuses in the academic field.

As for the merchants... there was not a single one who enjoyed this benefit.

In Jasper's memory, he should be the first businessman to receive this special allowance.

"Mr. Laine, you are the first entrepreneur in our country to enjoy this special allowance."

Ms. Garcia seemed to see through what Jasper was thinking and proactively explained.

Her words also confirmed Jasper's guess..

Jasper laughed and said, "What virtues or abilities have I displayed to be so appreciated by my superiors?"

"It's not appreciation."

Ms. Garcia shook her head and said, "This is what you deserve. There are often conflicts and oppositions when the higher-ups are making a decision, but there was no such conflict during your appointment."

“Everyone saw your performance, and we hope that you can continue to maintain it. We all need you to contribute, especially during this special period.” Upon hearing that Jasper’s appointment was made by the people at the highest level, Simson and Moses did not dare to say anything anymore. They could only stand properly in the corner and listen. At the same time, they raised both ears, fearing that they would miss something.

No matter what was said next, they knew very well that after going back tonight, they would need to explain the whole situation to their families without

missing any details.

They needed to change their attitudes and decisions toward Jasper now.

Back then, they were friendly and were doing this on goodwill, but now they had to cooperate more closely with Jasper, whatever the cost.

“Of course, we also know that you have made a lot of sacrifices to do these things. At the very least, JW will probably never be able to enter the United States market in the future, and we all understand this.”

Jasper solemnly accepted both

appointment letters with both hands.

Then, he said with a smile, “Should there

be a chance to benefit my country, I would do it with my life and death; how could I choose to embrace or avoid such a duty just because of my weal and woe?”

This sentence made Ms. Garcia and Mr. Mason look at each other. Then, they saw the deep relief in each other’s eyes.

“Okay, the Securities Regulatory Commission will fully cooperate with you next. Moreover, the plan for the social security fund to enter the market has also been approved in today’s meeting. The relevant person in charge

will contact you directly and I hope that you two will cooperate wholeheartedly.”

Ms. Garcia said and reached out her hand to Jasper.

Jasper also stretched out his hand to grip

Ms. Garcia’s hand firmly. Then, he said,

I will do my best.

“Also, if I may be so bold as to ask a favor from Ms. Garcia and Mr. Mason...” Jasper said suddenly.

Ms. Garcia said, “If you have anything we can help with, just speak up.’ Jasper laughed and said, “This is not my business. Before this, I communicated with the Alvarados from the Northwest and the Royals from Waterhood City. They are willing to do their best to execute this well. The power of private capital is huge and complex, and there are large and small entities scattered all over the country. So, I plan to organize an economic forum in Waterhoof City. If possible, can Ms. Garcia and Mr. Mason come to say a few words?”

Who were Ms. Garcia and Mr. Mason? They had been in the system for a lifetime, and they were very clever. They instantly understood what Jasper meant after he said that.

“In principle, it is possible, but because there is no specific time, we’ll have to arrange the itinerary. After you determine the time and place, tell Mr. Pratt and we will come,” Ms. Garcia replied with a grin.

“That would be great.” Jasper beamed.

Ms. Garcia, Mr. Mason, and even Tony were very busy people, especially during this special period. If Jasper did not hold

the special position as he did now, they would not be able to take time out of their busy schedule to fly over in person.

Thus, after they finished talking about

official business, the three of them bade

farewell and left.

Jasper did not urge them to stay. After he sent them to the door and watched them leave, he returned to his office.

As soon as he arrived back at his office, Simson took the initiative to speak before Jasper had the chance to even open his mouth, "Mr. Laine, about what you said to me before, please give me a little time and I will explain to my family immediately."

"Us too."

After Moses finished speaking, he put his hands together in a loyal manner and said sincerely, "As long as you need something, the Millers are willing to give it their all."

Jasper chuckled softly. "That would be great, Well then, let's not delay any more, You two should go back to talk to your families first. I will wait for your good news."

The two nodded. Finally, Simson hesitated before asking carefully, "Mr. Laine, I wonder if it's alright for me to ask: What kind of attitude do the higher-ups have?"

Jasper glanced at Simson and replied flatly, "A few decades ago, our ancestors created our country with their flesh and blood. A few decades later, their successors would not allow foreigners to act wantonly in this land in any way.

"Our Somerland has a population of more than one billion, and not a single soul would agree to such a thing."

These words horrified Simson and Moses, but at the same time, they were also a little ashamed.

They were ashamed of their hesitation and uncertainty.

"Okay, we understand. We will go back immediately and try to get this matter settled as soon as possible," Moses said sincerely.

After the two left, Jasper sat in the office and let out a sigh of relief.

Sure enough, him wasting his breath convincing them was not as important as the statement sent from the higher-ups.

After a while, Jake approached him.

"Mr. Laine, the United States market will open in half an hour. What should we do today?"

Jake knew the domestic situation that had taken place in the morning. Hence, his entire team, including himself, was holding a grudge and could not wait to vent it in the United States.

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Life at the Top Chapter 1863

“Short sale the subprime market completely and push the subprime mortgage crisis to its peak. Today, the four major investment banks will have to lose something, which will serve as burial offerings for the losses Somerland has suffered.”

Jasper’s words destined that today would go down in the annals of history.

As soon as the United States financial market opened, the market was turbulent, even before JW Foundation could make a move.

It was the age of information and news could be delivered extremely fast. An event in the northern hemisphere could be transmitted to the southern hemisphere in an instant, much less the tragic incident of Somerland’s stock and futures markets being sniped by Wall Street capital in the United States.

Therefore, the United States financial market had long been psychologically prepared to face the insane revenge carried out JW Foundation. Even so, they did not expect the determination and strength of JW Foundation to be so great.

Five minutes after the opening, the already crippled subprime market was once again shorted by JW Foundation.

The sky-high empty orders filled the subprime market with the smell of blood.

Falls, falls, and falls!

Everything was falling!
As long as it was a traded product, it was

falling.

Financial products shrunk dramatically, and their market values were depreciating with every passing minute and second.

Under such high pressure, a magical scene appeared.

There were only sell orders in the subprime market.

“Today JW Foundation will inevitably launch bloody revenge. At this time, no idiot will enter the market to take them on.”.

The president of Morgan Bank frowned and said.

“But if this continues, the entire market will crash,” the assistant said cautiously.

“Let it crash then. This is what we expected anyway, and they have chosen a bank as the sacrifice to calm Jasper’s anger, isn’t it?”

The president of Morgan Bank had a half smile on his face. It was a rather weird expression.

He looked as if he was basking in

schadenfreude, but at the same time, he

looked as if he was having mixed feelings.

“I didn’t think there would come a day where we would need to quell the enemy’s anger with a sacrificial lamb.”

The first to bear the brunt of the collapse o

f the subprime market was Layman Investment Bank, which had accumulated a large number of assets in the subprime

market and could not escape because of the lock-up.

Today, Layman Investment Bank

remained the same, but the people inside changed.

Dugg was no longer sitting in the chairman's office, but instead, it was Half-the-Harbor Langdon.

At this moment, Half-the-Harbor Langdon had a gloomy expression on his face as he listened to Kayden's report.

"Dad, if the market continues like this, Layman's net asset value will keep dropping, and on the contrary, our debt will grow higher and higher.

"I have read the financial reports of investment banks. The entire investment bank has tens of billions of dollars in the subprime market that cannot be recovered. The sunk cost of this alone is a huge burden!

"What's even more extreme is that nearly a quarter of the credit products were bought when the market price was at its highest. There is still at least one year before the expiration of the credit products, but their value has shrunk by as much as 70%.

"In other words, these assets have cost us more than 6 billion US Dollars so far."

Kayden became more frightened as he spoke. Then, he gritted his teeth and continued, "And once these credit products are completely converted into waste paper by Jasper, the tens of billions of dollars in debt alone will be enough to crush us."

Half-the-Harbor Langdon spoke blankly and calmly, "I have transferred 20 billion

Harbor Dollars from Fongroup. Use this money to deliver Layman's high-priced contracts into the subprime market first, and then we'll think of other solutions."

Kayden was taken aback.

Only the family members knew what was going on in the family.

Both of them had already used up all of their wealth to buy Layman Investment Bank.

So, where did this 20 billion come from?
"Dad, did you..."

Before Kayden could finish, Half-the-Harbor Langdon answered, "I used the family's investment trust fund as collateral." Kayden's heart trembled as he said, "That's our last escape route."

"Kayden."

Half-the-Harbor Langdon raised his head to look at his son and said seriously, "Many times, we can't afford to leave escape routes for ourselves. Only by burning our boats can we get a chance of survival during desperate situations." "

"Dad, what do you mean? Have we reached this point?" Kayden asked in a panic.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon did not answer immediately. Instead, he took out a few documents from the drawer and threw them in front of Kayden. He said, "Take a look at them. You'll understand after reading them."

Kayden looked at the seemingly unremarkable documents and suddenly got a bad premonition.

After forcibly suppressing his anxiety, he picked up one of the documents and opened it.

"Florida Douglas Bank Bankruptcy Claim Form.

"Arizona Angel Bank Bankruptcy Claim Form.

“St. Aegis Bank of Maine Bankruptcy

Claim Form.”

They were countless bank bankruptcy

claim application forms splayed on the table, and Kayden’s brains were almost boiling as he read them.

“What the hell is going on? Did these

banks go bankrupt together at an agreed

time?”

Kayden was not a fool. It could be seen from the date of application that these banks, which had long been insolvent were just forcing themselves through this. Then, they all filed for bankruptcy claims immediately after Kayden and his father bought Layman Investment Bank.

He would not believe anyone who claimed that this was not a trap.

“You see it too.” Half-the-Harbor Langdon was speaking in a monotonous voice. He continued, “I’m afraid that we have fallen into a well designed trap.”

“The claim of these three banks alone is a

sum as high as 74 million US Dollars. Dad, if this goes on, the insurance contract alone is enough to suck our blood dry, let alone Layman’s!”

Kayden gritted his teeth and said, “It’s no wonder that these punks insisted that we provide insurance to small and medium – sized banks. They even agreed to make concessions on the price just for the sake of this. It turns out they wanted us to take the fall for this.”

“It’s too late to say that now.”

Half-the-Harbor Langdon looked at Kayden seriously and said, “I give you the right to use those 20 billion Harbor

Dollars. You must pull Layman out of the quagmire of the subprime market.”

Kayden said bitterly, “Dad, it’s not enough. It might help if we have 20 billion US Dollars, 20 billion Harbor Dollars won’t do anything in the current market conditions.”

“Go find Jasper.”

Half-the-Harbor Langdon said suddenly. He gritted his teeth and continued, “Use the property rights of all our industries in the mainland in exchange for him releasing all of Layman’s position contracts. If he is willing, the 20 billion will be enough.”

Life at the Top Chapter 1864

After hearing what Half-the-Harbor Langdon said, Kayden's first reaction was to deem it impossible.

He said, "Dad, aside from the fact that the property rights in the mainland are the result of so many years of our hard work, those are high-quality assets that can rise sharply in the future. Jasper will not agree because of his relationship with us.

"It is possible that he, more than anyone else, wants us to go bankrupt now the most. Can we even approach him?"

Half-the-Harbor Langdon seemed to expect Kayden to think that way. He said, "He will agree.

"Jasper's roots are in the mainland. Even though his relationship with the United States and his actions in the United States financial market has greatly improved his status in the mainland, everything in this world has two sides.

"He was favored by the mainland, but the price of this was the permanent hostility of the United States and the vigilance of other Western countries toward him. "So his base can only be in the country. For him, these assets are precisely the best nutrients that can help him spend countless hours deploying to various cities on the mainland.

"As for the other problem you mentioned, it's not even a problem.

"Do you not think that Jasper is like me?"

Half-the-Harbor Langdon's words stunned Kayden such that he could hardly react in time.

"Jasper is a businessman through and through. When he does anything, he considers the advantages and then weighs it against the disadvantages.

When the benefits are greater than the costs, he will do it. As for other personal feelings, it is not the most important thing to him.”

Half-the-Harbor Langdon leaned back on the chair and said in a very complicated tone, “Actually, I often think that if you possessed half of what Jasper had, we would not be where we are today.

“Go. Talk to him.”

Kayden gritted his teeth and said, “Dad, are we really going to beg him?”

“Beg?”

Half-the-Harbor Langdon snorted coldly. He said, “If it works to beg him, even I could do it, but what’s the use of just begging him? At the end of the day, it’s just an exchange of benefits. Are you unable to let go of your pride, or do you have other concerns?”

Kayden snapped, “Dad, I think the crux of the problem is that even if Jasper agreed to release Layman’s position and Layman is temporarily released from the subprime market crisis, those damn banks provided junk credit loans to countless people in the United States. Once they go bankrupt, we will be pulled back into this.”

“We have to solve our problems step by step, so you can’t rush this. Now what lies ahead is that if the crisis of the subprime market is not resolved, then there will be no future for us at all.”

Facing Kayden, who was looking for all kinds of excuses, Half-the-Harbor Langdon finally could not hold back the

Langdon finally could not hold back the anger in his heart. He, who had always been gentle and cultivated, rarely lost his temper.

“We acquired Layman Investment Bank for less than half a month before Layman went bankrupt. Do you want us to become the laughing stock of the world? Or do you want me to talk to Jasper in person?”

Kayden opened his mouth as he looked at his furious father, but eventually, he did not say anything. After that, he sighed dejectedly and replied, "Okay, I'll go talk to him."

At this moment, in Nauritus City in Somerland.

Jasper was holding a cup of strong tea. Then, he looked disapprovingly at Jake's fragrant coffee.

"Mr. Laine, is the smell too strong? I can move away," Jake offered, feeling slightly embarrassed.

"Never mind, just stay."

After shaking his head, Jasper looked at the market on the screen. He chuckled and said, "Not bad. The goal of our strategy has almost been achieved."

"Did the people from the United States give up on the subprime market completely? They didn't fight back at all," Jake asked, feeling pretty pleased.

The task went smoothly, and everything proceeded in an orderly manner. Hence, Jake naturally felt relaxed.

"You can say that. We could only target the subprime market. If it were the stock market or other financial markets, it might not have been so easy."

Jasper sighed.

At the end of the day, it was still a matter of background. The reason why he could do anything he wanted in the subprime market was that the United States government acquiesced to use his hand to clean up the malignant tumor in their economy.

However, if you followed Wall Street capital's operations in the domestic market, you would inevitably face a hard battle.

This was the difference in economic background between the two countries.

Jasper never thought Somerland was weaker than any country in the world. He even thought, with the bias of a bit of nationalism, that Somerland was the greatest nation and country in the world. However, he still had to acknowledge reality.

This was also the fundamental reason why people in Somerland had gritted their teeth and stubbornly strived hard for development.

However, Jasper was not a person who was willing to become others' tools. He was already plotting a huge plan in his mind, and once it was successful, he would reap the top ten technology giants in the United States in 20 year's time. These companies would then control the future, the future of the whole world!

"There's movement."

Jake suddenly gasped, interrupting

Jasper's thoughts.

Then, they saw a large amount of funds begin to uncharacteristically enter the subprime market. After this, they deliberately liquidated more than a dozen credit products in a targeted manner.

"Bring me the information on these credit products."

By the time he gave his order, Jake was already prepared with what he needed.

After reading the information, the two

raised their heads and said in unison, "

Layman!"

Yes, the largest customers of these multiple credit products all pointed to one company, Layman Investment Bank.

Coincidentally, at this moment, a video call request was sent to the Jasper computer.

Jasper was amused when he saw the person's name.

"You should leave first," Jasper said.

Jake nodded. As he was about to leave, he asked, "So, what are we going to do with the changes in the subprime market?"

"Don't worry, he's just sending us a signal. The focus is still on this coming conversation," Jasper said.

After Jake left, Jasper sat down and answered the video call.

After the computer screen flickered for a while, Kayden's handsome face appeared.

Jasper was the first to speak. He said with a grin, "Mr. Langdon is glowing with health and vigor. The bruises of the injuries you suffered some time ago are all gone. Presumably, medical treatment offered in the United States is much better than that in Somerland. I can't see the embarrassment you suffered when you were beaten at that time."

This opening line enraged Kayden so much that he almost passed away on the spot.

Life at the Top Chapter 1865

“You don’t have to talk to me like that. It won’t work on me.”

Kayden said with a cold expression, “Who in this world does not exist for profit? You can get a group of people to go against Wall Street for your benefit, and I can also make other choices for my benefit. I can’t be the bad guy just because I don’t want to side with you. We’re all grown-ups so there’s no need to be childish, right?”

“Benefits? Childish?”

Jasper chuckled. His unbothered eyes suddenly turned sharp, and the smile on his face also disappeared bit by bit.

“Kayden, if you said this while sitting in front of me, believe it or not, I would have punched you in the face.”

Kayden said coldly, “Jasper, I didn’t come to quarrel with you today.”

“No? Then we have nothing to say. You can enjoy your beautiful scenery abroad while I enjoy the time of my life in Somerland. Since we don’t have anything in common, let’s not waste each other’s time.”

After Jasper finished speaking, he hung up the video decisively.

Meanwhile, in the United States, Kayden was dumbfounded.

Although he had foreseen that this conversation would not be straightforward easy, Kayden did not expect Jasper to be so cruel.

This was very different from the impression of Jasper that he had in his mind.

Was it possible that when he had risen to a higher position, he finally shed his polite appearance and started to reveal his fangs?

When he thought of this, Kayden smashed the glass in his hand.

The secretary outside the door heard the commotion and entered the room hurriedly to clean up.

However, the enchanting body of the foreign lady that had previously won Kayden's heart only made him more upset at this moment.

"Get out!"

After Kayden's roar, the office fell back into silence.

After calming himself, Kayden took a deep breath and requested another video call aggrievedly and helplessly.

It did not matter if Jasper had shown his true self or whether he was purposely toying with Kayden. After all, Kayden was more inferior now so he could only choose to suffer in silence.

Jasper was thrilled when he saw the video call request again.

It seemed that the father and son duo was truly driven to desperation.

He did not even hesitate before he rejected the call.

When Kayden saw that he was being rejected, he was so mad he started looking for more glasses to smash.

Kayden felt utterly humiliated and insulted right now. He gritted his teeth and started cursing, but in the end, he still sent another request while brimming with anger.

Jasper finally answered the call on the third try.

“Don’t hang up!”

Kayden, who was scared that Jasper would hang up again, spoke the moment he was connected, but after he finished speaking, he realized that Jasper did not speak first this time. Instead, he just looked at Kayden with a smile.

Kayden felt his cheeks turning hot, but he did not know whether it was from anger or embarrassment. Kayden took a deep breath and said, “Jasper, let’s put aside our grievances, I just want to negotiate a deal with you. You can take it if you think it’s good, and you can just forget it if you don’t. It’s that simple, okay?”

“Let’s hear it,” Jasper said lightly.

Kayden clenched his fists silently when he saw that Jasper was looking at him with an unbothered expression, clearly not taking him seriously.

He swore in his heart that once he got through this difficulty and gained momentum in the future, he would make Jasper pay for the humiliation he suffered today a hundred-fold.

Although he was seething inside, Kayden did not dilly-dally.

“Fongroup and all the properties in mainland under me and my father’s name will be packaged and transferred to you, while all you have to do is release Layman’s position in the subprime market and let Layman get through this.

“The contents of this deal is that simple.”

After hearing Kayden’s words, Jasper narrowed his eyes slightly.

Sure enough, Layman could not hold on anymore.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon and his son I could not hold on either.

The J. Langdons’ industry in the mainland was a piece of fat meat and it had attracted many drooling hungry wolves.

Among other things, the J. Langdon father and son had been holding the most central plot in Paradise City for 20 years. When they finally withdrew from the

mainland, they resold it and made a profit of more than 50 times.

In the past, this land was sold to them by the local government in order to attract them to invest while the duo had also promised to build a large-scale business district.

However, after they got the land, they did not do proceed with any construction or development at all. Later, when Paradise City started developing, such a wasteland was left untouched in the prosperous central area, which made countless people wring their hands and sigh.

In the end, the father and son decided to divest and leave. Hence, they took a profit of 50 times their investment and turned around to invest abroad.

Where did these profits come from?

They were the hard-won wealth of the people of Somerland.

This certainly was the disgusting nature of that old fox, Half-the-Harbor Langdon, but one had to admit that this old fox had a unique vision. He bet 20 years ahead of time and was right.

Moreover, this was just one of their countless investments in the mainland.

If you considered from a purely

commercial point of view, these industries were all hens that would lay golden eggs in the future.

Kayden inwardly praised his father when he saw that Jasper was moved.

Sure enough, his father was right about Jasper. He was a businessman through and through. As long as there was interest, there was nothing that could not be exchanged.

'Jasper, no matter how good you are, my father can still see through you.'

Kayden felt proud.

Jasper was silent for four to five minutes.

Kayden did not rush him. Instead, he waited quietly for Jasper to make a decision and give him a reply.

Four to five minutes later, Jasper spoke.

"How long can Layman last?"

This question was beyond Kayden's expectations.

However, he replied, "This has nothing to do with our transaction, but if you insist on knowing, I can tell you that the foundations of Fongroup is deeper than what outsiders think."

"So, you're saying that Layman's crisis and the risk of bankruptcy of small and medium-sized banks are not enough to affect Fongroup?" Jasper asked again.

Kayden's face sank and he asked, "Jasper,

what do you want to say?"

"Since Fongroup won't be affected, then

why did you come to me?"

Jasper chuckled and continued, "I'm curious as to how deep the foundations of

Fongroup run. I have no other characteristics, but once my curiosity is piqued, I won't be able to sleep if I don't get an answer.

"It just so happens that I'm having insomnia during this period. So, in order to let me sleep peacefully, I've decided to wait it out and see. I want to see how thick Fongroup's flesh and blood are and why Layman can't suck it dry.

"Mr. Langdon, what you said is right. You can make different choices for your own benefit, but at the same time, you have to understand that many things are already destined the moment you make your choice.

"I'm in the country and you're abroad. I will be here to watch you rise and prosper. Then, finally, I will watch everything you own collapse, while you end up with nothing."

After he said that, the video call ended.

Life at the Top Chapter 1866

When the image on the screen disappeared, Kayden was stunned for a long time before coming back to his senses.

He never expected Jasper's attitude to be so harsh and determined. After coming back to his senses, Kayden flew into a rage.

He had never been so mistreated his entire life!

He grabbed the keyboard in front of the screen and smashed it on the computer screen.

After a loud crash, the screen was smashed into pieces. Kayden was panting as he stood in front of the computer like a mad bull.

"Jasper, you intolerable bully!"

The more Kayden thought about this, the angrier he became. His face was tense as he went straight upstairs to the office of Half-the-Harbor Langdon.

After a few minutes, Kayden retold the entire process to Half-the-Harbor Langdon.

When he was done, Kayden gritted his teeth and said, "Dad, Jasper never wanted to promise us anything from the beginning. He just wanted to watch us die. You were wrong!"

After listening to his son, Half-the

Harbor Langdon's face was calm.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon closed his eyes

slightly and thought for a moment. Then,

he asked, "Do you think Jasper is the one

who set this trap?"

Kayden was taken aback for a moment. Then, he immediately shook his head and said, "Impossible, Jasper is now the number one enemy of the United States, and they want Jasper to die more than anyone else in the world. So how would they work with Jasper to set this trap?"

"What's more, the most terrible thing for us now is the insurance contract of the small and medium-sized banks, and this was issued to us by the United States. It is impossible for Jasper to command the United States,

"Therefore, I think this is just a

coincidence."

After listening to what Kayden said, Half the-Harbor Langdon remained calm and did not make a statement.

He pondered for a moment before sighing suddenly.

"Since that can't be done, we have to find another way."

"Dad, what other ways are there?"

Kayden asked.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon stood up, walked to the french window with his hands behind his back, and looked out at the crowded and bustling Wall Street financial street at his feet. After that, he said slowly, "Maybe this is really not where we should be. We were too impatient, and should have waited at least another 10, or even 20, years. It's really too early now.

"And now, we have to pay for our

impatience..."

Kayden's body tightened as he watched his father who seemed to be getting older with every passing second.

He hurriedly walked to Half-the-Harbor Langdon and said in a low voice, "Dad, I have an idea..."

Half-the-Harbor Langdon glanced at him sideways.

Kayden gritted his teeth and said, "The subprime market has been continuously shorted. Those credit products are now worthless, and we are also burdened with loans from small and medium-sized banks. To put it bluntly, Layman is now insolvent.

"We spent tens of billions of dollars, but what we bought was a lot of debt. If we persist, the debt will only increase.

"I believe the situation will continue to deteriorate, and once more small and medium-sized banks file for bankruptcy, the insurance claims alone will be enough to drain us to our very last drop of blood. It is better to cut our losses quickly...

... and file for bankruptcy!"

Half-the-Harbor Langdon had a blank expression on his face. It was as if he was not at all surprised by Kayden's proposal. As soon as he heard that, he only asked one question, "But if this is the case, we will become the laughingstock of the world and we will never be able to gain anymore ground."

“Dad, it’s you who said that as a businessman, you only need to pay attention to the interests. Everything else is irrelevant.”

Kayden eagerly said, “Even if we become the butt of their jokes, so what? As long as there are other projects in the future, will the other party not work with us because we failed in the acquisition of Layman even though they stand to benefit? That would be impossible.

“Hence, we should just file for bankruptcy. At most, we’ll bear the loss of tens of billions of dollars.”

When Kayden said this, despite looking very free and easy on the outside, but his heart was actually bleeding.

These were tens of billions of dollars and they meant that most of their hard work was wasted in this merger.

They had worked hard for their entire

lives and now, they were losing

everything in one business deal.

Ordinary people simply could not bear

such a huge blow.

Yet, Half-the-Harbor Langdon laughed. He nodded, patted Kayden’s shoulder with his hand, and said, “Yes, you are a lot more mature now.

“You should handle this matter. In addition to this, you should contact the Atticus family again. Tell them we are interested in cooperating with them. Fongroup is willing to have a cross ownership with them, and if they’re interested in our industry in Harbor City, we can sell it to them at a low price.”

Kayden was surprised and asked, “The Atticus family? Fabian Atticus?”

“Not just the Atticus family, but also the W. Langdons. Wallace and Kennedy

Langdon are our potential partners.” Half -the-Harbor Langdon said.

“But they know that we are in financial difficulty now and that we can’t go back to Harbor City. I’m afraid they will lower the price a lot and we will definitely suffer a loss if we cooperate with them at this time.”

Half-the-Harbor Langdon replied earnestly after hearing what Kayden said, “This loss right now is not a loss. We must look forward to the long-term plan and focus on long-term benefits.

“At the moment, we have suffered such a big loss in our acquisition of Layman, and we urgently need the help of powerful allies. Coincidentally, they are our best allies because we now have a common enemy that is Jasper.

“Since Jasper’s power is growing stronger, and he is slowly getting the entire Harbor City on his side, do you think Wallace and the Atticus family will sit idly by and let that happen? I am afraid that they are more anxious than anyone else. In exchange, we can introduce our project in the United Kingdom to them

and then get them to work with us.

“There is money to be made and we have a common enemy, so there’s no reason for them not to agree. If the three companies unite, we will still have some power in Harbor City and it will not be the end for us.”

Kayden nodded slowly as he listened to Half-the-Harbor Langdon’s explanation and said, “Okay, I understand... I will do it now.”

At this moment, in Nauritus City in Somerland.

Jasper was looking at the rapidly falling subprime market.

“Although the crash was terrible, it still lacks something.”

Jasper narrowed his eyes slightly.

The collapse of a market required more than just the absolute crushing by the short side.

What it needed even more was some symbolic event which would completely crush all the confidence and last drops of dignity of the market.

For example, in his previous life, the complete collapse of the subprime was crowned by bankruptcy of Layman.

After that, the subprime market did not recover for a full decade.

Currently, Layman had the Half-the Harbor Langdon father and son calling in help from thousands of miles away. The salvation with more emphasis on courtesy and comradeship would inevitably help them survive for a while.

However, Jasper believed that that day would not come too late.

He knew very well that the United States government had set this huge trap for the father and son to kill them.

The bomb would explode sooner or later.

Therefore, Jasper refused without thinking about Kayden's conditions.

Life at the Top Chapter 1867

Jasper was not stupid.

Right now, it could be said that the J. Langdon father and son had betrayed the entire Somerland.

There was no possibility of them coming back and continuing to develop their industries in Somerland in the future.

If the father and son were dragged down by Layman, their industries in the mainland would be expected to be repossessed slowly, and then, those industries would inevitably be sold at a low price.

That would be the perfect time for Jasper to harvest.

Hence, after rejecting Kayden, instead of agreeing to release Layman's position, Jasper increased his short-selling efforts.

The direct impact of this was that the subprime market of the United States turned into a landslide. Huge waves kept surging while the market value dropped again and again.

Almost all investors in the United States were numb to this.

Until... a piece of news broke out.

"Mr. Laine, Layman Investment Bank has

just filed for bankruptcy protection."
The news from Jake made Jasper stand up suddenly.

"Bankruptcy? Layman?"

Jasper immediately looked at the trading situation of the subprime market and sure enough... The sky had collapsed.

Layman Investment Bank was one of the four largest investment banks in the world. Although it was always the last one on the list, it was still one of the four largest investment banks in the world.

Its existence was of great significance in and of itself.

The most important thing was that in the subprime market, Layman Investment Bank, as the largest long position holder, independently supported the transaction volume on most parts of the subprime market.

So, even though Layman was sold to Half the Harbor Langdon and his son from Somerland some time ago and some people from the United States were dissatisfied with this, there was no extreme reaction.

The success of this merger and acquisition had even brought a small wave of favorable market conditions in the financial market.

However, the merger had only been completed less than half a month ago before the father and son from Somerland had filed for bankruptcy.

What did this mean?

If you compared the United States to a big family, then Layman would be its fourth daughter with a reputation for being famous. Eventually, this daughter was ruined by a boorish guy named Jasper Laine.

So, the United States brought in Half-the Harbor Langdon and his son to take over. It was initially a good thing, which was why Half-the-Harbor Langdon and his son happily took over. However, within half a month, they filed for a divorce and sent the dead body of the daughter back to

her biological family.

It would be unusual if the United States did not fly into a rage.

The subprime market was even more heated.

Jasper did not expect the historical inertia to still exist and still be so powerful.

He was just wondering when Layman would go bankrupt when Half-the-Harbor Langdon and his son made such a decisive decision.

“They decided to cut their losses quickly. How interesting.”

Jasper murmured.

“Mr. Laine, what are we going to do now?”

“Nothing. Everything has come crashing down and they’re left with nothing. We shall just watch them crash and burn.”

What kind of a grand occasion was a financial market crash?

This scene that ordinary people might never have the opportunity to see in their

lifetime was presented to financial practitioners all around the world today.

It was a real earth-shattering event.

Layman’s fall squashed the last bit struggle in the United States subprime market. There was no need for Jasper to continue shorting because all funds began fleeing frantically.

Before this, there were still funds who fantasized that the United States government would continue to rescue the market. Some even imagined that Wall Street capital such as Layman would fight against Jasper’s JW Foundation and Layman would launch a complete counter -attack, allowing those who persisted to become rich overnight.

However, as the core, Layman had now declared bankruptcy, which meant that the subprime market was abandoned by the United States government.

Even the most optimistic person had to admit that the subprime market was finished.

Moreover, this was just the storm caused by Layman's bankruptcy in the subprime

market, with the bigger one storm laying within the outside world.

Layman, one of the world's top investment banks, had countless businesses all over the world.

Once such a global investment bank filed for bankruptcy, it would have a certain impact on the international financial situation.

In the eyes of the media, the bankruptcy of Layman Investment Bank could be attributed to Jasper alone.

"A Somerlander, a man from Somerland who appeared on the cover of Time Magazine, personally overthrew the Layman Empire and also made the people of the United States understand that they are not the only ones who know how to play in the game of modern finance.

"Layman has filed for bankruptcy. This century-old company has gone through ups and downs over the course of its life, and it finally collapsed in the subprime mortgage crisis.

"After analyzing the essence of this subprime mortgage crisis from the depth of Layman's bankruptcy, every country and economic organization in the world needs to take away lessons and experiences it has painstakingly revealed to us.

"The climax of the subprime mortgage crisis has arrived. Layman has fallen, and who will fall next?"

Wishing for the whole world to be in chaos, the news media used all kinds of eye-catching tactics to headline their news, but no matter which media it was, their key contents all pointed to the same things.

Layman was finished, so what would

happen next?

However, the market quickly answered

this question.

Layman Investment Bank filed for bankruptcy and a total of 23 small and medium-sized banks in the United States Federation declared bankruptcy at the same time.

Almost all of these small and medium –

sized banks had obtained insurance contracts from Layman Investment Bank.

The bankruptcy process of a company was very troublesome, let alone for a large financial business investment bank such as Layman Investment Bank.

Once it entered the bankruptcy process, it would immediately liquidate its assets. After the assets were liquidated, the debts and assets would be separated and the court with jurisdiction would appoint the company's bankruptcy liquidation executor.

Anyway, even if the company went bankrupt, some of the previous debts had to be paid off.

Hence, these small and medium-sized banks began to go bankrupt all at once to meet the requirements to apply for compensation from Layman.

However, the biggest problem was that these small and medium-sized banks had formed a chain of bankruptcy. What would the people think when they saw this?

The bank went f*cking bankrupt. What about the money I put in the bank?

With that, distrust of the bank began to raise a tremendous stink across the

United States. People started lining up at

the bank's door to take out their savings.

Banks relied on deposits from depositors to make investments to make profits. Once this trend was formed, everyone would want to withdraw their money and the bank would run out of money. What else could they do then?

No one thought that Layman's

bankruptcy would have such a big impact.

It directly caused all banks in the United States to fall under huge pressure

involving savings, deposits, and
withdrawals.

The Federal Reserve finally could not sit Still on this matter.

Life at the Top Chapter 1868

The first decision made by the Federal Reserve was to increase interest on savings and then to reduce the proportion of deposit reserves that commercial banks needed to pay to the central bank.

In order to ensure the security of savings, all banks would need to pay an amount the central bank based on the amount of savings they owned. This money was used to ensure that they could at least deal with large-scale withdrawals by customers.

The first of the two methods of the central bank was to reduce the proportion of savings customers withdrew. After all, with the interest rate increasing, holding money in the bank could generate more interest.

The second measure was to relieve the pressure on the bank.

However, at this time, the continued collapse of the subprime market caused the chain problem of overdue personal credit to escalate.

On the one hand, the bank had to face the customers who deposited their savings with them withdrawing money from the bank. On the other hand, all the money lent by the bank could not be recovered after the due date.

Therefore, the United States banking industry was in utter chaos.

Soon, the subprime mortgage crisis finally began to cross the border. It crossed from the financial world to the banking industry.

These two closely related and interdependent industries finally realized just how intimately interdependent they were.

With the large-scale shrinkage of real estate combined with overdue personal credit, the banking industry of the United States ushered in the cold winter.

And the initiator of all this, standing at the command center of Nauritus City at this moment, had already begun the next step of the plan.

“Secretly build positions in high-tech companies United States, such as Apple, Weresoft, Qualcomm, General, Amazon, and Oracle.”

Jasper gave orders to Jake and the team.

They had been in this financial war for so long and the difficulty of the process was beyond words, but now, Jasper had finally reached the harvest time he thought was appropriate.

“Affected by the subprime mortgage crisis, the entire United States stock market has fallen into a downturn, with negative trends over the past 20 consecutive trading days. Most of these companies stocks are now at historically low values. This is the best time for us to enter the market.”

Jasper took a deep breath and said with a serious expression, “The people of the United States had been ahead of us over the past few decades, and even centuries. Now, we finally have an opportunity to devour the accumulation of technology in the United States over the next 20 years. These companies are the real future.”

Jake was excited. As he was about to speak, the team’s intelligence collector reported an update.

“The United States Securities Regulatory Commission announced the extension of a n index futures settlement cycle. The futures settlement originally scheduled for tomorrow will be postponed to the end of this month.”

Jake was taken aback when he heard the words. Then, he yelled.

“Do those scoundrels from the United States not want to keep their last trace of dignity? Are they really that shameless?”

“Back when Soros gathered harbor stocks, the Harbor City government never thought about adjusting the stock index settlement cycle even when they were in such a difficult period. If those guys from the United States could defeat them, they would be allowed to take anything they wanted, but now these punks from the United States are doing this?”

The so-called stock index settlement cycle were actually the same concept as futures.

Futures trading was cyclical, and usually monthly. For example, delivery orders in July were usually paid in September.

When the time came, either you took the money or the goods away.

When JW Foundation invested in the subprime market of the United States for short trading, what they actually did was short the index of the subprime market..

Now that the subprime market had plummeted, Jasper had won.

According to traditional reasoning, he could now withdraw cash from the subprime market and take away the profits according to the amount and quantity he had shorted in this settlement cycle.

This was a profit of hundreds of billions of US Dollars. It was also profit that all of Somerland capital was looking forward to.

Everyone had paid so much effort and taken such a huge risk, but what were they after?

Wasn't it still interests?

However, when the final settlement day came, the United States government was acting as if this whole thing had never happened.

There would be no settlement!

"Why are you in such a hurry?"

Jasper frowned and said to Jake, "It's just a postponement. They have to settle it unless they want their entire financial system to collapse."

Once the United States shed all pretense of cordiality and made it clear that they would not settle, the United States' national financial credit would disappear.

When others came to their gaming table to play, they would take both principal and interest once the player lost. However, when the players won, they would flip the table over and refuse to admit defeat. Even the stupidest gambler in the world would not play with such a country.

They would be digging their own grave if they were isolated by the global financial community. Hence, the United States would not do this. No other country would do so either.

Hence, the United States' postponement

was just a disgusting move in Jasper's eyes.

"Let them postpone it then. They can postpone it once, but they can't postpone it a second time. We will proceed according to our original plan for now."

When Jasper was talking, the phone rang.

He glanced down and then walked to his office.

"This is Jasper."

After answering the call, Jasper said directly.

"Layman has gone bankrupt, can we come back now?"

Henry's relaxed voice came from the phone.

"Sure, come back. You completed this

mission very well.” Jasper laughed.

Henry chuckled and replied, “I think I was just passable. It’s actually all thanks to

Connie.”

Conrad’s cold grumbles came from the phone. He was clearly unhappy with the new name Henry had given him.

Jasper was about to speak after he let out a laugh, but Henry was one step ahead of him.

“Right, I got some news. Even though I don’t know how true it is, I feel it’s better to tell you in advance.”

Henry did not keep Jasper on tenterhooks. He continued, “Do you remember that cunt Fabian? He’s been staying low-key for so long, but today, one of my boys saw him leaving Harbor City in a plane. He’s heading to the United States.”

Jasper narrowed his eyes and said, “The Atticus family has business abroad too, so it’s not strange for him to go to the United States, no?”

Henry chuckled and said, “What’s strange is that he’s taking the W. Langdons’ private jet and Kennedys’ on board!

“Those two sons of b*tches are not good people. Plus, there is another son of a b*tch who’s suffered a painful loss in the United States. Say, do you think those three sons of b*tches will get together and do something?”

Jasper was slightly stunned, and then his expression gradually turned solemn.

“What you said is possible.”

“Right? I think so too.”

Henry said, feeling pleased with himself, “ I don’t know much about your businesses,

but I’m familiar with gang fights!

“Those who are scared of my attacks will most likely gather together to seek warmth. They might just counterattack when they muster enough courage!

“So, do you think those three c*nts are doing exactly that right now? That’s why I figured I should tell you in advance.”

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Life at the Top Chapter 1869

“What you said is very important to me. Back then, I always ignored the possibility of the three families joining forces. Now that they have really come together, I have to guard myself against them.

Henry was even more proud when he heard what Jasper said.

“Don’t thank me too much. When you have finally taken care of those idiots named Fabian Atticus and Kayden Langdon, don’t forget to let me have a go at them.”

“Okay, I won’t forget that,” Jasper agreed happily.

After he hung up, Jasper glanced at the United States subprime market and stopped doing anything. Instead, he started laying out his plans for the United States high-tech giants with Jake.

Next, Jasper’s focus would gradually shift to the domestic financial market. What he needed to do with the United States was to maintain the pressure on the subprime market and press on with the acquisition of stocks of those technology giants.

Since the subprime mortgage crisis had completely erupted, the storm it brought was enough to sweep the entire United States economy. Hence, it was inevitable that they would suffer heavy losses.

Jasper intended to let JW Foundation come out from the dark and start planning its future. He would take advantage of this chaos and absorb as many of the technology giants that he could. These benefits would ultimately be safe in his pockets, and he was doing this for the development of JW in the next 20 years.

While Jasper and Jake were planning the future of the United States financial market, a private jet landed in New York in the United States amidst a storm.

Kayden personally greeted them at the runway.

At this critical moment, only Kennedy, Fabian, and Sawyer had the power to make Kayden come out and greet them at the airport while risking getting swamped by reporters.

The group of people got off the plane and met on the ground.

This group of people was divided according to age. Kennedy and Sawyer belonged to the same generation and although Kayden and Fabian were in the same generation, Kayden was much older than Fabian.

“Mr. Kenney, Mr. Sawyer, hello.”

Kayden smiled and greeted them politely.

In reality, according to their relationship, Kayden and Half-the-Harbor Langdon seldom participated in the grievances between the old Harbor City giants, so their positions seemed very different. Especially after Kayden and Jasper’s cooperation, it would appear that Kayden was closer to the Laws. Although Kayden was not enemies with Fabian and Sawyer, they were definitely not friends.

However, after things developed to this point, it was completely unnecessary to mention this anymore. Everyone was facing a common enemy, so there was always a possibility of cooperation.

“Kayden’s temperament and demeanor could be said to be the best among the younger generation of Harbor City,” Sawyer said with a smile.

Kennedy also nodded. Indeed, Kayden’s excellence had been taken note of by all of

the top families in Harbor City. There had always been a saying before this that any family with an heir like Kayden would have no problem flourishing for the next 30 years.

However, the problem came with Jasper's appearance.

Even the older generation had suffered a crushing defeat by Jasper's hands. Hence, no one dared to mention this saying anymore.

When Kennedy thought of Jasper, he gritted his teeth and an unpleasant expression appeared on his face.

"Mr. Kennedy, do you have something on your mind?" Kayden asked when he saw that Kennedy looked slightly off-color.

"Who here doesn't have something on their mind?" Kennedy replied.

As soon as he said this, Sawyer started to look off-color too. He walked toward the car and said, "Let's go. We came all the way here, and we need to visit Half-the Harbor Langdon first."

The two walked towards the car one after another. Then, Kayden and Fabian followed.

Although Kayden was regarded as the host, his status was lower than Kennedy and Sawyer. Hence, he was very humble.

He had been educated since young so

others would not nitpick on him

regarding this small detail.

"Did you enjoy getting educated by Jasper that f*cker during this period? I heard

that you're even beaten up by Jasper's lackey Henry when you were in Harbor City?" Fabian and Kayden walked side by side as Fabian sneered.

Kayden glanced at Fabian and replied, "It seems that you are well informed."

"Hehe, who in Harbor City doesn't know about this? Everyone says that Jasper is the reason you are unable to go back to your home to Harbor City and the mainland. I wonder how many people are laughing at you and your father now that Layman has gone bankrupt."

Kayden stopped suddenly when he heard that. Then, he stood still and stared at Fabian.

Fabian frowned slightly. He was a little spooked by how Kayden was staring at him.

Although his self-esteem kept him from showing any timidity, his refusal to look

into Kayden's eyes exposed his weakness. The moment Fabian looked away, Kayden spoke.

"Everyone in the world is qualified to laugh at me, but you are the only one who has no right to stand here and do so. You couldn't even withstand three moves from Jasper, so who are you to make fun of me?"

"In the past, our grievances were just child's play, and I'll let it go. I don't plan to split hairs about anything, but from now on, if you still don't get your attitude in

check, it will undoubtedly affect the cooperative relationship between the three families. I don't think your father Sawyer would want to see this, right?"

"I heard that your father's position as the head of the family was threatened because of you. If it weren't for the solid foundation of his business over so many years, I wonder if you two would still be the ones coming here on behalf of the Atticus family."

Kayden's words made Fabian's face gloomy.

Before Fabian could retort, an enthusiastic smile suddenly bloomed on Kayden's face. He said, "Mr. Fabian, it's getting late and it's very windy and

rainy in New York today. It's really not suitable to stay out here, why don't we get into the car soon so that the two elders won't be kept waiting for too long?"

Fabian, with a stiff complexion, realized that he had been completely crushed by Kayden. With a snort, he got into a car after lowering his head.

As he looked at Fabian's figure, Kayden's eyes turned dark for a moment.

However, the darkness disappeared immediately and was then replaced with a gentle and noble smile. After that, he bowed his head and got into the car.

The convoy started slowly and headed towards the upper-class area on the outskirts of New York.

At this moment, Sawyer and Kennedy were sitting in the same car ahead.

Sawyer glanced at Kennedy and smiled. "It seems that our old opponent can't hold it anymore."

"He was scammed by the United States out of tens of billions in just one business deal. It was even in US Dollars. No one can bear such a blow. Since he's still standing tall, it means that Fongroup is really powerful," Kennedy said.

Sawyer narrowed his eyes slightly and said, "What do you think he will offer for our cooperation?"

"It's nothing more than giving up some of the existing interests, but no matter what the conditions are, cooperating with him is our best option at the moment. Did you not notice that we've been isolated in Harbor City for some time?"

Kennedy's words made the corners of Sawyer's mouth twitch and he had a very expression.

Life at the Top Chapter 1870

“They are going to go all the way to the end with Jasper without caring about the consequences. All of the families have shaken their own foundations while risking huge losses just to lift Jasper up. I think those old farts have all gone crazy!” Sawyer cursed in a low voice full of resentment.

Kennedy glanced at Sawyer and the corners of his mouth rose into a slight curve that was not easy to detect.

He knew why Sawyer was so angry,

It was because Sawyer lost his seat on the committee during the Harbor City Business Federation election.

The organization was established decades ago and dated back to when Harbor City was still under the jurisdiction of the United Kingdom.

At that time, Harbor City copied the United Kingdom’s model. In order to facilitate the management of the increasingly prosperous Harbor City business community, the United Kingdom established this organization under the Harbor City government.

This organization had been serving as a committee member of Harbor City’s top family since its establishment. It could even be regarded as a recognition of top families by the Harbor City government.

Only by becoming a member of this committee could one be qualified to call themselves rich and powerful.

However, in this election, Sawyer lost the committee seat that the Atticus family had maintained for the last 50 years.

Although this was only a nominal honorary seat, the more deeply rooted the rich and famous were, the more they needed this.

After all, Harbor City was not as good as the mainland where there was vast land and rich resources. Harbor City was too small, and the economy was outrageously developed. Therefore, the competition among the rich was also very high. Thus, if you were low-key, you would soon be forgotten.

The Atticus family's current situation was not looking good, and at the same time, they were being boycotted by Harbor City.

It would be very strange if they were still in a good mood.

Sawyer turned his head when he seemed to have noticed Kennedy's sarcasm. Then, he asked with a smile, "I haven't seen your father for a long time. I heard he's recuperating."

Kennedy was taken aback. He narrowed his eyes and said faintly, "My father is getting older, and he has been recuperating for more than a year and a half. If there's nothing urgent, we seldom disturb him."

Currently, the strongest asset in rich families like theirs might not be wealth or power. Instead, it was the presence of their old master, who may or may not still be alive.

As long as the old master was still around, the family would stand tall and nothing would happen.

Why were the Laws still at the height of their powers even though it felt as if they were slowly distancing themselves from the rest of the bigwigs in Harbor City?

It was because Old Master Law was still around.

And even among all the old masters, Old Master Law was still the absolute top.

As for Wallace, the old master of the W. Langdons, he was indeed not in good shape in recent years. The old master's

condition plummeted in an instant when the W. Langdons were isolated. He was still lying in the hospital and had not come out until now.

Although the doctor said that there were no life-threatening conditions for the time being, everyone could feel that the old man's life was slowly depleting, and it was only a matter of time until he passed.

Moreover, this kind of thing had to be kept secret in the family, but there was no airtight wall in the world. No matter how secret it was, it was still a fact that the old master had not shown his face for a long time, and it would eventually be noticed by someone with ulterior motives like the Atticus family.

"You're right. The old master is getting older, so it's better not to disturb him with these annoying things," Sawyer said with a smile.

"By the way, I know a medical team and they are the world's top experts for treating heart failure. Would you like to introduce them to you?"

As soon as he said this, Kennedy's expression tightened, and then he turned his head to look at Sawyer coldly.

Life at the Top Chapter 1871

If the Atticus family knew that the old master was not in good health, it would be normal. However, it would be a bit outrageous for them to know that heart failure was the cause of the old master's hospitalization this time.

Someone in the hospital or the family must have informed Sawyer.

"Mr. Kennedy, don't look at me like this, I'm just being kind."

After realizing that he had crossed the line, Sawyer took a step back and said with a smile.

After all, they were partners who were about to cooperate and there was no need to make the relationship too rigid.

Kennedy obviously felt the same. Therefore, he slowly looked away and said, "We're almost there. If you have anything to say, you should say it in front of Half-the-Harbor Langdon."

The convoy entered a villa in the heavy rain and found Half-the-Harbor Langdon waiting to greet them under the eaves of the main house in the villa.

The car door opened. As Sawyer and Kennedy got out of the car, Half-the-Harbor Langdon was already approaching them while smiling.

"You've come from afar. Welcome."

Kennedy smiled and stretched out his

hand to grip Half-the-Harbor Langdon's

hand tightly. He said, "I've been looking

forward to this meeting for a long time."

Sawyer also shook hands with Half-the Harbor Langdon after letting go of Kennedy's. He smiled and greeted, "How have you been recently, my old friend?" After Sawyer said that, Half-the-Harbor Langdon's smile froze for a few tenths of a second.

Even Kennedy was looking at Sawyer like he was a buffoon.

'What's going on with this old thing today? Why does he keep spewing nonsense from his dirty mouth?'

With a wave of his hand, Half-the-Harbor Langdon took advantage of this gesture to loosen his grip on Sawyer's hand. After

that, he said, "If you read the news more, you'll know that I've been doing badly recently. Moreover, I'm about to become the world's laughing stock."

"Heroes make mistakes sometimes too. This difficulty and obstacle are nothing to you. I believe that Mr. Joe will definitely get through this phase," Fabian walked over and said.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon laughed and said, "Thank you for your kind words, Fabian."

"Everyone, it's windy and rainy outside, so let's go in and sit down for tea as we chat." Kayden found a gap in the conversation and said with a grin.

After the group entered the house, they exchanged a few words before Half-the Harbor Langdon took the initiative to speak, "Everyone, I believe

you guys know why I invited you to come over. Now, allow me to be blunt, Harbor City is my home, and yet I can't go back. Also, I believe the two of you're not so happy with your recent situations too, right?"

Kennedy said blankly, "Now, those other families are all siding with the Laws. They

have decided to team up and support Jasper to the bitter end, regardless of consequences. They have forgotten that Harbor City is the most developed economy in Somerland, Could the mainland have developed so fast over the

past two years without our investments?

"They are getting rid of us now that we're not useful anymore!"

Sawyer frowned slightly and said, "Ken, careful. We are only targeting Jasper. It has nothing to do with other people. Don't magnify the issue."

Kennedy also realized that his complaint was a bit too much. Therefore, he took a sip from his teacup and stopped talking.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon saw and smiled. Then, he said, "I think Ken has a right to say that Harbor City can never be Jasper's back garden. What is this? While we were out there doing business, Jasper was still spinning around in his mother's womb, but now we all suddenly have to be his subordinate?"

"I don't agree with this. But since Harbor City isolates us, we will form our own team. It's just business. The world is huge, and we can do it everywhere. One person can't stay on the top of the clouds forever. When it comes to methods, us old bones will have far more in our arsenal than the youngsters."

Life at the Top Chapter 1872

As soon as Half-the-Harbor Langdon spoke, Kennedy and Sawyer narrowed their eyes and looked at each other.

They rarely saw the introverted Half-the-Harbor Langdon showing such an intense mood swing.

It could be seen that Half-the-Harbor Langdon genuinely despised Jasper in his heart.

“Then, Joe, how are we going to cooperate?” Sawyer asked.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon said slowly and firmly, “We can no longer take Jasper lightly. Frankly speaking, if Jasper doesn’t die this time, any one of us three will need to bend to his will the next time we run into him. We’re no longer his opponents if we try to fight him alone.

“Hence, since we want to cooperate, we must truly cooperate deeply regardless of each other’s positions and background. It is a strategic alliance in the true sense, not those loose partnerships that may be dissolved at any time.

“So I figured I’ll take out my Fongroup, Ken, you can take out your family’s Hope Group, and Sawyer, you can take out your Atticus Group. Then, we three can do a cross-ownership.”

Sawyer and Kennedy were both shocked when they heard that.

This was more than just cooperation. This was like tying the three companies together on the same boat to prosper or sink together.

“We’ll also share the resources and risks.”

Half-the-Harbor Langdon added another sentence before looking at the two of them. He asked, “What do you think?”

Sawyer frowned slightly and asked, "Then how should we allocate the cross – shareholding ratio?"

The foundation of the Atticus family was always weaker than Kennedy's family, so Sawyer was more tempted by this cooperation.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon heard

Sawyer's question and answered with a smile on his face, "This is easy. Market value is one aspect, and our respective resources are also one aspect. However, my suggestion is to cross-hold 15% of the shares. This way, it will not affect our controlling rights over our respective industries, but at the same time, it will also provide additional protection."

Kennedy asked slowly, "If we cooperate, which of the three of us is the primary and who is the secondary?"

Half-the-Harbor Langdon said, "Our cooperation is not to distinguish between lowliness and nobleness. The core concept is still resource-sharing and risk sharing. Therefore, we do not have a primary or secondary distinction. There are exactly three companies, hence it is completely possible to vote on major matters. Then, the minority shall obey the majority."

"I think that's fine," Sawyer said first.

Kennedy snorted but did not answer.

He figured he was at a disadvantage.

"I think it is better to have a clear

distinction between primary and secondary. This will make it better when we have to cooperate in a certain field in the future as we will simply listen to whoever has the right to speak and is more familiar with this field."

Kennedy's proposal made Half-the

Harbor Langdon laugh. He asked, "So

what if it's fighting against Jasper?

"Which of the three of us has the most

power in this field and who is more

familiar with this matter?”

Kennedy was speechless when he was asked this question.

No matter how brazen and shameless he was, he could not say that he was the most experienced in fighting Jasper.

“I think the voting system is the best.”

Sawyer said meaningfully to Kennedy, “Mr. Kennedy, times have changed. Don’t expect to be the boss everywhere. Now is the era of win-win cooperation and win – win democracy.

“What’s more, allow me to be rude, our

enemy is right in front of us, and if Jasper continues to rise, based on his vengeful character, he will definitely seek revenge against us sooner or later. By then, it won’t be so easy for us to cooperate anymore. Therefore, it’s better to form an alliance as soon as possible and deal with Jasper together. This way, we will still have hope of making a comeback.”

Half-the-Harbor Langdon looked at Kennedy, who had his head bowed and was remaining silent. He said, “Ken, your family has always wanted to join my investment project in the United

Kingdom. I can give you 30% of the share there.

“Plus, to show my sincerity, I can sell you guys any of my industries in Harbor City that you’re interested in.”

This sentence became the last straw that defeated Kennedy.

“Really?” Kennedy asked, looking up at Half-the-Harbor Langdon with burning eyes.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon took a sip of his tea and replied, “When did I ever lie to you?”

“Okay then, but I need to discuss the specific details with my family,” Kennedy said immediately.

If Kennedy agreed to this, then this matter was nearly done.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon smiled and said, “Of course. Well then, I shall wish us a happy cooperation.”

“Haha! Have more tea!”

A few hours later, someone knocked on the door of the guest room assigned to Kennedy.

After Kennedy opened the door, he saw Kayden standing at the door. So, he smiled and asked, “Kayden, you’re still up. Can I help you with anything?”

Kayden smiled and said, “I have some questions I want to ask you.”

With a nod, Kennedy said, “Come in.”

After letting Kayden in, Kennedy sat on the sofa and asked, “What do you want to ask?”

Kayden asked, “Uncle Kennedy, I don’t think the Atticus family is qualified to cooperate with us. What do you think?”

Kennedy narrowed his eyes slightly and asked slowly, “I don’t understand what you mean. If they are not qualified to cooperate with us, why did you and your father invite them over?”

Kayden said softly, “Someone needs to be sacrificed in order to deal with Jasper. I don’t want to be sacrificed, and I’m sure you don’t want to be sacrificed too. Then, naturally, we need to have someone who we can

sacrifice to enter this alliance. Uncle Kennedy, do you agree with this statement?"

Kennedy smiled and said, "Kayden, you mean you want us to unite and take action against the Atticus family?"

Shaking his head, Kayden said, "No, we are still partners for now. Since we are all partners, how can we take action against each other? I simply mean that if there is a need, we can actually use the Atticus family as a shield."

Kennedy patted the armrest of the sofa and sighed ruefully, "Interesting, very interesting. I'm very interested. So, why

don't you tell me how this will go?"

At the same time, Half-the-Harbor Langdon welcomed Sawyer into his study.

"Joe, is the cooperation we negotiated before still valid?" Sawyer asked straightforwardly.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon smiled and said, "You helped me convince Kennedy to join and I will give you a 20% discount on the property you want to buy from me in Harbor City. Of course, it is still valid.

"After this, you can make a list of the properties you want. I'll ask someone to trade with you then."

Half-the-Harbor Langdon's words

delighted Sawyer.

"Joe, in a sense, you and I are almost the same. We all lack a real heritage and the W. Langdons' old master is still alive. I'm afraid that we will suffer in the future in this regard," Sawyer said profoundly.

"Oh? What do you have in mind then, Sawyer?" Half-the-Harbor Langdon asked calmly.

Life at the Top Chapter 1873

Sawyer looked at Half-the-Harbor Langdon's neutral expression, but in reality, his heart was fed up with this.

If he did not have another choice and was not forced to do this, he would not bother to entertain Half-the-Harbor Langdon, the world-famous traitor.

When Kayden and Jasper worked together, he was able to make Kayden turn traitor at the most critical time.

Now that the three of them were working together, it was really hard to say how much loyalty Half-the-Harbor Langdon would have.

Even so, in order to ensure self-interest, Sawyer still had to say and do what was necessary.

"What opinions can I have?"

Sawyer smiled and said, "You know, Kennedy is just powerful because he's relying on his father. He has never bothered about you or me. Did you see his reaction when you offered to cooperate? If it weren't for you agreeing to let him pick some of your property in Harbor City, he'd still be reluctant to cooperate with us.

“Also, you and I know Kennedy’s character. We both know he is not the kind of person who is willing to be directed by others.

“Compared to being ordered around by Kennedy, I believe in your character more, Joe. So, it is better for us to join hands and reach a tacit agreement before voting on some important matters. Of course, I will fully support your decision. Kennedy will have no choice but to accept unless he can steel his heart and have a fall-out with us.

“I have thought about it. With his character, he will not have a complete fall -out with us. Otherwise, he will have offended us and will then have no room to maneuver, especially with the Laws pressuring him on the other side. No matter how strong the W. Langdons are, they are still not strong enough to hide the truth from the masses. When the time comes, won’t you be the one with the final say among the three of us?”

Half-the-Harbor Langdon looked at Sawyer and asked with a half-smile,
”

Sawyer, what do you want from me now that you’re supporting me so much?”

Sawyer smiled and said, “Actually, my request is very simple. How about 15% of your project in the United Kingdom

Half-the-Harbor Langdon said slowly, ”
You’re not greedy.”

Sawyer shrugged and said, “This is a deal where you’ll only make a profit. It’s up to you whether you want it or not.”

“If I say no, you will find Kennedy and tell him the same thing you said just now, but the target will be me, right?” Half-the Harbor Langdon seemed to be able to see through Sawyer’s soul as he said that.

Sawyer responded without changing his expression, “No, I told you that Kennedy and I are not the same. Plus, he despises me to the bones, so we can’t cooperate.”

“You’re wrong. I think as long as the benefits are sufficient, any two people in this world can cooperate.

“But...”

Half-the-Harbor Langdon stood up, smiled, and stretched out his hand toward Sawyer. He said, “Since I think this sale is a good deal, why should I say no? Then, I shall wish us a happy cooperation.”

“Haha, I know you, Joe, you are a sensible person. We’ll take what we need from each other for mutual benefit.”

“I like what you just said. Mutual benefit.” A few minutes later, Kayden walked into

Half-the-Harbor Langdon’s office. Before he could get there, he saw Sawyer coming out of his father’s office.

When he saw the grin on Sawyer’s face, Kayden turned slightly to let him pass and greeted Sawyer while he was at it, “Mr. Sawyer, you’re still awake.”

“I’m going now. Are you going to talk to your father?” Sawyer asked. He was in a good mood.

“Yes, there are still some arrangements tomorrow that I need to confirm with my father,” Kayden replied.

“Alright, very good.” Sawyer patted Kayden on the shoulder and praised, “Joe is spared of so many worries by having a son like you.”

Life at the Top Chapter 1874

“Mr. Sawyer is too kind. Please watch your steps”

After watching Sawyer leave, Kayden narrowed his eyes slightly. Then, he turned and entered Half-the-Harbor Langdon’s study.

“Dad, you have such incredible foresight. Sawyer did come to you while I went to look for Kennedy,” Kayden said as soon as he entered the room.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon, who was using this time to deal with some official duties, replied without looking up, “There’s no incredible foresight in this world. I just put myself in their positions and made some guesses based on their respective personalities.”

“How was it? Did the conversation with Kennedy go well?”

Kayden sat across from Half-the-Harbor Langdon and said, “Yeah. Kennedy is just like you predicted. I didn’t spend much effort and he agreed.”

“It’s good that he agreed. That way, we

have room to maneuver.”

Half-the-Harbor Langdon rubbed the bridge of his nose in exhaustion and said slowly, “Kayden, you have to remember that there are no friends or relatives in this world. When necessary, even father and son or even siblings can turn against each other. Benefits are the only eternal thing.

“Only in this way, will you not have to

worry about being betrayed.

“What we have done is actually just to prevent ourselves from being scammed by them, so no matter what you do in the future, you must think twice and consider all possible and impossible results. A relatively complete layout will be the foundation of your invincibility.”

Kayden nodded after he heard Half-the Harbor Langdon’s lecture.

He looked at Half-the-Harbor Langdon’s tired face and said softly, “Dad, you grew a lot of gray hair during this time.”

“I’m very stressed.”

Half-the-Harbor Langdon sighed and

said, "We lost tens of billions of US Dollars in Layman's M&A case. Now, Fongroup's entire capital chain is on the verge of collapse. If there is even a little disturbance, we will be exposed. So every step I take is like walking on thin ice, and I am being very careful. It was too painful this time."

"It was that f*cker Jasper who pushed us to this point." Kayden gritted his teeth.

"Don't blame others. We didn't think about it clearly back then."

Half-the-Harbor Langdon said with a sullen face, "If you lose, you lose. If you don't even dare to admit that you lost, how can you win back what you lost?"

Kayden said angrily, "But I'm just not reconciled."

"It's good that you're not reconciled. If you're not reconciled, you have to win it back. Those punks from the United States and Jasper will pay back this debt. This day will come soon."

Although they knew that Half-the Harbor Langdon, the Atticus family, and Kennedy were colluding, Jasper had no way of knowing the specific contents of their cooperation.

Right now, Jasper had no time to worry about what these three people would do.

He had received news from the little prince, Lord Alvarado, Simson, and Moses, and they had done everything he asked them to do.

"Thanks for your hard work."

Jasper said to the four people in four different windows in front of the computer.

“Let’s not wait too long. Let’s set the date for tomorrow., We’ll hold the economic forum on the top floor of the Pearl Tower i n Waterhoof City and we’ll regard it as a meeting for everyone. You guys will be responsible for sending notices. Since this is too urgent, we won’t be making invitations. Oral notices shall prevail. Let’s call it the first Somerland Business and Economic Forum.”

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Life at the Top Chapter 1875

Everyone was very busy right now because they were working together, so Jasper ended the video call after guiding them and making suggestions after making sure everyone understood the general plan.

At this time, the United States stock market closed for the day. Today, the subprime market collapsed drastically Except for the United States government's announcement of the postponement of the settlement date of the subprime market stock index, everything else went smoothly.

Meanwhile, the domestic stock market had also opened.

There was no doubt that Soros vented all the shame suffered by the United States financial market today onto the domestic stock market in Somerland in a retaliatory manner.

Thus, the domestic stock market in Somerland was hit hard again.

At one glance, it was all limit-down stocks that had fallen by 10%.

The Somerland stock market had just started, and it was still in its infancy, so how could it withstand such devastation? The whole market was full of grief and there was an atmosphere of pessimism and despair everywhere.

At least the stock market had a 10% limit line to protect them, the most exaggerated was the futures market.

Today, in addition to cotton futures, the soybean and corn futures were also faced with Soros's offense.

However, unlike cotton futures, Soros

went long on these two products.

Only today, the price of soybean and corn futures skyrocketed. Soybeans soared from 3300 Somer Dollars per ton to 3900 Somer Dollars per ton, while corn futures skyrocketed from 1500 Somer Dollars per ton to an exaggerated 2200 Somer Dollars per ton.

This single-day increase directly broke the historical record.

However, behind this was a huge conspiracy propogated by Soros and backed by the United States government.

After learning that Soros was going long o n soybeans and corn, the first thing Jasper thought of was the food war that took place around 2007 before his reincarnation.

At that time, the four major international grain merchant groups attempted to control domestic grain prices and frantically increased the prices of main grains, but at that time, Somergrain, which had risen at the time, relied on its reserves that were as deep as the sea to forcibly beat the four major grain merchant groups, that were controlled by the capitalists, to the ground.

At present, Soros or the United States government might not have plans to take this same path.

Jasper immediately searched up the main food prices in the current international market.

Sure enough, this year's food prices were generally bullish. The prices of major products such as wheat and soybeans had increased by 20 % -40% since the previous year.

"Baz."

Jasper called Baz into the office.

“Keep an eye on the price of food futures. Tomorrow is the weekend, so both the United States and our country will not trade. You and your team will need to work hard these two days to make a report on the trend of international food prices over the past year, as well as the degree and summary of capital participation of Wall Street on this commodity for me. The more detailed the better.”

Baz was taken aback. Although he did not understand the intention behind Jasper’s command, he nodded and answered, “ Okay, I understand, Mr. Laine.”

After that, Jasper gave no more orders.

He watched the prices of soybeans and corn, which were finally locked in a super high position, until the break, then sighed slightly.

After the wave of attacks today, it was unknown how many accounts would be liquidated and how much funds were evaporated in the country today.

He was not a god, so he could not handle everything. He was helpless in the face of these losses. Although it was unknown how many families had been destroyed behind these accounts, this was always the case with a financial war.

Even if there was no gunpowder, its cruelty was no less than in a real war.

Moreover, the same thing happened in the United States, where he was the instigator, so Jasper did not have the right to feel sad.

After trading closed today, the domestic financial community quickly responded to today’s market conditions.

Western capital’s long grain futures was something that no one would have imagined. Since there was no precaution, the losses were extremely heavy.

Everyone was counting how many accounts had been liquidated in the domestic futures market and how much money had evaporated from the stock market. They thought that this was just normal financial trading by Wall Street Capital and did not think whether there was a deeper meaning to it.

Just when all kinds of voices were raging,

a piece of gossip excited countless people.

The first Somerland Business and

Economic Forum hosted by Jasper, the

actual founder of the JW, would be held in

Waterhoof City Pearl Tower on Saturday.

Even the financial circle and the capital circle in the country right now were still in their infancy, and they were imitating the ways of foreign countries in my things. To put it bluntly, they were in a barbaric era.

Therefore, when they heard the term "economic forum", most people were dumbfounded and did not understand what this forum meant.

However, this did not prevent it from giving a boost to everyone's confidence..

Because it was said that this time, the

economic forum was mainly about domestic businessmen who were about to unite to fight against Wall Street capital in the west.

Most importantly, the government was also a part of it.

Furthermore, a big tree was a good shelter. In a sense, Jasper's name had become the support pillar of countless people.

As long as Jasper was around, everything could be saved.

Regardless of how the outside world discussed and speculated, preparations for this economic forum, which was deliberately not kept confidential, had already begun.

On that day, Waterhoof City Airport was extremely busy. Furthermore, the attendance rate of VIPs on flights from all over the country was surprisingly high.

As a result, the communication between the pilot and the tower was, "Tower, let me land first, there is a VIP on board."

"Your VIP's status is not high enough, get in line. There are three VIPs with much higher statuses that are landing right now."

The so-called VIP was the special treatment that airlines gave to certain distinguished and noble guests. Flights with these guests onboard could usually land and take off on time.

These flights heading to Waterhoof City today were all carrying VIPs who were celebrities in the business world.

A boss with a net worth of one hundred

million or two hundred million was not

eligible to participate.

All traffic within three kilometers of Pearl Tower was controlled. The Waterhoof City government personally organized security forces to enforce martial law on Pearl Tower, claiming that it was for equipment maintenance and repairs. Hence, people who come to sightsee would be prevented from getting close.

Moreover, the surrounding five-star hotels were all full. Luxury cars of all colors came forward in line. The event caused an enormous uproar, and all this was for a non-governmental economic forum that was going to be launched over ten hours later.

Life at the Top Chapter 1876

Among the flights to Waterhoof City was a private jet that flew directly from Meleya t o Waterhoof City International Airport.

The exterior of this private jet was painted with Coyle Brothers Group and Kelly Group in both Somerish and English..

The owners of this plane were the famous overseas Somerland businessmen, the Coyle brothers.

After the plane was parked on the tarmac, a gray-haired old man got off the plane. Then, he got into the MPV that had already been prepared before heading towards the hotel.

This old man was Terra's Sugar King, Robert Coyle, the head of the family group and the actual controller of the Coyle Brothers Group.

"Mr. Coyle, we just received the news that Jasper, the actual controller of JW, is already waiting for you at the hotel."

Robert's assistant said softly inside the MPV.

Robert nodded and said, "I wanted to

meet this kid a long time ago.

Coincidentally, I can use this good

opportunity to satisfy my wishes."

Next to Robert was his nephew, Wilbur

Coyle.

Wilbur frowned and said, "Uncle, I'm afraid the reason Jasper is holding this economic forum is to unite everyone to fight against Western capital.

As far as the current situation is concerned, Somerland can't fight against United State capital."

Robert smiled and said, "So, what do you have in mind?"

Robert was actually more concerned about his nephew than his own son..

Although he had gradually handed over the power of the family and business to his son, it was his nephew Wilbur that he admired and was satisfied with the most.

It was with his support that Wilbur created the foundation of the Oceanic Kelly Group. In addition to this, Robert brought his nephew Wilbur instead of his son this time.

Wilbur replied, "Jasper specially invited us through Somerland's official channels this time. I am afraid that he is only after our financial resources and he'll only be satisfied if we spend some money.

"I have read about Jasper's rise, and I found that this guy who is 12 years younger than me is a real monster. He started from a rural man with no background and no foundation to a veritable first-generation young Somerland businessman. How many years did he use to achieve all of that?

"After looking at every step of his business strategy and plan, I realized that they are always far-sighted considerations behind every decision he makes. So, I recommend that we don't easily agree to any request or suggestion from Jasper and we observe everything carefully."

"Your idea is good, but it still lacks some high-level views of the overall situation."

Robert said earnestly, "Yes, Jasper is the one hosting the Somerland Economic Forum this time, but everyone with a discerning eye can see that Swallow Capital is behind Jasper on this.

"Even I can be sure that the highest level of

f Swallow Capital has made a decision. They have already made a decision to let Jasper hold this economic forum and have even showed up to support him.”

Robert raised his hand and patted the back of his nephew’s hand. Then, he said with emotion, “In the next 20 years, no, 30 or even 40 years, if Jasper does not make any fundamental or principled mistakes, then he will not fall.

“If Kelly Group and us Coyle brothers want to develop in the country, we must have a good relationship with people like Jasper. So what if Jasper wants to use us?

“Countless wealthy businessmen and billionaires are participating in the economic forum this time. Since we can reach some tacit understanding with Jasper, it is already a recognition of our strength. Plus, this is also good for the future development of Kelly Group in Somerland.”

Wilbur answered in a puzzled manner, ‘

Uncle, when Somerland faced

international sniping, you spent a lot of money and great effort to help the country tide over the difficulties. Even now, our brand Arowana has developed smoothly in Somerland. We don’t have to humble ourselves for someone else.

“After all, the Arowana brand is only a sub.-brand of the Kelly Group and edible oil industry is only a sub-industry. Can the Arowana brand support the entire Kelly Group singlehandedly?

“Haven’t you been eying the domestic

real estate industry and financial

investment industry for a long time?

Jasper has a huge say in these industries.”

Robert answered warmly, “Due to historical reasons in Somerland, the national conditions and culture are also very special. This country is our roots and we are of Somer descent. No matter where we go, we cannot change this identity.

“Your grandfather, your father, and I,

have been committed to the development

of Somerland over the years but we're not

doing it for the group or the Coyles, instead it is for the principle that people should not forget their roots.

"The reason why the Kelly Group could develop to how it is now is because of the family philosophy stating that we're of a common origin. If I can help the motherland and accelerate its development, it'll be a win-win situation. Hence, it is worthwhile to compromise and exchange interest during this

process."

After speaking, Robert saw that his nephew still had something to say, so he smiled and said, "No matter what, we'll decide when we see Jasper.

"Don't underestimate Jasper just because he's younger than you. Don't talk so much later, instead, you should observe and learn because it's good for you. It is not easy nor simple for such a young man to get to where he is now. There will be something worthy in him that you should learn from, understand?"

Although Wilbur was still dissatisfied on

the inside, he nodded and said, "I

understand."

After more than an hour, the convoy

passed the traffic control checkpoint and arrived at the Shangri-La Hotel that was

not far from Pearl Tower.

The entire hotel had already been booked

out by JW, and everyone who had been

settled here was important to this

economic forum.

Jasper, who had just arrived from

Nauritus City, was waiting at the door of

the hotel.

Logically speaking, with Jasper's current wealth status and prestige, if he did not want to, no one would be worthy of him waiting for them at the door. Yet, Jasper still came.

It was not for anything else other than

because Robert was a patriotic

businessman worthy of respect and

remembered by everyone in Somerland.

His dedication to the motherland was

second only to Old Master Law in a sense.

The convoy came to the door and Jasper personally walked to the car to open the door. Then, he smiled at the slightly surprised old man inside, "Mr. Coyle, I am Jasper Laine, a superficial junior. I thank you for coming."

Robert laughed and raised his hand to get out of the car with Jasper's help. The nearly eighty-year-old man said to Jasper vigorously, "Mr. Laine, you are so polite. I'm just an old man, how am I worthy of your politeness?"

Life at the Top Chapter 1877

“Mr. Coyle is the leader of overseas Somer descent businesspeople, and a model that all young people in Somerland should learn from. Mr. Coyle deserves this respect no matter the time and place.”

Jasper’s smile was like a breeze in spring, and it made everyone feel very comfortable.

The words he said sounded nice, but the most important thing was his sincere attitude. It felt as if it came from the heart and was said without any pretentiousness.

Indeed, with Jasper’s current status and value, he did not need to suck up on Robert even if the latter controlled 80% the sugar industry in Meleya and had 10% ruling right in the global sugar industry.

Hence, those words were definitely sincere.

Because of this, Robert was in a good mood.

He proactively stretched out his hand and said, “It is so gratifying for us old men to see young people like Mr. Laine succeed in our nation.”

The two of them shook hands tightly in mid-air.

And this scene was also captured by a media reporter who had already been prepared at one side.

In this photo, the protagonists were Jasper and Robert. They represented the new generation and the older generation of Somerland business leaders respectively. Meanwhile, all the top business leaders were in the background.

Abbylon's Wayne Marlon, Terizone's Hudson Moore, Sena's Jack Tanner, Hill Capital's Ray Engels, Vast Mountain Capital's Penn Summers, Leno Group's Colby Willows, HW Group's Felipe Reagan, National Electronics' Jenny Durham, Sunny Electronics' Milton Short

After looking at them closely, almost all of them were the top bigwigs of the business world in this generation.

However, they could only be Jasper's background at this moment.

Afterward, this photo was also selected as the first place among Somerland's top ten social activities of the year. Until many years later, it was still discussed enthusiastically by some rising stars in the Somerland business community.

After exchanging some pleasantries downstairs in the hotel, Robert discovered that Jasper did not intend to lead him into the hotel. So he asked, "Are there any other guests coming?"

Jasper smiled and answered, "Yes, they are special guests from Swallow Capital, and they will be here soon. Mr. Coyle, do you want to go in and take a break first?"

Robert's eyes lit up.

He knew that the economic forum this time would not be that simple and Swallow Capital had to be supporting from the back.

However, he did not know the extent of Swallow Capital's support for Jasper in this economic forum.

Now that Swallow Capital was sending someone to participate as special guests, Robert immediately understood the deep

meaning behind this.

After looking at the bigwigs in the domestic business circle who were following Jasper, Robert understood.

This was to build momentum.

Swallow Capital created momentum for Jasper, and at the same time, Jasper was also creating momentum for himself.

So, naturally, Robert would do him this

favor, which came at little cost.

“No need. Even though I am old, I am still pretty healthy. I will wait here with you.”

Robert smiled.

Jasper nodded and said warmly, “If you feel tired, I will immediately arrange for someone to send you upstairs to rest.” Robert smiled and waved his hand, motioning Jasper to not bother about him.

Then, Robert went to chat with the background characters behind them who were eager to come up and greet him.

“Mr. Laine, hello. My name is Wilbur

Coyle...”

As soon as Robert left, Wilbur

immediately came up to greet Jasper.

Back when Robert was there, he would not have had the chance to speak. Now that Robert was gone, it was obvious that he was deliberately giving time and space to let Wilbur get to know Jasper. Naturally, he understood his uncle’s good intentions.

Jasper interrupted him directly and said with a smile, “I know, you are the boss of Oceanic Kelly and Arowana Cooking Oil is your brand. To be honest, my family has always used your brand’s cooking oil.”

Wilbur’s eyes lit up and he said hurriedly, “Thank you for the compliment, Mr. Laine.”

Jasper looked at Wilbur, who was 12 years older than him, and smiled. “I have heard of Mr. Wilbur’s deeds, and I heard that you intend to develop in the domestic real estate industry.”

Wilbur nodded and said, "The rapid development of the domestic economy is an ironclad fact. Regardless of the country, rapid economic development cannot be separated from the support of the real estate industry. Therefore, I am very optimistic about the future of the domestic real estate industry and have always wanted to get involved."

Jasper nodded and said, "JW Real Estates has some experience in the domestic real estate industry. If we have the opportunity, we can exchange more information. JW Real Estates is mainly engaged in the residential real estate industry. I wonder, which one Mr. Wilbur is focusing on right now?"

One could tell whether someone was an expert the moment they opened their mouths.

Most people only knew the concept of the real estate industry, but they did not know that it was very broad and there were many sub-categories to it.

For example, the residential category was similar to the Verde Town, Poli Real Estates, Somer Vanke, Jade Laurel Garden, and so on, and they were mainly for residential commercial housing projects.

On the other hand, there was also commercial real estate. Millenia Group, owned by Cody Whorton who gained popularity in later generations, was the leader in this category. Moreover, Stylish Property, Delight Property, and Nature City were doing commercial real estate with large shopping malls as the core.

Wilbur was intrigued. If Jasper was just being polite when he said that they could exchange information, his intentions were made clear now.

It was not easy to start in the real estate industry without the support of others. Getting the funds was relatively easy, but the key factors were connections, government agreement, and resources.

"I am looking at commercial real estate. I want to build a few large shopping malls in first-tier cities in Somerland."

Wilbur was a little excited. If he could get Jasper's support, then his long-prepared plan could be implemented.

Jasper nodded and smiled, "Okay, this would be very valuable for investment in the future. We shall talk about this if we have the opportunity..."

Jasper's words were interrupted by a

convoy.

Unsurprisingly, this was the government representative from Swallow Capital.

The Secretary-General, Tony, got off first, then Mr. Mason and Ms. Garcia.

What surprised Jasper the most was Mr. Mason and Ms. Garcia seemed to be waiting for someone after they got out of the car.

Obviously, there was someone very important still inside the car.

Just as Jasper stepped forward, the last

person in the car got out.

When he looked at the smiling and energetic middle-aged man in front of him, Jasper finally knew what infinite royal graciousness meant.

Even if he was insensitive to politics in his previous life, he would still recognize this man in front of him.

The current second-in-command in finance, the future second-in-command of the national economic and financial work in the State Council, and the fifth ranked top bigwig, Sim McNeal.

Sim's appearance not only made Jasper feel overwhelmed by favor from his superior, but it also shocked the background characters as well as Robert, who were standing behind him.

They never expected Swallow Capital to send such a bigwig to an economic forum organized by a non-governmental organization.

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Life at the Top Chapter 1878

“Jasper, your comments caused us to hold so many meetings for several days in a row. We’re old men who are almost at the age of retirement and yet we’re all shouting over your opinions with red faces. We’ve even suffered so much hair loss! You have to be responsible for that.”

Sim was very straightforward and entertaining in conversation. He walked up to Jasper and guffawed without any pretensions.

This tone and demeanor were not like two people who were meeting for the first time, nor was it the attitude of a senior official to a merchant.

It was affectionate and amiable, like the conversation of an uncle with his nephew.

When these words went into the ears of outsiders, they sent an important message aside from also making the listeners feel jealous over the warm attitude.

Jasper’s opinions could go directly into the ears of the officials and those old folks in Swallow Capital would then hold meetings to study them behind closed doors.

This was not simple at all.

This was not something a businessman could do.

Because of this, everyone was looking at Jasper weirdly.

Some were envious, some were dubious, but more of them were in awe.

Jasper did not know how conflicted the gazes were behind him. He smiled bitterly and said, "Mr. McNeal, I just gave some immature suggestions from my own standpoint. Many of them are naive and not comprehensive enough, so that's why they caused so much trouble for everyone."

Mr. McNeal waved his hand and said with a smile, "Your opinion, in the words of an old man, is like a child shooting a cannon. It looks strange, but it's loud. At the same time, it's surprisingly accurate too. If you're not prospering in your current career, I really want to take you to my side as a secretary."

Jasper had a strange look on his face. This was not the first time he heard something like this.

Mr. Mason beside him burst out laughing.

It was him who said this to Jasper last time.

After Mr. McNeal and Jasper exchanged some pleasantries, they shook hands and chatted with the background characters behind them.

After all, they were all the bosses of large domestic companies and they had been waiting here for a long time. All they wanted was to shake hands and curry favors with Mr. McNeal, so naturally, Mr. McNeal would oblige them.

Of course, the first one to receive this honor was Robert.

One was a well-known businessman of Somer descent abroad, and the other was the second in charge of finance. The two had known each other a long time ago.

"Mr. Coyle, thank you," Mr. McNeal said

meaningfully, holding Robert's hand.

Robert smiled and replied, "I am of Somer descent, so It is incumbent."

Mr. McNeal said nothing more as he nodded heavily.

After that, it was basically the same with everyone. Yet, when it came to National Electronics, as the only woman on the scene, Jenny was behaving rather reserved.

It was not because she was the only woman at the scene. More importantly, her husband, the founder of National Electronics, was still behind bars. So, she was naturally uncomfortable facing a senior official like Mr. McNeal.

"I know you. You're Mr. Gregson's wife. After that horrible thing happened to your husband, you supported National Electronics by yourself, and that's why it's still standing now. Good job. Women are capable of big things too."

Mr. McNeal paid special attention to Jenny as well. Jenny quickly replied, "Thank you, Mr. McNeal. After what happened to my husband, we reflected on all the bad behaviors we had back when we started the business. Now, all of those bad behaviors have been eliminated and we're striving to be a good company that abides by the law."

Life at the Top Chapter 1879

Mr. McNeal nodded and said profoundly, "That's good. Run your business properly. We welcome all legal companies to develop and operate in a healthy and orderly manner, and we will try our best to provide the best management environments for companies like yours."

After the small delay downstairs, everyone was a little tired because they had all traveled a long distance. Additionally, the economic forum would begin in a few hours, so as per Mr. McNeal's suggestion, everyone returned to

to their hotel rooms to rest.

Meanwhile, after whispering a few words with Wilbur, Jasper went directly into a suite that had been prepared a long time ago with Mr. McNeal.

Mr. McNeal, Ms. Garcia, Mr. Mason, and Tony were all present in the room, and Jasper saw them talking when he walked in.

"Jasper, the economic forum has made a lot of noise," Mr. McNeal said to Jasper.

Jasper nodded and said, "Everyone knows what's going on right now, so they also fully support it."

"That's good."

Mr. McNeal sat on the sofa and said to

Jasper, "Did you inform Mr. Coyle?"

Jasper said, "Yeah, I believe Mr. Coyle

should be here soon."

"Alright, the reason we're meeting before the economic forum is that you said Wall Street capital might take action against the foodstuff in the country. This is not a trivial matter, so we can't be careless in handling this. How sure are you?"

Jasper said sincerely, "When it comes to certainty, this is completely my guess, so I am almost unsure. However, the facts are clear. I believe Swallow Capital asked some professionals to analyze this too and the conclusions drawn should be similar to mine, right?"

Mr. McNeal and Mr. Mason glanced at each other and said with a smile, "You little rascal... Indeed, after you pointed this out, we did find that Wall Street capital is likely to launch an attack on foodstuffs and use it as an entry point."

While they were talking, Mr. Coyle arrived.

This time, he did not bring Wilbur along and came alone.

Obviously, after Wilbur told him that Jasper invited him to a closed-door meeting, he realized that the things discussed in this closed-door meeting would be very confidential. Hence, the fewer people knew about this, the better.

"Mr. Coyle, please sit down."

After Jasper got up and gestured for Robert to sit down, he sat on the other side by himself and saw Mr. McNeal eyeing him. He mulled over this for a while and then expressed his thoughts.

After more than ten minutes of narration, Jasper added, "So, Soros was not shooting in the dark when he suddenly went long on corn and soybeans after shorting cotton futures. We think he still has something up his sleeves which might end up being a huge conspiracy, a conspiracy to attempt to monopolize our domestic foodstuff."

What was foodstuff?

It was people's livelihood and the most basic and fundamental commodity for a country and society.

Since ancient times, people had relied on food. If a country could not even guarantee its own food security, then there would be no need to talk about financial security and national defense security because the rest would be considered nonsense in comparison.

Meanwhile, Robert was particularly

sensitive to this.

He was Terra's Sugar King, and sugar, like salt, was a basic living material of human beings. It could be said that Robert had spent his entire life dealing with these seemingly insignificant things that nobody could do without.

His brows had been tightly furrowed since the start of Jasper's narration.

After Jasper finished speaking, Robert said decisively, "If this is the case, then we must take any measures to stop them!" "With more than one billion people in Somerland, the annual foodstuff demand is huge. Once there's a problem with this system, the radiation will cause huge turbulence that's effect will be even worse than a direct military invasion!"

Life at the Top Chapter 1880

Robert's words deeply impressed Mr. McNeal.

He nodded and said, "Yes, and it is for this reason that when Jasper reported this speculation, it immediately attracted our attention. Unfortunately, after comprehensive analysis, we agreed that the worst has already occurred-Wall Street Capital does intend to manipulate domestic foodstuff prices."

"Is there anything I can help with?"

Robert directly asked this key question.

He knew that if he were told such a thing in advance, then they must want him to make some contribution.

Moreover, Robert did not intend to refuse because he had been helping the country this whole time.

Mr. McNeal solemnly said, "If the situation is dire, we may need to use the power of Kelly Group to mobilize large quantities of grain from abroad into the domestic market to stabilize prices.

"Moreover, Western countries are deeply terrified of our country's rise, and the higher-ups might not be able to help with this matter, so it can only be done in the name of Kelly Group. However, Kelly Group will inevitably be sanctioned by the United States."

When a company was sanctioned, it would mean that it would not be able to do business with any individual or company in this country until the sanctions were over. It was tantamount to cutting off the wealth derived from trading in an entire country.

Especially for large sugar conglomerates like Kelly Group, as this kind of blow was likely to destroy the Kelly Group.

However, Robert just thought for a few seconds before he said, "I'm still going to say the same thing. I am of Somer descent, so this is incumbent."

"Marvellous!"

Mr. McNeal stood up and said excitedly. "Mr. Coyle, thank you for having such a high notion of your duty. The country and the people will thank you for your dedication and sacrifice."

Robert waved his hand and there was a free and unaffected smile on his old face. He said, "I have lived to this age, and I have enjoyed the glory and wealth that others can't enjoy. Plus, I have experienced the ups and downs that others have never experienced.

"But among so many things, the thing that I can't forget up to now is that when the country was falling backward and was bullied and beaten, it was a nation that was trampled under the feet of many. Anyone could kill and rob us whenever they want. Now, Somerland can no longer repeat the mistakes of its late youth period."

Jasper said softly, "Mr. Coyle, don't worry. The humiliation of the nation from a hundred years ago will never be repeated."

Robert nodded in relief, patted Jasper on the shoulder, and said, "The world belongs to young people like you after all. Old bones like us will help you a little longer on your path to the future since we

still have some energy left. After that, it will be people like you who lead the next generation into the future. Good luck, kid.

"The strength of a person or even a company is nothing. True strength comes only when the country and the nation are strong. I hope that in my lifetime I can see people from Somerland walk the earth with their chests puffed out and backs straight. By then, no one will treat us as second-class citizens and no one will dare to treat us as second-class citizens!"

Jasper took a deep breath. The reason why the people from Somerland were so indomitable and the reason why they could pass on five thousand years of history and culture was not based on anything else, but the

selfless dedication and contribution of brave and loyal men like Robert and Old Master Law.

At this moment, he was feeling a little hot -blooded and almost could not control his emotions.

“Mr. Coyle, you can rest assured that you will be able to see that in your lifetime.”

Robert laughed and said, “Well, I will go back and arrange some things first. Hopefully, in doing so, if we ever get to that stage, we won’t need any hasty last – minute efforts. I will now tell the people under me to take advantage of the situation before it deteriorates to that

point. We will be purchasing the foodstuff on the market in advance, and since there will be a lot of work, I will not stay here any longer.”

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Life at the Top Chapter 1881

After sending off Robert, Jasper sighed and said, "Why should my generation not work hard if we have a senior like him?"

"You aren't so bad yourself."

Mr. McNeal said comfortingly, "Everyone knows how hard you work."

"I don't do the things I do so that anyone or everyone sees them. I just do them because I think it's something I should do."

"Mr. McNeal."

Jasper gazed solemnly at Mr. McNeal and Mr. Mason as he said seriously, "This time, I swear I'll make Soros cry all the way back home."

The previously tense atmosphere lightened up considerably after Jasper said that.

Mr. Mason, Ms. Garcia, and Tony bid their goodbyes and left after discussing some other issues for a while longer.

When Jasper noticed that everyone else had left, and he was left alone with Mr. McNeal, he knew that Mr. McNeal probably had something to discuss with him in private.

Sure enough, Mr. McNeal said, "Jasper, Ms. Garcia has brought you your mission from the higher-ups the first time she came around. I want to ask you again now: is there anything you need our support for? Special times call for special measures. All your desires can be satisfied, as long as it does not involve going against our principles."

Jasper thought for a while before saying, "There's nothing else. The main things I require cannot be provided by Swallow Capital. I've mentioned this before. We can't rely entirely on the officials to support the market this time. Our main power must come from private capital."

"Whereas private capital relies on the results of the economic forum. Fortunately, I've been on good terms with everyone before this. Thus, everyone who was convinced to come here is willing to support the market."

Mr. McNeal had a half-smirk on his face as he said to Jasper, "Swallow Capital will not make such promises easily. Aren't you

planning to reap some benefits for yourself?"

"There aren't any benefits."

Jasper smiled bitterly as he said, "In terms of money, I need the big bucks, but I don't need the petty cash. If I want power, they'll definitely ask me to give up JW. But I've spent so much time building JW from the ground up that it's like my child now. Besides, I'm not interested in building a career for myself. In terms of policies, companies like JW are exactly what our country needs now, as it receives openly preferential treatment from policies everywhere. There's nothing else I desire.

"If there really is anything I need, I hope that when all this ends, Swallow Capital will provide me with an opportunity I request. I plan to establish a bank in the country."

Mr. McNeal was stunned when he heard what Jasper said.

"A bank?"

Jasper nodded and said, "Yes, there are some examples of joint venture banks in the country, but banks that are private equity firms do not exist yet. Additionally, this is a rather sensitive industry, so I have a feeling that Swallow Capital will be put in charge of making the final call regarding this issue when the time comes.

"No one else would even have a chance, but there is room for discussion if it's you. Having said that, we'll talk about that when the time comes. The details will depend on the report you pass up to us. After all, this is not something that a few people can decide for you," Mr. McNeal said.

Jasper smiled and said, "That was my exact reasoning."

"Alright, now that we've got work matters out of the way, let's discuss private matters," Mr. McNeal suddenly said as he smiled.

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Life at the Top Chapter 1882

Private matters?

Jasper was stunned.

It was his first time meeting Mr. McNeal, and the two did not share any personal friendship. How could there be anything private to discuss?

Mr. McNeal chuckled but did not explain as he rose to retrieve a small box from his briefcase. As he handed it to Jasper, he said, "Someone asked me to bring this to you."

Jasper opened the box and saw a ruby pendant.

The pendant was a bright, vibrant red that glinted when it caught the light. Obviously, this gemstone was of superb quality that was rarely found.

Most impressively, a lifelike phoenix had been carved onto the stone. The workmanship was exquisite and dainty, and it was obviously the work of a master.

Jasper did not know much about rubies and was far from becoming an expert in the field. However, even an amateur like him could tell that the ruby pendant was extremely valuable.

It was so valuable there was no market

price available for it.

"This?"

Jasper held the ruby pendant and turned to look at Mr. McNeal in astonishment.

Mr. McNeal grinned and said, "Adele is m

y cousin's niece."

Jasper immediately understood.

"It turns out you're related to Adele, Mr.

McNeal. That explains a lot."

It was then that his doubts and unanswered questions were clarified.

Before this, Jasper had always thought Mr. McNeal was a little too enthusiastic and intimate with him.

Although it was evident that Mr. McNeal had come over this time as a gesture of kindness from Swallow Capital, his main purpose was to come to support him.

However, there was still no need to do so much.

Besides, the evident admiration that shone through his choice of words and actions made it clear that he could not even be bothered to hide it anymore. At that point, he might as well announce to the entire world, 'Jasper Laine is a junior that I admire and support greatly.'

Such proclamations might not seem odd t

o anyone else, but Mr. McNeal was at senior official in the system. The average person would not even be able to get near the position he held in their entire lifetime. Thus, on many occasions, people would pay attention to his every action, and even his every expression so they could try to decipher hidden meanings within them.

That was also why Mr. McNeal's identity and status meant that he was destined to make sure he did not go overboard when he took a stand, that he did not show any expressions he was not supposed to show, and not say anything he was not supposed to say. It was because his attitudes would often be interpreted as an official statement by the public.

However, despite that, Mr. McNeal still

showed a great deal of liking and warmth

towards Jasper.

It turns out that Mr. McNeal was a part of the Brown family, and it was his relationship with Adele that made it so that despite Jasper not having come into contact with anyone from the Brown family before, they would make sure to help each other reap the greatest benefits possible whenever possible.

After all, Swallow Capital was also divided into factions. The waters were even murkier here than compared to other places. It was also why Jasper had rarely extended his developments into Swallow City even until now. His entire being showed his reluctance to get overly involved in politics.

However, change happened whether he wanted it or not. His status now meant he had no way of getting rid of fame or fortune completely. Even if he did not get involved with the Brown family, the King brothers, the Combe brothers, and the

Langdon family would all begin trying to get a feel of his attitude.

It did not mean they had to forge an alliance and do anything. Rather, it was to ensure that everyone would work together and get what they needed while taking care of each other, with the prerequisite that Jasper was destined to fly high all the way.

Seemingly sensing how Jasper was not thinking calmly, Mr. McNeal said pleasantly, "You don't have to put any pressure on yourself. We don't have to make any promises or bonds. All you have to do is your own thing, and we'll discuss everything else at a later time. This can be ignored for now."

Jasper nodded, feeling slightly relieved.

Life at the Top Chapter 1883

To be honest, if it were possible, he did not want to deal with these political families.

For no other reason than because he knew without a shadow of a doubt that the current term was coming to an end, and when they elected the president for the following term, these so-called political families would be the first to be attacked.

That president can't bear having grit in his eyes.

Moreover, it was even scarier because of the Brown family's unique position.

Those who knew, knew.

"Here's my card. You can contact me via the number listed here at any time."

As Mr. McNeal handed Jasper his card, he said, "But my work is quite demanding, so it's normal if I can't be contacted by anyone on the outside when I have emergency meetings that usually span between three to five hours. You can contact Mr. Mason too. He's worked for me for many years, and I trust him with many things, big and small."

Jasper understood what he was hinting at and nodded. Ms. Garcia's pleasant, smiling face flashed through his mind as he forced himself to put his thoughts to rest and say, "Alright, I understand. Thank you for your care, Mr. McNeal."

No matter what, a card that gave him a direct connection to the second-in-chief in finance would be worth thousands wherever he went.

Jasper got up and bid goodbye after sitting for a while longer.

The economic forum would be starting in a few hours, and as the host, he still had a lot of preparatory work. Moreover, Mr. McNeal was a busy man who had traveled a long way to be here. Naturally, he had to ensure Mr. McNeal had some time to rest.

Jasper's phone rang not long after he left

Mr. McNeal's room..

A wry smile appeared on Jasper's face when he saw the caller ID.

"Hey, did you get my present?"

Adele's voice sounded cheerful as it rang out from the other end of the line.

Jasper said, "I've received it. It's gorgeous. I love it. Thank you."

Adele huffed lightly and said, "Of course you have to like it. My grandfather gave it to me as a coming-of-age present."

When Jasper heard that this ruby pendant was a gift from Grandmaster Brown, he hurriedly said, "It's such an expensive gift. Is it really alright to give it to me?"

Adele pursed her lips and said, "Didn't you notice there was a phoenix on it? Who gives girls something with a phoenix on it? I've been nagging my grandfather about this for a really long time, and he's agreed to give me another one. I felt that this suited you, so I got my uncle to bring it over for you."

Jasper sighed and said, "I'm just worried

that Mr. McNeal will misunderstand your

intentions in doing this."

Adele's sharp mind was different from other girls. Even more importantly, she had grown up in intense environments since she was a young child, and was now much more sensitive toward politics and public opinion than the average person.

Thus, she immediately understood what

Jasper meant after he said that.

She replied, "You don't have to think about that. Who cares about misunderstandings? Just pretend that such things don't exist. This was a gift from my family, it had nothing to do with me. I hate how these people are constantly plotting against each other, they might as well include themselves in their own calculations. Aren't they tired of living like this?"

Jasper rubbed the ruby pendant between his fingers as he said, "They can't help it is if they're already in the game. But we'll take this one step at a time for now.... I've got something else going on. Talk later."

Jasper interrupted himself mid-sentence and hung up the phone before smiling and walking towards Ms. Garcia.

He had booked the entire hotel, and only Mr. McNeal, Ms. Garcia, Mr. Mason, and Tony were staying on this floor. Thus, if Ms. Garcia still managed to bump into him in the corridors at this point, it was obviously planned and not a coincidence.

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Life at the Top Chapter 1884

"Ms. Garcia, not resting yet?"

Jasper spoke first.

Ms. Garcia smiled and said, "There's something I want to discuss with you privately."

He recalled what Mr. McNeal had told him. If Mr. Mason was one of his men, then Ms. Garcia was obviously not one of them.

Jasper sighed to himself.

This was why he was unwilling to form connections with these political factions.

It was too confusing and torturing.

"Sure. Shall we look for a quiet space?"

Jasper might be thinking that, but obviously, he would not display his thoughts on his face. He smiled warmly as he spoke.

"Let's talk in my room," Ms. Garcia offered.

The layout of Ms. Garcia's room was the same as Mr. McNeal's. They were both suites that first led to a living room and then extended beyond into two bedrooms, a small study, and a parlor.

Jasper and Ms. Garcia headed straight to the parlor after entering her room.

"Ms. Garcia, how may I help you?"

Jasper cut straight to the chase and asked after sitting down.

When Ms. Garcia noticed the exquisite – looking ruby pendant in Jasper's hands, she said, "That pendant is beautiful. It looks familiar too."

Jasper smiled and replied, "Adele asked Mr. McNeal to give it to me. She said that it used to be one of Grandmaster Brown's playthings. I think it's much too valuable, and I don't know what to do with it now."

Ms. Garcia was someone who gave things a lot of thought. When she heard Jasper's choice of words in his explanation and noticed how he did not hide his ruby pendant but instead openly held it in his

hands, she immediately discarded what

she had previously prepared to say.

She replied, "There's nothing to obsess about over this. You should accept it since it was a kind gesture. Pushing the gift back and forth would do even more harm to your relationship."

Jasper nodded and said, "You're right, Ms. Garcia. But friends should be polite and reciprocal too. I should take a look and see which gifts are more suitable so that I won't always feel like I owe Adele something whenever I meet her in the future."

Ms. Garcia's eyes lit up when she heard

that.

Jasper had made his intentions clear.

This gift is an olive branch from the Brown family, and it's terrifying me. However, I can't refuse the olive branch if they've already extended it since it'll harm our relationship.

However, this is merely a mutually beneficial relationship. If they give me some benefits, I'll have to return the favor in the future once I get the chance to do so.

That way, no factions or bonds will be

formed. Everyone comes and goes as they

please. It was the outcome that Ms. Garcia had been hoping to see.

"Yes, I think that's a good way of dealing

with things. Mr. Laine, I didn't expect you

to be so good with relationships, in

addition to doing business."

Jasper smiled wryly and said, "You're too kind, Ms. Garcia. To be honest, I'm just someone who wants to carry out my responsibilities without any complications. Besides, the storm is about to arrive at this point. It wouldn't be a good idea to become distracted by anything else."

Ms. Garcia immediately replied, "You don't have to worry about that. Friends should be considerate of each other. If the situation is not suitable now, we can hang on for a while longer before further discussion. All friends have the same motive, which is to protect the environment where we live. Friendships are not as complicated and sinister as you think they are. Frankly, everyone's just trying to accumulate some good karma

for themselves."

"Thank you for your advice, Ms. Garcia. I'm enlightened."

Jasper felt slightly more relaxed.

It was the best outcome he could have

hoped for.

Ms. Garcia merely asked him a few

questions about work and made small talk

after that.

The two did not engage in another battle o

f wits.

They were all intellectuals here, and there were many matters where indirect words were enough for them to understand the other's stance and takeaways. After all, would not be wise to be too open or upfront about such things.

Because it would be easy to end up becoming the less gracious one.

For Ms. Garcia, she would have completed

her mission as long as she confirmed Jasper had not formed any strong bonds with the Brown family.

Just like some other people, she was unwilling to watch Jasper be set up to become the benchmark for the next

generation whilst also having ties that were too deep with political families.

That was what her boss was most unwilling to see.

People in power hated faction-forming, because once factions formed, things would no longer be done in everyone's best interest.

Jasper's identity and position were sensitive, and he could not get involved in matters as others did.

The other reason behind Ms. Garcia's actions was that she wanted to confirm Jasper's stance.

Luckily, Jasper had given her a satisfactory answer. She believed that her people would be satisfied too.

Jasper did not stay back after leaving Ms. Garcia's room and returned straight to his room instead.

The opening time for the economic forum was approaching. He did not have the extra time to fuss about such matters.

While Jasper rested, turbulence brewed in the outside world because of this

economic forum.

The country's stock markets were finally able to catch a break since they would have a holiday for the next two days. They took advantage of the time to calculate what the country's domestic financial loss would be over just these two trading days.

The number they got shocked them greatly.

Amidst these massive losses, the people's hopes for this economic forum only grew.

They knew that this economic forum held the capital needed to save this disaster.

This was a matter of great importance. Before the economic forum officially began, those attending the forum could not stop themselves from using their networks to contact others to obtain information.

This situation reached its peak upon the arrival of Lord Alvarado, Simson, Moses,

and company.

They became the center of everyone's attention the minute they arrived.

"Little Prince, do we have any news regarding the actions JW is going to take against Wall Street? Will it affect our progress in the United States?"

The president of Helix Group was a Waterhoof City local who was on good terms with the royal family. Now that he had caught sight of the little prince, he did not hesitate to ask his questions..

Helix Group was an industrial group that produced everyday products, and they had just gone public after experiencing countless struggles three months ago. However, before they could reap their rewards from getting listed on the stock market, the Wall Street capital came and caused their stock price to plummet steeply.

It caused Helix Group to suffer huge losses, and the president felt extremely aggrieved over this.

The little prince glanced at him before saying, "We will definitely take action There's no way we're going to let these foreigners walk all over us and take our hard-earned money away.

But we haven't decided on the details of what we're going to do yet. News should be arriving soon."

Life at the Top Chapter 1885

The president had a devastated expression on his face as he said, "Little Prince, our losses are massive. Not only do we have book losses, but even more importantly, our upstream and downstream supply chain have also suffered losses as a result of these attacks.

"We can't sell our products if the raw materials are out of stock, and we've already reduced the factories' production by a third. And this is after we, the strong ones, made advanced preparations. If this goes on, the smaller companies and factories are all going to close down.

"If one link in the industry goes down,
it'll deliver a blow to the entire industry,"

His words resonated with many people
around him.

What he had said out loud was the dilemma everyone was in now.

The people here belonged to powerful companies in their respectful industries.

They would not have been qualified to attend the economic forum if they did not have the required talent.

However, if even they had felt how powerful this attack was, there was no doubt that the smaller companies that were far less resilient and powerful than them had too.

A slight increase in force would be enough to uproot them entirely.

Modern companies were intimately interdependent as industries were all closely linked. A single industry chain might be formed by countless corporations both big and small.

Large corporations had plans of their own, while smaller corporations also had tricks up their sleeves. They had long since formed a mutually beneficial relationship, such that these large corporations would not last long if the smaller corporations all collapsed.

A frosty expression appeared on the little prince's face when he saw how the people around him reacted in response.

If individual companies like them were already bracing themselves for the storm, there was no doubt that the royal family, who had deep roots in all sorts of industries, had even higher levels of sensitivity.

While on the way here, he had already heard from the family that several of their industries had already run into some trouble.

Some of these difficulties were due to losses in the financial market, but even more of them were because of problems that arose and caused a chain reaction in the upstream and downstream supply chains they were linked to.

For example, A Company provided materials for B Company to manufacture into products for C Company, who then sold the products to the average consumer.

That was an example of a supply chain.

If problems arose in their middleman, B Company, A Company could not sell their materials while C Company could not produce the end product.

Thus, B Company's problems would be projected onto A Company and C Company.

This was only the simplest form of a modern supply chain. They were usually much more complicated in actual practice.

Most of the Royal family's businesses

were in the upper-middle reaches of the

supply chains.

Based on the current feedback from his family, the little prince already had the feeling that his family, which used to operate like a massive, well-oiled machine, was now starting to move with less agility because the parts had started to rust.

It was only the beginning. If the condition continued worsening, the parts would not only rust, they would begin

malfunctioning and become detached from the rest of the machine.

As he thought of this, the little prince sighed and said, "Everyone, I understand how you're feeling now. To be honest, the Royal family is not doing much better than you are now. However, the problem is that this is not a difficulty that just one or several of you face. Rather, we're all stuck in a similar situation.

"Thus, we can't rely on just one person or several people to solve this problem. We have to count on each other and gather our resources to tide over this difficult time."

The little prince's statements were superficial and formal, but at least it was a – statement. It helped those in closer contact with the Royal family feel slightly less resentful.

The little prince observed the situation in silence before he smiled and said, "I believe that everyone here has heard how Swallow Capital has purposely sent someone over to act as the economic forum's special guest today."

Sure enough, he managed to pique everyone's interest with that sentence.

Life at the Top Chapter 1886

"I've also received the news as well."

The little prince did not keep them in suspense as he immediately said, "The people from Swallow Capital have arrived and are at Shangri-La Hotel right now. The main star is the second-in-command in finance. I believe that everyone can feel a little more relieved now, right?"

In Somerland, no one commanded more

respect than a superior did when they

made an appearance.

Not to mention that he was a second-in command of a legitimate department. It meant that Swallow Capital was in support of everyone here.

The venue's atmosphere immediately lightened up.

The little prince waved his hands and said, "Alright, I've only just arrived, and I came over in advance because I guessed you guys would be worried. Now that I've told you the news, please settle down and wait for the cars that will be sent over to escort you to Pearl Tower right before the economic forum begins. I'll be leaving now as I still have a lot to attend to,"

Respectful -sounding murmurs rose as the little prince hurriedly left to head towards the Shangri-La Hotel,

The others were already at Jasper's room

when the little prince arrived.

The little prince looked up and noticed that Lord Alvarado, Moses, and Simson were all staring at him.

"Why are you looking at me? Your eyes are as large as light bulbs."

The irritable little prince said snappishly as he flopped onto the couch, grabbed a

drink, and chugged down several mouthfuls before saying, "D*mn it, I've been so anxious about all this sh*t lately. These Americans are out to break our backbone."

"By the way, the person from Raydon is not coming."

The little prince looked up at Jasper and said, "They said they're farmers and can't be bothered getting mixed up in our affairs."

"Raydon? Farmers? The Habers family?"

Lord Alvarado asked as he frowned.

The little prince nodded and said irritably, "F*cking hell, if Jasper hadn't explicitly said to invite them, I couldn't be bothered with that bunch. They're so cocky. Why don't they come and show off in Waterhoof City if they're really that capable?"

"You know Channing Habers, right? You were on pretty good terms with that son o fab*tch several years ago.

Lord Alvarado nodded and replied, "I

know him. He's a pretty idiotic guy."

"That's him. I don't know what got into him this time, but not only did he show n o one any respect, he hung up the phone o n me too. He said something about how w e southern barbarians have no right to meddle in Raydon's affairs."

Lord Alvarado laughed at the indignant expression on the little prince's face and said, "True, that's what the idiot's personality is like. But since when did he have a say in matters as important as this?"

"I bet he's gotten recognition from his family."

Jasper massaged the space between his eyebrows.

Raydon province had fertile black soil that stretched for miles and was considered the largest agricultural area in Somerland. The Habers family owned a large business that mainly produced grains and owned several hundred thousand acres of land.

"It doesn't matter if they don't want to come."

Jasper chuckled and said, "You don't need to be mad, Little Prince. I can guarantee they'll come crying and begging you after the forum. You can treat them however you please then."

The little prince whooped when he heard that and said, "Jasper, you're boasting. People from Raydon have always had a lousy temper, and they couldn't care less about respecting you when their stubbornness takes over. Are you sure of this?"

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Life at the Top Chapter 1887

The little prince had just finished speaking when his phone rang.

The little prince first looked down and then looked back up at Jasper and said, "It's from that idiot Channing."

Jasper did not think too much about it as he reached his hand out and said, "Let me answer it."

The little prince grinned and said, "Alright, since you insist. Have a taste of how arrogant this Raydon idiot is."

The little prince had already handed his phone over to Jasper when he finished speaking.

Jasper answered the phone and put it in speaker mode so that everyone could listen in. Then, he said, "Hello, I'm Jasper Laine."

The person on the other end of the line was visibly shocked. Then, a young man's voice said, "Jasper Laine? I've never heard that name before. Isn't this the little prince's phone number? Ask him to answer the phone."

Jasper was about to speak again when he heard a conversation happening on the other end of the line. Then, the person speaking to him changed to a middle aged man's voice.

"Good day, Mr. Laine. I'm Weston Habers from Grandland Corporation, Channing's father. There was a misunderstanding just now because my son didn't know who you were. Please don't hold it against him."

Jasper narrowed his eyes slightly and said, "Mr. Habers, I was hoping you would attend the economic forum."

"That's exactly why I asked my son to make this phone call because I wanted to offer the little prince an explanation. It's even better that you've answered the phone yourself, Mr. Laine. I'll explain it to you myself."

"I have no intention to attend this so called economic forum. Isn't it entirely self-voluntary? I don't suppose you can force me to attend, right?"

When Lord Alvarado heard the fake cheerfulness in Weston's voice, he leaned towards the little prince with a sulky expression on his face and whispered, "The older one is even denser than the younger one."

"How could the older one reared such an idiotic youngster if he wasn't dense?" Little Prince said with a huff.

However, Jasper ignored their mutterings and replied calmly, "Of course, it's entirely self-voluntary. No one will force you to attend if you don't want to, Mr. Habers. However, I personally hope that you can still participate, as Wall Street is currently planning to launch a sneak attack on the domestic financial market..."

Before Jasper could finish speaking, Weston interrupted him and said, "Mr. Laine, I have no time or interest to listen to this stuff. What does the stock market have to do with us? Grandland Corporation is not a publicly listed company. All we do is sell food. We don't want to get involved with you guys."

Jasper, who had not been interrupted in a long time, said calmly, "But the price of grain on the futures market is something that concerns you, right?"

Weston laughed and said, "Yes, it concerns me a little, but aren't the prices rising now? It's good news for us farmers."

Jasper immediately understood when he heard that.

Weston was an idiot. At the very most, he was an idiot who had taken advantage of the dividends accumulated over time and used them to make something of himself. There was no point in trying to talk sense into an idiot.

"Alright, I see what you mean, Mr. Habers. So be it."

Jasper did not bother waiting to see if Weston had anything to say before he hung up the phone.

Jasper had a dark look on his face as he stood and said, "Everyone, please wait for me. I need to take care of something, and I'll be right back."

Little Prince asked cheerfully, "Are you so mad that you need a place to vent?"

Jasper replied exasperatedly, "Vent? I've run out of patience. I don't think I can wait until the forum ends before I cause trouble for the Habers family. If they can't be bothered with anything, then I'll teach them a lesson for being so short-sighted about the future."

Lord Alvarado watched Jasper walk out the door before leaning forth and asking curiously, "Does Jasper have a way of teaching the Habers family a lesson in such a short time?"

"It's not realistic, is it? The Habers family are virtually unreachable. They've isolated themselves in Raydon and don't partake in anything besides planting crops. It's difficult for their family to get into any scandals, and it's even harder for someone else to mess with their family.. Jasper wouldn't have the necessary tactics, right?"

The little prince huffed before saying, " Haven't you gotten a feel of Jasper's personality yet? Those who offend him don't know what's coming until it arrives. Jasper must be confident in himself if he's said this. All we need to do is sit back and wait for the show to begin. Let's not talk about the Habers family's other faults.

Even I want to mess with them when I see that ignorant and gloating attitude."

Simson and Moses listened nervously. When they exchanged glances, they saw the look of relief in each other's eyes.

Thank God Jasper had not been upset

when they tried to act smart and pull

some tricks out of their sleeves.

Jasper raced towards Mr. McNeal's room.

He did not waste much time in explaining the gist of the entire situation to Mr. McNeal, who did not say much and only told him he knew what to do after he finished listening.

However, as Jasper left, he looked out the corner of his eye and caught sight of Mr. McNeal furrowing his brows together in annoyance as he scrolled through his contacts...

It's done.

In Somerland, not even the most niche industries could afford to offend the officials.

The agricultural industry was a very niche

and isolated industry that rarely needed to form a supply chain with any other industries. They could dominate the market on their own.

This was why the Habers family could afford to not take anyone else into consideration. Most importantly, as Wall Street continued raising the prices on the futures market, it was a given that food prices would have a massive rise so long as the market did not collapse.

This huge benefit was the reason behind the Habers family's arrogance toward anyone and everyone.

However, the problem was he could ignore the little prince.

He could ignore Jasper too.

What about the officials?

Jasper's lips curled upwards into a satisfied grin as he walked back to his room.

"Alright, the forum will start in about two hours. I gathered everyone here before that because I have something to inform you in advance about..."

While Jasper began talking to the little prince and the others about matters regarding the economic forum, Mr. McNeal made a phone call to the Ministry of Agriculture in Swallow Capital.

Several minutes later, the Ministry of Agriculture made a direct call to Raydon's Department of Food and Drug Administration. At the same time, Mr. McNeal made a second phone call to the magistrate's office at Raydon.

Then, the key leader at Raydon's Department of Food and Drug Administration immediately headed toward the Raydon magistrate's office. The two parties had a short discussion before coming to a decision.

They would launch a comprehensive review of Raydon's largest privately owned crop-growing and marketing company, Grandland Corporation. All other activities would be halted for the entire duration of the review.

In simpler terms, it meant that they were seizing the company.

Every man had to be held accountable for the country's greatness!

The order had just left Raydon's magistrate's office when the Habers family, who were in charge of Greatland Corporation, received the news.

With that, the family that had spent countless years establishing themselves in Raydon immediately flew into a frenzy.

Life at the Top Chapter 1888

“Dad, our company has been seized for review!?”

It was slightly later when Channing heard the news. He raced over to Weston’s office and barged in with this question.

Just then, Weston was having an emergency meeting with several of Channing’s uncles.

Weston had a gloomy expression on his face as he said, “It’s been seized. I just got the news that people from the taxation department and Department of Food and Drug Administration have arrived at the company’s headquarters. Nearly all our land has been sealed off.”

The muscles on Weston’s face twitched as he spoke. He had never had something like this happen during the many years he had been in charge of the Habers family business.

“How’s that possible? What about our friends and contacts in those departments? What did they say?” Channing asked frantically.

As the heir, he knew perfectly well that his privilege and power came from his family. He would also be in trouble if his family’s business ran into difficulties.

It concerned every aspect of his life, so of course he was frantic.

Weston’s face was a pale shade of green as he said, “It’s no use. No one is of any use because the order came right from the province magistrate’s office. No one can do anything about it. Who would dare go to

the provincial magistrate and help put in a good word for us?"

"That doesn't make sense. We didn't

offend anyone..."

Channing was in the middle of his sentence when his gaze met Weston's. A name flashed through the father and son's minds.

"Jasper Laine!"

Channing yelled out those two words in astonishment.

"But we just ended' our phone call a short while ago. Does he hold that much power!?"

"He needed just half an hour to contact the magistrate and use his power to mess with us!?"

Channing's dismayed exclamations caused the look on Weston's face to turn even uglier.

Just then, Weston's phone rang.

"It's from a friend who works in Swallow

Capital. I asked him to look into

something a while ago. Let me take this first."

Everyone in the office held their breath and stared at Weston when they heard what he said. No one dared make a sound.

"Mr. Haddow, it's me, Weston," Weston immediately said after answering the phone.

He had not expected the person on the other end of the line to be in an even greater panic than him.

"Weston, what are you doing? How could you have offended Swallow Capital now?"

Weston was at a total loss as he said, "Mr. Haddow, you know how I am. I've always stayed in Raydon and had no ties with Swallow Capital except for you. How could I have offended Swallow Capital? Besides, how could a small family like mine have the guts to throw our weight around in a place like Swallow Capital?"

"You won't admit it even to me?"

The person on the other end of the line sounded visibly angered as he said, went around asking about you and got so frightened I broke into a cold sweat. Tell me, you aren't attending the economic forum at Waterhoof City today, right?"

Weston said indignantly, "I'm not attending. It's got nothing to do with me anyway. Come on, am I a criminal just because I refuse to attend a forum?"

"God, it wouldn't have been an issue if you didn't attend, but you shouldn't have been so final with your words. Not to mention, you said them to Jasper Laine. Do you know what kind of person he is?"

Mr. Haddow sighed and said, "On paper, this economic forum hosted by Jasper Laine will discuss private capital, but in reality, it's got a lot of support from the

officials. Do you know who's attending? Mr. McNeal himself from the Ministry of Finance is attending it with his people.

Weston exclaimed, "How's that possible? Jasper is just a businessman..."

"He's indeed a businessman, but haven't you taken a look at who he works for now? He works for the country!

"Now, Swallow Capital is counting on

Jasper to step up and take the lead!"

Mr. Haddow said ruefully, "The current situation is that the West wants to launch a sneak attack on the domestic financial market and bring down Somerland's economic development. If you take this into account, Jasper is suited to be a leader in private capital. He's hosting this economic forum to resolve this matter.

"But look at what you did. You refused to get involved in this matter just because grain prices were rising. That can be ignored, but look at the attitude you showed Jasper, as well as the way you spoke to him. Do you know how you're acting?"

"If they're nice, you'll be called selfish. If they decide to exaggerate things, you'll be a double-faced traitor!"

It was not just Weston, the entirety of the Habers family felt a layer of cold sweat form on their foreheads when they heard that. Panicked expressions appeared on their faces.

"Mr. Haddow, you know what sort of person I am. I did not have that intention!" Weston hurriedly explained.

"So what if I know? The problem lies with what the higher-ups think!"

"You've got a bounty on your head now. The higher-ups think you're ignoring the greater good for personal gain, and Mr. McNeal is coming over to conduct the investigation into the Habers family himself and find out if you have any offshore capital. Mr. Habers, you have to be honest with me. Do you?"

Mr. Haddow's voice on the other end of the line turned solemn as he arranged his features into a serious expression.

He had already decided that if the Habers family showed even the slightest hint of having offshore capital, he would cut ties with the Habers family immediately.

He did not have the guts to get involved in something that was such a big deal.

Weston immediately said, "Mr. Haddow, I swear on my entire family's life that the Habers family has zero offshore capital!"

Mr. Haddow felt slightly more at ease when he heard that, and sighed before saying, "That's good. At least it won't be as serious as anticipated."

But more trouble is probably coming your way since there's a bounty hanging over your head now.'

"Mr. Haddow, you have to help me," Weston said frantically.

Mr. Haddow laughed bitterly and said, Help you? What means do I have to help you? You have to address the root cause of the problem. Go to whoever caused you to get into this trouble in the first place and ask them for help.

"Listen to me. You must go to Jasper Laine immediately. If he's willing to not hold it against you, the Habers family might come out the other end unscathed. If not, you're on your own."

Mr. Haddow hung up after saying that.

Weston felt as if he had been wrung inside out as he put his phone down. He glanced at Channing and said, "Find a way to get in touch with Jasper Laine immediately."

Channing looked near to tears as he wailed, "But I don't have his number. I only got in touch with him because I called then little prince."

"Then call the little..."

Weston did not finish his sentence before changing his mind and saying, "No, go to Waterhoof City immediately! We can't afford to waste even another second!"

Life at the Top Chapter 1889

Channing had an indignant expression on his face as he said, "But will we make it if we leave now? Will Jasper Laine pay any attention to us?"

Weston gritted his teeth and said, "We have to go even if we won't make it in time -and agree to whatever conditions Jasper offers. This matter takes the Habers family's survival into account. We absolutely cannot be sloppy!"

Weston had never felt this much regret in his life.

He should not have been so greedy to reap temporary benefits that he treated Jasper with such arrogance.

Now, he could not care less about the vengeance Jasper felt. All he worried about now was how low he would have to stoop before earning Jasper's forgiveness.

Mr. Haddow had been clear just now. If Jasper was not in agreement, it would be hopeless for the Habers family.

Weston felt even more regret when he thought of that.

"I shouldn't have done that!"

Weston sighed bitterly and dragged

Channing along with him.

Channing hurriedly said, "Dad, why don't I contact the little prince now and see what he says? Perhaps he can help put in a good word for us."

Stunned, Weston said, "Alright, we'll head over to the airport now. You start contacting him now."

Channing nodded. Feelings of hope surged in him as he dialled little prince's number.

Just then, at Waterhoof City.

The little prince was just about to get up and leave for the venue at Pearl Tower with Jasper and the others.

He grinned when he saw the caller ID.

“It’s Channing.”

“You can answer it,” Jasper said.

The little prince immediately answered the phone and put it in speaker mode.

Channing’s voice immediately rang out. “May I know if this is the little prince?”

That voice was completely different from the arrogant one previously heard, as flattery oozed from every word.

“Yes,” the little prince said calmly.

It was necessary to adjust your tone accordingly during such times, and that had always been the way little prince treated others.

Heirs like them never had a good temper.

Not to mention that the little prince was annoyed at Channing for embarrassing him.

Channing was also a rich heir, so there was no way he did not hear the anger in little prince’s voice.

He forced himself to suppress his temper and squeezed a smile onto his face as he said,

“Little Prince, I was wondering if you could help put in a good word for me to Mr. Laine? Just let him know that we’ve understood that we’re at fault now and that we’re on our way to Waterhoof City. We know that we must apologize to Mr. Laine in person, and we’re willing to carry out any orders he gives us.

“Little Prince, please, you must help me. I’ll be indebted to you forever.”

When Channing finished speaking, everyone, including the little prince, gazed at Jasper like he was a god.

Never would they have imagined that the Habers family would come to them with their tails between their legs shortly after Jasper said he was going to teach them a lesson.

How on earth had he done that?

Not even the little prince and Lord Alvarado, who were also experts at playing tricks and manipulating others, could make sense of it.

However, that did not stop the little prince’s mood from improving massively.

“You fool, you’re begging for forgiveness now? What were you doing before that?”

“You refused to attend when I invited you, but you’re snivelling and squeezing your way in now? What sort of place do you think this is?”

“And you’re asking me to put in a good word for you? F*ck off!”

The little prince hung up the phone after he finished.

“Hahaha, that was f*cking amazing!”

The little prince grinned at Jasper and said, “I’ve got to tip my hat to you for this one. That idiot Channing has always thrown his weight around because he knew his family was so isolated in Raydon that no one could do anything to him.. He’s always been arrogant, but he’s a sniveling b*tch now. It’s f*cking amazing!”

Lord Alvarado gazed at Jasper curiously and asked, “How did you do it?”

“It had nothing to do with me.”

Jasper chuckled and said, “He lives in a secluded area, but it’s not that difficult to reach him anymore. Did they think they’d still be invincible if they actually angered a

nofficial?”

Both Simson and Moses felt the back of their necks go cold when they heard that.

Jasper had never thought that Habers family was a force to be reckoned with.

If Jasper hadn’t worried that these bad apples would spoil the entire bunch by creating a bad atmosphere that incited panic within everyone else, he would not even have bothered dealing with them.

Since the Habers family were coming to beg for forgiveness now, Jasper would set that issue aside.

The time of the event was nearing as the group rode to Pearl Tower.

This Waterhoof City landmark was much quieter than usual now. The usual tourists from all parts of the world had been replaced with security guards wearing matching uniforms.

Several reporters had not entered the venue yet, as they were hoping for a chance to meet the bigwigs on their way in.

Jasper and company were, without a doubt, the largest bigwigs of the day.

The reporters dashed forward when they caught sight of Jasper.

The security guards immediately formed a circle around Jasper and the others. They were about to shoo the reporters away when Jasper halted his steps.

Reporters were otherwise known as uncrowned kings. They had a love-hate relationship with superstars, but they never dared offend them.

However, this also depended on the kind of person it was.

Few reporters dared act recklessly when Jasper was concerned.

It was because Jasper did not rely on their reporting for his income, and he was already well-respected enough within the community. Thus, these reporters felt an innate fear whenever they met Jasper.

However, Jasper's behavior today was amicable.

"Thank you for waiting here, guys, but I really have a lot to do. Let's make a deal.

We'll do three questions. That way, you can return with something to show while I can head on upstairs and finalize my matters."

A warm feeling washed over the reporters when they heard what Jasper said.

No wonder he's the country's model entrepreneur. His poise and manners were vastly different from those who became rich overnight.

"Mr. Laine, what's the topic of discussion of this economic forum? Does it have anything to do with the massive change in the domestic financial market recently?" A reporter acted quickly and became the first to ask a question.

"Strictly speaking, these are two questions. But I'll answer both at the same time."

Jasper quickly drafted an answer before saying, "The reason behind me hosting this economic forum is so that I can provide a platform for everyone to have an accurate view of our country's current economic development. This is so that we can gather all our industries and muster our greatest strengths to help the business environment in our country become more organized and formal.

"As for the recent changes in the domestic financial market, it has indeed been included as a topic for our discussion. As I said, we need a formal business environment, not some ambitious capitalists who will step on everything that needs to be discussed."

Jasper's statement sounded very formal, but there was no doubt his ferocious spirit was packaged within it.

Life at the Top Chapter 1890

A glint appeared in the reporters' eyes

when they heard what Jasper said.

Although they could not change the words spoken by a major figure like Jasper, they were allowed to weigh in with their

opinions.

They would have an attention-grabbing

title once they added in their opinions.

Thus, the reporters let their questions flow freely.

Coupled with the fact there was no host to maintain order, the mess meant that anything could happen.

Jasper even heard a brave reporter ask if he was considering launching a speculative attack on the United States...

F*cking hell, anyone with even an ounce of financial knowledge would know it was impossible to launch a speculative attack on United State dollars. It was such an ignorant question that Jasper decided to ignore it.

"Mr. Laine, I heard a rumor that there will be some official guests attending this economic forum. Is this true?"

"Why would official guests attend an economic forum regarding private capital? Does this mean there's an ulterior motive behind this economic forum?"

"Moreover, we've noticed that this economic forum is branded as the first of its kind in the country. Does this mean

that a second and third forum will be held at set times and frequency in the future?”

Jasper finally heard a question he was

interested in answering amidst

everything that was directed at him.

Jasper glanced at the good-looking reporter, who blushed from excitement when she noticed Jasper paying attention to her, and said, “Firstly, I can say with confidence that we have invited government officials to this economic forum. After all, we need proper advice and guidance from officials if we want to bring order to our markets. Thus, it’s not surprising that we’ve extended a formal invitation to these officials to be our special guests. They’ve been very supportive of us all this while.

“As for the ulterior motives you speak of, I’m not sure what you mean by that, but I can assure you that everything is perfectly just and honorable. There aren’t any conspiracies going on.

“We need to observe the markets and determine if it’s a suitable time to host an economic forum, but I hope that it will become normalized, as we greatly need such platforms that allow people to converse freely with each other. We’ll host a second and third one in the future if we get the chance to do so, but we need to have a great start first. I hope today will provide us with that golden opportunity.”

“Mr. Laine, what is your opinion on Half the-Harbor Langdon merging and acquiring Layman, and then filing for bankruptcy just half a month later?”

Jasper grinned when he heard those questions.

Jasper’s grin had a knowing look to it as if he were saying “if you know, you know”.

News traveled so quickly through different forms of media now that it was no longer a secret that Half-the-Harbor Langdon and his son had stabbed JW Foundation in the back. Thus, everyone

had guessed that Jasper and Joe had long since cut ties with each other.

This could also be observed from how Jasper launched numerous attacks on the United States' financial market whereas Joe had gone on to merge and acquire Layman.

"It's a shame."

That was how Jasper decided to answer

that question as several pairs of eyes

stared back at him hungrily.

"From a technical point of view, it's obvious that this was a failed investment of n Mr. Joe Langdon's part. However, since it's his money, no one has the right to comment on how he wants to use it."

It was easy to read what he meant by that.

Who cares what a rich idiot like him does

with his money?

Whereas him saying it was a shame could be read as him finding it hilarious.

"Alright guys, your three questions have been answered. Do forgive me for having limited time for you. I'll try my best to answer more questions and quench your curiosity if I have the chance to do so in the future, but I really have to go now."

Jasper raised his arms apologetically as he walked towards Pearl Tower while surrounded by his group of people.

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Life at the Top Chapter 1891

They took the elevator to the very top floor of Pearl Tower. The world renowned economic forum would happen at the semi-circular space at the top of the tower.

Most of the millionaires who had arrived ahead of time had already received the news of this, and they could not stop themselves from crowding around the elevator doors.

The elevator doors opened to reveal Jasper, who strode out of the elevator with his chest puffed out.

Right behind him were the little prince, Lord Alvarado, and other people who were all considered to be the best amidst the best in this economic forum, which itself was a gathering of the elite.

They gazed at Jasper as he walked towards them, his snow-white shirt peeking out from his unbuttoned suit jacket. He needed nothing else to add to his unique aura, as he would always be the most eye catching person even whenever he stood amidst a bunch of other bigwigs.

The business bigwigs present could not stop themselves from clapping as they welcomed Jasper's arrival.

After all, those in attendance were rich and powerful businessmen who approved of Jasper. They did not mind placing Jasper on a pedestal during such occasions.

Jasper smiled and nodded his greetings.

In terms of age, Jasper was definitely the youngest person present. Some of the

bigwigs here even had children older than Jasper was.

Therefore, Jasper naturally had to show his gratitude for everyone's support.

He made small talk with everyone he saw, regardless of whether he knew them or not.

Things went well with those whom he already knew, and those that he did not already know were smart enough to hand him their name card and introduce themselves. These people were all rising stars in the country's domestic markets. Even those who seemed slightly less accomplished would do well in the future.

For example, companies like Leno Group

and HW Group were present.

Additionally, all of JW's subsidiaries were present too. Examples included Wayne of Abbylon, Hudson of Terizone, and Jack of Sena.

He was still exchanging greetings with M r. Reagan from HW Group when a middle aged man with a square jaw and no other features to speak of appeared beside him.

"Good day, Mr. Laine. I'm Gideon Sacks,

the owner of Grand Hyatt Real Estate

Company. This is my business card."

Jasper was stunned.

No wonder that square-jawed face seemed somewhat familiar. It turned out h e would be the world-renowned Mr. Sacks in the future.

Strictly speaking, Gideon Sacks was

definitely a legendary entrepreneur.

Before making it big, he was only a merchant who treated the business as a game with the few assets he had to his

name, just like most people from his era.. Those who came before him were even nicknamed “profiteers”.

However, Gideon was different from the other profiteers, who had gradually become a relic of the past as time passed. After returning from a trip to Swallow Capital, he immediately established Grand Hyatt Corporation. From then on, he embarked on a prosperous path where he obtained all the assets he desired.

Now, Jasper was no longer your average audience member who merely looked on in awe. He knew that Gideon definitely had a family member in politics who backed him up. Thus, he was not too surprised that Gideon could be here as a representative of Grand Hyatt

Corporation despite not being entirely qualified yet.

He must have attended because someone

wanted him to do so.

“Hello.”

Jasper took the name card and smiled as he shook Gideon’s hand. Jasper was interested to see what advice the man who would become world renowned in 20 years had to offer.

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However, no matter how influential Gideon Sacks was in the future, he was a nobody that no one paid attention to now.

Gideon was obviously flustered and nervous at how Jasper treated him so graciously.

“Mr. Laine, you’re my idol!”

The first sentence that left Gideon’s mouth nearly made Jasper pass out.

‘Bro, you’re several decades older than I am. I don’t think it’s entirely suitable for you to practically be drooling at me and talking to me this way in public.’

“Mr. Sacks, you’re too kind,” Jasper said as he chuckled dryly.

Seemingly sensing how his enthusiasm was making Jasper feel uncomfortable Gideon hurriedly said, “Mr. Laine, please don’t take it the wrong way. But I really need to express my admiration for your business management skills and wisdom. You managed to expand JW Company from a small, unknown company to where it stands now in just a few years. Could there be anyone who’s not in awe?”

Jasper was tired of listening to the same ass-kissing spiel.

However, it still felt pretty good when Mr. Sacks said it to him.

“To be fair, I got a lucky break. We’re currently in a time where various industries in the country are expanding rapidly. Earning money isn’t that difficult as long as you’re willing to be a little brave and smart.”

Jasper smiled humbly and waved his arms as he spoke.

Gideon hurriedly agreed before saying carefully, "Mr. Sacks, there's something that L..."

Gideon was in the middle of his sentence when a plump, energetic man walked

towards them.

A rare sort of gung ho energy seemed to flow from the man's movements, and the reason why it was rarely seen in an average person was that it was something that could only be cultivated through being disciplined in an army..

Jude Woods from Millenia Group was here.

Millenia Group was established in 1988 while Jude was a boss with several billion dollars to his name.

Gideon could not compete against Woods,

be it in terms of status or money.

Thus, when Gideon caught sight of Jude, h

e immediately held his tongue.

He was smart enough to step aside, but still gazed at Jude with a slightly indignant look.

However, Jude did not realize a dramatic act was happening in Gideon's mind as he walked over to Jasper and politely handed him his name card. He was just about to introduce himself when Jasper smiled and said, "I know you. You're Mr. Woods from Millenia Group," as he took the card.

Jude asked in astonishment, "Mr. Laine,

you know who I am?"

Millenia Group was starting to grow in fame, but most of their power still lay

within the southeast provinces. They had not even started exerting their influence across the northern provinces, much less Waterhoof City, which was one of the most affluent places in the world.

After Jude had taken out a loan at the bank and spent three nights camping out on porches before arriving at Waterhoof City, he had mentally prepared himself to be treated as a nobody.

He had not expected Jasper to correctly identify his name and background.

Jasper smiled and said, "Millennia Group owns several shopping complexes in

Raydon and Daswon. Millenia Group's business model is something not often seen in the country, as they focus on commercial real estate and cultivating a central shopping district in cities. It's a good idea, and time has proven that Millenia Group is doing well. It's not that weird that I've heard of you."

Jude felt amazing upon hearing what Jasper said, especially after being treated like a nobody all day long.

So what if no one else knew him? None of that mattered so long as Mr. Jasper Laine knew him and praised him!

Jude's chest puffed out several inches more as he said happily, "Thank you for the praise, Mr. Laine."

As Jasper gazed at Woods Sr.'s grinning face, he could not help but be reminded of Woods Jr., who would become a nobody after he returned to the country in the future.

"Your son is furthering his studies overseas, right?"

Jude had no idea why Jasper was suddenly talking about his son and was visibly stunned before he instinctively nodded and said, "Yes."

"Not bad."

Jasper grinned and patted Woods Sr. on the shoulder. "Keep up the good work. I've got my eye on you."

"Mr. Laine, there's something I would like to discuss with you in private. I was wondering if you could spare me the time?" Jude suddenly asked.

Gideon's face turned a delicate shade of

green when he heard that.

Privately?

He was the only outsider present now, so he was giving a hint at him to leave, wasn't he?

What pissed Gideon off even more was

that he had taken the words right out of

his mouth.

Although he was so angry that he wanted to kick the fatty, Gideon arranged his features into an understanding smile and said to Jasper, "Mr. Laine, I see a friend of mine over there. I'm going to go say hi to them."

"Feel free," Jasper said as he smiled

pleasantly.

After Gideon left, Jasper said to Jude, "Mr. Woods, we don't have much time left as the forum is about to begin. Please make whatever you have to say to me short."

Jude's military background meant he did not like to drag things for longer than they needed to either. He did not find Jasper's choice of words inappropriate, but rather, felt that they resonated deeply with him.

He said while nodding, "Well, I believe you know that I'm from Raydon province, Mr. Laine. I heard there was a

misunderstanding between you and

Grandland Corporation?”

Jasper had a half-smile on his face as he gazed at Jude and asked, “Why, Mr. Woods, are you trying to make peace?”

Jude’s roots were back in Raydon, and the power both he and his wife’s family held there was one of the main reasons why Jude had been able to rise through the ranks so quickly. Thus, Jasper was not the slightest bit surprised that Jude had connections with the Habers family, the local tyrant family in Raydon.

Jude was smart. He had unlocked multiple secrets of life and knew he could not be forceful in dealing with this matter upon

noting Jasper’s expression and tone.

Hence, he immediately replied, “No, no. I’m just on good terms with the Habers family, and they begged me to help put in a good word for them to you, Mr. Laine. I found the request difficult to refuse since we’re friends, and I thought it would be wise to bring it up to you as it’s quite an important matter.

“The Habers family wants you to know that they’ll do their best to have all your

needs met. That’s what they’ve said and what I’ve quoted. Moreover, they wanted me to bring you a piece of news. Several trading companies have come to Raydon and gotten in contact with grain

producing companies both big and small over the past few days to purchase large amounts of food. It seems that all these trading companies have some form of offshore assets.”

Jasper frowned when he heard that.

It seemed that Soros was not just messing around in the stock market. He had also begun butting into actual trading activities.

“Was it a large number?” Jasper asked.

Jude smiled bitterly and said, “That I’m

not sure. You’ll need to confirm it with

someone from the Habers family, Mr.

Laine.”

Jasper gave Jude a long, knowing look before saying, "Time is almost up. I have to host the economic forum. We'll discuss this later."

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Jude obviously still had plenty to say, but he forced himself to stop talking when he heard what Jasper said. Instead, he nodded and said, "Alright, take your time, Mr. Laine."

Jasper chuckled and patted Jude on the shoulder before he turned and walked toward the stage that had been specifically built for the event.

Around ten chairs were placed on the stage. Naturally, only the most important people had the right to sit on those chairs.

Not even Woods, who would become the country's richest man in the future, had the right to do so now. Those who were allowed to sit there were the most powerful businessmen in the nation.

For example, only presidents of large and well-established corporations like Vast Mountain Capital and Leno Group had seats here.

The podium placed center stage was where Jasper would be making his opening speech.

Once Jasper walked onto the stage, all the presidents, whether they were sitting on stage and holding conversations or sitting in the audience and exchanging pleasantries, immediately stopped what they were doing and gazed intently at

Jasper.

Jasper, decked out in formal attire, became the crowd's focal point. It was then that people realized that at some point, this absurdly young man had

become used to being the center of everyone's attention as well as the recipient of their admiration.

The speakers amplified and broadcasted Jasper's light cough throughout the venue.

"Gentlemen, I have taken the lead in hosting the first Somerland Business and Economic Forum, but it would not have been made possible without the support of the eighty-nine attendees as well as the support from the government. Before I officially declare the start of this forum, I want to thank everyone for their attendance and thank you for finding the time during this important period to gather together and have a fruitful discussion."

The start of Jasper's speech was met with thunderous applause.

Everyone here had a high social standing, so naturally, there were no loud whoops of approval. However, that did not stop them from applauding loudly.

Jasper raised his hands and signaled for them to stop, and everyone was quick to obey.

When he gazed at the faces in the audience, Jasper recognized a few businessmen who would make it big in the future, and he also saw a few faces he could not recognize. Despite that, Jasper knew that if they were here at this point, they were forces to be reckoned with.

And these forces would explode with a shocking amount of power.

"Those who've spoken to me in the past know I don't enjoy being buried under mountains of paperwork, drowning in seas of meetings, or long-winded opening speeches. So, I'll be quick. Since this is an economic forum, allow me to bring up a topic of discussion that will allow

everyone to think outside the box and pick each other's brains as we work together to resolve the problems we are facing."

Jasper cut straight to the chase and

redirected the conversation to the core

problem.

"We'll be discussing just one question in this economic forum. How will private capital respond to foreign capital trampling on and plundering Somerland's economy?"

"This issue concerns the development of all our industries. It does not matter if you're conducting business online or physically. It also does not matter if you sell bath products or heavy machinery. The country's economy serves as a platform everyone relies on for development. If we allow others to

destroy this platform, we'll all lose our sources of income."

Jasper grew solemn as he said that, and he also raised his voice slightly.

"So, we must resolve the problem of survival before we discuss how we can improve our lives.

"That's the topic of conversation for today, and it will serve as the core intention behind our discussions later on."

"With that, I declare the start of the first. Somerland Business and Economic Forum. Let us welcome Mr. McNeal from the State Council Finance Department to take the stage."

Thunderous applause rang out, and everyone watched excitedly as Mr. McNeal walked upstage with a pleasant smile on his face. After exchanging a handshake, Jasper turned and walked towards his seat in the center before quietly waiting for Mr. McNeal to begin speaking.

As the economic forum officially started, a press conference was silently making waves far away in New York, United States.

Reporters filled every inch of the large press conference venue, and everywhere you looked, you would see cameras, microphones, and audio processing equipment.

The reporters' eyes glinted as they gazed at the three people seated on the platform.

These three seats represented three different companies.

Joe Langdon from Fongroup, Kennedy Langdon from Hope Group, and Sawyer Atticus from Atticus Group.

These three groups were the most well known groups owned by people of Somer descent globally. Although Fongroup had become the punchline of various jokes after merging and acquiring Layman, it did not stop the company from experiencing an exponential growth in fame.

Everyone knew that this glasses-wearing old man, who looked gentle and docile when he smiled, could use several hundred billion US Dollars to purchase a bankrupt bank without even batting an eyelid.

“Mr. Half-the-Harbor Langdon, does the cross-ownership among the three groups mean you may merge to form one mega corporation?” a Meleysian reporter asked excitedly.

Joe smiled as he shook his head and

replied, “No. Although our companies are partaking in cross-ownership, we will be conducting operations and audits independently without getting involved in the other corporation’s managerial activities.”

“Moreover, we will only have cross

ownership of dividend shares. We won’t be entitled to join the company as a part of their board of directors, nor will we have the right to make any decisions or cast our votes. Thus, this is merely an in depth collaboration from a financial and economic point of view. We have no plans to merge our corporations.”

He had just finished speaking when

someone else asked a follow-up question.

“Mr. Kennedy Langdon and Mr. Sawyer Atticus . From what we know, Fongroup suffered several hundred billion dollars worth of losses after Mr. Joe Langdon merged and acquired Layman Investment Bank. Aren't you afraid of getting dragged into that mess by collaborating with him now?”

Beep...

All the reporters present gazed at their colleague with respect when they heard the question.

These three people were all bigwigs in Harbor City, and Harbor City reporters would never dare ask such a question. Thus, the only person who would dare ask a question like that would be an American finance reporter who worked for a local company.

Joe glanced at the blonde-haired woman. Usually, he might have snuck an extra look or two at the gorgeous woman's enticing figure, but now, he had no interest in that...

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It was obvious that this blondie had no idea of a saying that was popular amidst the older generation of people of Somer descent: don't rub salt into one's wounds.

Her question was equivalent to slapping Joe right across the face, and it made the venue's atmosphere turn eerily bizarre..

The reason behind this bizarreness was because, on one hand, you had the reporters who were so excited their eyes were turning bloodshot whereas, on the other hand, you had Joe Langdon, who had such a sour expression on his face that it could curdle milk.

Kennedy was feeling awkward too because he had no idea how to respond to a question like that.

Joe reached over and took the microphone, then asked, "Miss Reporter. May I know if you have any experience in financial investments besides your income from this job?"

The gleeful look on the blondie's face turned into a stunned expression. She had no idea why Joe would ask her a question like that, but she still replied, "Yes, I've bought some funds."

"And how are your profits?" Joe asked.

The reporter answered honestly, "The US economy is rubbish now, so my losses have totalled to about half a year's worth of my salary."

That statement resonated deeply with the hearts of most of the American reporters present.

As one of the most well-developed countries in the world, the United States had a wide financial investment coverage. Most families would also work with a fund management company to invest their funds.

When you looked at the United States' economy, it was impossible for a scenario

wherein they did not suffer any losses to exist.

Therefore, the blonde could consider herself lucky that she had only lost half a year's worth of her salary.

"Very good. I have one last question for you. Would your friends cut ties with you because you've lost half a year's worth of your salary?"

Everyone fell silent when they heard what Joe said.

Feelings of resentment also began washing over them.

You think several hundred billion US Dollars is equivalent to half a year's worth of our salaries?

God d*mn it!

Obviously, Joe did not care what the reporters thought of that as he continued saying, "It's normal to have both profits and losses in your investment journey.. Fongroup has been expanding at such a rapid pace that it needed to be taught a lesson and to calm it down.

"I don't think this loss is an entirely bad thing, as it has encouraged everyone in Fongroup, including myself, to reflect on our business investment strategies and locate the problematic areas within

ourselves.

"Thankfully, I have located the diseased portion and am working on getting rid of it. This cross-ownership with Hope Group and Atticus Group is also part of my plan in exploring more options that allow me to run Fongroup even more effectively."

There was a reason why Joe had managed to establish Fongroup and expand it to where it stood today.

It could be said that Joe Langdon was amidst the brightest stars within the business lords of Harbor City.

A person like that would not be defeated by a reporter.

Thus, with just several statements, he not only managed to answer the prickly question that the reporter had asked, but he also managed to redirect everyone's attention back onto the three companies' collaboration.

It was not something that an average person could pull off.

Just as this slight crisis was averted, a reporter standing in the corner of the room raised their hand to ask a question.

Just then, Joe was passing the microphone

over to Sawyer. After all, it was a collaboration between the three families. Sawyer could not be

left behind if Joe and Kennedy had already

spoken.

Sawyer swept his gaze across the venue after taking the microphone. He was thinking to himself that these reporters were a tough bunch to deal with when he noticed the petite reporter standing in the corner. He could tell the reporter was from Sunrise Land based on height alone.

He must not have been thinking straight when he signaled for the reporter to ask their question because his instincts told him a reporter from Sunrise Land would be easier to deal with.

The selected reporter from Sunrise Land had an excited expression on their face as they stood up, but the question they asked made Sawyer want to push them back down onto their seat.

“Excuse me, but all three of you have had

Jasper Laine teach you a lesson. Now, a majority of the Harbor City business group supports Jasper Laine, while you three are the only ones who have a grudge against him. May I know if this collaboration is just to spite Jasper?”

The corner of Sawyer’s mouth twitched.

It was an unwritten rule that there were things that you could not discuss publicly despite it being public knowledge, as bringing it out into the open would put everyone in an awkward position.

However, this idiot decided to mention it now, and Sawyer had no choice but to respond.

Sawyer took a deep breath and arranged his features into a wooden expression before saying, “Our collaboration is so that we can all make improvements upon ourselves. We have no intention of spiting anyone.

"So, is it purely a coincidence that you chose to host this press conference on the same day as the economic forum that Jasper is hosting back in Somerland?"

The reporter from Sunrise Land immediately continued asking questions.

"Tsk."

Sawyer took a deep breath and gave the reporter a warning glare.

'You little midget, you'd best believe that I'll find out which company you work for and cause them to go bankrupt if you don't watch what you say.

However, this reporter did not seem to read the expression on Sawyer's face accurately. Not only did they seem unafraid, but they even gazed expectantly at Sawyer as they waited for an answer.

As everyone stared at him, Sawyer had no choice but to grit his teeth and say, "It was a coincidence."

The reporters tittered. Naturally, no one believed this perfunctory answer.

The reporter from Sunrise Land was obviously dissatisfied. They were about to ask more questions, but Sawyer managed to speak before they did. "Alright, every reporter is only allowed to ask two questions. Now, let's welcome Mr. Joe Langdon in announcing a resolution that all three corporations came to."

Sawyer immediately shoved the microphone over to Joe once he finished speaking.

As for Joe... the corner of his mouth

twitched.

He gave Sawyer a death stare.

'You just said you haven't made any plans against Jasper Laine, but now you want me to announce the resolution we arrived at. Aren't you shooting yourself in the foot?'

The reporters' interest was piqued by this resolution that Joe was about to announce, and they all gazed at him expectantly and excitedly.

Life at the Top Chapter 1895

Now, even Joe felt that things were getting awkward.

However, he managed to diffuse that slight awkwardness in the time it took to take several breaths.

Joe's felt like drawing a pig's head on Sawyer's name card as he gathered his thoughts and said slowly, "We three have come to several conclusions after various consultations and rigorous market research.

"Firstly, on the basis of trust in

collaboration, we have established a

defensive and offensive alliance.

"Based on Somerland's current financial situation, we three have decided to halt all investments in Somerland and temporarily pause work on the contracts we have signed, including, but not limited to, the rubber supply, electronic device materials supply, and financial support for sharing technological skills.

"Secondly, we will terminate all current collaborations that have ties with JW Company. If any of our collaborators are also working with JW Company, they must complete their collaboration within a predetermined date, or else we will terminate our collaborations with said company.

"Thirdly, given the current economic downturn in the United States, and the fact that all three of us view the United States as the most powerful country in the world and have plenty of confidence in the future of its economy, we will be investing a total of 500 billion US Dollars in the American market. We will also use 100 billion dollars from that total to help repay the country's debt."

An uproar arose in the venue after Joe

made those three announcements.

It could almost be described as if a bomb had detonated.

Reporters of Somer descent present went red in the face from, anger.

Whereas local reporters had a delighted expression on their faces.

As for those from other countries, most of them had a gleeful expression on their faces as they seemed pleased with what had just happened.

Anyone who had even the slightest bit of brains and smarts would have understood the two messages they were trying to send through those three announcements.

Firstly, Fongroup, Hope Group, and Atticus Group had utterly betrayed Somerland.

Secondly, they had turned to the United States immediately after betraying Somerland. Not only had they invested 500 billion US Dollars, but they had also repaid 100 billion US Dollars worth of the country's debt to showcase their loyalty.

It would have been a huge deal even on a normal day.

Much less now, when the entire world knew that the United States and Somerland were using the power of their nation's private capital to fight an economic war.

These three corporations had invested the money they earned in Somerland within the United States. It was equivalent to them delivering ammunition to the enemy while also backstabbing their people.

When these two matters stood side by side, the issue of the three companies coming together to work against JW Company seemed much less eye-catching.

"Joe Langdon! Your actions are a textbook example of forgetting your roots!"

Amidst the chaos, a man's voice rang out above the others as he stood up from his seat among the reporters, pointed at Joe, and yelled in Somerish, his face turning bright red as he did so.

Most of the foreigners had no idea what he was saying, but they could tell it was not something nice when they looked at the expression on his face and listened to the tone of his voice.

Joe seemed to have expected this to happen, and he calmly gazed at the press pass laying on the reporter's chest.

Hugo Cena, a reporter for Senson Daily.

There was a massive gap between the two of them, both in terms of social standing and wealth, so Joe could not be bothered to pay any attention to him.

All he needed was to give him a look before security guards immediately appeared to drag the reporter away.

Hugo wrestled himself out of the guards' grips and seemed to not care about the consequences as he roared, "I'll describe what you said and did in great detail so that everyone knows how a modern traitor looks. You've betrayed your country. Look at you now. Do you think you can call yourself a person of Somer descent?"

It could not be denied that reporters had a way with words. He had not uttered a single curse word during his whole spiel, but it was enough to cause an ugly expression to appear on Joe, Sawyer, and Kennedy's faces.

They felt as if they had swallowed a fly. They couldn't spit it out or swallow it, and it felt deeply uncomfortable.

"Drag him out!" Sawyer finally roared, unable to stand it anymore.

The two bodyguards hurriedly grabbed one of Hugo's arms each and dragged him out of the room.

Hugo's skinny arms and legs were no

match for these two strong, muscular guards. As he struggled, he shouted, "We're all people of Somer descent. Some of us shed blood and lay down our lives to defend the nation's dignity, but you three are willing to betray your country and its people for your benefit. Just you wait. People like you will never end up well in the long run!"

Sawyer had an ugly, twisted expression on his face as he huffed coldly and said, "You could spend your whole life working,

and you still wouldn't have as much money as we have in our wallets now! No good ending? What right do you have to say we won't end up well? Broke b*stard!"

The remaining reporters grew even more excited when they heard Sawyer cursing.

They knew they had gotten a huge scoop this time..

"Thus, in my personal opinion, I think we should work together to counterattack the sneak attacks Wall Street has launched on the domestic financial market. However, this collaboration will be different from J W Foundation's vision. JW Foundation plays as the offense and needs even greater cohesion and a more systematic way of conducting operations. Thus, all investors will invest their money in JW Foundation, who will then uniformly manage it all.

"However, because we're playing defense now, we are collectively defending all domestic industries, which means it would be unsuitable for all assets to be grouped, as it would also lead to a reduction in the listed companies' defenses. My idea is for everyone to establish a point of communication where we can share information as well as the commands given. We can utilize the different points of flexibility within each industry to protect ourselves."

Jasper adopted a comfortable position as he sat on the platform and spoke into the microphone.

"In other words, we'll conduct business as usual, but we must put more effort into observing any changes that occur within each industry. Moreover, once the Western capitalists begin targeting their attacks, we must immediately come together and fight against them."

Jasper had just finished speaking when Mr. Willows from Leno Group spoke. "But will the Wall Street capitalists' attacks become more rampant if we only defend without attacking?"

Jasper replied, "Yes, but they won't have the chance to do so. JW Foundation will increase the scale of the attacks launched against the United States market.

"Thus, from my point of view, this domestic financial market situation will only be temporary. All we need to do is hang on for a while longer and avoid becoming overwhelmed. After all, their base of operations is located in the United States."

Life at the Top Chapter 1896

Jasper's reply did not put these old, experienced presidents at ease.

In order to the level where they were now, they not only had to possess exceptional intelligence but were also widely-read critical thinkers.

Thus, they would not blindly believe what anyone said, not even if it was Jasper. Instead, they would put whatever they heard through their thought framework and try to locate any problems that might exist.

Soon, someone spotted a problem.

Mr. Reagan from HW Group said, "But in terms of strength, when you put it on paper, our side would be the one that collapses first."

Mr. Reagan gave Jasper an apologetic look after he said that.

Jasper smiled and gave him an understanding wave.

He had just been stating the facts and was not trying to pick a fight with Jasper.

"In truth, even if Mr. Reagan had not brought this matter up, I would have discussed it as well. After all, I'm sure that this is something everyone is worried about, and it is a perfectly valid and important problem."

Many nodded their heads in agreement when Jasper finished speaking.

"That's right. On paper, we're no match for the United States in terms financial capital. However, that in and of itself is problematic."

Jasper raised a finger and said with conviction, "Both the Somerland officials and the United States officials have not made the necessary preparations for our countries to engage in an economic war. Thus, at the

end of the day, this is something that's between private capital and companies."

That was a given.

If the United States decided they wanted to engage in this economic war against Somerland, Jasper would not waste his time talking.

There was no point in fighting a war they had no chance of winning.

Moreover, based on current international situations, the United States would not engage in an economic war against Somerland that would ultimately also pit the countries against each other.

It was not a problem of whether they would win or not, but rather, it was because it would lead to a complex international situation that affected many other bodies once it started.

The smaller scope made Jasper feel that this matter could still be kept under control.

"Capitalists only have one attribute, and that is they are profit-oriented. Once the capitalists realize their potential losses will be much larger than their earnings, they'll flee. This is something that no one can stop.

Jasper narrowed his eyes slightly and said, "If you look at Wall Street, you'll see

that there are more than 300 companies on Wall Street alone. However, the question is, how many of those companies are actual brick-and-mortar companies? The answer is zero.

"Wall Street uses capitalist methods to control the real economy into making money for them. It is their greatest advantage, but also their biggest weakness.

"As for what I have to do, I have to cause the Wall Street capitalists to suffer major losses. They'll flee once their losses cross a certain threshold. You can make high earnings quickly by using capitalist methods, but you lose that money even quicker. Thankfully, JW Foundation has already completed half of that work, and only the other half remains. That is what I will continue to work on.

"In summary, as long as our country manages to tough it out through the hardest stage at the start, victory is not impossible."

Many people heaved sighs of relief when they heard what Jasper said, and they felt their racing hearts calm down slightly.

After all this, the economic forum was

drawing to an end.

The result and purpose Jasper had been after had also been achieved.

At least all the entrepreneurs who attended the forum had reached a consensus. Everyone now knew that at this point, they should not be holding personal gains or losses against each other now. If they lost this game, everyone would be done for, and things would not look pretty for them.

If they wanted to remain in this game and continue earning money to maintain a high social standing in the country, they would have to grit their teeth and tough it out.

Without considering anything else, at the very least, these entrepreneurs were all feeling the most interconnected they had ever felt.

Of course, even though the formalities had been taken care of, they still needed to discuss plenty of details.

It would require Jasper and other people who were at least in charge of leading companies within the industry to conduct private discussions. It was a time

consuming and troublesome matter, but

with Jasper's prestige and the government's backup, it was just a matter of time and effort. Jasper wanted to get everything done in the next two days before the market continued operations like normal.

Just as Jasper was about to end the economic forum, Wendy hurried over with a solemn expression on her face and gave Jasper a meaningful look from where she stood. Jasper's brows furrowed together slightly. He knew for sure that something huge had happened if Wendy had come over now and requested to talk to him.

However, it remained unknown if it was a good or bad thing.

Jasper handed the microphone to Wayne and signaled for him to continue hosting the economic forum before walking off stage.

After all, in his past life, Wayne's favorite thing to do after making it big was to share his personal opinions and preach about life to others. Hence, Jasper was not worried he would mess things up.

When Jasper walked over to Wendy, he did not even need to ask what was going on before Wendy spoke in a harried voice.

"About ten minutes ago, Half-the-Harbor Langdon, Kennedy Langdon, and Sawyer Atticus acted as representatives from Fongroup, Hope Group, and Atticus Group respectively in achieving a strategic alliance, cross-sharing up to 15% of stocks as they pledged to protect each other's interests.

"Moreover, during their press

conference, they announced three

resolutions that go against the Somer

people.

"Firstly, they're completely backing out of Somer's financial market. Then, they're terminating all collaborations with JW Company and any companies that work with JW Company. Lastly, they've decided to invest 500 billion US Dollars into the United States financial market, using 100 billion US Dollars to settle the United States' debt. The minute the press conference ended, they've already repaid 20 billion US Dollars' worth of the country's debt.

"As a result, the United States national debt market is quickly regaining its footing and gradually rising. As the stock market is still closed now, we're still unable to observe how it will affect Harbor City's stock market.

However, the internal analysis shows that the Harbor City stock market is probably going to see a major drop, and that might bring about serious repercussions.”

The crease between Jasper’s eyebrows deepened as Wendy spoke.

“Press conference from ten minutes ago?” Jasper asked.

Wendy nodded and said, “Yes.”

“Looks like it was done to spite us.”

Jasper narrowed his eyes slightly and chuckled coolly as he said, “So, they’re all just as bad as each other. Fine, it’s a good thing they’re working together now. I can get rid of them all in one go!”

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Wendy gazed at Jasper worriedly as she said, "Don't be reckless. I think we should discuss things with Harbor City before deciding on how we'll deal with it."

Jasper shook his head and said, "Harbor City has coughed up practically all its resources, so I'm not planning to look for them regarding this matter. They've always given JW Company protection before this. I think it's time JW Company repaid that favor."

"Here's what we'll do. Take our plane back to Nauritius later and gather all the company's resources, especially the ones that have to do with real estate. We'll prepare ourselves to enter Harbor City's stock market at a moment's notice."

Harbor City had a well-developed economy, and it relied heavily on their estate market.

This could be seen from the number of millionaires who had earned their fortune through dabbling in real estate.

Thus, the real estate market would be one's top choice if they wanted to assist their economy.

"Enter Harbor City's stock market? We don't have the financial assets to do that," Wendy said.

Jasper chuckled and replied, "Who said we're going to take over the whole stock market? What we need to do now is buy a

piece of land from the Nauritius government at a suitable time and loudly proclaim our plans for a huge construction project. JW's branding is strong enough to act as a support pillar for many things now. As long as we continue showing our favor towards Harbor City's real estate, their real estate market won't collapse.

"If their real estate market doesn't

collapse, their finances will be fine.

“Moreover, both Fongroup and Hope Group have a stronghold in real estate. They wouldn’t dare allow anything to happen to Harbor City’s real estate market no matter how much they hate me. If they did do that, nothing much would have happened to me before they went

down first. We have to attack their main industries if we want to attack these three corporations. We can target Fongroup and Hope Group through the real estate market, but as for Sawyer Atticus, I’ll

have to think of something I can do to the

rubber market.”

Wendy felt much more at ease when she saw how quickly Jasper had come up with a strategy.

“Alright, I’ll go and make the preparations now, but...”

Wendy seemed hesitant as she said, “I’m afraid we won’t be able to work with Sean with regards to the real estate market.”

“What’s happened to Sean?” Jasper asked

as he frowned.

His sharp eyes had noticed something odd

in Wendy’s expression. Wendy sighed and said, “I demoted Sean.”

Jasper was stunned.

To be fair, as managing director of JW Company’s real estate group, Sean’s position in the hierarchy was only slightly lower than Wendy’s, who was the CFO. Moreover, Wendy was mainly in charge of financial matters and did not need to be in charge of human resources.

Moreover, Jasper had signed an agreement for Wendy to be the president of JW Company so she could take his place in managing the company while he was busy with the stock market. By right, Jasper had no position in JW Company as of now.

However, everyone still knew that Jasper was the boss, and Wendy was the co-boss.

The couple had the same amount of

power, and this was just so they could

implement executive orders in a more

systematic, logical, and legal way.

However, Wendy would not have utilized her power in managing human resources unless it were a major emergency where she had no choice. Not to mention, the person she demoted was Sean Tucker, an integral member of the company's group of directors.

Moreover, Sean was a talent that Dawson himself had sent over from Schuler

Group. In some ways, he was someone with ties to Wendy's family, so why did she demote him?

Seemingly sensing Jasper's confusion, Wendy explained, "There was a company scandal last week.

"It happened in the real estate department. A high-ranking vice president brought a female employee along to meet clients and took advantage of her drunken state to touch her inappropriately. Thankfully, the female employee struggled hard, so that... didn't happen...

"The female employee lodged a report to the higher-ups at the company, and she also made a complaint to Sean. However, Sean did not want the issue to have an even greater impact than it already had and chose to ignore it. It resulted in the issue gaining even more attention, and rumors began spreading outside."

Jasper was even angrier now than when he heard how the three companies were working together against him.

"What *sshole vice-president is that? He answers to Sean Tucker, doesn't he?"

Jasper was a smart man. He had long

since gained a thorough understanding of the kind of person Sean was. He was talented, and his morals were

alright as well. His main problem was that

he was prone to covering up mistakes.

Sure enough, that had caused Sean to get

into trouble.

"Yes."

Wendy sighed before she continued saying, "I only learned about this when the police informed me. So, I fired that vice-president, and I got Sean to take a month's leave to self-reflect."

"Wow, it's just been a few months since I stopped paying attention to the company, and we have a rapist now! Thank God no sexual activities were actually carried out. If not, I would be happy to deliver him straight into jail myself!"

"

Jasper was so angry that he began

laughing.

"Do these b*stards think they're above the law now just because JW has made it big?"

Jasper was so angry that he wanted to grab Sean and slap him across the face.

"This is no longer an issue of business management, nor is it an issue of dividing factions. They'll become criminals if this goes on!"

Furious, Jasper said without hesitation, " Hand that vice-president over to the police, let them deal with him. As for the affected female employee, visit her on my behalf and send my regards. Do your best to satisfy whatever demands she may have.

"As for Sean Tucker, send him to Nauritius to work in the sales department. No one is allowed to give him special treatment unless I say so. Anyone who gives him special treatment can go work as a sales employee alongside him. If he thinks he's being treated unfairly, he can screw off.

"JW will never allow something like this to happen, be it in the past, the present, or the future. Anyone who does this will be handed over to the police immediately. Also, send a notice out to all the employees at headquarters and also our branch companies from the president's office.

"From today onwards, every employee will have the right to refuse an offer to attend a business meeting with their senior, regardless of position

or job scope. If they feel coerced, they can report the employee anonymously. The president will be in charge of processing these reports for the time being, but we'll establish a department dedicated to managing this shortly."

Life at the Top Chapter 1898

Jasper had a reason to be angry.

It was not a massive issue no matter how horrible JW's external environment was since they could always think of a way to resolve or avoid the issue.

For about 99% of companies in the world, their biggest problem was how they could earn money and get enough revenue to survive. However, the remaining 1% of corporations were well-established enough that the external environments would not be able to affect them easily. They had already integrated themselves into the ecology of one or more industries.

If you took a careful look at these bigwigs, you would notice that they all set the standards for their respective industries. One could even say that their companies would never cease to exist as long as the industry remained relevant.

This sort of position could be seen in Weresoft for operating systems, VW Group for cars, and Facebook or Terizone for social media platforms.

JW had not attained this position yet, but they were already considered your standard bigwig amidst the domestic market.

Due to constrictions posed by the country's policies and the speed wherein reform happened, JW was the actual leader among private enterprises.

Thus, to Jasper, external troubles were not as lethal to him. It was internal troubles that would sour JW's name and even run them the risk of business failure.

This incident itself might not be a big deal, and no one would take action against JW if it happened once or twice. However, these things would be like termites once they began occurring. One or two holes on a large building were nothing. However, if those holes multiplied to become

hundreds or even thousands of incidences, they could become interconnected and cause the entire building to collapse.

Take the United States' debt crisis as an example.

Jasper knew that this was not his work, but instead, the United States' economy had already been in trouble since the start. It was why it had brought about such a serious outcome.

Jasper did not want history to repeat itself.

Thus, they needed to nip the problem in the bud.

Wendy noticed Jasper's anger in his tone and attitude. She nodded slightly and said, "Alright, understood. I'll do as you say immediately."

Jasper sighed before saying gently to Wendy, "Managing a company has always been a complicated task, and your workload becomes even heavier when you started managing a company as large as J W. There will always be unexpected incidents that cause you to lose your footing temporarily. Thank you for all you've done."

Wendy smiled and said to Jasper, "My work is nothing compared to what you do. Alright, I'll take care of the company's matters. You focus on settling external conflicts. I'll wait for you to come home."

Jasper returned to the podium after Wendy left.

At the time, Wayne was still preaching life lessons. However, what had changed from his previous life was that the values he shared had changed from his own into JW's values.

No doubt that Wayne had a talent for public speaking. If not, he would not have

had the ability to keep the eighteen founders by his side and establish Abbylon Group when he was so poor he could not even afford to pay their salaries.

The majority of those present at the economic forum had been deeply affected by his speech and became extremely excited. Their enemies seemed to be nothing more than toothless tigers now, while a bright future was waiting for them right around the corner.

Jasper did not interrupt him and sat down instead. He was just about to catch a quick breather when Mr. McNeal turned to him and said, "You heard?"

Jasper nodded.

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He knew what Mr. McNeal was referring to. There was no way the officials would not have heard of it if he had already gotten the news.

Besides, Jasper had noticed Mr. McNeal answering his phone when he was talking to Wendy.

“This is very bad.”

Mr. McNeal sounded hostile as he said, “As opposed to the tangible effects, I think the symbolic meaning behind it is more important. This is setting a bad example for people of Somer descent across the world.”

Jasper lowered his voice and answered,
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But it’s not necessarily a bad thing for the world to get a good look at their faces now. But what do the higher-ups have to say about this?”

Mr. McNeal answered, “What else could they say? The officials aren’t allowed to voice their opinion on this because entrepreneurs should settle their affairs themselves. The officials won’t interfere with the market’s daily workings. You know what I mean?”

Jasper nodded understandingly.

“The officials’ role here is merely to pass

judgments and set the rules. They can’t

get involved themselves, or else they’ll

incite panic amidst the entrepreneurs. Under the premise that the entrepreneurs themselves do not have a plan, the officials are unable to get involved. You

require an entrepreneur like me to take care of them, which is one of the reasons why people like me exist.”

Mr. McNeal smiled as he listened to Jasper and said, “Don’t worry, we won’t make you work for nothing. Haven’t they halted all their investments in the country? Are you interested in them?”

Jasper’s eyes lit up.

The Atticus had made such a low number of domestic investments that it was practically nothing, whereas those Fongroup invested in had long since been seized for investigation. Jasper had also picked out a few of the most desirable assets for himself. However, Hope Group was different, as it had several projects that Jasper was eager to have.

“Hope Group is one of the largest realtors in Harbor City, and they’re famous even throughout the entirety of Southeast Terra. They have several domestic projects that are bound to rake in large amounts of revenue, so, naturally, I’m interested.”

“But I’m a little strapped for cash over here,” Jasper hurriedly added.

Mr. McNeal waved a hand and said, “Let’s not talk about this now. We can discuss money when you’re not as out of pocket. We have no reason to worry you’ll run away. What’s most important now is that we take care of the problem at hand now.”

Jasper narrowed his eyes slightly and said, “They’re all from Harbor City. Since the problem came from Harbor City, then we should take care of it the Harbor City way.”

“Alright.”

Mr. McNeal did not ask for further details. He knew that Jasper would not go overboard and that he would take care of matters in a way that left most people satisfied.

Several minutes later, Jasper took over Wayne's spot again and stood behind the podium as he said slowly, "Everyone here has already talked about what should have been discussed today. Based on my previous plans, I should be announcing the end of the economic forum today. However, I just received some news that I would like to share with everyone before we wrap up."

Then, Jasper watched as the expression in the audience's eyes turned from one of curiosity to one of ferocity as he told them about the three-way collaboration between Fongroup, Hope Group, and Atticus Group.

There was no need nor any way of keeping it a secret. Everyone had their ways of attaining information, they would have learned of the press conference once they left the venue anyway.

Thus, instead of leaving them to worry and make wild guesses, Jasper decided to lay everything out in the open.

"Harbor City does not need these rotten apples, and the people of Somer descent do not need traitors like them either. We can't sit back and await their execution if they've declared war on us. Let's treat them as practice for what we'll be doing when the stock market reopens in two days. We need to get rid of these traitors!"

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Life at the Top Chapter 1900

On the night the economic forum ended, Wendy took the private airplane and led J W Company's executive team straight to Harbor City..

JW Company's trip was an official activity, so they informed the officials at Harbor City before setting out.

Thus, two directors from the finance and business planning division accompanied the deputy chief executive to welcome them personally.

Harbor City was a special administrative region. The deputy chief director here had a higher position on the hierarchy than the grand magistrates of top provinces..

This also meant they were being treated
with the utmost respect.

Having said that, Wendy was the current president and chief financial officer of JW Company, so she deserved to receive this special treatment.

At this moment, the press conference hosted by Joe, Sawyer, and Kennedy in the United States had just ended. At the same time, the economic forum hosted by Jasper in Somerland had just finished as well. It was an odd time.

All this news had washed over Harbor City's business circle like a hailstorm, and new versions of gossip popped up all over the place. Wendy's visit on behalf of JW Company now was dissected by countless people and converted into countless different theories.

However, no matter which person you got your gossip from, the core message did not change. There was no doubt JW Company was here because they wanted to do something about the press conference the three families hosted.

Everyone gazed intently at Harbor City's government buildings, awaiting the outcome of Wendy's meeting with the Harbor City government.

Harbor City's government officials did
not make everyone wait for too long.

Seen, another press conference was held where the Harbor City government and JW Company announced the outcomes of their meeting to the public.

“Firstly, I would like to extend a warm welcome to the reporters who came. My name is Zachariah Quigley, and I am the director of the Department of Business Planning, I’m here today as a

representative of the Harbor City

government in making a statement to the

public.”

Zachariah, who wore glasses, gazed at the crowd of reporters beneath him and smiled before holding the document he held up in his hands and read, “After a friendly discussion between the Harbor City government and JW Company, the government and JW Company have arrived at an agreement that is in accordance with the law and official policies.

“Firstly, the Harbor City government will provide tax incentives to JW Company. The details are as follows: the corporation’s income tax will be reduced by 70% for the first three years, and 40% for the next five years, and they will also get a 20% reduction on their business taxes.

“Secondly, the Harbor City will sell the following pieces of land to JW Company: Sharp Promenade, which is located in the Nine Dragon Area of Harbor City, as well as Lot C13 and Lot A55 on the west end of Victoria Harbor. Since these two pieces of land belong to the Harbor City

government, the transaction will not need to go through an auctioning process. The Harbor City government will transfer them into JW Company’s accounts right away. All proceeds will be used in improving Harbor City’s infrastructure.

“Thirdly, the Harbor City government will now focus on checking the reasonableness of all commercial activities in Harbor City, and anyone caught breaking the rules will face serious consequences.

“Fourthly, the Harbor City government will be lifting all former restrictions imposed on several imported and exported products. The first batch of products that will have restrictions lifted

includes rubber, rubber-made products, and all raw materials needed for rubber processing. These aforementioned products will have their import restrictions fully lifted.”

The contents of the agreement seemed fine, except for the second and third articles.

The meaning behind the second one was clear. The Harbor City government was selling land that had belonged to the Harbor City government to JW Company. It might seem like an illogical thing to do, but there was nothing much worth discussing.

Usually, land that was sold using legal methods had to go through an auction because the land did not belong to the government. According to the constitution, the land belonged to the state, and thus, meant it belonged to the country’s people.

The government was just a representative who took care of the land on behalf of the country’s people. Since it belonged to the state, it could not be sold as one wished, and instead had to go through an auction to be sold to whoever bid the highest. It was a fair-and-square process.

However, if the land belonged to the government, they would then be one of the parties signing the contract. There was no difference in how companies were treated compared to individuals, and it was perfectly alright for them to sell their land privately.

These two pieces of land were the most precious pieces of land in Harbor City, which itself had a scarce supply of land. Therefore, many people had tried countless ways to obtain that land for themselves, but had always failed.

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However, the Harbor City government had been generous enough to sell it to JW Company now without even disclosing the price. Evidently, the Harbor City government sincerely welcomed JW Company to invest in Harbor City.

As for the third article, that was even weirder.

By right, it should belong in the Harbor City government's market administration. Why had it been included in the agreement?

Soon, the people of Harbor City understood why.

A flurry of investigations started soon after the press conference.

Everyone in the real estate and rubber industry became subjected to thorough investigations.

The first to be investigated were those who had conducted sales with Fongroup, Atticus Group, and Hope Group not too long ago.

Investigations conducted by the Harbor City government revealed that in a large number of these property transactions had been sold illegally and at a price significantly lower than the market value. Thus, fines came one after the other.

Once they did that, and when connected to the last article in the agreement, it painted a vivid picture of the Harbor City government's attitude on the matter.

They were doing this to target Fongroup, Hope Group, and Atticus Group.

They were doing it in plain sight, without even bothering to try and cover up their tracks.

Most of Harbor City's millionaires relied heavily on real estate, so the Harbor City government's investigations did not affect the market too greatly, as their investigations were targeted at Hope Group and Fongroup. However, things were different when they turned to the rubber industry, an industry that Atticus Group dominated. While the Harbor City government conducted thorough investigations into Atticus Group's illegal activities, they also brought to light prior restrictions on entering the rubber industry.

Countless people sensed a conspiracy behind the Harbor City government's tough attitude.

Just then, Wendy made an appearance at Spencer Boyle's home.

The Boyle family resided in a mansion on top of a mountain. Here, Wendy received a n enthusiastic welcome from all members of the Boyle family.

Everyone knew who stood behind this woman, and that person was also who the Harbor City people, had chosen to place their bets on. Thus, once Wendy arrived, the Boyle family gave her the best treatment possible and called for everyone who could make it to meet her.

Among them was the man who Wendy

had set her sights on, Spencer's second

son-in-law, Zed Walters.

"The Boyle family holds a very special standing amidst Harbor City's millionaires, You're the leader in the

shipbuilding industry, but as the economy and market developed over the years, the shipbuilding industry has fallen into bad shape. Coupled with the increase in popularity of the real estate market, the Boyle family has become much less influential.

"However, we must never ignore the families who usually maintain a low profile and only showcase their powers during the most critical moments. They possess much more knowledge than your average millionaire.

“The strongest and most powerful ones in this family are not Stephen’s direct offspring, but his sons-in-law instead. Each one is more powerful than the one before.

“Wendy, when you meet them, you must establish a collaboration with their second son-in-law, who’s also in charge of Nine Dragon Corporation. It’ll be much easier to carry out our plans if he works with us.”

When Wendy recalled what Jasper had told her before coming, she smiled at Mr. Boyle and Zed, who was standing beside him, as she said, “Mr. Boyle, Mr. Walters. The reason for my visit this time is that I’m hoping to utilize the piece of land at Sharp Promenade that I bought from the Harbor City government. We hope to work with the various shopping malls under Nine Dragon Corporation’s name and construct the largest and most luxurious shopping complex in the entirety of Terra. I’ve even come up with a name. It’ll be named Harbour Palace!”

Life at the Top Chapter 1902

The world-renowned Harbour Palace had once been the largest shopping complex in all of Terra.

Most people had learned of its existence after the year 2010, but in reality, it had begun construction back in 1986, under the lead of Nine Dragon Corporation.

However, at the start, it had just been several shopping malls which merged to form a shopping complex. Although large, it had not achieved any actual scale-up.

It had just been a concept that Nine Dragon Corporation came up with to simplify their management and achieve uniformity in their products.

However, its fame was propelled in 2002 when Nine Dragon Corporation did an entire renovation and redesign of Harbour Palace. After that, this massive shopping complex took advantage of Harbor City's capitalist fame and instantly became famous.

How famous did it become?

Harbour Palace raked in a shocking total of 95 billion dollars just from rent alone. and Nine Dragon Corporation earned no less than 100 billion dollars every year from this one industry alone.

A shopping complex did not get its income purely from rent alone. They also earned revenue from things such as parking fees on the property grounds.

Who would suffer the most losses from Harbour Palace's rise to prominence?

It would be Hope Group, which owned over 20 shopping malls in Harbour City.

Thus, what Jasper intended to do was to

drive the blade right into Hope Group's

chest and cause them to suffer massive

losses.

Mr. Boyle did not show any expression as he listened to Wendy speak. On the contrary, Zed was the first to raise his eyebrows.

Indeed, the Boyle family owned Nine

Dragon Corporation, but he had always been the one in charge of managing it, and he had done so pretty well too.

However, despite that, the industries under Nine Dragon Corporation's management had always only performed mediocrely. Larger-sized ones had an advantageous edge, but it also meant the industries would be overly complex and cause them to struggle to survive with their mediocre earnings. Hence, he had no idea why Wendy, or perhaps Jasper, pointedly asked to work with Nine Dragon Corporation in constructing this shopping complex.

Wendy noticed the questioning looks on the Boyles' faces and continued saying, "We'll take the land JW has just gotten and combine it with the shopping malls under Nine Dragon Corporation's name.

Moreover, JW has plans to purchase over a hundred thousand square feet of the land and industries surrounding the property. When you put everything together, Harbour Palace will take up no less than 230 thousand square feet of land.

"Once the project is settled, we'll not only

have the largest shopping complex in

Harbour City, but the largest shopping

complex in the entirety of Terra. Harbour City has a well-developed market with high costs of living. Various luxury brands across the world will be able to set up specialty stores here, so they won't have to worry about a lack of customers or supply of goods."

Wendy gazed at the members of the Boyle

family, whose eyes were sparkling before

she smiled and asked, "Are you interested

in a project like this?"

Zed forced his racing heart to calm down a

s he gazed at Wendy with excitement in

his eyes. He had seen his vision come true

in Wendy's blueprint just now.

The largest shopping complex in Terra. That was what he had always dreamed of!

"How much money will we have to invest? How will the ratio of the shares be divided?" Zed asked the most crucial questions.

Wendy replied, "The overall investment

will be no less than 80 billion Harbor

Dollars. As for the percentage of shares, that depends. Does the Boyle family have any cash to spare now?"

The Boyle family members blushed when

they heard that.

After what had happened in the past, the Boyle and Law family had ended up just like the other rich families. They had used up the very last reserves of their fortune, and the cash they had now was barely enough to maintain operations in all their industries. Although the companies under their name were constantly earning revenue, the amount was only enough to defend themselves against lesser risks. They did not have 80 billion Harbor Dollars worth of spare cash to invest.

Without waiting for the Boyle family to respond, Wendy said sincerely, "Both Jasp and I have seen the sacrifices your family made for JW Foundation. Thus, we currently plan to shoulder all the financial investments. The Boyle and Law family. will invest using their surrounding

industries or plots of land. In terms of shares, JW will take 40% while the Boyle and Law family will take 30% each.”

Mr. Boyle and Zed exchanged looks with each other after she said that. They had no further comments.

“Jasper is truly virtuous. This is a huge favor.”

Both Mr. Boyle and Zed had been in the business industry for many years. They could tell at a glance that once the project was completed, they would be raking in several billion dollar’s worth of earnings every month. What JW was doing now by giving away shares for nothing was equivalent to giving away their money.

All they needed to do was locate several industries that were nearby and rope them into the mix.

No matter how you looked at it, they would be making guaranteed earnings without suffering any losses.

Wendy chuckled and said, “Jasper said that he’s the one who’s indebted to everyone in Harbor City. JW’s main reason for joining Harbor City this time is mainly to work against the alliance formed by the three families, and the second reason is to set up a scenario where everyone can earn money together.”

“Alright, we agree to this collaboration!”

After gaining approval from Mr. Boye, Zed spoke in a pleased tone.

“In that case, let’s wish for a pleasant collaboration in advance.”

“It will be pleasant for sure. Hahaha!”

Several hours later, JW Company announced this business plan to the public.

Harbor City’s business circle immediately went into an uproar.

The three shareholders in this business project included the Boyle family and the Law family, both of whom were Harbor City’s most well-established big shots. As for the third shareholder, it was the up and-coming JW Company.

It was an alliance between three strong parties. Everyone could tell that this project would be a massive success as the three shareholders invested their assets into it.

Thus, it had a massive impact on Harbor City’s commercial real estate.

Harbor City had a well-developed economy, but the size of the available land was limited. Everyone could tell that adding such a massive shopping complex to a place where there were already plenty of shopping malls would cause a massive impact on the other shopping malls.

Those who paid attention to the details.

immediately directed their focus onto

Hope Group.

After all, Hope Group used to own the

largest number of shopping malls in

Harbor City.

It was obvious that this project was aimed

to work against Hope Group.

Harbor City's stock market was still closed because it was still a rest day. However, as a stream of both good and bad news arrived, not even the most experienced investors could guess how Harbor City's stock market would look like when it opened again.

All everyone could do now was wait.

The news soon reached New York, United States.

Three people sat in the study of Joe's mansion. The atmosphere was tense and boarding.

Kennedy slammed his fist onto the table with a loud thump. He had a dark expression on his face as he said, " Everything Jasper Laine did shows that he's trying to take our places!"

Life at the Top Chapter 1903

Sawyer had a brooding expression on his face. Although he was not saying anything, he felt a deep surge of annoyance within himself too.

Joe was the only one who was still calm.

“Calm down. The situation is what it is now, and there’s no point in us going off in a huff. We might as well think of ways to resolve the problem.”

Sawyer felt even more infuriated when he heard what Joe said...

He could not stop himself from looking at

Joe.

The old fox had sold his industries in Harbor City to the other two families to pay for his collaboration. As such, he had sold off most of his domestic assets except for his telecommunication company.

Thus, this meant that Joe Langdon and Fongroup had suffered the least losses after everything JW had done in Harbor City.

Sawyer could not help but wonder if the

old fox had long since guessed this would

happen.

“How about we seize the chance to retract our contracts to short sell stocks in Harbor City?” Sawyer cleared his mind of his frenzied thoughts and made a suggestion.

The atmosphere in the study grew even

tenser when he said that.

Kennedy said slowly, "We were sure that the news of our joint venture would cause a massive drop in Harbor City stocks, so we raised a large sum of money to short sell our stocks in Harbor City. However, it seems that Jasper saw through our plans."

When Kennedy finished speaking, he turned to Joe and said, "We still have time to withdraw now. The stock market isn't open yet, so the order we submitted has not been finalized. If we wait for the stock market to open, it'll be too late."

Joe furrowed his eyebrows together

slightly as he said, "We've spent so much time prepping to short sell, and we've sacrificed a lot for it too. If we give up now, not only will our previous efforts all go to waste, but do you two think that Jasper will stop whatever he's doing in Harbor City now just because we give up on shorting them?"

Both Sawyer and Kennedy fell silent when they heard that question.

They were forced to admit that at this point, there was no stopping the alliance between them versus the alliance between Jasper and the Harbor City big wigs. Giving up would not result in peace but in even further suppression.

They could no longer afford to lose.

"The problem now doesn't just lay in Hope Group and their real estate industry, as the Atticus family's rubber industry has been impacted too. Do you know how many rubber-related companies were established in Harbor City just one hour after the Harbor City government announced they were lowering the criteria to enter the rubber industry? 78! A whole 78!"

The more Sawyer spoke, the angrier he

became. He was nearly roaring as he said,

"The rubber industry used to not be something that anyone or any company could work in. The Atticus family called the shots in Harbor City. There wouldn't be anyone who dared work in the rubber industry without gaining our approval first!

"But look what's happening now. All sorts of people are dabbling in the business now, and even worse, a third of the upstream and downstream companies that used to work with the Atticus family have gone ahead and registered themselves as an import company for rubber!

"There are also people hiding in the shadows and purposely lowering the price of rubber. As they lower the rubber prices, they use that money to locate suppliers who used to work with the Atticus family and tempt them with the higher fees to give up their partnership with the Atticus family and work with them instead!

"I'm willing to bet that that scumbag son of a b*tch Jasper Laine came up with these tricks. He's the only person who would be this shameless!"

The corners of Kennedy's mouth twitched as he listened to Sawyer rage.

In terms of being shameless, it seemed that the three of them were no better either.

"Everyone suffered losses. It's not just the Atticus family. What's the point in being so angry?" Joe asked with a frown on his face.

Life at the Top Chapter 1904

Sawyer said indignantly, "But I didn't hear you mention that we would run into a situation like this before our collaboration."

That managed to aggravate Joe, and the latter replied without hesitation, "Are you a rookie who just started doing business? Or have you lost your mind just because you've run into problems?"

"Don't you know what sort of person Jasper Laine is? We were bound to face his revenge once we begin this work, and we should have thought of what he would do a long time ago. If you can't withstand even this, we should abandon the alliance."

Joe spoke with so much conviction that the color of Sawyer's face alternated, between green and white as he found himself in an incredibly awkward position.

Sawyer did not want to offend Joe at such a critical time. He repeatedly glanced at Kennedy, motioning for him to say something and extract him from the awkward position he was in.

However, Kennedy pretended not to notice as he took his cup and took several languid sips from it.

As time passed, the only sound that came from the study was the sounds of Kennedy drinking. The look on Sawyer's face also gradually grew even uglier.

Just then, someone knocked at the door.

Sawyer heaved a sigh of relief. No matter who was on the other side of the door, this would at least allow him to extricate himself from the awkward position.

"Come in."

Joe spoke calmly. Kayden and Fabian walked in after that.

After they paid their respects, Sawyer asked them, "What are you guys doing here?"

Kayden and Fabian exchanged glances before saying, "We know things aren't going too well over at Harbor City now and that a lot of things are going on. We've been brainstorming, and we managed to come up with a plan that will help us tide over the storm for now. It won't resolve the problem's root cause, but it's enough to mess up Jasper's plans. We might even be able to identify a chink in his armor once he's flustered.

All three people's eyes lit up when they heard that.

Both Kayden and Fabian were among the best of the best in the younger generation of Harbor City businessmen. The elders might genuinely be able to gain a new perspective that they could expand on by listening to their ideas.

"Let's hear it," Joe said.

Kayden glanced at Fabian and motioned for him to speak, allowing Fabian the chance to shine.

Fabian took an excited breath. His eyes

glinted murderously as he said, "Everything JW has done at Harbor City so far has indeed impacted us massively. In particular, the stream of announcements they just made all include plans that will stimulate a rise in Harbor City stocks.

"If we allow them to succeed, our plans will all be ruined when the Harbor City stock market reopens on Monday."

Kennedy frowned slightly and said, "We all know that. You don't have to repeat

yourself. Get to the point.”

Fabian paused for a while before saying, ” Alright, I’ll get to the point.

“There’s actually a loophole this time,

and that is the fact that it was not Jasper

Laine who represented JW this time but

Wendy Schuler instead.”

Fabian narrowed his eyes slightly and smirked as he said, “She’s a woman. There are so many ways we can deal with her. For example, we could contact some associations in Harbor City and plan a kidnapping. If that happens, everything J W has done so far will backfire.”

“Panic will infiltrate society, and Harbor City stocks are bound to plummet. Most importantly, Wendy Schuler is one of the women who’ve been with Jasper since the start. Her position in JW is irreplaceable. Would Jasper have the heart to do anything else if something happened to her?”

Life at the Top Chapter 1905

All three older men frowned when they

heard Fabian's suggestion.

Kennedy spoke again. He sounded slightly worried as he said, "But that's against the rules."

His son had a rare chance to shine, so Sawyer would defend him no matter what. He replied, "Rules? If you want to talk about rules, we're breaking tons of rules by forging an alliance and planning to short the Harbor City market. Would this even be a big deal to us?"

"We'll do anything to win. Any plan that leads us to victory is good. Would real men consider rules?"

Sawyer sounded like he was boasting, but i

It was the truth.

"No one in Harbor City is better than the Law family when it comes to contacting gangs. After all, Old Master Law made his first fortune by smuggling firearms. Are you sure this will work?" Joe turned towards Fabian and asked.

"It'll definitely work!"

Fabian answered with confidence.

He said, "The Law family has always treated Jasper as their son-in-law. Anna would replace Wendy if anything happened to her. Who knows, the Law family might even be praying for Wendy to vanish from the picture too."

"No."

Joe shook his head slightly, an image of an old man's face that was tanned and thin but at the same time emanated a majestic aura that unnerved people flashing through his mind. "Old Master Law is not such a narrow-minded person. He looks at the big picture before he does anything." "Dad."

Kayden spoke. "We don't have any other choice now. It is the best plan we have. It shouldn't be too big of an issue as long as we're careful."

"All we need to do is kidnap her and spread the news to incite panic. If we manage to drag it on until Monday when the stock market reopens, prices will fall like an avalanche. By the time they regain their senses, we'll have collected the money and scrambled."

Both Kennedy and Sawyer nodded their heads after listening to Kayden's explanation.

Thus, Joe said, "Alright, then we'll do as previously agreed. We'll have a democratic voting process whenever we need to make important decisions as a group. Raise your hands if you're in favor of Kayden and Fabian's plan."

Joe had just finished speaking when

Sawyer and Kennedy both raised their

hands.

Thus, Joe raised his hand slowly too as he said, "Alright, we'll proceed with the plan!"

"Everything's going smoothly. The big wigs are all very polite and cooperative. Our plan is proceeding at an even faster rate than I anticipated."

Wendy sat in her presidential suite on the top floor of The Westin, located near Victoria Harbour, as she spoke to Jasper on the phone.

It was both so they could spend time with each other as well as discuss work-related matters.

Jasper's voice rang out from the other end of the line. "That's good. Joe and the other two are doing so much with such fanfare just so they can suppress Harbor City's economy and then use that as a way to curry favor with the people of the United States.

"I'm betting their final target is still on Harbor City stocks. If not, they would have had no reason to make everything public so quickly and with so much fanfare. Thus, we must proceed with our plans even quicker and cause even more of a ruckus.

"As long as we stimulate the economy enough, Harbor City's stocks will not be impacted so much by all these negative news when the stock market reopens on Monday.

"The domestic market is unstable too, and there's a high chance it'll continue plummeting when the stock market reopens on Monday. There's not much left that I can do in the United States stock market, so we must ensure that the Harbor City stocks maintain a stronghold and don't run into trouble. The big wigs in Harbor City can't afford to be thrown into another storm again.

Wendy nodded as she listened to Jasper speak and said, "Alright, alright. I got it. I'll take care of it."

"Make sure you stay safe too. After all, Harbor City is not in mainland," Jasper said as he chuckled.

"But don't worry. After all, you have the Law family in Harbor City. No one there would dare lay a finger on them."

Wendy raised an eyebrow as she said, "The Law family? I heard that Anna is back in Harbor City."

Jasper, who was currently in Nauritius, felt the expression on his face stiffen slightly,

“How did you know...” Jasper tried his best to make himself sound less sheepish.

“I saw you answer a phone call before I left. Did you think I couldn’t tell from that delighted expression on your face? You were so loud that I could hear you from the next room. Were you still trying to keep it a secret from me?” Wendy asked sarcastically.

Seemingly sensing Jasper’s awkwardness from the other end of the line, Wendy said exasperatedly, “Fine, fine. I’m not going to talk to you about this anymore. I’m going to go take a shower.”

Jasper felt a trickle of dread wash over

him as he listened to the dial tone.

Anna had indeed returned to Harbor City, but it was for no other reason than the fact that Zachary Law would be celebrating his 55th birthday soon. No matter what, Anna would have to return in advance for that.

Wendy was also in Harbor City...

That was dangerous.

The more Jasper thought about it, the less at ease he felt. Thus, he called Henry, who had also returned to Harbor City a while ago.

Jasper frowned when he heard the loud music blasting from the other end of the line.

“It’s still light out, but you’ve already started messing around?”

When Henry, who was busy drinking and having fun with two young models, heard Jasper's voice and chuckled. "I lived life like a monk when I was working with you. Of course, I had to have some fun after returning to my world of sensual pleasures. What orders do you have for me, Mr. Laine?"

Jasper massaged his aching head and said, "Anna is back in Harbor City, and Wendy will also be there to take care of some matters for several days. I'm afraid they'll bump into each other, so you need to keep an eye on them for me. You must ensure that they'll never be in a situation where they might run into each other. Call me if anything happens."

"Hiss"

Henry gasped and said, "You want me to spy on my little sister? I don't think my

skills are a match for hers,"

"No one asked you to spy on her. You just need to keep an eye on her and make sure they don't meet each other. Everything else will be fine so long as that doesn't happen.

"I'm counting on you for this, so don't

mess up!"

Jasper hung up the phone after he finished speaking.

Henry pursed his lips and tossed his phone aside, spreading his arms wide to pull the two young models towards him as he said to his friends, "See, this is exactly why I don't want to get married or get a girlfriend. Why would I give up the entire forest for one tree?

"Men become leashed dogs once they get married or have plans to get married. They have zero freedom."

As Henry spoke, he pinched the young girl's cheeks and laughed as she whined. "Isn't this life amazing?"

Life at the Top Chapter 1906

Wendy planned to continue work after taking a shower.

After all, she had not traveled to Harbor City for a vacation. They had signed on various collaboration projects that she needed to keep an eye on herself.

Moreover, she needed to pick out areas that were unsuitable or unreasonable as soon as possible so they could be taken care of, as it would be harder to deal with them if they waited until they actually started working on the project.

Just then, her phone began ringing.

Wendy had initially decided against answering the phone as it was from an unknown number but then she decided to answer because she noticed it was a number from Harbor City and was worried it was from one of their partners.

“Hello. Wendy Schuler speaking.”

The other end of the line went silent momentarily before a woman’s melodious voice rang out.

“Anna Law speaking.”

Wendy raised her eyebrows.

In an instant, despite having been exposed to all sorts of scenarios in the past, she still felt panic and confusion wash over her.

She had never imagined Anna would have the guts to contact her of her own accord.

At the end of the day, Wendy had a higher standing, as she was Jasper’s actual girlfriend and fiancé.

Was Anna taking the initiative to contact

her and provoke her because she had the

advantage of being on her home turf?

Wendy’s rage rose when she thought of that.

No matter how weak and gentle a woman usually seemed, she would rise to be stronger than anyone else when defending her relationship and her children.

Despite this, Wendy had never been a weak-natured woman.

"This is a surprising phone call."

Anna chuckled when she heard what Wendy said. "You visited the Boyle family. My house isn't that far away from their house, why didn't you come to visit me too?"

Wendy replied calmly, "The reason I did not go is not that I'm afraid of you or anyone else. Instead, it's because Jasper will be in charge of the collaboration with the Law family, and I will not be involved in any way. Thus, I didn't see the need to disrupt your daily lives."

"You've already arrived at Harbor City. As host, I must make sure you are entertained adequately. Are you interested in gazing over the night view at Victoria Harbor?"

Wendy had no reason to turn down Anna's invitation, and there was no way she would do that.

If she did, she would lose the upper hand and appear as if she were afraid of Anna.

"What's the address?"

"I'll text you."

The two women hung up the phone after that.

An address soon appeared in Wendy's inbox.

Wendy stood and got changed after glancing at the address.

About ten minutes later, an MPV quietly

exited The Westin's basement.

At the same time, several young men dressed in floral shirts squatting on the opposite end of the street immediately snuffed out their cigarettes when they noticed this. They began making phone calls as they clambered into their car to give chase.

"Mr. Phoenix, the lady has left!"

A normal-looking Toyota followed the MPV as it drove along the street. About seven to eight minutes later, two more vehicles pulled out from a fork in the road. One of those vehicles was a van.

The cars began surrounding the vehicles

instinctively.

Finally, when the MPV pulled onto a sparsely populated side road, all the cars revved their engines and forced the MPV to stop on the roadside.

A strong-looking young man dressed in a jacket and with tattoos all over his arm pulled the van's door open as he strutted over to the MPV, grinning as he knocked on the window.

Wendy rolled the window down and stared woodenly at the heavily tattooed guy.

Life at the Top Chapter 1907

“Wow, gorgeous,”

The man’s drool nearly dribbled out of his mouth when he got his first look at Wendy.

However, soon after, his features twisted themselves together into a creepy expression as he raised his arm and revealed the pistol he held. He pointed the muzzle against Wendy’s head and grinned as he said, “Hey gorgeous. I bet you don’t want to die when you’re so rich and good-looking, right? So, put your phone down.”

Wendy quietly set her phone aside. She was still cool as a cucumber despite having a gun to her head.

“I don’t care who sent you, or what you want to do. I can give you ten times the amount you were initially paid, and I promise I won’t have you pursued.”

Wendy had already realized she was in trouble when the car was forced to pull over, and when the tattooed man pulled out his gun, she knew that things were rapidly approaching a situation which she had no control over.

The first thing she did was think about. who had sent them.

Her first suspect was Anna. After all, Anna had invited her on a night out, and no one else before this knew she would be out at this hour. Moreover, Anna had a motive. for doing so.

However, Wendy soon ruled out Anna as a suspect.

For no reason other than the fact that a woman Jasper fancied would not be so dumb.

Besides, Anna's background and haughtiness would never have allowed her to use such crass methods.

Anna might have been a suspect, but there was no way she was actually the one behind this.

Unless she dared to completely ruin her

relationship with Jasper. Wendy was confident in how important

she was to Jasper.

A greedy look glinted in the tattooed man's eyes as he said, "Ten times the price? I might never be able to spend that much money in my whole life."

Wendy asked coolly, "What do you think you should do to me to ensure you're still alive to receive whatever benefits the person who hired you will give you?"

The tattooed man chuckled and said, "Alright gorgeous. Stop stalling My name's Phoenix. You can call me Phoenix or Mr. Phoenix, either one works. I would like to get to know you. Please come with me.

"Don't worry, I won't do much to someone of your social standing. But that's only if you work with me. If not, I can't promise I won't do anything unkind, alright?"

Mr. Phoenix spoke in a polite tone throughout this, but his gun never moved away from Wendy's head once.

As he finished speaking, his wrist shuddered slightly as he shifted his pistol and aimed it at the driver's seat. He pulled the trigger...

Bang!

The gunshot reverberated throughout the

night air.

Despite how mentally strong Wendy was,

she could not help but shudder as she sat i

n the car.

She glanced at the driver, whose eyes were tightly shut as his body was drenched with blood and his breathing weakened. She did not say anything about how the driver had nothing to do with all this, because she knew it was a pointless thing to do.

"Sorry, gorgeous. You must be scared, right? But I had no choice. We would have been in a lot of trouble if your driver called the police, so I had to take care of him."

As Wendy gazed at the frosty look in Mr. Phoenix's eyes despite the grin on his face, she did not say much more as she immediately opened the door.

"I can come with you, but you should prepare yourselves to pay for what you've done."

Mr. Phoenix felt a wave of shame wash over him as he gazed at Wendy, who had not panicked and remained calm despite the situation she was in.

After all, he was a gangster who seemed impressive on the surface. He had young girls at his beckon who would smile and flatter him, but these women were no match for a woman like Wendy.

It was possible they were not even the

same species. Wendy probably thought someone like

him was equivalent to trash, right?

When those thoughts occurred to Mr. Phoenix, the grin disappeared from his face as he pointed at the van and said, "Get in. My brothers will take you to a secret place."

After watching Wendy get into the van, Mr. Phoenix took Wendy's phone out from the MPV and stomped on it, making sure it was crushed before he turned and got into the van.

The vehicles vanished even more quickly than they had appeared. Soon, only the MPV with its open doors were left at the scene.

Life at the Top Chapter 1908

Time slowly ticked past. The coffee grew cold and was exchanged for a fresh cup as Anna spent over an hour waiting at an open-air cafe at Victoria Harbor.

“Could she be too afraid to come?”

The thought occurred to Anna, but she soon dismissed it.

She had never met Wendy before, and Wendy had always kept a low profile as she spent all her time at JW Company. However, based on the brief exchange they had on the phone just now, Anna could tell that Wendy was no ordinary woman.

There was no way she was too afraid to come.

After a moment's hesitation, Anna picked her phone up again and made another call to Wendy.

However, she received a notification that the number was unavailable. That made Anna feel even more uneasy.

After hanging up, Anna made another phone call.

“Help me find out if Wendy Schuler, president of JW Company, left her residence at The Westin this evening.

Also, get me her current location.” Her call was returned about ten minutes later.

The expression on Anna's face turned uglier and uglier after she answered it.

"The car was abandoned on the roadside, the driver was shot and is in a coma, and Wendy is missing!?"

"It's the year 2001 now. Harbor City is no longer the gangster-run city it once was, but something like this could still happen!?"

"Look into it! Launch an investigation immediately! Harbor City will fall into shambles if anything happens to Wendy Schuler!"

Anna was in a rage as she hung up the phone, a rare feeling of panic washing over her.

She could not imagine what would happen

If Jasper found out Wendy was in trouble.

Jasper might seem gentle and docile on

the outside, but in reality, a ferocious wolf

was slumbering within the man's spirit.

When she thought of that, Anna immediately called Henry.

However.., no one answered the phone

despite her making three separate calls.

The expression on Anna's face grew even

uglier.

Finally, when she learned of Henry's

whereabouts from the family bodyguard,

she immediately sped over in her car.

T3 Ravers was one of the most high-end bars in Harbor City now, and it was where countless rich heirs congregated.

The bar owned a parking lot that could hold up to 50 cars at a time. In Harbor City, where land was one of the most expensive things to own, this showed just how unordinary the owner of the bar was.

Each parking spot was reserved for a particular license plate. Those who weren't rich heirs would have no way of parking their cars there.

However, that night, a Maserati pulled up right in front of the bar's entrance, giving the employee working there a huge shock.

Before he could say anything, Anna pushed the Maserati's door open and got out.

"Hey, you can't park here. Move!"

The employees here had seen all sorts of rich heirs before, and a Maserati was one of the most commonly seen things around. Thus, they did not bother being polite.

Anna could not be bothered with his waffle and asked, "Which room is Henry Law in?"

The employee seemed momentarily

stunned before he said, "Who the f*ck are

you? Do you know what this place is? You

Before he could finish, Anna interrupted

him and said, "My name is Anna Law. I'm

Henry Law's younger sister. My father is

Zachary Law. Is that enough for you!?"

The employee got a huge shock and felt their scalp go numb from fright.

"Mr... Mr. Law is in Bijou Hall..."

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Life at the Top Chapter 1909

Anna walked right in without waiting for the employee to apologize.

After making her way through the noisy

dance floor and seated areas, Anna

arrived at Bijou Hall, where she raised a

foot and kicked the door open.

A loud crash ensued as the light from the corridor spilled into the dimmed room. Several young men dancing with the girls were just about to begin yelling at her, but they fell silent upon seeing Anna standing at the door.

Henry was also stunned.

“Holy sh*t, what are you doing here!?”

Henry lifted his head off the girl’s chest

and stared at Anna as he asked in disbelief.

Anna saw the smudges of lipstick on

Henry’s face and also noticed how

disheveled the girl beside him looked. She

felt so angry that she wanted to slap him.

While gritting her teeth, Anna said, “Kick

out these trashy women, and your garbage

....Never mind, let them stay. They might be useful.”

Although Henry had no idea why Anna was speaking so seriously and why she t was so angry, he still waved his arms at the girls present and said, “Alright, alright. That’s it for tonight. You should leave.”

The girl who had been sitting next to him was just minutes away from getting a tip. and she said stubbornly, "Come on Mr. Law. Who's this woman? Why should we leave just because she said so? She can join us if she wants to..."

The girl had not finished speaking before Henry slapped her across the face. Henry jabbed a finger at the stunned girl and shouted, "B*tch, didn't you hear me

tell you to leave? I'll rip you to shreds if you don't leave now, got it!?" Tears glistened in the girl's eyes as she scurried away in terror.

The other young men hurriedly made the girls next to them leave when they witnessed that.

In an instant, the room fell silent. The only people left inside were several young men, who looked like young children in trouble as they stood in a line in front of Anna.

Anna could not be bothered to lecture Henry right now. Instead, she said, "Don't blame me for coming here and ruining your fun. If you want someone to blame, you can blame Jasper Laine."

Henry was stunned. He thought Anna had already found out that Jasper had asked him to keep an eye on her.

However, he had no idea how. He had not even begun carrying out the task, so how could Anna know of this unless she could predict the future?

"Haha, what does this have to do with him?" Henry asked as he smirked.

Anna said coolly, "I came looking for you because Wendy Schuler has been

kidnapped.”

“Wendy... what!?”

Henry leaped into the air, and his eyes widened as he roared in disbelief.

“I invited her out for a chat tonight, but

she got kidnapped while she was on the way to meet me. We have no idea who the other party is, what their motive is, and whether or not Wendy is even still alive now. The only person left on the scene was the driver. He’s having emergency surgery now because he was shot.”

Anna glanced at Henry and said, “You should know what will happen if he learns about this.”

Henry went numb.

Utterly numb.

At the same time, he became furious.

“Stupid idiots, they could have jumped into the sea if they’re sick and tired of living. Why do they have to drag so many others along with them into their mess!? F *ck their whole families! I’ll skin them alive when we find them!”

“There’s no point in saying such things

now. We need to find them first.”

Anna said irritably, “Do you have any contacts in the gangs? They’re the best at finding people, and I have a feeling that the gangs already have something to do with this. There’s no way a righteous person would utilize such tactics.

“Try and contact everyone you can in the gangs. And get your friends here to do something too. They spend their days messing around, so I bet they’re waiting for a chance to suck up to you. Here’s a chance for them to do so. Let’s see if they can find any clues.”

Life at the Top Chapter 1910

Anna managed to pull Henry out of his blind rage and help him regain some of his sanity.

Teeth gritted, Henry turned to the men beside him and said, "Everyone, you've heard just what happened. Perhaps some of you here have no idea who Wendy Schuler is, but if you go home and ask your dads, you'll know that she's a woman who must be kept safe at all costs!

"So, contact everyone you know, and poke your nose in as many places as you can.

You have to find her even if it means turning all of Harbor City upside down!"

The young men exchanged glances before saying in unison, "Don't worry, Mr. Law.

We will give it our all."

Everyone had areas where they excelled..

These young men would be fumbling

blindly in the dark if you told them to

finalize business deals and draft contracts.

However, everyone was put on earth for a purpose. In terms of merrymaking and using unscrupulous methods, these young men would be unstoppable if they decided to put their powers together.

Thus, when Henry told his friends to take action, it was like casting a wide net out into the open sea.

For now, they had no idea of its efficacy, but they knew that the news spread at an alarmingly fast rate.

The gangs in Harbor City that had since faded from the spotlight and made the switch to more respectable professions began receiving news that a major figure in Harbor City was in search of someone.

At the same time, after a moment's

hesitation, Anna decided to call Jasper. There was no way she could keep something like this a secret from Jasper,

and it would not be right for her to do so

either.

Anna knew what she should do when it came to a major matter of principles like these.

Jasper was bidding farewell to Mr. McNeal when he received Anna's call.

Mr. McNeal was a busy man who had plenty to take care of every day. It was an unstable time in politics now, and it had already been a great feat for him to take the time and travel to Waterhoof City to attend the economic forum. Naturally, he needed to return to Swallow Capital immediately now that the economic forum had come to a close.

When Jasper felt the vibrations coming

from his phone, he glanced at the caller ID

and smirked.

He had a feeling that Anna was going to

satirize him because she knew that Wendy

was in Harbor City.

There would be no shortage of sarcasm.

Jasper felt a headache coming when he

thought of Anna's unparalleled eloquence.

"Why, Mr. Laine, is there a phone call

you're afraid to answer?" Mr. McNeal laughed when he saw the

troubled expression on Jasper's face.

Jasper chuckled bitterly and said to Mr. McNeal, "It's a rather important call. Please give me a minute, Mr. McNeal. I'll take care of this quickly."

No matter what, he had to talk to Anna if she was calling. However, Jasper could not just give Mr. McNeal the cold shoulder, which is why he immediately explained.

Mr. McNeal was an understanding person, and he waved a hand dismissively as he said, "Take all the time you need."

Jasper pressed the answer button. He had already come up with a defense plan for Anna's incoming attacks. He would first tell her a bunch of nonsense and then escape by using Mr. McNeal's presence as an excuse.

However, the smile vanished from Jasper's face as he listened to what Anna said.

More than ten seconds passed, and Jasper had not said anything yet. However, the tips of his fingers began turning white as he tightened his grip on his phone.

Mr. McNeal was a smart man who had good observational skills.

Although he had not been taking detailed notes on Jasper, he could still tell that the person on the other end of the line had brought bad news when he saw Jasper. showing such intense and abnormal reactions.

However, Mr. McNeal had no idea what had happened until Jasper hung up the phone.

Soon, Jasper spoke.

"Please help me do two things."

Life at the Top Chapter 1911

“First, I will issue a reward to Harbor City in my own name. If anyone can find Wendy, or provide clues to help us find Wendy, I will personally offer 100 million Somer Dollars as a cash reward.

“Secondly, issue a diplomatic note to the Harbor City government in the name of J W Company. Ask them to use any and all means to help locate Wendy. The reward mentioned just now is equally valid for the Harbor City Government. This reward is for all individuals and organizations.

“In addition to this, I will rush to Harbor City tomorrow morning. Help me convey this message: JW Company and I will do whatever it takes to find Wendy!”

On the other end of the phone, Anna replied softly.

Then, they both hung up the phone.

This was not the time to talk about other things. The most important thing right now was to find Wendy.

After he saw Jasper hanging up, Mr. McNeal immediately said, “Ms. Wendy, the president of JW Company, went missing in Harbor City?”

Although Mr. McNeal did not know what Jasper heard on the phone, he could easily infer the news from what Jasper replied.

Jasper nodded, but underneath his seemingly calm expression, there was a huge storm such that even at this moment, his fingers were still trembling slightly.

It was because of anger, but also because of fear.

He could not allow anything to happen to Wendy.

“An hour ago, Wendy came out of the hotel with just the driver, but after that, the car was found parked on the side of the road. The driver suffered

a few gunshot wound and he's being treated now. However, Wendy disappeared."

Upon hearing what Jasper said, Mr.

McNeal's face was terrifyingly dark.

Although he had not met Wendy before, since the higher-ups chose Jasper as the key figure, he must have conducted numerous comprehensive investigations on Jasper, and Mr. McNeal naturally knew the relationship between him and Wendy.

From how Mr. McNeal saw this, Wendy could replace Jasper to manage JW Company when Jasper was away, so it seemed that she was of great significance to both JW Company and Jasper.

Yet, at this crucial point, someone had kidnapped Wendy.

There was no doubt they had gone over the line.

However, Mr. McNeal was more worried that Jasper would be affected by this incident, which would seriously affect their future plans.

One had to know that tomorrow was Sunday, and the day after tomorrow was Monday, at which point the trading would commence.

Whether it was the United States or the domestic financial market, the core of their strategy was Jasper.

If Jasper was affected by this incident, the scope of the impact would be immense.

This was what Swallow Capital was absolutely unwilling to see.

"Jasper, we must not mess up at this time.

Don't worry. If Ms. Wendy is being kidnapped at this time, then the person who kidnapped her must be after you. In this case, her safety can be guaranteed for the time being. As long as nothing goes wrong for a while, then the government will definitely try its best to help"

As he said this, Mr. McNeal paused for a while and added, "It doesn't matter if it's the Harbor City government or Swallow Capital."

This statement could be taken as a promise.

A high-level promise.

Which was typically absolutely impossible for high-ranking personnel like Mr. McNeal to make.

"Thank you, Mr. McNeal."

Jasper knew what Mr. McNeal was worried about. He said in a calm tone, This time, no matter who is the culprit, I will make them regret it for the rest of their life.

"Since we can't find her now, then the most important thing right now is to get some clues about her whereabouts. How big is Harbor City? With a 100 million reward, the kidnappers will immediately see the power of the people."

Life at the Top Chapter 1912

Jasper was not worried that he would not find Wendy.

Just as he said, Harbor City was small, but 7.5 million people were packed into such a tiny place.

Hence, in Harbor City, so long as there was enough money and enough manpower, it would be impossible for him to not find any clues unless Wendy disappeared from this world.

With the resources and abilities that Jasper currently had, he could find those bold kidnapers in the shortest time as long as there was even the slightest clue.

What he was worried about now was that Wendy might encounter some unexpected events.

Mr. McNeal's analysis was very reasonable, and Jasper figured that these kidnapers must have kidnapped Wendy because of him and would not do anything to Wendy. After all, she still had to remain in their hands to act as a bargaining chip to threaten him.

However, it was better to be safe than sorry.

Harbor City was notoriously chaotic ten years back. There was a thief of the century who covered himself with bombs and swaggered over to abduct Half-the-Harbor Langdon's son. Then, he swaggered to Half-the-Harbor Langdon to ask for 'pocket money'. It was hard to say whether another equally mentally-ill person was at work here.

If that was the case, it would not help even if Jasper sliced that person into pieces afterward if something really happened to Wendy.

Mr. McNeal looked at Jasper seriously for a while and seemed to be assured that Jasper was not affected by the sudden blow. Therefore, Mr. McNeal was also slightly relieved.

"I will inform Swallow Capital of this matter as soon as possible. If necessary, we can deploy the special power of Harbor City directly."

Mr. McNeal said through gritted teeth.

Right now, Jasper's importance was self evident.

Neither Swallow Capital nor he wanted to see any accidents surrounding Jasper.

Thus, if the situation was urgent, he would persuade Swallow Capital to directly use the armed forces.

"No."

Unexpectedly, Jasper refused.

As Mr. McNeal looked at him with stunned eyes, Jasper said, "Our domestic situation has attracted the attention of most countries around the world, especially the United States. The reason why the United States government is not involving themselves and only used Wall Street capital to cause trouble is that they're not yet able to bring things up to the national level.

"And Harbor City is an extremely special place, Harbor City citizens govern Harbor

City, which is a rule set by great men. Harbor City is not a city on the mainland. Once Swallow Capital uses its power in Harbor City, it will instantly arouse international public opinion and an uproar. Most importantly, this is tantamount to giving the United States government an excellent excuse."

When Jasper said this, he continued through gritted teeth, "I will keep this matter under control and solve it through civilian means. I asked for help from the Harbor City government because she went missing in Harbor City.

It's normal if the Harbor City government uses the police or other nation's mob ruled department to investigate, so no one can say anything about that. However, it will be different if Swallow Capital intervenes, so let me solve it myself.

"If I can't protect my woman after leading JW to this point and still need help from Swallow Capital, I might as well just quit."

After Jasper's words, Mr. McNeal looked at Jasper deeply. For a long time, he did not say anything. Instead, he patted Jasper on the shoulder heavily.

He had been in the official career for his whole life. Now, 99.99% of ordinary folks

from Somerland could only look up to him but never get to his status in their entire lifetime. Yet, he was educated by Jasper on this sort of thing.

This made Mr. McNeal a little bit emotional, but at the same time, he felt more grateful.

"Pay close attention to it and don't take the initiative to intervene. However, going overboard will never be tolerated."

This was the last thing Mr. McNeal said to Jasper before boarding the plane.

After sending away Mr. McNeal, Jasper inhaled sharply and made a call.

"Julian, go to Waterhoof City with your senior in the shortest time possible. We'll set off to Harbor City immediately."

This call was made to Julian, who was given a long vacation because of his wedding.

Yes, Julian got married some time ago.

However, at that time, Jasper had a lot on his plate and he could not attend in person, but even so, he prepared everything he should for Julian.

Meanwhile, aside from his elder sister, Julian also had a senior, which Jasper also gave time off to.

Now, Jasper had to interrupt Julian's wedding leave.

Julian did not hesitate or waste time asking what happened on the other end of the phone. Instead, he immediately replied, "Okay, I will be there in two hours."

After hanging up, Jasper looked at the dark night sky above the airport, his eyes cold and murderous.

With the rise of his wealth and status, Jasper had seldom been furious, and there were increasingly fewer things worthy of his emotion.

Yet, this time, these people dared to touch Wendy, which was equivalent to provoking Jasper. If these people were not given a painful blow and made to bleed, then this kind of thing might happen again in the future.

This was something Jasper would never accept.

Harbor City.

Although the night was getting darker, a piece of news caused a sensation throughout Harbor City.

In the past two days, Jasper, the boss of J W, an influential mainland company in Harbor City, released a reward for all of society to find a group of kidnappers. Those who found these kidnappers or even provided valuable clues could get 100 million as a reward..

This caused an uproar among the people in Harbor City.

It was 100 million.

Moreover, with Jasper's title of the richest man in the young generation in the mainland and also the good news about J W Company that the news media had blown up over the past few days, no one would doubt that this was fake.

However, there was a problem here.

That was, so far, no one knew what the group of kidnappers looked like. They

only knew that it was a group of kidnapers of unknown number and appearance who had kidnapped Wendy, the president of JW.

Thus, the driver who was still in the hospital was extremely important as he might have seen the kidnapers.

Anna and Zachary came to the scene in person.

Not only that, but the Boyles who received the news also sent someone over in the form of Zed.

“How’s the situation?”

Zed asked Anna immediately after arriving.

Zed was in a bad mood. Originally, the cooperation with Wendy would make the Nine Dragon Corporation under his management take off quickly, but right now, something so serious had happened. At this time, Zed wanted to catch that group of kidnapers and skin them alive.

Anna shook her head and said, “He’s still undergoing an operation. The doctor came out just now and said that they managed to save his life, but it’s hard to say whether they can keep him conscious.”

Zed gritted his teeth and said, “Now we have issued a reward and the TV and broadcast stations are also ready. However, they lack the faces of the kidnapper. It all depends on the driver now.”

At this moment, the lights in the operating room suddenly went out.

The operation was over.

Life at the Top Chapter 1913

When they learned that the operation was over, both Anna and Zed walked to the door and waited.

Not long after, the surgeon walked out of the operating room.

At this moment, although he had just finished a major operation that lasted a few hours, he did not dare to neglect the two even though he was exhausted.

Aside from the surgeon, the arrival of Anna and Zed shocked the hospital's director and two deputy directors to come and accompany them personally. Even though he was the number one surgeon in treating a gunshot wound to the heart, he did not dare to put on airs at this moment.

"Dr. Molesley, how is the patient now? Will he regain consciousness?"

Anna directly asked the surgeon.

The surgeon took off his mask and immediately replied, "The operation is considered a success. The patient's body is not weak, which saved us a lot of time in the rescue.

"He should be able to regain consciousness immediately if my predictions are not wrong, but the patient is still under anesthesia now. He'll take about 10 to 20 minutes to wake up and be sent out. If you have any questions at that time, you can directly ask him."

Anna and Zed looked at each other and breathed sighs of relief at the same time.

This was the best news they had heard in hours.

"Thank you for your hard work, Dr. Molesley. There will be a generous gift for you and your team later. Please don't refuse," Zed said.

Harbor City was different from the mainland after all. Over here, capital moved more obviously and openly.

Plus, the truly good hospitals here were private hospitals. Since they were private hospitals, both the hospital and the doctors were here for the money.

Therefore, it was not illegal to receive money as a gift from truly wealthy patients in Harbor City. On the contrary, everyone was accustomed to it.

Dr. Molesley had a bright smile on his face. Compared to this gift, which was certainly not a small amount, he valued being noticed by big families such as the Laws and the Boyles more. Everything else aside, if he was lucky enough to become the private doctors of these wealthy families, he would be able to live a worry-free life.

When he saw the director and the deputy director of the hospital not far away, Dr. Molesley dismissed himself tactfully and informed them that he would bring the patient out as soon as he was awake.

“Miss Law, Mr. Walters, the chief of the Harbor City Police Department and the deputy bureau chief of the Security Bureau are here.”

Wendy was kidnapped in Harbor City, so this news shocked not just wealthy families like the Laws, the Harbor City government also responded immediately. With what Jasper said on the mainland, he directly summoned the chief of the police department and the second-in-charge of

the Security Bureau.

As professionals, they understood better than anyone how important the only driver who might have seen the faces of the kidnapers was at this time.

Not to mention, Anna and Zed were keeping an eye out here. So, no matter what they had to come here in person.

After the director of the hospital finished speaking, Anna and Zed saw a group of people walking over.

The two people walking in the middle were two faces that they were very familiar with.

Due to historical reasons, the police department was the so-called boss in Harbor City, although, on the surface, there were two higher-level departments, the Security Bureau and the Harbor City Government above them.

However, the police in Harbor City held more power than the police in the mainland, and this was thanks to the head of the police department. If he did not dabble in both the good and the bad side of

the law, he would not have been able to get to this position.

It was just that Chief Barrow was feeling

troubled at this time.

He just took over the position from the previous chief, and he encountered this big case before even having the chance to enjoy a few days of the good life.

As the new chief of the police department, he had a very close relationship with the mainland... After all, he would not be able to hold this position if he had a bad relationship with the mainland. One had to know that since the handover, the chief of the Harbor City Police Department was directly appointed by Swallow Capital.

In this regard, the particularity of this position was much more special and important than other authorities in the Harbor City government.

It was precisely because of this that Chief Barrow learned from various sources that the kidnapping incident had attracted the attention of the highest level of Swallow Capital. If the case was not handled well, he did not know if he could retire safely, let alone enter the Security Bureau after his

three-year term in office was up.

"Miss Law, Mr. Walters."

After Chief Barrow arrived, he did not bother exchanging pleasantries. He asked directly, "How is the patient?"

Zed replied, "He just finished the operation. The doctor said he will take more than ten minutes to wake up."

"That's good."

Chief Barrow breathed a sigh of relief and continued, "It's good as long as he can wake up."

To put it bluntly, the reason why this group of bigwigs was guarding the operating room was not that the driver's life was important, but instead, the information he might provide was.

To put it more practically, as long as the driver could wake up for a few minutes and tell them how the kidnappers looked, no one would care even if he was seriously injured and died immediately after.

Sigh, the world was like this. Ordinary people in Harbor City were so humble and lowly in a society where capitalism was rampant.

“Chief Barrow, you know the current

situation. The social impact of Ms. Wendy’s kidnapping is huge. It will not only directly affect the impression of other merchants from other countries toward Harbor City, but it may even affect the relationship between the local business community in Harbor City and the mainland.”

Anna said solemnly, “That’s why I ask the police to solve this case in the shortest possible time.”

Chief Barrow’s face twitched when he heard the words. If the second generation of other wealthy families spoke like this, with his status, he could just turn them a deaf ear, but he could not do the same with Anna.

“Miss Law, you can rest assured that the police will not ignore such a horrendous case.

“This time, the police dispatched the senior deputy director, director of operations, and Senior Superintendent Frankie Lake to take charge of this case. Harbor City’s best forensic experts have also gone to the scene to investigate and collect evidence. In addition to this, I currently have the best and most experienced criminal sketcher with me.

“All in all, we have dispatched the most experienced personnel and experts in kidnapping cases in Harbor City, hence, we’ll definitely solve this kidnapping case as soon as possible.”

Anna nodded at Chief Barrow’s words. Just as she was about to speak, the door of the operating room was pushed open.

The driver was awake!

Life at the Top Chapter 1914

This driver was just an ordinary driver brought over by Wendy from the mainland to work for JW Company.

Originally, Wendy's full-time driver was Julian's senior, Fallon, but Julian got married and Fallon was on leave with him. Hence, Wendy transferred this driver over from the company.

He never expected to not be able to enjoy the prosperity of Harbor City while on a business trip with the boss, on the contrary, he almost died after being shot.

For ordinary people in the urban areas of the mainland, they could never imagine what getting shot was like, but he had experienced it first-hand.

Still, this was nothing, but after being shot, he fell unconscious. When he opened his eyes again, he was looking at all of Harbor City's top big shots.

There were also many people in police uniforms crowded outside.

He was just an ordinary driver, so he could not tell the rank and status of the police officers from their uniforms. However, he at least knew that in the mainland, the chief would be in white uniforms.

"You're awake."

What brought the driver back to his senses was an extremely pleasant female voice.

He thought that his boss Wendy was already the most beautiful and temperamental woman in the world, but the woman in front of him was not inferior to his boss in terms of appearance or temperament.

At this moment, the driver was still a little confused.

Wasn't he injured?

Why was there such a beautiful woman as well as all these big shots?

'Did I transmigrate into another person's body?

'Did the plot of a novel happen to me?'

Without giving the driver time to process things, Anna said, "Before Wendy was kidnapped, you were the only one on the scene. Now please try to remember how many kidnapers there were and what they looked like...

"I know this is not easy for you because you have just recovered from a serious injury, but please help us. The more information you provide, the faster we will find Wendy. In other words, Wendy's safety is in your hands now."

Anna's words made the driver suddenly come back to his senses.

He opened his dry lips and said weakly but firmly, "I-I remember..."

This short sentence excited Anna.

At this moment, under the command of Chief Barrow, several proficient criminal sketchers and the most experienced and elite professionals who handled kidnapping cases immediately swarmed over.

Anna knew that the next step was to leave these things to the professionals. Now, she just needed to wait for the results.

Sure enough, after more than ten minutes of work, the extremely weak driver slowly fell asleep. After that, Anna had three sketches of different people in her hands.

"Just three?" Anna asked, looking at the three sketches in her hand.

"There are more."

As the person in charge of this case, Frankie came over and replied, According to the driver's description, there were at least five of them, but the situation was very chaotic at the time and there were several people who remained in the car. All he could remember was these three who got out.

"The first sketch in your hand is the head kidnapper, Miss Law. The driver has the deepest impression of him because he was responsible for negotiating with the kidnapped Ms. Wendy Schuler.

"According to the driver's description, we now have two leads. First, this gang of kidnappers was hired to do this, and they were pretty courteous to Ms. Schuler. In

addition to shooting and deterring the driver, they didn't commit any excessive or violent actions against Ms. Schuler,

"Secondly, the head of the kidnappers goes by the nickname of Phoenix and calls himself Mr. Phoenix.

"According to the driver's description, we suspect that Phoenix may be from one of the gangs. At present, we have called colleagues from the Anti-Triad Department to come over. They know more about the gangs."

After listening to Frankie's description, Anna sneered and said, "Mr. Phoenix? As long as he is still in Harbor City, I will find him out and skin him even if he really turns into a phoenix.

"Copy the sketches and send them to all the printing houses in Harbor City immediately. Ask them to work overtime to print 500 thousand copies of the sketch for me. I want everyone in Harbor City to get a copy of their sketches before dawn. I want to see where they can possibly escape to."

The power of money was undoubtedly revealed at this moment.

Especially in places like Harbor City.

With money, you were God.

Money could even do things that God could not.

After all, not everyone believed in God. There were even some people who worshiped Satan, but no one would refuse the colorful bills, especially the 100 million Somer Dollar bounty!

Hundreds of printing houses in Harbor City, large and small, began to rush to work overnight. In some smaller printing houses, the owner and his family even worked together to print as many of the sketches as possible.

This was because the Laws said they wanted as many sketches as they could print before dawn, and they would pay 50 Somer Dollars per copy!

This was a huge profit that had never happened in decades.

Then, these printed sketches would be taken away immediately in the special cars that were waiting at the entrance of the printing factory after they were fully loaded.

These portraits were sent to Harbor City's Nine Dragon Area, Neu Region, Sharp Promenade, and so on...

It went all over Harbor City.

Driven by the bigwigs headed by the Laws, all the companies affiliated with the families distributed the sketches to their employees and asked them to distribute it once again to their families and friends.

Then, they also hired someone to distribute them on the street for free.

At this time, everyone in Harbor City already knew about the 100 million Somer Dollar bounty. Now that they had these sketches in hand, the power was further increased.

Moreover, Harbor City's large and small TV stations as well as broadcasting channels began to broadcast these sketches and news of the reward. This was to completely cover Harbor City as

much as possible so that everyone in

Harbor City would know this news.

With that, a marvel happened in Harbor City after being driven by the power of money.

The streets and alleys were full of people holding portraits. Office workers who passed by, middle-aged women who went out to buy food, and even the students on their way to school all held a few sketches in their hands.

Everyone was looking around and were observing each other carefully. Whenever they met a stranger, they would compare them to the sketches carefully.

Usually, when they saw people who were holding the same sketches as themselves, they would smile awkwardly at each other and head to the next intersection to continue wandering around...

After all, that was a bounty of 100 million.

No one would turn down money.

The entire Harbor City went crazy after being driven by this 100 million.

Life at the Top Chapter 1915

At this moment, South Island in Harbor City.

Since it was an island that was far away from Harbor City, it had always been a relatively remote place that was considered the countryside.

After tying Wendy up, Mr. Phoenix and his gang drove directly to the pier and took her to South Island in a speedboat.

In their opinion, staying in the densely populated Harbor City was like digging their own graves. Only the remote South Island was a suitable place for them to hide.

In an ordinary residential building in the fishing village.

A young man dropped his cigarette butt and glanced inside through the window. He saw Wendy sitting on the sofa in the living room with her eyes closed as she rested. There was takeaway food and coffee on the coffee table in front of her. She did not look like she was being kidnapped, instead, she looked as if she was on vacation.

The young man had never seen such beauty before as he looked at Wendy's perfectly slim figure and angelic face.

With fiery eyes, he walked to Phoenix at the entrance of the corridor.

"Mr. Phoenix, this woman is having the time of her life and she is even served delicious food and drinks. She's our hostage anyway, so why don't we...."

Before the young man could finish speaking, Phoenix slapped him and sent him directly to the ground.

“You fool, don’t have these kind of thoughts, understand?”

Phoenix’s expression was cold. “I contacted the boss before and all he asked us to do was to wait with this hostage for a few days. After that, we’ll wait for his update.

“How many f*cking lives do you have, you fool? How dare you touch that kind of woman?”

Phoenix actually regretted it a bit now.

He was blinded by the money, so he agreed to do this for the sake of a mere 10 million and a green card to the United States.

After kidnapping Wendy, Phoenix already knew through some sources just how much trouble he had caused.

She was the president of JW Company.

And a bounty of 100 million!

Hiss!

Phoenix had an urge to surrender himself and receive the 100 million.

He was not using his brain when he did

this.

Now, the good and bad sides of Harbor City were turning the earth over to find him. This scared him even more.

While under this kind of panic, he started to understand the situation a little better.

That was, even if they kidnapped Wendy, he would wait upon her and serve her delicious food. He would not even do anything to her, so when

he was caught, those aloof bigwigs would not do anything too bad to him.

After all, he was just a hired thug. People like him were nothing more than maggots in the eyes of those bigwigs.

Phoenix could feel this from the look in Wendy's eyes. He might even be worse than a maggot.

"But why?"

The young man who was slapped felt a little aggrieved. He said, "The hostage has food and drink in the room, and we can only keep an eye on her out here while being blown by the sea breeze. I've never felt so vexed before."

Phoenix, who was already upset, became even more agitated when he heard the words. He took a few banknotes from his pocket and threw them on the young man. He snapped, "Damn it, you're a fool indeed. You good-for-nothing piece of trash, buy some supper. Don't buy alcohol. You guys always cause me so much trouble when you drink too much, do you hear me?"

"I got it, Mr. Phoenix."

The young man stopped complaining when he got the money. He smiled and stuffed the money into his pocket before pulling another man with him.

After the two went downstairs, they found a small shop.

"Boss, give us some kebabs and some

snacks for supper. Hurry up."

The young man slammed the money on the table with a grin and shouted.

Life at the Top Chapter 1916

“Okay, right away.”

The boss took the money. When he was about to leave, he glanced at the young man’s face by the light and was taken aback.

The young man frowned and cursed, “What the hell are you looking at? Do you believe that I’ll smash your f*cking head in?”

The boss was shocked, and he hurriedly said with a smiling face, “I’m sorry, I’m sorry. I’ll go to prepare the kebabs right away.”

After speaking, the boss left.

Soon, the boss came back with what the young man wanted.

“Guys, the kebab and snacks you wanted.”

The boss said cautiously. As he was saying that, he kept looking at the young man as if he was confirming something.

“Are you f*cking sick in the head? What are you doing looking at me like this?”

After saying that, the young man took the things impatiently, turned around with his friend, and left.

As soon as they walked away, the television in the shop began to broadcast the news.

“Dear citizens, the sketches of the suspects in the kidnapping case are currently available for free in Harbor City, and this channel will also broadcast the sketches in a loop. If you see the suspects, please call the police immediately. The following are the sketches of the suspects announced by the police...”

The boss looked at the sketches of the suspect on the television and the printed sketches he had just been passed in his hand. He became more and more excited as a feeling of disbelief washed over him. H

e tremblingly took out the phone and called the police...

After Mr. Phoenix got a kebab, he got up and walked to the room.

The door opened and Wendy immediately opened her eyes vigilantly to look at Mr. Phoenix as the latter walked into the room.

“Don’t be so cautious, sweet cheeks. If I wanted to do something to you, I would have done it a long time ago, right?”

Even though he was a kidnapper and Wendy was just a hostage, Mr. Phoenix still could not help but feel the inferiority that carved into his bones when he was facing Wendy.

They were both humans but why was there such a big difference between them?

Mr. Phoenix felt like trash in front of

Wendy.

Putting down the kebab, Mr. Phoenix sighed and said, “Look, I’m not kidnapping you for my own sake. I was hired by someone to do this, and I have no grievances with you so you don’t need to see me as your enemy. You should eat supper.

Wendy did not even look at the kebab. She said flatly, “Who asked you to do this?”

Mr. Phoenix chuckled and said, “I can’t tell you, and what’s the use even if I did? How do you say that? You’re the fish....”

“I am fish and you are the sword,” Wendy said lightly.

Mr. Phoenix looked embarrassed, but he still shrugged and said, “Yes, I am uncultured but so what? Aren’t you sitting here obediently?”

Wendy said nothing more.

She knew it was definitely not a smart choice to provoke Mr. Phoenix at this time. Not only could she not provoke him, but she had to keep him calm as well.

“You and I have no grievances indeed. Even if you kidnapped me this time, as you said, you were only being instigated by others. So, no matter what happens, if you are kind to me, I won’t do anything too bad to you.”

Wendy’s words made Mr. Phoenix breathe a sigh of relief.

The overwhelming search outside put him under immense pressure and Wendy’s assurance at this time also made him feel relieved.

“Sweet cheeks, you probably have to stay here for a few more days. Rest well.”

Mr. Phoenix got up and went out after speaking.

Wendy closed her eyes silently and said

nothing.

At this moment, an airplane had landed steadily at Harbor City International Airport.

Life at the Top Chapter 1917

This time, it was Zachary who picked

Jasper up after he rushed to Harbor City

overnight.

“Jasper, I’ve let you down.”

As soon as they met, Zachary felt

embarrassed.

Harbor City was equivalent to the Laws territory, and on this territory, something had happened to Jasper’s people, so Zachary could not shake the feeling that he had let down Jasper.

Jasper waved his hand and said to Zachary, “Uncle Law, you are too courteous. This matter has nothing to do with you. I didn’t expect anyone to do anything to Wendy in Harbor City, let alone you guys.”

Zachary smiled bitterly, “It’s very unexpected indeed. Perhaps they knew we wouldn’t expect this, and that’s how they surprised us.”

The two walked towards the exit of the airport and chatted the whole way.

“How is the situation now?” Jasper asked.

“The driver has woken up and provided three sketches of the criminals. Now, the sketches of the criminals have been released to the entirety of Harbor City through various channels. TV stations and broadcasting stations are reporting relevant news continuously. The police also dispatched the most capable force to form a team to conduct investigations across Harbor City.

“At present, the biggest suspects are the triads. The appearance and outfits described by the driver also conform to the image and behavior of the members of the mass organization.

“Harbor City has returned to the
sovereignty of the mainland for many
years while the majority of triadss have

basically been cleared, while the remaining large ones have also begun to start doing good. However, at the end of the day the power of Harbor City’s triadss was too large and complex back then, so it is not possible to pinpoint exactly which organization did this for the time being.

“This is still under investigation.”

By the time Zachary finished speaking,
the two were already in the car.
At the same time, the expressionless

Julian and Fallon were also seated in the
car.

Things were especially tense for Fallon, as
Wendy’s personal bodyguard for many
years, her relationship with Wendy was n
o worse than that between Jasper and
Julian. The two of them blamed
themselves now that Wendy had gotten
into trouble.

They felt that if they had not asked for
leave and failed to protect Wendy, this
kidnapping would never have happened.

After listening to Zachary’s words, Jasper
was expressionless.

In his past and present life, Jasper had
hardly dealt with the power of the
organizations in Harbor City.

He did not have the qualification to do
that in his previous life, and the
organizations did not have a reason to
interact with him in this life.

After all, they were all in shady businesses and Jasper was born in Somerland mainland, so he was naturally highly sensitive and vigilant toward people with shady backgrounds. Thus, he was unwilling to have any dealings with these triads.

However, even if you might not see it, but you ought to have at least heard about it.

Harbor City's triads background could be traced back to when Somerland was still a republic. The founder of one of the three major triads, Righteous Guild, was the major general of Somerland during those times, and he passed that title down to the family, the Hills.

The Fourteen Club had a bigger backing, and the founder was the lieutenant general of Somerland back in the days.

As for MSM, it was an organization formed by the local forces of Harbor City under the pressure of two triads.

In the mid-1980s and 1990s, when these three pillars stood together, they were no less famous than the Italian mafia, Sunrise Land's Mountain Group, and other world-class criminal organizations

at their peak.

It was just that after the handover, under the heavy hand of the politics, the ones who managed to flee, fled, while the ones who could not were shot dead. Now, the ones who remained were considered smart as they had done the right thing early.

Even so, the leaders and backbone of various so-called companies today were still desperadoes who escaped the bloody battlefield back then.

From Jasper's perspective, as a person who was reincarnated, he knew it would take at least 10 years before the strength of the Harbor City triads was truly ablated..

And now, these desperadoes would still do

anything they wanted. If this happened half a year ago, Jasper would find it very tricky.

Triads had been rooted and developing in Harbor City for decades. With intricate forces and deep backgrounds, a butterfly effect would happen if some slight

changes happened. Yet, Jasper could not indulge these damned rascals now. "I want to meet the current heads of

Righteous Guild, the Fourteen Club, and

MSM within the hour."

Jasper's request surprised Zachary slightly.

"The three heads have different tempers, and one is more arrogant than the other, especially the leader of the Fourteen Club. He's the oldest and the most experienced, I am afraid that it will not be so easy to talk to him."

Worried that Jasper would lose his sense and reason because this matter involved Wendy, Zachary persuaded him to act impulsively.

"It's not easy to talk to them?"

Jasper sneered and said, "I am more difficult to talk to than them.

"Uncle Law, times have changed. It's no longer the days when these little old hooligans could run into the streets with machetes. If these men were the stubborn and pedantic, they would have been executed in the mainland during the Handover. The timid ones would have escaped too.

"The remaining ones who could transform and succeed in time are not so brave, but they are clever. They understand what the current era is all about.

"When Uncle Law sends them over, help me pass on a message. If I can spend 100 million to turn Harbor City upside down, then I can spend more money to wipe out their companies and organizations that have been passed down for decades. I didn't bat an eyelid when I was chased by the agents from Sunrise Land to the United States. They're just gangsters and

they want to throw a tantrum at me? Do. they think they can bully Jasper Laine?

“This time, it’s not me begging them to do anything. It’s my people who had an accident in Harbor City and it’s obviously related to the triads. So, all of them, young or old, need to come up and give me an explanation. If they can’t, then I will destroy the lair of these hooligans. Will J Wbow down to these hooligans after

surviving for so long?”

Zachary looked at Jasper in surprise. After a long time, he smiled bitterly and said, “You punk.”

Indeed, Jasper had always been gentle and cultivated in front of Zachary. Plus, he would typically use his brains more than other methods.

Although the methods were also thought up by the brain, Jasper’s strategy had always been subduing the enemy without fighting. It was also closer to the majestic and grandiose plot of a nobleman as he often disdained using power to pressure others.

Zachary always thought this might have something to do with Jasper’s background.

However, this time, Jasper’s

overbearingness was vividly displayed.

Now, Zachary finally realized his understanding of Jasper was not as profound as the old master’s. It might even be possible that he knew less than Anna.

Thinking of what his daughter Anna said to him before, Zachary said, “The old master expects you to do this, and even Anna was right about this. Jasper, you really changed how I see you.”

“Where is Anna?”

Upon hearing Anna’s name, Jasper’s

mood finally changed a little. “She’s already on the way to contact the heads of the three major triads for you.”

Life at the Top Chapter 1918

As Zachary had said, the Laws had indeed helped Jasper contact the heads of the three major triads in advance to set up a meeting.

The Laws were also well-prepared. The meeting place was arranged to be in the Laws' villa on the Hilltop.

This was carefully selected.

This was not the Laws' home; it was impossible for them to arrange the meeting to take place there. That was where Old Master Law rested, so, to put it bluntly, these groups of gangsters had no right to enter that place.

However, with Jasper's weight and status, the arrangement of this meeting place had to be unusual, otherwise, it would not be able to suppress the three triads and it would not reflect the Laws' attention to this matter.

The Hilltop, from the time of Inspector Rocky in the 1960s and 1970s, had been a well-known top-notch wealthy district in Harbor City. In addition to the Laws, the Boyles' and

even Half-the-Harbor Langdon's original home in Harbor City were also here. Even if the Laws' house was not here,

they also had a large-scale property in the

villa area on the top of the mountain.

This place could not only represent the Laws but it could also hold down the three triads. This was the least they could do for Jasper.

When the car that Jasper and Zachary were in arrived at the location, they found that the three triads had already arrived one step ahead of schedule.

When Jasper got out of the car, the first person he saw was Anna at the door.

“Thank you,” Jasper whispered to Anna.

Anna smiled softly and said, “I am also somehow related to this matter, so I have to do more. They have already arrived. You should go in now.”

Jasper nodded and joined Zachary as they walked into the house.

There were seven or eight men in the house. Three of them were sitting and the others were all standing.

Whether they were standing or sitting, those who could come here, regardless of whether they were doing shady business or legal business, would have a certain status, so their manners would not be too bad.

When Jasper and Zachary came in,

everyone stood up.

“Hello, Mr. Law, Mr. Laine.”

A man with a handsome face and solid features smiled and greeted them. Even if he was in his forties, he was still very handsome and stylish.

Jasper knew this person even without

introduction.

Jimmy Hill, the third generation of Righteous Guild and the Hills. His grandfather was the major general when Somerland was still a republic.

The character Sky from the Red Star Organization in the Young and Wild Series was based off of him.

Speaking of which, Righteous Guild and the Hills were definitely the most successful triads that had transformed in

Harbor City. This organization was still active in the upper class of Harbor City even up until Jasper was reincarnated in his previous life. For the people who were doing shady businesses, they were an absolute model for success.

“This baldy with a beer belly and fat face wearing crystal beads on his wrist is called Chuck Pearson. He is the speaker of the Resolute Clan in the Fourteen Club. After The Fourteen Club turned to the good side, he founded the Crown Company, where he is the current chairman. It mainly engages in entertainment, real estate, jewelry, and transportation business.

“The thin old smiling man with gray hair is the senior figure of MSM, Cadmus Morello, nicknamed Number Six.”

With Anna’s introduction, Jasper had a preliminary understanding of the heads of these three triads.

Narrowing his eyes slightly, Jasper walked straight to the main seat and sat down.

This action made the corners of the eyes of the three heads twitch.

Don’t look down on them because they were gangsters. It was precisely because they were gangsters that they valued seniority and etiquette very seriously.

After all, this was the Laws’ territory and Zachary Law had not moved yet, but Jasper took the lead and sat down on the main seat.

Regardless of what the Laws thought, to them, this had subverted their original impression of Jasper, a wealthy businessman from the mainland.

None of them had been in contact with each other before, and they only knew that Jasper was a wealthy businessman who had risen very fast in the mainland in recent years. Plus, he had a lot of money and was a hard-core ally of the Laws.

What happened to Jasper in the mainland had little to do with them, but the Laws were very much connected to them.

Back then, the thief of the century dared to abduct the son of Half-the-Harbor Langdon, but why didn't he dare to touch the Laws, who had become famous for longer and have a deeper heritage?

It was because Old Master Law used to smuggle ammunition with explosive kits tied to his body when they were still babies.

If they wanted to compare who was shadier, more savage, and more willing to risk their lives, these so-called triads in Harbor City were like street gangsters and international mercenaries in comparison with Old Master Law.

Thus, the Laws had a very special status in both Harbor City's good side and bad side. No one dared to provoke them, and no one dared to offend them.

Now, Jasper's behavior was completely different from the gentle image they had previously formed.

He was even more overbearing than gangsters like them.

"Mr. Hill, Mr. Pearson, Mr. Morello."

Jasper spoke.

Once he spoke, everyone in the room quieted down and looked at him silently.

"I know everyone's background very well and everyone knows my background too.

"Originally, everyone was eating out of their respective bowls, and everyone was minding their own business. I think there is a high probability that your business would never have overlapped with mine.

"But why are you sitting here today? I don't think I need to go on with that nonsense again.

"My person got into trouble in Harbor City, and I am 80 to 90% sure that it has something to do with triads like you. As such, I am going to make my attitude clear.

"I don't care which of the three major triads here has something to do with this matter. You three are the heads of your respective triads. I want to ask the three of you to help me and mobilize your men to find these people even if you have to turn Harbor City upside down to get her back safely."

After speaking, Jasper took out a checkbook and wrote three checks without any concern for the sudden changes on the faces of the three heads.

"Each of you will get a 50 million promissory note that can be exchanged at any bank in any country in the world at any time. It's irrevocable and can't be reported if lost. This piece of paper is 50 million in cash."

Three checks were thrown in front of the three heads while Jasper's flat but cold voice followed, "Similarly, I won't allow you to be sloppy with what I want you to do."

"When it's done, the 100 million Somer Dollar bounty will go to its rightful owner. Right now, this money is considered money for you guys to buy tea. But if you can't do it well and something bad happens to my person, I will uproot the three major triads!"

As soon as this remark came out, the face of the three heads of the triads, who were originally shocked by Jasper's generosity, changed drastically. Among them, the face of Chuck Pearson, the most

thug-like head of the Fourteen Club, immediately darkened and he snorted coldly.

Life at the Top Chapter 1919

“What do you think the three major mass organizations are? Beggars on the roadside?”

Chuck pointed directly at Jasper’s nose and cursed unceremoniously, “I came here today because I respect Mr. Law, not you, you mainlander! You’re still far from being qualified to put on airs in front of me.”

After Chuck said that, the burly men standing behind him glared at Jasper with a threatening gaze. They looked like they would attack Jasper if there were any disagreements.

At this time, Jimmy and Number Six looked at each other. Both of them fell silent.

Was 50 million a lot?

Very.

Even if Jasper was doing investments, especially during this period of financial hedging, he was fighting Wall Street capital from the United States which would require tens of billions or hundreds of billions of Harbor Dollars funds.

However, that money he was using was

the blood drawn by the entire domestic

financial community. It was only 2001. Even in Harbor City, 50 million Harbor Dollars in cash was

already what 99.99% of people could

never have in their lifetime.

Moreover, their organizations needed this money even more desperately.

On the surface, these triad bosses looked prestigious and regarded themselves above others, but in reality, they were pretty poor.

After all, they had to feed so many people under them, and every one of their men needed to be paid.

The triad's industries were small, and no one dared to dabble in the shady channels where the money came quickly, so they could only become good and do some legal business.

However, apart from Jimmy's Righteous Guild's success in the entertainment industry, the others such as the Fourteen Club and MSM were not having a good time.

It was not that they could not make money, but that there were mouths of tens of thousands of men under each of them to feed, and even the most profitable companies could not support the high expenses.

So, when Jasper took out 50 million

Harbor Dollars, they were all tempted.

However, Jasper sounded very rude. For the three of them, it was not a big problem to accept the money, but what about their prestige when this spread out? What would their men think of them?

Hence, even if Chuck was hooting at this time, it was just a facade. This could be seen from him constantly glancing at the check.

Jasper saw all this.

He knew very well that by giving Chuck a way out now, Chuck would be able to stop this kerfuffle, and then everyone would happily collect the money and work for him.

However, Jasper really did not have the time to waste with this group of people.

The most important thing was that Jasper wanted to do this in one go.

He wanted to leave an indelible impression in the hearts of this group of

people.

They were not to test his limit. Whoever did so would die and there was no second possibility.

“Mr. Pearson, you look very emotional. Does this kidnapping case have something to do with you?”

Jasper’s faint words made Chuck freeze.

He just wanted to take the 50 million. Some Dollars in a more dignified way and go to work. He never even considered taking Jasper as his enemy before, let alone kidnapping Wendy.

As Jasper said before, the triads members who were mostly thugs and hotheads had long since been executed, while others fled. The rest of them who were still in the business were all timid, scared of death, but clever.

How could he not know that in this era, the rich were the real bosses?

Life at the Top Chapter 1920

A thug who was always fighting in gangs seemed to be so mighty, but he was just pretending in front of ordinary people. However, when he really faced a wealthy businessman with high status, he truly did not have the confidence to argue with them.

In addition to this, Jasper was a wealthy businessman from the mainland, and not only the Laws were behind him, the mainland was too.

How would he dare to kidnap Wendy?

“Don’t slander me maliciously. This

matter has nothing to do with me!”

The contrast between Chuck’s current

panic-stricken explanation with his previous simulated indignant outrage was so large that it was a bit unbearable.

“If it wasn’t you, why are you making so

much noise?”

Jasper’s eyes turned gloomy, “Is the Fourteen Club too comfortable doing legal business? How many skills do you violent gangsters have to play with capital and dabble in business?”

“Do you believe that I’ll bankrupt your company and turn you into a real beggar in the street for yelling at me here?”

“Or do you think you have a lot of men under you and I won’t have the balls to do anything to you?”

“Believe it or not, if I wanted to see the chief of the police department, I could just give him a call. When I do so, it’s not me who’ll go to see him, it’s him who has to jump out of his bed and run here to see me!”

At this moment, the extremely ruthless rage due to Wendy’s kidnap was gushing out of Jasper. He got up and looked at the stunned and sweaty Chuck whose eyes were filled with terror like he was staring at a ghost. He said coldly, “Boss, times have changed. I can crush you with my money.”

After he said that, the room fell silent.

Zachary and Anna both looked at Jasper with a stunned expression, let alone the heads of the three major triads.

Right now, Jasper was so violent and arrogant and he was completely different from before.

One good and one bad. A god and a demon.

When he saw that Chuck was shivering in fright, Jimmy lifted his hand to loosen his tie. At this moment, his throat was dry, and he felt extremely uncomfortable.

He thought he was arrogant, but his arrogance was child's play in front of Jasper.

If Jasper was overbearing now, then Jimmy was as elegant as a teacher in school.

Now that things had escalated to this point, Jimmy knew that the situation could not be allowed to worsen. Right now, Jasper was a lion that had almost lost his mind in a rage. If they enraged him again, this lion would really eat them.

"Don't worry Mr. Laine, we will handle this. The three major triads will surely handle this matter properly."

Jimmy expressed his stance. Chuck, who was terrified, and Number Six, who had the same pale face, nodded quickly after he said that.

Jasper glanced at Jimmy. It was not without reason that this guy could turn Righteous Guild around, make a lot of money, and make models and celebrities from Harbor City line up to get into his bed.

Chuck and Number Six could never

compare with Jimmy's vision and

determination.

Upon seeing Jasper's expression relax, the tense atmosphere in the whole villa

dissipated and it was as if they were back to the peacefulness a few minutes ago.

“Wouldn’t it be good if you said that earlier? What I need most now is time, so don’t waste my time. I will get impatient.”

Picking up the check, Jasper put it in Jimmy’s hand and said indifferently, “You should do what you’re asked, and I’ll pay you accordingly. I won’t let you work without paying you. Your men also have to support their families. I don’t mind spending some money, but this thing must be settled, understand?”

“Understood!”

Surprisingly, Chuck’s response was the loudest.

Life at the Top Chapter 1921

After the three major triads left, Jasper let out a sigh. Then, he turned around and smiled at Zachary. "Uncle Law, sorry for the trouble this time."

Zachary waved his hand and smiled, "You shouldn't talk about this with me."

"It's getting late, Jasper. You and your people should stay here tonight. I think that with such an intensive search, there should be news tomorrow. We will talk about it when the time comes."

After Zachary finished speaking, he went upstairs to rest.

"You have been busy all day too. Aren't you going to rest?" Jasper looked at Anna and asked.

"I'm really jealous of Wendy."

They were the only ones left and Anna finally let herself go. She sat on the sofa with a light hum, looked at Jasper, and said, "Look how anxious you are. You are even more worried than when you're in trouble yourself."

"I owe too much to her."

After Jasper said this, he saw that Anna's eyes became more dangerous. Then, he immediately replied, "I was a little confused, but it's certainly the same for me whether it is you or her."

"Is it?"

Anna asked with a chuckle.

Jasper was speechless.

These kinds of sweet nothings from a

scumbag obviously would not work on

Anna.

“Okay, I didn’t even ask you to do

anything. Why are you so nervous?”

Anna said lightly, “If I didn’t ask her out this time, the kidnapers wouldn’t have such a good chance to take action on her. So, I think it has something to do with me, otherwise, I won’t even bother about that woman’s life.”

On the other side.

After the heads of the three major triads.

left the villa, they looked at each other but

did not say anything. Then, they got into

their respective cars and left.

Although the three major triads were doing good now and they were not fighting for territory as they did in the past, Harbor City was so small and the competitive pressure on the good side was not much less than that of the bad side.

Since the place was so small, the competition between industries was tight and cruel. Hence, even the three major organizations still had some friction until now.

At this moment, everyone had taken advantage of the task, and naturally, it was time to get back to work.

In Jimmy’s car, Jimmy gave orders to his confidant.

“Go back and ask the boys in the triad to figure out a way to find those people. The

branch leader will be in charge of this. I will reward whoever can provide me any clues 1 million bucks."

At this time, his confidant answered cautiously, "Boss, that mainlander is too arrogant. The ones we met before were never so arrogant.

Jimmy glanced at his confidant faintly and said, "You can be arrogant too if you have money.

"Whether a person can be arrogant depends not on where they come from, but on how much money they have and how powerful they are. If the driver Johnny has tens of billions in wealth, do you think I'll dare to ask him to drive for me? I'll be dying to drive for him, do you understand?"

In the other car, Chuck said something similar to Jimmy,

"Boss, Phoenix seems to be one of ours..."

The confidant's words made Chuck

dumbfounded.

He turned his head and looked at his confidant with extremely cold eyes. His words seemed to come out through the gaps of his teeth.

"Tell me. Tell me everything and don't miss a single word!"

The confidant shuddered with fright and answered hurriedly, "Boss, you know, I came out of Troy Town, Phoenix used to live on the same street as me. While I was in charge of parking, he was in charge of collecting protection fees from the three nightclubs over there.

"Later, the boss he was under fled. Since then, he took a few people to make a living in Won Area. Although they're under our name, there was basically no contact, so not many people knew him."

The corners of Chuck's mouth twitched as he slapped his thigh. He roared, "Turn around right away and go back to see Jasper!"

Jasper did not expect Chuck to turn back so soon.

As soon as he finished telling Jasper the situation, Anna who was sitting next to Jasper received a message from the police.

They found Phoenix!

These simultaneously delivered pieces of good news refreshed Jasper.

"Does Phoenix have any relatives?" Jasper asked, looking up at the confidant who was following Chuck with scorching eyes.

After thinking about this, he replied, "I

heard he has a younger brother who is

still studying."

"Bring him to me!"

This time, Chuck spoke directly without

Jasper giving out his orders.

After giving Chuck a look of approval, Jasper stood up and said, "Let's go. We'll go where they are hiding and pick Wendy up."

When Jasper walked out of the villa, he

realized that the sky was already bright.

"How long has it been since the

kidnapping case?" Jasper asked Anna next

to him.

"About 9 hours."

After nodding, Jasper lowered his head and got into the car.

An hour and a half later, South Island.

Not only did Jasper arrive, Chuck also hurriedly asked his men to bring Phoenix's younger brother over. There were about seven or eight people here right now.

The Harbor City police were even more

over the top. From the operations team to the anti-triad group to the Flying Tigers, serious police officers with live ammunition and members of the operation team were all gathered here. All of them looked as if they were facing a huge enemy.

Here, Jasper also met Chief Barrow, the

chief of the police force.

"Thanks for your hard work, Chief

Barrow."

Jasper gave enough respect and courtesy t

o the chief of the police force.

After all, this was a man of real power. Moreover, this time it was the police who found Wendy first, so he naturally had to treat him politely.

Chief Barrow smiled and shook hands with Jasper. He said, "Now the location of the kidnapper is basically determined, but the police are still setting up the strategy. The situation will dictate whether we forcibly enter the premises or negotiate with the kidnapper, but in any case, the primary purpose is to protect the hostages.

These words came from Chief Barrow's

heart.

This kidnapping case was completely different from an ordinary kidnapping case. No one cared whether the kidnapper

was dead or alive, but the most important thing was that the hostage must be safe.

Otherwise, Chief Barrow would be unwilling to bear the consequences.

“Chief Barrow, my friend brought the younger brother of the kidnapper Phoenix.”

Jasper’s words made a strange expression form on Chief Barrow’s face.

When he turned his head and saw that Jasper’s so-called friend was Chuck, the head of the Fourteen Club, Chief Barrow was a little bit dumbfounded.

As the chief of the police force, he was very familiar with the heads of these large triads in Harbor City.

Even before the handover, Harbor City’s triad and Harbor City police force cooperated to keep each other in check.

However, after the handover, this weird situation had long since ended.

Furthermore, the triad had long lost the qualification to negotiate terms with the police force.

“So, what are you going to do now, Mr. Laine?”

Jasper said, “I plan to go up and take a look myself.”

Life at the Top Chapter 1922

Chief Barrow immediately refused after Jasper said that.

“No, it’s too dangerous,”

Chief Barrow said, “We can be certain that the kidnapper has a gun with him. If something happens to you, the consequences will be severe.”

Chief Barrow was right. If Jasper went up and died there, Chief Barrow would be finished.

He was not acquainted with Jasper, so he did not really care about Jasper’s life or death, but what he cared about was that if Jasper died unexpectedly, his career would be over.

“I thought about it. It’s okay, they haven’t discovered the police yet. If they do, it’ll be easy to drive them to desperate actions. I’ll go with my bodyguard so he can protect me. In addition to this, I have a hostage with me too.”

Jasper pointed to a ten-and-a-half-year old boy who was cowering not far away. He said softly, “It’s not appropriate for the police to do this kind of thing, right?”

Chief Barrow smiled wryly.

Indeed, the police could not use the kidnapper’s relatives to threaten the kidnapper, otherwise, if word about this got out, he was as good as dead.

After seeing Jasper’s resolute attitude, Chief Barrow thought about it and said, “You can try, but you must wear a bulletproof vest.”

Jasper did not refuse Chief Barrow's kindness.

Chief Barrow immediately asked his men to bring two bulletproof vests, one for Jasper and one for Julian.

Jasper did not mind, but Julian was a little dissatisfied.

The heavy bulletproof vest would affect his movements. If he was required to take action, it would be bad to get dragged down by the bulletproof vest.

"Put it on. You can't defeat a bullet no matter how strong you are."

Jasper persuaded Julian to put on the bulletproof vest.

At this moment, Anna also came over.

"Henry is almost here."

Anna did not say anything to stop him. She knew it was inappropriate for her to say those kinds of things at this time and place.

She was not those brainless female leads in television shows. She knew when not to say or do something.

"Ask him to wait for me here once he arrives."

Jasper put on the bulletproof vest and said to Anna, "I'm going."

Anna pursed her lips slightly, nodded, and said, "Be careful. Your life is worth more than those of the kidnappers."

Jasper chuckled and nodded. Then, he took Julian, who was holding Phoenix's younger brother with one hand, and

walked into the targeted residential building without looking back.

According to intelligence, the kidnappers were on the third floor. If they were not wrong, Wendy was locked in a room on The moment Jasper walked up to the second floor, he heard an alert voice in the darkness.

“Who’s there?”

“We’re here to see Mr. Phoenix,” Jasper answered lightly.

The person who had spoken before was obviously surprised. He subconsciously yelled and then the lights in the corridor were turned on.

Phoenix was standing at the top of the stairs on the third floor, and with a glance saw Julian holding his brother behind Jasper.

“Bro!”

When the boy saw Phoenix, his incomparable fear and panic finally erupted, and he cried out with a sob.

“Lil bro, why are you here?”

Phoenix exclaimed. Then, he stared at Jasper firmly and shouted, “Who are you?”

“You kidnapped my person and you’re asking who I am?” Jasper asked.

Phoenix was taken aback for a moment. Then, his face turned pale.

He never expected to be found so quickly.

“Are you curious how I could find you in such a short time and also how I brought your brother here?” Jasper continued to ask.

Phoenix’s face turned dark and then pale. The panic in his heart made him speechless.

“I spent 250 million to find you.”

After Jasper said that, the sound of sharp

inhales could be heard around Phoenix.

Their eyes were wide and their faces full of disbelief.

For them, using ten thousand Somer Dollars as a unit of measurement was already impressive. A hundred million? They would not even dare to dream about so much money.

“The weight of a 1000 Harbor Dollars is 1.3 grams, while 2.5 billion Harbor Dollars is 325 kilograms. I can kill you people twice over if I throw so much money at you.”

Jasper narrowed his eyes and looked at

Phoenix.

“So, are you waiting for me to kill you

with money or are you going to let my

person go?”

After Jasper said that, everyone looked at

Phoenix.

“Mr. Phoenix, no one knows if that punk is telling the truth or not. Don't let him fool you,” someone whispered.

Phoenix shook his head heavily.

His men did not know anything, and they did not even know how much pressure the outside world was put on to search for them. However, Phoenix understood that since Jasper could find him so quickly, what he said must be true.

More importantly, his brother was in

Jasper's hands.

Jasper seemed to see through what

Phoenix was thinking and he said, “You

will definitely lose if you fight with me. What else do you have besides your worthless life?

"And what I am showing to you now is the younger brother of Phoenix. There is also a group of my people out there right now. If you don't cooperate with me, then I guarantee you that no one will walk out of this alive. Most importantly, the consequences will be more severe than that."

Jasper narrowed his eyes slightly and looked at the group of kidnappers. He continued, "What the police can do is to kill you one by one, or arrest you to put you behind bars, but what I can do is to utterly destroy all chances of you, your family, and all your relatives and friends ever surviving in this society."

"Someone will follow them 24 hours a day. They will follow them to go to the bathroom, to sleep, and even when they're eating. As long as they are related to you, they will be followed. Then, it will be announced to everyone they know that their relative or friend is a thug."

"They will lose their jobs, their neighbors, their friends, and eventually, everything. I only need to spend a few million dollars to do this."

Every time Jasper said something, the faces of these kidnappers turned paler.

No one came to this world from a rock.. Even if their parents died when they were young, they would still have some relatives and friends.

They might not care about the opinions of their relatives and friends, but once Jasper did this, they would not be able to survive in this society.

This was even worse than murdering their entire family.

Mr. Phoenix's body trembled, and his eyes looked terrified but sinister. He stared at Jasper and screamed, "What the hell do you want?"

"I told you, let my person go."

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There was absolutely no possibility of compromise after Jasper said that.

Mr. Phoenix's expression changed for a while. If he originally had the authority to negotiate terms with Jasper, after looking at his brother that was taken as hostage, he knew that the other party had already predicted every move he would make.

"I-I was just hired to do this. Please don't make things hard for me," Mr. Phoenix said in pain.

"I knew you wouldn't have the guts to do this by yourself. I won't split hairs with you, I will only target the people behind you."

Jasper promised, but soon, he continued, "But the condition of this promise is that my person is not injured."

"That's for sure."
))

Mr. Phoenix was so thankful that he was kind to Wendy this whole time and did not even touch her with his fingers.

Inexorably, he felt that his caution and vigilance had saved his life.

"She's in the room. You can go in," Mr. Phoenix said. "Mr. Phoenix, what if he goes back on his

promise after this?"

Phoenix's subordinates were frightened by what Jasper said just now. Therefore, they quickly asked when they saw that Phoenix had compromised.

"Go back on my promise? I don't have the time for that."

Jasper said as he walked towards the third

floor with Julian.

“Wait, give me back my brother,”

Phoenix said.

“Julian, return the boy to him,” Jasper

ordered.

Julian nodded, flicked his hand, and sent the boy who was struggling in his grip to Phoenix.

Phoenix hugged his younger brother. Then, he looked at Jasper and asked, “Are you not afraid that I will fight you to death?”.

“You are not qualified to do so.”

After Jasper finished speaking, he turned his head and left.

Julian, who was following behind Jasper,

paused when he passed Phoenix.

Suddenly, he raised his hand.

This unwarranted action frightened Phoenix and the others. They subconsciously assumed a defensive stance like someone who was easily frightened. Phoenix even took out the gun that was attached to his waistband.

However, in the next second, they saw that Julian was just propping his hand on the wall and he did not mean to hit them at all.

When Phoenix was still in shock, Julian

had already followed Jasper upstairs.

Only then did Phoenix notice the deep palm print on the wall...

This scene was even more horrifying than the most bizarre movie they had ever seen, and it almost scared the living daylights out of these people.

“M-Mr. Phoenix.”

One of Phoenix’s men cautiously walked to him. He stared in the direction in which Jasper and Julian were leaving and said in a low voice, “We might all be killed once that pretty girl returns to him. These rich people are the most despicable and shameless in the world. Talk is cheap.

“Won’t it be easy for them to kill us after?”

“What do you mean?”

Phoenix, who was in a state of confusion, was completely at a loss. He glanced at his men and asked.

The man gritted his teeth and pointed to the gun in Phoenix’s hand. He said, “That guy was obviously threatening us by doing that. Now, we still have guns in our hands, in for a penny, in for a pound, we should just kill them all. Otherwise, when they leave, we won’t be able to get close to them even if we wanted to retaliate. Besides, we might even be killed by his people on the road.

“How much effort do those rich and powerful bigwigs need to kill us? It’s just like crushing an ant to them.”

After he said that, Phoenix looked as if he was struggling internally. His eyes kept glancing at the gun in his hand, and then in the direction in which Jasper and Julian had left. He felt that this choice was extremely difficult.

By this time, Jasper kicked open the door of Wendy’s room.

The sound of the door being kicked open immediately awakened Wendy, who was resting her eyes. She quivered like a frightened rabbit, but when she opened her eyes and saw Jasper striding in, she was so surprised and excited that she covered her mouth and dared not say anything.

She was afraid that this was just a dream after she had fallen asleep.

She was in disbelief until Jasper squatted in front of her, cupped her face with both hands, and asked softly, "Did they bully you?"

Those words made Wendy finally believe that this was reality and not a dream. Jasper had found her.

The composure and calmness that she faked quickly fell apart. Wendy hugged Jasper tightly and said through her tears, "I was almost scared to death!"

Jasper hugged Wendy the same way, feeling the trembling body in his arms. Then, Jasper finally took a deep breath. He felt very thankful, but at the same time, he felt scared as he blamed himself.

He blamed himself because he neglected Wendy's safety.

He was feeling thankful and scared because thankfully, Wendy was fine.

Otherwise, he did not know what he would do.

"It's good that you're fine. It's good that you're fine."

Jasper kept repeating, constantly comforting Wendy in his arms.

It took a few minutes for Wendy to control her emotions. With red eyes, she asked Jasper, "How did you find me?"

"It's nothing. I just turned over Harbor City."

Jasper's understatement touched Wendy.

There was no need for Jasper to say anything, she knew that Jasper had to be anxious.

And she knew he must have done a lot of things.

Otherwise, how could Jasper, who was still in Waterhoof City before, appear in front of her more than ten hours after she was kidnapped?

"Let's go back first.'

Jasper stood up and said as he held Wendy's hand.

At this time, he held Wendy's hand tightly, not wanting to let go for even a minute.

People were like this. When the most precious person was always by your side, you would not necessarily notice or care about it, but when you almost lost them, you would cherish them a lot.

As soon as he walked out of the door, Jasper saw Phoenix's gang standing motionless outside the door in front of him.

Jasper slightly narrowed his eyes and glanced at the gun that Phoenix was holding tightly in his hand. Then, he silently pulled Wendy behind him to protect her before he asked, "What's wrong? Did you get a new idea?"

Although Phoenix told himself countless times that because he had a gun in his hand, he should not be afraid, when he stood in front of Jasper again, the overwhelming pressure washed over him and Phoenix still could not stop the fear from escaping from his bones.

"M-Me and the boys need a guarantee. A guarantee that you will not retaliate against us!" Phoenix mustered up his courage and said through gritted teeth.

He knew that without a guarantee, he would really be on the chopping board after the incident. He would have no way to air his grievance even after he was killed.

"A guarantee? You even have the guts to ask me for a guarantee?"

Jasper burst out laughing from anger.

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“How dare to ask me for a guarantee, you worthless piece of sh*t!”

After Jasper finished speaking, he lifted

his leg and kicked Phoenix in the stomach.

A burning rage had been building in Jasper’s heart this whole time ever since he first received the news.

It was just that Wendy had not been found yet. Hence, when he was facing the three major triads of Chief Barrow, he was forced to restrain the devil that was begging to escape from his heart.

At this moment, they had found Wendy, while these thugs that were used by others were in front of him. Hence, Jasper could no longer contain the raging anger and hostility in his heart.

Usually, he would fight his enemies with sneaky methods and use his brain to come up with tactics to deal with them, but right now, Jasper did not mind using violence to vent his anger on these scum in front of him that almost caused harm to Wendy.

As for the gun in the opponent’s hand?

With Julian by his side, Jasper did not think that these thugs would threaten him with guns.

Sure enough, everyone including Wendy was stunned by this kick.

Phoenix screamed and fell back. Before he had time to fall to the ground, Julian beside Jasper was like a ghost in the night as he raised his hand to grab Phoenix’s wrist.

Before they even realized, they saw Phoenix scream again as if he had been electrocuted. Then, the gun in his hand fell to the ground.

After picking up Phoenix like a chicken and stepping on the gun under his feet, Julian’s extremely cold eyes scanned across everyone present. He wanted to make sure there was only one gun at the scene.

Sure enough, the other men just watched all this with trepidation. No one dared to pull out their guns anymore.

The enraged Jasper displayed his

dexterity and slapped Phoenix continuously with three to four heavy slaps until Phoenix looked almost unrecognizable.

“The money leaked from the gaps of my fingers is enough to smash you and your ancestors to death, and you dare to ask for a guarantee from me?”

“Fortunately, my woman was fine today. If she had even a scratch on her skin, I would have skinned you alive. Yet, you still want a guarantee from me?”

Ever since his debut, Jasper had rarely used violence and had never been so violent before. Even Wendy had never seen this side of Jasper, let alone Julian..

It was as if a demon that had been suppressed for a long time finally showed its fangs, but as Wendy was hiding behind Jasper, not only did she not feel afraid or unfamiliar with this side of Jasper, she felt an unparalleled sense of security.

A woman really did not ask for much. It was enough for her when the man she chose could give her happiness and a sense of security.

Her biological instincts told her that the most basic sense of security for females came from the strength and power of their male partner.

This was something that was rooted in their genes since ancient times and could not be changed.

At this moment, Wendy was extremely sure that this man would risk his life for her.

Phoenix was only not beaten to death by Jasper because he was an old thug who had been fighting on the street since childhood, so beating up someone and being beaten was normal for him. That was why his body was not weak.

Even so, after Jasper vented his anger, Phoenix was already covered in blood. His snot, tears, and blood were all mixed on his face and he did not look human at all.

After some time, the men around Phoenix also reacted. They were yelling and rushing forward to fight for their boss.

This was not for Phoenix, but themselves.

Even fools could read the situation right now. If Phoenix was killed, would Jasper let thugs like them go?

“Let me see who dares to come up here!”

Julian’s eyes were cold as he scanned the group of gangsters coldly. The murderous aura in his eyes was undisguised, and it felt as if anyone who rushed forward would be killed on the spot.

Julian also had a fire of rage inside him.

He had been working for Jasper for so many years and he was still embarrassed to say this, but in his heart, he already regarded Jasper as his brother and Wendy as his sister-in-law.

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After learning that Wendy was in danger, he had always blamed himself in his heart. If he had not gotten married at this moment, then his senior would not have asked for leave, and none of this would have happened.

So right now, Julian could not find an excuse to take action.

Yet, once he had the opportunity, he would really dare to kill.

This look instantly frightened this group of gangsters.

It was because they all remembered that Julian could leave a palm print on the wall with just one slap.

No one wanted to use their body to get a feel of how painful such a slap would be.

After taking a few breaths, Jasper grabbed Phoenix's hair and said with cold eyes, Trash will always be trash. You don't even think before talking or doing anything, yet you still want me to give you a guarantee?

"What can I guarantee you? Do you want me to promise that I will definitely not pursue you, or let the police prepare a car for you to run away in?"

"Even if I let you run away and I give you a headstart of three days and three nights, I can still find you with just one word."

What useful guarantee can you get? Huh?"

Phoenix was beaten up so badly that he was drifting in and out of consciousness. Several of his teeth were knocked out by Jasper and were rolling around in his mouth.

He opened his mouth and spat out his

teeth. Then, he said in a breathy tone, "I-I

was wrong. Please have mercy on my

brother."

Just as Jasper was about to talk, the phone in Phoenix's pocket rang.

Jasper immediately narrowed his eyes.

"I-It's the guy who instructed me to do this."

Phoenix had come to an understanding after being beaten up by Jasper. At this time, he had already lost any right to negotiate terms with Jasper. If he wanted to live, he could only cooperate with Jasper obediently.

So, he immediately confessed. He knew very well that Jasper had to be very interested in the person who instructed him behind the scenes.

"Answer it. Tell him everything's fine."

Jasper looked at Phoenix coldly and said, "Don't play any tricks on me, or you will die miserably, trust me."

Phoenix quivered and answered the phone

tremblingly. He even tactfully put the call

on speaker.

A voice sounded on the other end of the

phone.

"Are you still safe?"

The rage in Jasper's eyes intensified when he heard that voice.

He recognized that voice. It was Fabian!

Sure enough, only these sons of b*tches could do things like this.

Phoenix glanced at Jasper carefully, and then replied, "Y-Yes, we're safe."

Fabian was obviously also very alert on the other end of the line. He immediately noticed that there was something amiss with Phoenix's voice.

"What's the matter? Why is your voice

like that?"

Phoenix's soul almost left his body from fear. Under Jasper's cold eyes, he reacted resourcefully and hurriedly said, "Boss, I had too much to drink."

"F*ck, you're indeed a useless fool. You're still drinking at this time? Harbor City is about to be turned upside down, do you know that?"

"Hide her properly. After a few days, I'll get someone to pick you up. You can also take my money and go far away, but it is all on the condition that you do this well for me. Otherwise, you won't even know how you died!"

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“Got it, boss. We will hide her properly and they will definitely not find us.”

Phoenix’s answer slightly satisfied Fabian.

“Okay, that’s it. Remember the rules, if I don’t contact you, you are not allowed to contact me. Wait until Monday at least, and wait for my news for everything else.”

After speaking, Fabian hung up.

When the call ended, Phoenix held the phone obediently and looked up at Jasper. He did not dare to speak.

By this time, Jasper had already gone through the whole thing in his head.

Phoenix was just a minor character who could not amount to anything, just venting on him was enough.

It was Fabian and his gang that Jasper really wanted to retaliate against!

They were the real culprits.

“Julian, get him out of here,” Jasper ordered while leading Wendy downstairs.

With the tacit understanding between Julian and Jasper, Julian immediately understood that it was useful for Jasper to keep Phoenix around. He grabbed Phoenix and dragged him downstairs like a dog.

When he came outside, Jasper discovered that the Harbor City police were no weaker than the ones on the mainland.

It looked dark and silent everywhere, but when he appeared, a large group of policemen rushed out of the places where people could and could not hide.

The alarm was sounded and the lights were turned on. Then, Jasper even noticed that there were snipers on the roofs of several nearby buildings.

Jasper approached Chief Barrow and the others who were running toward them.

“How was it? Are you okay?”

Anna asked first.

“We’re okay.”

As soon as Jasper answered, he saw

Wendy and Anna staring at each other

without saying a word.

Jasper frowned but did not say a word. Instead, he said to Chief Barrow, “Chief Barrow, if I may be so bold as to ask a favor.”

Chief Barrow raised his eyebrows and he subconsciously noticed that trouble was coming.

“Mr. Laine, you’re being courteous. You can just voice what you want as long as it is reasonable.”

After he said that, Chief Barrow left some

leeway for himself.

“You can take away the kidnappers

upstairs, but I want to take him with me.”

Jasper pointed to Phoenix in Julian’s grip. Only then did the people present look at Phoenix.

When they saw Phoenix, they could not help but take a sharp breath.

Boy, from which battlefield did this kidnapper just escape from?

Why was he so beaten up?

Chief Barrow looked a little troubled. He said, "According to the rules, these kidnapers are to be taken away by the police.

"Chief Barrow, they are just pawns who were being used. The ones I am after are the people behind the scenes, and presumably, Chief Barrow doesn't want to escalate this with them, right?"

Although it seemed that it was fine to hand these people to the police and ask them to arrest Fabian and others, one had to understand one thing.

A kidnapping case was nothing to people with statuses like Fabian, Kayden, and Jasper.

Fabian had countless ways to escape this. In addition to this, the judicial system used in Harbor City was completely different from that in the mainland. Moreover, Fabian and the gang were in the United States. If this matter was handed over to the police, then the case would never be closed.

Furthermore, this matter involved such high level players. Even for the Harbor City police, the best thing they could do was to control the group of kidnapers like Phoenix. Thus, the best choice for them was to end things here.

Sure enough, Chief Barrow frowned after he heard this.

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“Okay, but this matter should be kept low key.”

Jasper smiled when Chief Barrow agreed. He said, “Thank you, Chief Barrow. JW will donate a batch of police equipment to the Harbor City police. I presume Chief Barrow will be very satisfied.”

Chief Barrow laughed.

How did Jasper obtain his current status and wealth at a young age? It seemed that he was sensible and he knew what to do at any appropriate times. Besides, he knew how to be a suck-up when he needed to.

Who did not like young people like this?

“Thank you very much, Mr. Laine. Moreover, according to the rules, we have to take a report from Ms. Schuler. However, considering Ms. Schuler’s situation, we will send police officers over to take notes a few days after Ms. Schuler feels better.”

Chief Barrow was very gifted at doing someone favors with little cost.

“Thank you for your consideration, Chief Barrow.”

This matter was settled after exchanging a few words.

After sending off Chief Barrow, Jasper turned his head and looked at Henry, who looked resentful and embarrassed to see him.

“Why do you look so wilted?” Jasper asked.

Henry said with a look of embarrassment, “Look how big of a mess this caused...”

After he finished speaking, Henry’s eyes fell on Phoenix. Then, his expression.

instantly became sinister.

“That punk did this, right?”

“That’s enough.”

Jasper stopped Henry, who was about to rush to give Phoenix an earful. He said, “He is just a pawn that’s being used. I kept him around because he’s useful. Fabian and his gang were the ones who did this.”

Henry widened his eyes and yelled, “I knew it was those motherf*ckers! They are so shameless to use all these filthy and nasty tricks. F*ck! If I see them, I’ll break their legs!”

Henry’s anger was justified.

Although this matter had no direct connection with him, at the end of the day, Henry had always boasted that Harbor City was his territory, yet the kidnapping had happened here. Wendy came over on Jasper’s behalf and ran into trouble.

It made Henry feel ashamed to see Jasper.

Fortunately, Wendy was fine. If something had happened to her, Henry would truly be ashamed to show his face in front of Jasper.

“Let’s go back to talk about this.”

Jasper patted Henry on the shoulder and said, “You don’t have to blame yourself, even I didn’t expect it, let alone you.”

Compared to his heavy heart he had on the way here, Jasper was feeling much relieved on the way back.

Jasper thought Wendy would be quite frightened and he would need to comfort

her. However, he was pushed away by the latter. Then, Jasper saw Anna and Wendy looking at each other.

The two women did not speak. They just looked at each other with half-hearted smiles and then at Jasper.

This scene of this battlefield made Jasper feel like he was in trouble.

Fortunately, Fallon's arrival eased Jasper's embarrassment.

"Ms. Schuler, I..."

When Wendy saw Fallon, who blamed herself so much that she could not form words, she said, "What's wrong? This has nothing to do with you. You don't need to blame yourself."

Fallon gritted her teeth and said, "However, if I didn't ask for leave, nothing would have happened to you."

"If I was targeted by some evil people, they would have eventually succeeded even if they failed this time. They would have eventually found the chance to take action. You don't need to blame yourself too much. Look, aren't I fine and dandy now?"

Fallon's eyes turned red when she looked at Wendy comforting her instead.

"Right, you can't blame others for this. If you want someone to blame, then wouldn't I be one of the accomplices?"

Anna's immediately sentence ignited a flame.

Life at the Top Chapter 1928

“Miss Law, this is the first time we are meeting, right?”

Wendy looked at Anna and said with a smile.

She did not blame Anna for saying something so unpleasant. So, she put herself in a position to think about how Jasper worried about her back then. If Wendy was Anna, she would be upset too.

Now that things had come to an end, the war between the two women could commence.

How many heroines in novels would live in harmony?

Such a situation did not exist. It would never exist.

The women standing next to Jasper were all arrogant and proud, no matter if it was Wendy, Anna, or others.

Also, which one of them was not amazing judging from their backgrounds, looks, and temperament?

If these women were like the brainless ornamental pieces in the novels that were willing to serve on their husband together, it would be a real joke.

“This is the first time we met, but we’ve talked before.”

Anna despised how Wendy was acting like she was the matriarch of the Laines. This displeased her very much. As they were talking, her overbearingness due to her status of being Miss Law was turned up to the max, to the point where she did not seem inferior to Wendy at all.

When it came to war between women, verbal warfare was just a very superficial way of expression. When it came to a savvy woman, even a flick of her hair was provocation or a demonstration to their opponent.

Wendy smiled faintly and said, "I am always busy working and there are a lot of times when I can't take care of Jasper. I still have to thank you for your care of Jasper when he's here in Harbor City, Miss Law, but there won't be too many opportunities for Jasper to come to Harbor City in the future. After all, we are working and staying on the mainland. You won't be too disappointed, right, Miss Law?"

As soon as these words came out, Anna was so angry that she ground her teeth silently.

Naturally, Wendy had the official title, and this was where Anna held the least confidence.

This was also where she was the most unwilling.

At the moment, Wendy was talking openly about the difference between the mainland and Harbor City, which meant that Anna was just Jasper's casual playmate in Harbor City, so she did not need to take Anna too seriously.

However, Anna was not so easy to deal with.

"You made this sound so serious. Jasper and I have a good understanding. Transportation is so convenient now. What's more, JW's business has also expanded to Harbor City while the Laws

also have a lot of investment in the mainland. So, there will still be many opportunities to meet in the future."

This time, it was Wendy's turn to grit her teeth.

She was mad because she was the one who developed Harbor City's business.

Now, it had become Anna's bullet against her.

"What are you doing?"

Henry approached Jasper insensibly and asked.

With his back to the battlefield, Jasper, who stood by the speedboat and looked out at the sea, said silently, "I am waiting for the sunrise."

"Wow, this is the first time I'm seeing someone who can match my sister with

words. How amazing."

Henry continued to rub the salt into Jasper's wound. He even lifted his thumbs up as he exclaimed.

"By the way, those two women were so

overbearing. Are you sure you don't want to jump into the sea and escape?"

"Do you believe that I'll tell Julian to throw you down to feed the fish first?". Jasper gritted his teeth.

Henry cowered and glanced at Julian, who was smirking next to him. He said with a lack of confidence, "I'm also considered half of Master Lager's apprentice, he wouldn't do that."

"Mr. Law, if you talk like that again, Jasper will do it himself." Julian laughed.

Henry stopped joking after he shrugged. Then, he said, "Now that we have found her and the matter has been temporarily resolved, what are we going to do about Harbor City? Should I ask someone to settle it later?"

With a nod, Jasper said, "Settle it. Reward the person who gave us the clue."

"Are you really willing to part with 100 million?" Henry sighed.

"What is 100 million compared to them?"

Jasper glanced back at Wendy and Anna as he said that.

When Henry heard Jasper say the word '

them', Henry sighed and did not say

much.

After all, Anna was his sister.

If he could call the shots, of course, he did not want any other woman to snatch his brother-in-law away from his sister.

However, he really could not say anything in this matter.

Because he had to admit that no one could threaten Jasper now.

At least the Laws could not.

He saw how the old master not only did not obstruct Jasper, but had actively helped him with Wendy's matter.

This was a very strong sign.

If Jasper still had to consider the Laws' attitude a year ago, then it was really unnecessary for him to do so now.

Furthermore, the interests of the two families were tightly intertwined and they were already united in both honor and disgrace, so they could not be separated.

Among the rich, as long as they were powerful enough, they usually had a very open mind about a man having more than one woman.

This also applied to the Laws.

At the moment, as long as there was no distinction of seniority or status between Anna and Wendy such that the two were considered on the same level, the Laws would still tolerate this.

'Anna, you idiot, I am always called a disappointment, but I understand that the

family can't help you with this matter.
You can only fight for your status yourself.

Henry glanced at Anna, who was still

facing Wendy, and said inwardly.

If Jasper could hear Henry's, he would be
surprised.

Henry seemed to be growing surprisingly
fast.

"By the way, how can I f*ck up that
motherf*cker Fabian?" Henry turned his
head and asked.

"I have already figured it out. They intend
to use the news that Wendy is missing
and kidnapped to turn all the good news
surrounding JW in Harbor City sour. Pair
this to what they did before, and they will
inevitably attack Harbor stocks.

"Well, we will go according to their plan
and let them wait hopefully. When Harbor
City stock market opens on Monday,
Wendy will come out for a press
conference. The greedier they are, the
more tragically they will die."

Narrowing his eyes, Jasper chuckled
lightly as a touch of cruelty appeared on
his face.

"Who said that the Harbor City giants
won't fall? This time, I'm going to knock
down a giant and show the world that
there are some things they shouldn't do.
Once they do it, I will tear them down
even if they are God."

When he said this, the first ray of
morning light broke out over the horizon.
It shone on Jasper's face, making him
look domineering at this moment.

Life at the Top Chapter 1929

Because of the time difference, it was still dawn in Harbor City when the lights were just turned on in the United States.

In the villa, Fabian had a mischievous look on his face as he held a wine glass in his hand. He leaned on a lounge chair by the pool while he watched a few blonde girls in bikinis playing in the swimming pool.

He was looking at these girls like a jackal staring at its prey.

"It's the same in the United States or Harbor City. These women would pounce like b*tches in heat when they see a rich man."

Fabian pointed to a blonde girl and smiled at Kayden next to him. He said, "Did you see that girl? I went out this afternoon and she was shopping with her boyfriend. I paid 100 thousand to her boyfriend and made him send her to me. She was even happier than her boyfriend."

Kayden curled his lips nonchalantly,

He was different from Fabian. He has no interest in women from the very bottom of his heart.

Even if there was some interest, it was just a normal male need, and was definitely to the same level as Fabian's promiscuity.

What really made his blood boil was the taste of money and power.

So in Kayden's view, these fun activities of Fabian were rather lowly.

"Are you sure the matter in Harbor City is foolproof?" Kayden asked.

Fabian said nonchalantly, "Of course I'll be fine. No matter how good they are, don't forget about the population in Harbor City. It's too easy to hide a few people. I just contacted the people over there and they did very well. They're not even within the scope of Harbor City.

"What's more, the market is about to open soon. As soon as the market opens, the Harbor stock market will crash and we can cash out directly. At that time, it'll have nothing to do with us even if they do

find Wendy,"

Kayden frowned slightly and said, "It's better to be careful. This matter is of great importance. The three of us have invested our final liquid funds into this. If something happens, neither you nor I can

afford the consequences.

"Alright, alright."

Fabian did not like it when Kayden acted

like an elder who was lecturing the younger generation, but considering that their parents were now in an alliance with each other, he did not say much. Instead, he just got up impatiently and walked to the pool. Then, he said, "Don't worry, I can't be certain of other things, but I got this. There won't be a problem."

As he said that, Fabian tore off the towel he was wearing and stood by the pool with his hands open. He guffawed, "Girls, I'm coming!"

After he said that, Fabian jumped in and caused a huge splash in the swimming pool. The beautiful girls in the pool were all gasping and protesting coquettishly.

Kayden watched as Fabian splashed around in the water and held the girls in his arms. He frowned in disgust before getting up and leaving.

After leaving the pool, Kayden walked through the garden and up the stairs to the study where Half-the-Harbor Langdon was located.

“Dad, Uncle Kennedy.”

Kayden greeted Half-the-Harbor Langdon and Kennedy inside the room. Kennedy nodded and asked Kayden, “Is

the matter in Harbor City resolved?”

“Fabian said it’s done.”

Kayden cast his eyes out of the window and replied.

The location of their study room had a window facing the swimming pool. Kennedy looked at it and saw Fabian laughing with two girls in his arms. On the other hand, several colorful bikini tops were floating on the surface of the swimming pool.

With a frown, Kennedy said indifferently,

“Sawyer’s son certainly possesses the mannerisms of a general. The war is about to start and he is still in the mood to play with women.”

“Young people.”

Half-the-Harbor Langdon raised his hand and took out a box of cigars. Kayden next to him hurriedly got up to help Half the-Harbor Langdon trim the cigar.

Originally, Half-the-Harbor Langdon did not like tobacco, but during the time since he came to the United States, he became obsessed with this kind of thing.

After Kayden trimmed his cigar and helped him light it, he took a slow drag. Then, the thick and mellow cigar smoke came out of his mouth. Half-the-Harbor Langdon said, “This time we collected a total of 140 billion Harbor Dollars to short Harbor stocks. Once this is done, we won’t have to worry about not having capital in the United States. Meanwhile, if we have capital in the United States, we can be king, but if something goes wrong...”

After he raised his eyelids and glanced at

Kennedy who just turned around, Half-the

-Harbor Langdon said in a deep voice, “W e are all going to die.”

The corners of Kennedy's mouth twitched.

The 140 billion Harbor Dollars were pooled together by the three families. Although they said it was only 30 billion U S Dollars when they invested it in the United States, it was actually 10 billion US dollars and they used it to purchase treasury bonds.

With the 140 billion Harbor Dollars, although everyone said this was the money they could conjure after draining their blood, Kennedy did not believe that Half-the-Harbor Langdon would really take out all his money so obediently.

Just like himself, he also left some behind for his personal safekeeping.

However, even with that money for security, the J. Langdons almost could not bear it anymore after taking out so much money. If something went wrong, even if it did not come to the point where the J. Langdons fell apart, it would still hurt.

"Then let's rehearse for a bit just in case we encounter any unexpected situations that we did not consider. After all, this kid Jasper is not easy to deal with," Kennedy said.

Kayden asked, "Should I call Uncle Sawyer over?"

Kennedy snorted and said nothing.

"Go, the three of us are still an alliance,"

Half-the-Harbor Langdon ordered.

"Alright."

A smile appeared on the corner of Kayden's mouth. After a respectful response, his eyes flicked across Kennedy to Fabian, who was still playing in the pool downstairs. Contempt flashed across his eyes.

This was the kind of person who claimed to be on the same level as him in Harbor City?

This was such an insult to him.

Harbor City.

After returning to the hilltop villa of the Laws, Wendy fell asleep after getting off

the boat. She had completely relaxed after more than ten hours of high mental stress.

Jasper carried Wendy and put her in the bedroom.

Originally, Jasper meant to let Julian and Fallon, who were with him all night, get some rest, but Fallon refused to leave. She directly closed her eyes on the sofa in the bedroom to rest.

Jasper could not force her either.

After coming out of the bedroom, Jasper said to Henry, "Take good care of that driver."

Henry nodded and suddenly said, "Zed, the son-in-law of the Boyles, has been waiting for you for a long time. Why don't you take a nap and I'll invite him here when you're awake."

"No need. Let's meet him now. Why should we put on airs at this time?" Jasper waved his hand and walked to the drawing room.

Life at the Top Chapter 1930

Zed was already waiting in the drawing room when Jasper came over. Although it was the first time that the two

met, the atmosphere was pretty good.

Through his memories of his past life, Jasper knew that Zed was a person of ability and had good character.

The Boyles from his previous life generally kept a low profile. Not only did Zed take charge of the Nine Dragon Corporation without any troubles, but his Ocean City plan was also enough to feed any family for thirty years.

Even so, Zed knew what he was doing, and he never strayed from his plans.

Even around 2010, when the shipping industry was in a free-fall and the Boyles had suffered heavy losses, they tried every means to subsidize the Boyles and helped the Boyles tide over the difficulties.

It was never concerning to use people like this.

After the two shook hands, Jasper smiled and said, "To be honest, I have been busy for so long and I haven't eaten yet. Mr. Walters, have you eaten?"

Zed's eyes lit up.

People from Somerland liked to be at the dinner table, whether they talked about business or not.

The dining table was a place that could easily strengthen a relationship between the people of Somerland.

Plus, one also had to see what occasion it was and what food was served on the dining table.

For example, it would be rare that a business reception would be arranged at lunchtime. Other than that, most parties would be during dinner time. The night was long so the guests could eat and drink. After that, they would go for entertainment together. At the end of the day, both parties would be very close.

However, if one was invited to breakfast, then this would be a very obvious sign of someone expressing their goodwill.

“What a coincidence. I didn’t eat either. Sorry to be such a nuisance,” Zed said with a smile.

Jasper laughed and said, “You’re not a nuisance to me, but we’re being a nuisance to the Laws.”

Although this villa was generally empty, the maids and the kitchen were ready at all times. So, a very Harbor-style breakfast was sent up after a short period.

“The dishes in Harbor City are mostly Harbor cuisine. To be honest, although I am also a southerner, I like strong flavors. I prefer the spicy flavor of the cuisine in Criucia Province. However, I like gazpacho, churros, tortilla, paella, and burritos too.”

Sitting at the dining table, Jasper took a sip of gazpacho and started rambling.

Zed smiled and said, “I was fortunate enough to go to Paradise City on the mainland last year. As someone from Harbor City, I couldn’t eat the food there.

“But I don’t know why, when I ate it, it was so spicy that I was crying. I couldn’t eat it at all. However, the next day I thought about it, and it’s still lingering in my memory until now. I always wanted to try it again, but it was so spicy that I shed tears and hated myself for overestimated my spicy tolerance.”

Through their conversation, Jasper knew that Zed was a well-informed person who knew how to carry a conversation.

After taking some churros, Jasper said, "This shows that Mr. Walters has the potential to be a gourmet. If you can't eat spicy food; you'll still have some regrets in life no matter how exquisite your life is."

With a smile, Zed said, "So I plan to introduce a food city project in Ocean City. The purpose is to allow many domestic cuisines to have the opportunity to enter Harbor City. If it develops well in the later period, I will also introduce various gourmet brands from other countries."

"Food is everything to the people. You can't go wrong with businesses surrounding food. I wonder what you think about this, Mr. Laine."

Jasper smiled and put a churro into his mouth. He answered, "I think it'll work, but Wendy is responsible for the details. After this, you can talk directly to her."

Zed's eyes lit up and he nodded to express his understanding.

Life at the Top Chapter 1931

What worried Zed the most now was that Wendy's accident might cause the originally negotiated Ocean City Plan to be left stranded. If this was the case, although the Nine Dragon Corporation and the Boyles would not incur any huge losses, this project had succeeded in piquing Zed's interest.

He believed that as long as it was an absolutely profitable business, coupled with JW's cooperation, then this project would grow to become even bigger and at a faster rate than he had ever imagined.

Zed's main purpose for this trip was to determine whether the Ocean City Plan could continue.

Fortunately, Jasper had given him a reassuring answer.

"Mr. Walters, I don't actually intervene in the Ocean City business, but I have another business here that I think has room for cooperation for the both of us."

Jasper waved his hand to dismiss the servants from the room. Then, he got up and took the empty bowl to fill some paella before handing it to Zed.

This scene shocked Zed and he quickly stood up to receive it with both hands.

Zed was also a famous rich man in Harbor City. Even if some people say that he has the wealth and status today because of his status as the Boyles' son-in-law, it did not prevent him from being looked up to by the vast majority of Harbor City people.

However, who was Jasper?

To be more realistic, even if they were sitting together with the head of the Boyles, Jasper would be on the same level with them.

This also made him understand that the cooperation that Jasper was about to mention next was definitely not anything simple.

“It’s an honor that you’re willing to give me an opportunity and are willing to support me. If I can contribute, I will definitely not hesitate to do so, Mr. Laine.”

Jasper chuckled and said, “I want to buy some ships from the Boyles.”

These words stunned Zed.

He did not understand what Jasper meant. Nor why he said such things.

“Um... the Boyles don’t sell ships. Even if we do, it’s the ones that are going to be sold as scrap metal. Moreover, I am not the one you should discuss this with. I am only responsible for the business of the Nine Dragon Corporation.”

Jasper smiled and said, “No, you’re the one I should talk to.

“What I want to buy are the ships owned by your family that are currently transporting the Atticus family’s rubber supply in Southeast Terra.”

As soon as he said this, Zed’s face changed drastically.

Jasper did not keep Zed on tenterhooks. He took a tissue to wipe his mouth and said faintly, “The conflict between me and the Atticus family is irreconcilable. Since he decided to kidnap my person, then I’ll

light his several ships of rubber on fire. It's only right to make the Atticus family face large-scale breach of contract and high price claims, right, Mr. Walters?"

When he saw Jasper looking at himself with those shining eyes, Zed barely suppressed the storm in his heart and replied with a dry chuckle, "Yes, that's right."

As if not aware of how insincere Zed's words were, Jasper continued, "There are five ships in total, each of which is a huge ship with a displacement of more than 100 thousand tons. According to the market price, it'll be worth about 45 million Harbor Dollars, so I'll offer 400 million for those five ships. What do you think?"

Zed felt his scalp tingle as his throat tightened. He said with difficulty, "M-Mr. Laine, I don't understand what you mean."

"Don't you? Then I will make it clearer.

"If the five freighters that were loaded with all the rubber production of the Atticus family for the entire quarter were burned on the high seas, then the Boyles will not only receive huge insurance compensation but also my 400 million bucks. As for the Atticus Family, they will only get piles of breached contracts."

Life at the Top Chapter 1932

Zed looked conflicted.

Frankly speaking, he really regretted letting Jasper continue talking.

This matter would involve too many parties and he dared not offer any

promises at all.

This was not something he could decide at all.

However, Zed was not so stupid to ask Jasper why he did not want to go and discuss this directly with his father-in-law...

His father-in-law was the patriarch of the Boyles, and he represented the most direct and fundamental will of the Boyles. Therefore, Jasper could not talk to the patriarch of the Boyles about this.

It was conceivable that even if this matter was done, Jasper would create a fake company out of the blue to deal with the transaction when it was time for payment. At the same time, JW and his name would be wiped clean from this matter.

After thinking about it, Zed painfully realized that with his identity, he was really the most suitable candidate this negotiation.

“That punk...”

Zed lifted his eyelids and glanced at Jasper. He was silently struggling inside.

Jasper saw through Zed and said, "In fact, Mr. Walters, you don't need to be so troubled. Is the current situation still unclear? You should just do the things that should be done, and no one will investigate you. No one will stop you either. After it happens, you will not get any benefits on the surface, but in fact, you will emerge the winner."

Jasper leaned slightly closer to Zed and pointed at himself. After that, he pointed outside.

"What you can get is the goodwill of me, the Boyles, and the entire class. upper Even though you are already a member of the upper class, you will not refuse these things that really belong to you, no?"

This sentence was like a sharp sword as it slashed through the last point of defense i

in Zed's heart.

Right.

The goodwill of Jasper and the other bigwigs, including the Laws, was what truly belonged to him.

Everything he owned right now came from the Boyles, and he would be nothing after leaving the Boyles even though he had no such thoughts...

However, if one could own some capital of their own, such as a favor from Jasper, it would likely be a hidden trump that would play a huge role in the future.

And if he refused, what would he get?

Could he still depend on Fabian?

Zed was not so stupid.

Now the interests of the Boyles and other bigwigs were tied to Jasper. The entire upper class circle in Harbor City was backing Jasper. If Jasper lost, the upper class would also lose.

Therefore, it was all but impossible for the Boyles to stop him from doing this.

and even his father-in-law would add

fuel to the fire.

“Okay! I will do it.”

Zed’s attitude cracked Jasper up.

After reaching out his hand, Jasper said, ”

Then I wish us a happy cooperation.”

“As you wish!”

After half an hour, Zed left the hilltop villa

happily.

Then, Henry immediately ran over.

He knew Jasper’s plan.

“Is that rascal reliable?” Henry asked.

Now, Henry was the most interested party when it came to destroying Fabian and Kayden, so he was naturally very concerned about this plan.

“This was my first contact with him. How can I know if he is reliable or not?” Jasper said.

Henry widened his eyes and said, “And you still asked him to do such an important thing?”

“He is the most suitable person. If he

refuses, it’ll be hard to find someone

else.”

Jasper did not explain much. He patted Henry on the shoulder and said with a grin, “But there must be someone keeping an eye on us, such as you and Conrad.”

Henry said with a vigilant look, "I just came back from the United States and you're asking me to keep watch again?"

"This time it's easy. Now that Zed has agreed, you and Conrad can get involved in the next step. Just keep an eye on this matter and don't let anything bad happen. It's very simple. If the arrangements are made properly, this will be done in a few days. Do you think I'll ask you to set the fire?"

"The main thing is that I need Conrad to be the frontman. You're too popular in Harbor City and it is easy for someone to notice you, but once the matter is over, everything will be fine."

After listening to Jasper's words, Henry curled his lips and said, "Whatever, I can't escape this anyway."

After dealing with these things, Jasper

went upstairs and rested for a few hours.

After all, he had not had a good rest during this period, and he had just stayed up all night. Even someone made from iron would not be able to handle this.

By the time Jasper woke up, it was already dusk.

Jasper opened his eyes and saw Wendy blinking at him.

He then raised his hand and pulled Wendy

onto him. Jasper asked, "How long have

awake?"

"About half an hour. I know you're resting here, so I didn't want to disturb you," Wendy said softly.

"I will go back to the mainland later, but the matter here..."

Before Jasper could finish, Wendy said, "I'm not done with my business here, so I will stay."

Jasper said apologetically, "Actually, I want you to go back to the mainland with me."

“Apart from me, who will you allow to take over my task here with no worries?” Wendy said with a smile.

“Anna?”

“...” Jasper was speechless.

“I am now the president of JW in name and a series of partnerships have just begun. What’s more, I need to officially respond to all the voices and clamors from the outside world. Otherwise, the Harbor stock market will crash when it opens on Monday.”

Jasper sighed softly and said, “You’re like a mindreader. You can read me like a book.”

“It’s better to know nothing.”

Wendy groaned and said, “I guess this is my life.”

“Anna...”

Jasper’s words were interrupted again.

“I know. I won’t stoop down to her level. Plus, I don’t have time to fight her.”

Jasper smiled wryly.

At night, on the way to the airport.

Wendy did not come.

It seemed that she was intentionally leaving space and time to Anna.

This reflected the generosity of her as the official girlfriend.

Jasper had a splitting headache when Anna was accompanying him with a straight face.

As expected, the words of a beautiful woman were unbelievable. She said she would not stoop to Anna’s level but she was obviously targeting Anna.

"I left Julian and Fallon with Wendy..."

"Yes, don't worry. After those people saw your cruelty and methods, no one will do anything to Wendy unless they are not right in the head," Anna said lightly.

"Alright."

Jasper did not know how many times he was interrupted, so he just kept his mouth shut.

"I will attend the press conference with Wendy," Anna continued.

"With your deterrence and the weight of the Laws, those people won't do this kind of thing anymore even if they're crazy."

Life at the Top Chapter 1933

When Jasper's plane took off, it was

already 7:20 in the evening.

At this time, almost all Harbor City media outlets received invitations.

The party that sent the invitations was

the branch of JW Company in Harbor City.

There was not much content on the invitation letter, but it stated that a press conference would be held at 8 a.m. and all reporters from major media were invited. At the same time, this press conference would be broadcast live across Harbor City.

Some reporters with a keen sense of smell were aware that something big would definitely happen.

This was reminiscent of JW Company's arrival in Harbor City, which had caused the greatest sensation in the shortest time. It was as if JW's main business was printing banknotes, and they did not care about the amount of money they invested heavily in Harbor City. While everyone was digesting this, news broke out that Wendy, the president of JW Company, was kidnapped.

After everything that had happened, everyone in Harbor City from the old to the young knew about JW, let alone those in the media.

Under such circumstances, JW's press

conference this time was particularly

interesting.

No matter what news was going to be released, reporters had an intuition that it would be of utmost importance.

Meanwhile, the news that was impossible to hide also reached Fabian's ears instantly.

After narrowing his eyes slightly, Fabian called Phoenix directly in front of Kayden.

The call was quickly answered.

“Boss, it's me.”

Upon hearing Phoenix's quiet and normal voice on the phone, Fabian felt a little relieved.

“How's your situation over there?”

Phoenix replied, “We're fine but it's so chaotic outside and we dare not go out at all.”

Phoenix, who was now in Harbor City, carefully glanced at Henry, who had a sneer on his face, and Wendy, who was sitting next to him. Then, he read the script that was prepared for him in advance.

One had to admit that Phoenix, who had been on the streets for many years, was still good at acting.

After all, they had seen people from all backgrounds and trades. Therefore, learning how to act according to the situation was a basic skill. Otherwise, they would be dragged outside to feed the stray dogs if they offended some bigwigs.

Phoenix's words did not arouse Fabian's suspicion.

“It's good that you don't dare to go out. You must not appear in front of strangers now, or else, even I can't save you.”

Phoenix swallowed and said, “Boss, don't worry. At this point, I will go to the end of this matter with you. Are you still worried? Do you want to talk to Wendy?”

“Are you crazy?”

Fabian, who was worried that Wendy would know his identity, roared. Although his tone was harsh, his expression relaxed.

If Phoenix dared to let Wendy talk to him, it would indicate that there was indeed no problem there.

“Okay, do this well and you will get what I promised. Get ready to live the rest of your life like a king.”

After he said that, Fabian hung up.

After putting the phone down, Fabian looked at Kayden and said, “Everything should be fine over there.”

Life at the Top Chapter 1934

Kayden frowned slightly and said, "If this is the case, the news conference they are preparing for tomorrow should just be a smoke bomb to avoid any problems with the partnerships that have been finalized before and to keep Harbor Stocks from falling too much."

With a grin, Fabian said, "If this is the case, what are we afraid of? Do you think J W can stop the decline of the entire market? Impossible.

"At that time, the listed companies under our control in Harbor Stocks will be the first to blow up. We'll release some bad news, such as how much loss we suffered in the last fiscal year or last quarter, how much bad debts there are, and how bad our future prospects are, then the stocks will naturally fall. With our short sale, Harbor Stocks can't possibly hold up."

Kayden did not say a word as he looked at Fabian.

Even though he always felt that things were not so simple, but now that they were at a point of no return, he had to do it. Plus, the initiative was not in his hands, but in the hands of his father and the

other two heads.

He could make comments and give ideas, but he had already paid such a large price before, and now, he had no real evidence, so how could he stop it?

Two hours later, Jasper landed in Nauritus

City.

The reason why he rushed back was that the market would open tomorrow. He had to be in the command center of Nauritus City no matter if it was

the domestic market or market in the United States. At this point, he was inseparable from Nauritus City.

On the other hand, it was because Jude came with the Habers.

It seemed that they were here to express their sincerity and humility. The Habers father and son did not go anywhere after they arrived in Nauritus City, instead, they were waiting for Jasper's return at the airport.

So, as soon as Jasper touched down, he saw the father and son.

Jude was also standing at one side with an awkward look on his face.

"Mr. Laine, hello, I..."

Braving the bitter wind at the airport,

Weston approached Jasper respectfully. Halfway through the conversation, Jasper waved and interrupted him, "I know, you're the actual controller of Grandland Corporation and the patriarch of the Habers, the great Mr. Weston Habers."

"I don't dare to call myself that in front of you," Weston said hurriedly.

"I don't have much time, so let's talk while we walk."

After Jasper finished speaking, he walked directly to the car that was waiting there to pick him up.

Weston, Channing, and Jude looked at each other and immediately followed.

Fortunately, the car was an MPV, otherwise, it would be a bit crowded for

four adult men.

After they got in the car, Jasper put up the partition to block the sound from the backseat from the driver after the car started. Then, he said, "I'll be straightforward and go straight to the point."

"To be honest, I didn't plan to see you

two."

As he said that, Jasper seemed to ignore the embarrassed and aggrieved faces of Weston and Channing. He pointed to Jude and said, "But I still respect Mr. Whorton enough to do this."

Jude was surprised and delighted by this. He believed that his little power was nothing in front of Jasper. Even if he brought the Habers, he was ready for Jasper to kick him out.

What he never expected was that Jasper would show him respect like this.

This made Jude, who had suffered a lot as he built his business, somewhat flattered.

"Mr. Laine is too courteous," Jude said quickly.

Jasper smiled and waved. The reason why Jasper agreed to meet the Habers was not entirely because of Jude. Even if Old Jude's

future industry was pretty big, it was still a thing of the future, which might not be anything special considering JW's speed of expansion over the next ten to twenty years.

Everyone's eyes fell on Weston as Jasper said flatly, "But since you are here and I've also met you, I'll be frank about some things."

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Life at the Top Chapter 1935

“First of all, I want you to tell me frankly how many staple foods those scalpers controlled by foreigners have bought from you.”

Jasper’s question made Weston and

Channing feel conflicted.

No matter which company you went to, the sales data was absolutely confidential and it would not be leaked so easily.

However, Jasper was opening with this question. Obviously, the basis for the two sides to continue this discussion would depend on whether they answered this question or not.

So, Weston did not hesitate for too long. After gritting his teeth, he replied, “About 120 thousand tons.”

Although he was mentally prepared, Jasper knitted his eyebrows tightly when he heard the number.

120 thousand tons!

One had to understand that there were

many kinds of food.

Major crops such as soybeans, corn,

buckwheat, and rice could be classified as

food.

However, in Somerland, rice was the

absolute staple food.

The consumption of rice accounted for

more than 70% of the country’s total food

consumption.

It was only 2001. Although food security i

n Somerland was no longer a problem,
rice production had not yet ushered in a
spurt of growth.

According to the information previously obtained by Jasper, Raydon province was one of Somerland's core grain planting bases. Its output in one season was only about 1 million tons, and the Habers father and son sold 12% of the output in one go.

One might underestimate the 120 thousand tons, as even 12% did not seem like a big deal either.

However, one had to know that most provinces in Somerland had very low rice production and the main food supply area was the three eastern provinces, with the largest of the three provinces being Raydon province.

From this, it could be seen that Raydon's annual grain output was important even to the entire country.

If they sold 12% all at once, it would not just be a 12% reduction at their side, but what was even more frightening was that there would be 12% more of these commodities the hands of the United States capital. If this was put on the capital market, with Soros' dirty tricks, Somerland would have to pay at least 20% of the price to settle this deal.

At this time, Jasper wished to kick the
money-hungry father and son out of the car.

"Did you sell everything?" Jasper asked angrily.

"The payment has gone through, and the delivery is about 30% done. After all, such a large amount could not be delivered in a short while."

Weston became more honest when he saw the malicious look in Jasper's eyes. He was speaking in a low voice, for fear of angering Jasper more.

"Stop the delivery. From now on, Grandland Corporation can't part with a single grain of rice," Jasper said directly.

As soon as these words came out, the faces of both Weston and Channing changed.

Channing subconsciously said, "No way, this..."

Before he could finish speaking, Jasper's dark eyes started staring straight at him.

Channing was just a prodigal and useless second generation who only knew how to have fun. So, how would he endure Jasper's gaze? When Jasper looked at him, he forgot what he was about to say.

Weston hurriedly said, "Mr. Laine, the penalty of these contract breaches is very high. Once we unilaterally breach the contract, we might have to give up Grandland Corporation to pay for it."

"I think they are afraid that Swallow City will discover your company's transaction with them, so they set the maximum penalty. It was just so that when you are faced with such a situation, you will find ways to continue to fulfill the contract."

Jasper frowned slightly and continued, "Breach the contract first. As for the lawsuit, fight it slowly."

At this moment, Channing, who had just recomposed himself, began to feel uncomfortable and pissed again.

Life at the Top Chapter 1936

Jasper was pushing the Habers into the fire pit with this one sentence.

The father and son were now afraid of Jasper because they were worried that Grandland Corporation would not have an easy time in the future. However, Jasper's condition for forgiving them was basically asking Grandland Corporation to die, so how could they compromise?

Sure enough, not only Channing, but even Weston hesitated.

Jasper saw all this, and after a little thought, he said, "Don't worry, there are ways to make up for this loss.

"Put those undelivered grains on the domestic market. If it doesn't work, the government has a guaranteed purchase price at which they will purchase them. Plus, in this current situation, the market price or the guaranteed purchase price will inevitably increase by a large margin, so you don't have to worry about the cost.

"I have protected the cost of all the grain and rice you have on hand. Of course, I believe those scalpers must have purchased them from you at an outrageous price so you feel that you're losing out even before you get the profit, right?"

Jasper knew what they were thinking without even looking at Weston and his son.

"Whether you are doing business or just being a decent human being, don't fix your eyes on the benefits in front of you. What is the use of earning money that's placed in front of you when

you
won't
even be alive to spend it in the future?"

As soon as Jasper said this, the father and son changed their expressions abruptly.

At the same time, they looked at Jasper in horror.

Jasper said impatiently, "Why are you looking at me like this? I didn't mean that if you don't cooperate with me, I will kill you. Do you think of me as a bandit?"

"Just think about why those people from the United States would come all the way to Somerland to buy food and even spend so much money."

Jasper shook his head and said faintly, "If it were other industries, I'd just turn a blind eye. However, you must think twice before you do business with foreigners when it comes to staple industries like food.

"You all know that the futures market has skyrocketed during this period. The United States is now trying to speculate on domestic food prices. The money you earn right now will be earned back hundreds of times and thousands of times over from our people in the future.

"Even if I don't talk about these national justices with you and just your interest, do you really think that I am so capable of completely destroying your industry that's standing tall in Raydon province like a king in just ten to twenty minutes?"

"Don't you know who you can't offend the most in Somerland?"

Weston and Channing were speechless.

"As for the default loss, it'll be made up when Grandland Corporation is listed on the stock market."

Weston's heart trembled and

subconsciously said, "We have no plans to go public."

"What are you afraid of? Are you afraid of losing control?" Jasper asked.

Weston nodded awkwardly.

Jasper didn't say anything.

At this point, a pot like him should not call a kettle black.

Why was JW not public?

Why were they not public now and had no plans to go public in the future?

Jasper wanted to control this company completely.

However, for the Habers father and son, Jasper had a plan.

"Take out 20% of the shares as tradable share capital, then you'll still have 80% of the shares on hand. Don't worry about the issue of control. The most important thing is what if I can use this 20% of the shares as a foundation and triple Grandland Corporation's market value?"

"If Grandland Corporation is now worth 10 billion, the total market value of Grandland Corporation can be speculated to be 30 billion if you take out 2 billion shares. Then the decision will be either 80% of 30 billion or 100% of 10 billion, I don't need to say much more, right?"

Life at the Top Chapter 1937

If all the previous contents of this conversation up to now made the Habers father and son extremely uncomfortable, this sentence was a cool drink in a hot summer, sending chills down the father and son's spines.

Why were they unwilling to go public?

Of course, it was because they were worried about control. Also, there was another important reason.

This was regarding the particularity of the food industry.

Foodstuff itself was a resource controlled by the state and it was indeed circulated on the market, but both the scale and the price were subjected to strict official restrictions.

What kind of problem would this cause?

It would make it difficult for food production companies to lose money. It seemed good, but a serious problem was that it was also difficult to make a lot of money.

It could be said that it was true that its annual profit could be calculated with a calculator.

Rice was purchased according to the grade, which applied to even the highest quality grade of rice. For example, if the government purchased them for 1 Somer Dollar per half a kilogram, then its market price would not exceed 1 Somer Dollar.

Moreover the government would fix the price for you when it came to your cost, as well as how much money you would need to produce half a kilogram of rice. Hence, there would be no loopholes for you to exploit at all.

It was precisely because of the small profits that it was very difficult for such a company to go public.

What kind of listed company would capitalists like?

They liked the kinds with high-yield and high-return. It would be best if they could make 100 Somer Dollars with an investment of 1 Somer Dollar. This was the nature of capital, and no one could change it.

Therefore, if Grandland wanted to go public, its performance and scale would meet the requirements, but it was destined to be unlikely to be favored by capitalists, so the stock price would inevitably be lower.

In the eyes of the Habers, they would risk losing control for no reason as they were also unlikely to make much money in the capital market. This was something only fools would do.

However, right now, Jasper told them that they could triple the market value of Grandland, so even a piece of wood would be tempted.

It was still that simple truth. As Jasper said, 100% of 10 billion and 80% of 30 billion, which one would you choose?

Did this still need to be considered?

After all, not every boss in every company was the same as Jasper, who did not need to worry about not making money.

The most essential difference between Jasper and the vast majority of ordinary entrepreneurs represented by the Habers father and son was that other entrepreneurs needed capital to help with development and they were controlled and trapped by this resource, but Jasper... What he needed to consider was how to control the capital.

"Mr. Laine, are you for real?" Weston asked excitedly.

Jasper pointed to his nose and said, "I am saying this with my name, m lying to you?" do you think I a

This sounded crazy, but not arrogant.

In the domestic private capital circle in Somerland, if there was anything Jasper could not do, then there was no need for others to consider it at all as it would basically be impossible. Plus, that kind of thing was a policy's high-tension line, and was the kind that could not be compromised on.

Weston suddenly beamed and said, " Alright, I'll listen to you, Mr. Laine."

He thought the best scenario of him coming here would be to leave with disappointment. Then, he would slice off

a piece of his flesh and consider it as sacrificing something to save himself.

However, he did not expect to gain such a big benefit.

This delighted Weston and his eyes were

sparkling when he looked at Jasper.

Sure enough, it was not unreasonable for Jasper to achieve what he had today at a young age. He was even younger than Weston's son, but with this skill and breadth of mind, what great things could not be done?

The change of mentality of the Habers caught Jasper's eyes, but this was also in line with Jasper's previous expectations.

Jasper did not care what would happen to the Habers father and son, or Grandland at all.

Right now, Jasper did not care whether the Habers and Grandland were thriving or not. The reason for dealing with them before was just to establish prestige.

To put it simply, he was punishing the Habers to set an example to others.

They just so happened to also coincidentally run into trouble.

Now, as long as they were willing to cooperate with the implementation of the whole plan, then Jasper would not mind giving them some benefits.

After all, in the food industry, Grandland and the Habers did have a certain degree of influence. This much was undeniable.

"Since there is no problem, then it's

decided.”

Jasper said, “You will immediately order the delivery to stop. If they ask for compensation, ask them to go through the process and file a lawsuit. Basically, it is a matter of arguing. Just drag this on for as long as possible. This is the top priority and the first thing you should do.

“Secondly, we should immediately start preparations for the listing. Prepare the relevant information in the shortest time and polish your account.

“There will be many heavyweight state owned enterprises listed on the market soon and I will help with the operation and add Grandland to the list. It will be very fast and all you have to do is to prepare the necessary things while I will handle the rest.”

After he said that, Jasper asked Weston, “ Please ask immediately if you don’t understand anything. After this, I may not have so much time.

Weston thought for a while and said, “No

questions.”

At this time, the car had already arrived at the hotel. Jasper nodded and said, “ Alright, I won’t keep you then.”

When the Habers left, Jude planned to get out of the car with him, but Jasper asked him to stay.

On the way to the Nauritus City trading center, Jasper said to Jude, “Mr. Whorton, there is a huge business opportunity and I wonder if you are interested.”

Jude sat upright when he heard this.

If Jasper said it was a huge business opportunity, it had to be a big deal for him.

“Mr. Laine, please tell me first. I’ll see if I can take it.” Jude gave a cautious reply.

With a smile, Jasper said, “Fongroup, Atticus Group, and Hope Group’s industries in the mainland will be packaged as a whole. I took out 40% of it but the remaining 20% doesn’t seem to have many benefits to me. It’s not that these projects do not make money, but the turnaround cycle is too long. On the other hand, there is another 40% which are all good

industries with high quality and low price. I am hoping you can take all of them, Mr. Whorton.”

Life at the Top Chapter 1938

Jude froze for a moment.

Then his eyes widened fiercely.

Fongroup's properties in the mainland were gotten abandoned of some time ago. As a real estate developer, Jude was very aware about this.

There were even two industries that were close to him, so he was very interested. However, people who were not in the core circle were not qualified to deal with this kind of industry.

Due to legal issues, it could not be auctioned publicly, so it could only be absorbed internally.

Since Half-the-Harbor Langdon betrayed the mainland first, he had already given up these industries. This, coupled with some intervention from Jasper, meant that as long as it was taken down, the problem of the ownership of the industry would definitely be resolved.

However as far as Jude knew, the real high-quality industries had been taken away by Jasper himself, and the remaining ones were basically divided up by the second generation across a relatively large background.

No one could say anything about this.

It was ill-gotten wealth anyway, so of course, it could only be obtained by ill-gotten people.

Now, with the addition of Hope Group and Atticus Group's properties, they still held a full 40% share, so Jude was envious.

Whether it was Fongroup or Hope Group, they were all big names in the real estate industry. Even the Atticus Group, whose main business was not in real estate, relied on the status of Harbor City-owned bigwigs to acquire the best properties in

the mainland.

In order to win them over, the local government in the mainland would give them the best things at the lowest prices.

If one could obtain a few of these

properties, they would surely make a

fortune in the future.

Therefore, to Jude, this was like a free lunch.

However, the next problem soon followed.

And the question was why?

He and Jasper did not really know each other and their strengths were very different too. So why did Jasper extend him such a big olive branch?

A second question was that he could not afford it.

He would stuff his growing Millenia Group full.

As if he could see through Jude's embarrassment, Jasper took the initiative to explain, "No matter how good the industry is, it will need people who know it to operate it. Fongroup was divided up by those people, but how many of them really understand real estate?"

"Obviously, none of them do. All of them just want to resell at a high price. The ones with a bit of vision would hold the property and after taking it down, they'll not develop or operate it. They will just wait to receive the real estate dividends and sell it after the price increase.

"Once more of this happens, it will affect

the entire real estate industry, "So, what I need is someone capable

enough to take these high-quality

industries and run them well."

Jude asked subconsciously, "Then why doesn't JW Real Estates take it all?"

Jasper said with a half-smile, "If JW swallows such a big cake, people will get jealous."

Jude felt embarrassed.

It was such a simple truth and yet he did not think of it.

"And many of them are commercial real estate projects. As you know, JW Real Estates is mainly engaged in residential development. There are several commercial real estate projects, such as the World Financial Center under construction in Waterhoof City. But this is not the main

business of JW Real Estates, so I still need more professional people and companies to develop it. That is why, Mr. Whorton, I chose you and Millenia Group.”

Jude said with a wry smile, “But Millenia Group is too small, and we can’t afford such a big project.”

“Who said that? The biggest problem with Millenia Group right now is that the opportunity for crazy expansion is right in front of you, but there are not enough funds to support the expansion, while the issue of funding is the least of my worries.

“In the early stage, I’ll invest 5 billion for you so that you can obtain all those industries. This 5 billion may not be enough, but you can go negotiate first. How can there be a one-time payment for such a large business? First, pay a 30% down payment, after that, use the property itself to mortgage the loan, and then finally, use the revenue to pay it off.”

If one did not know how to gain valuable prizes with worthless things in the real estate industry, then it would be over for them.

Jude was not yet the real estate tycoon that he would be more than ten years later. Seeing him suddenly realize this, Jasper had a sense of satisfaction, like he was playing a simulation game.

“JW wants to invest in Millenia Group?” Jude asked, feeling somewhat complicated.

He hoped that JW could invest in Millenia Group so that Millenia Group could have a big backing and he would no longer have to live carefully and frugally.

However, once JW joined the Millenia Group, Jude was worried that he would lose the child he created by himself.

He could not bear it.

Looking at Jude who was hesitating and feeling conflicted, Jasper patted his shoulder and said, "I will give you 5 billion in the initial stage and then I'll top up another 5 billion, so it'll be an investment of a total of 10 billion. I only need 51% of the shares in Millenia Group. I won't join the board of directors or interfere with any of the company's operations. I can even give up the right to make decisions about personnel and only retain the right to vote on major decisions.

"Also, it is not JW's investment, but my private investment."

Jude was utterly confused. Not only because he was shocked by Jasper's generosity, but also because he was worried about whether there was any other conspiracy for such a good thing.

Currently, Millenia Group's assets did not exceed 5 billion Somer Dollars after all the movable and real estate were added in. Therefore, when Jasper said he wanted to invest 10 billion Somer Dollars and only wanted 51% of the equity, plus he would not participate in operations and would not interfere with personnel affairs, Jude was left stunned.

"You don't need to give me an answer right away. Think about it, but please give me an answer as soon as possible, the opportunity will not wait for anyone. There are a lot of people eying this amazing opportunity and the pressure here is also great."

Jasper was not worried that Jude would refuse.

Old Jude was an entrepreneur with a sense of adventure flowing through his bones. He

would not miss out on such a good opportunity.

of adventure flow

If not, how would someone like Old Jude who was in commercial real estate stand up among all except from the two large state-owned enterprises?

Did you think there were really no discerning people in this world?

With economic development, people had money in their pockets and explosive consumption trends were inevitable. Therefore, commercial real estate was definitely promising.

In fact, if Old Jude did not go slightly insane and acquire the world's largest movie theater line and copy Old Chet from Grand Saint to start some stupid entertainment integration plan.

Jasper could even give up on the decision making power on major issues. The reason for keeping it was to prevent Old Jude from losing his mind and using his hot money to invest in foreign industries after more than a decade and then finally embarrassing himself.

"I don't need to consider. I agree!"

As expected, the entire process lasted just a few minutes before Jude gritted his teeth and made up his mind before the car reached the Nauritus City command center.

Life at the Top Chapter 1939

Jude's choice was not beyond Jasper's expectations, but his decisiveness made Jasper respect him a little more.

"That's fine, I will send someone to give you the relevant information. After you are ready, I will arrange the funds for you. This wave of expansion is enough for you to digest for the next two to three years. During this time, you have to digest all of it and then proceed to the next round of expansion."

When the car arrived, Jasper got out of the car and patted Jude on the shoulder. He said, "Real estate has just started in Somerland. It will grow madly within the next ten years. In another five years, there will be peer competition, quality service, and overall planning. But before that, you have a full 10 years to develop savagely, so don't waste this opportunity."

"Mr. Laine, are you that optimistic about the real estate industry?" Jude could not help asking.

Jasper smiled and said, "It's not that I am optimistic about the real estate industry

"It's because real estate has to stand up and take the lead along with the country's economic development and GDP growth. Look at all those developed countries abroad, every one of them has experienced or is going through this period. Countless examples are telling us that if a country wants to develop its economy rapidly, real estate is definitely the secret weapon to drive economic growth.

"As for the possible consequences, Swallow Capital will be the one to consider and measure them, while for those of us who are buying and selling, what we have to do is to seize the opportunities of the times.

"Small business' profit comes from the price difference of buying low and selling high. It challenges someone's diligence and perseverance. As long

as you are industrious and not afraid to endure hardship, you can make a little money so long as the environment is not too bad.

“Medium business depends on the development of the industry, and it challenges someone’s vision and means.

There will be risks at this level. If you win, you’ll get a big profit, and even become the leader of the industry. However, if you lose or choose the wrong industry, you will be bankrupt.

“Big business is about policy changes, it challenges opportunities and courage. In this realm, there is only life and death, and no success or failure. You will rise above all if you win, but if you lose, everything will come to a halt. It depends on your life and your fate whether you’re standing above the tide of time to control the situation or standing below the clouds with everyone else.”

Jude stood on the spot for a long time as he looked at Jasper, who was walking to the building.

This gruffy man only listened to it once and seemed to have memorized most of it.

With emotion and excitement, he sat back in the car and immediately felt proud.

He, Old Jude, must be the man who stands on top of the tide of the times and controls the situation

“Mr. Laine is back!”

A small commotion broke out when Jasper appeared in the Nauritus City command center.

Everyone was passionate and enthusiastic. It felt as if their backbone was back.

“Did you slack off the two days I was

gone?” Jasper asked with a grin.

“Of course not. We’re even busier now. Not only did we collect all the main data on the financial markets of the two countries, but also conducted policy

analysis. We even reviewed the classic financial wars in history several times over. We have accumulated one big box of data just from the analysis," an analyst said boldly.

"Alright, not bad. You really didn't slack off," Jasper complimented.

After chatting with the team members and relaxing, Jasper went upstairs and summoned Jake and Baz.

"There will be a fierce battle tomorrow.

Because of the time difference, the domestic market will open first, so we must prepare for the crash. As for the United States financial market, we must begin to accelerate the layout of bottom fishing."

Jasper thought for a while, turned his head, and said to Jake, "Tomorrow, your team will work hard during the day, and you must keep an eye on any new moves in the United States."

Then, Jasper looked at Baz again and said, "You guys will work overnight with me tonight, be prepared."

Jake and Baz both had serious expressions on their faces. They nodded and said, "Understood, Mr. Laine."

For the average person, flying from Nauritus City to Waterhoof City, and then from Waterhoof City to Harbor City, and then back from Harbor City again in two days with only four to five hours sleep in between would be a high intensity job, but for Jasper, those two days were like a vacation to him.

He would be truly busy once he went back to the command center.

He had to communicate and discuss with the team with every passing minute and second, and he would do so almost non stop.

What they were doing would not allow for any deviations and mistakes. A small mistakes would directly lead to the loss of hundreds of millions or more of funds, which might then lead to partial failures. Once there were too many partial failures and they were all connected, then the whole situation would collapse.

That was why they said a slight

negligence could lead to a great disaster.

Hence, what Jasper and the team were doing now was trying to minimize or even avoid any mistakes.

The night passed in the blink of an eye.

When the sky was getting bright, Jasper finally looked up from the pile of documents.

He felt a little dizzy as he waved his hands to Jake and Baz. He said, "All of you should go out. I get nauseous when I see you guys and those documents and numbers. There are about 2 hours before the opening, so take the time to rest and regain your energy before you start preparing for the battle."

Baz and Jake could not take this anymore either. They nodded when they heard that, then packed their things to get ready to go out.

Before Baz left, he saw Jasper messing

around in front of the computer, so he

asked, "Mr. Laine, aren't you going to

take a break?"

"I want to watch something, you should go out and rest. Oh, right, ask someone to bring in a cup of strong tea," Jasper said without looking up.

"Alright."

After Baz left, Jasper turned on the live broadcast. What he wanted to watch was the scene of

the Harbor City press conference.

The press conference had already begun at this moment.

When Wendy and Anna appeared

together, it caused countless camera flashes flashing in a frenzy.

Putting aside, the identities and status of the two women, their looks alone could compete with the so-called Miss Harbor City and actresses.

Especially when the reporters saw Wendy. All of them instantly went crazy.

Wasn't Wendy kidnapped?

Wasn't JW Company being threatened

when they came to Harbor City?

If this outrageously beautiful woman with outrageous temperament in front of them was not Wendy Schuler, who was she?

Life at the Top Chapter 1940

The timing of this press conference was

extremely precise.

A few minutes before Wendy appeared, it

happened to be the beginning of the

Harbor Stocks call auction.

Because of a series of negative news and Wendy's kidnapping and disappearance, the confidence of Harbor Stocks' market investors was generally lacking and sluggish, which then led to the call auction stage where everyone was selling.

According to this situation, Harbor Stocks would be greeted by an earth-shattering collapse once the market was officially opened.

However, when the call auction came to an end and all transaction data was locked, Wendy appeared.

"I want to thank everyone and the media for coming. I am Wendy Schuler, President of JW Company."

Wendy was sitting on the podium with a beaming face. One could not tell that she had just been kidnapped.

"In truth, the main purpose of this press conference is to inform the public about things that people have been concerned about recently."

Wendy looked at the eagerly awaiting reporters below. After pondering how she would form her sentence, she continued, "First of all, there would be no changes or postponement with the cooperation between JW Company and its partners that were previously announced, instead, it may happen faster and earlier than previously planned."

This news did not cause any sensation among the reporters. After all, since Wendy showed up and held such a press conference, then the previous cooperation plan must be fine.

The reporters were more concerned about the kidnapping.

Wendy seemed to know exactly what these reporters wanted to hear, and her second sentence was about the kidnapping.

“Secondly, I will also take this

opportunity to offer some explanations regarding the previous rumors that I was

kidnapped that were circulating

“I was indeed kidnapped two days ago, but as you can see, I have successfully escaped. This kidnapping did not cause any harm or impact to my personal life, and it is unlikely to cause any harm to JW’s business plans in Harbor City.

“I want to thank everyone from all walks of f life for your attention and concern. Despite the little accident, both I and JW Company will continue to promote cooperation with Harbor City, Harbor City is one of the economic and financial centers in Terra and the world, so no...”

Wendy’s speech on the television was still going on when a teacup flew over and smashed the television. Then, Wendy’s voice stopped abruptly.

In the study of a villa in a wealthy area in New York, Kayden turned his head and glared coldly at Fabian. He gritted his teeth and said, “Is this the foolproof plan that you mentioned?”

“Explain to me why that woman is at the press conference!?”

“How is it that we have no idea how our plan even failed?”

Kayden’s roar reverberated throughout

the entire study, but Fabian was even more afraid of the somber expressions of Half-the-Harbor Langdon, Kennedy, and his father Sawyer.

“I-I have no idea!”

Fabian was panicking as he said in a shaky voice, "I contacted Phoenix and he said that everything is okay... b-but... how did this happen?"

"You're asking me?"

Kayden was fuming as he lost his cool immediately.

He strode forward, grabbed Fabian's collar, and roared, "I am the one who's supposed to ask you how this happened?"

"Those scumbags may have been bribed long ago while you were still kept in the dark, you dumb*ss! Now that this is right in front of you and she's holding a press conference. The whole world knows that Wendy is safe and sound now and you still choose to believe the words of those hooligans?"

Kayden kept yelling at Fabian and

Fabian's face turned dark and pale

simultaneously. He felt enraged and

aggrieved.

He pushed Kayden's hand away and said, "That's enough. Are you done?"

"Do you think I wanted this to happen?"

"Before this, you said that I have many tricks in this regard, so you left this matter to me. You were there the few times I contacted them. If you're so smart, why didn't you tell me in advance?"

"Now, you're blaming me after everything has gone to sh*t? Your belated action is just fantastic."

Fabian's words completely enraged Kayden.

"Do you know how much money and resources we have spent to do this? Once Harbor Stocks rises by just 100 points, we'll all go to the side of the road to be beggars!"

Upon hearing those words, Fabian's

confidence suddenly disappeared.

He moved his lips, but he could not speak.
"Enough."

Kennedy said in a deep voice.

Kayden was the son of Half-the-Harbor Langdon and Fabian was Sawyer's son. Although both of them were extremely dissatisfied and unhappy in their hearts, neither of them said anything. On the contrary, it was Kennedy who was the most suitable person to speak at this time.

"Now, it's crystal clear that our plan to kidnap Wendy has failed, and Jasper has decided to beat us at our own game."

Closing his eyes slightly, the corners of Kennedy's mouth twitched. Then, he said, "If we want to blame someone, we can only blame the three of us for being here and not keeping an eye on Harbor City's every move. Plus, Jasper and the gang may seem to be innocent, but they're not. He has the help of those old farts like the Laws and the Boyles, so we can be forgiven for being kept in the dark."

After he finished speaking, Kennedy opened his eyes and said in a deep voice, "The most important thing right now is not to hold someone accountable. What's the use of that? The most important thing now is how to recover the losses."

"The short position has been locked and cannot be withdrawn. So, how can we recover it? Wendy deliberately chose to hold a press conference at this time in order to ensure we miss our last chance of escape and walk into the trap ourselves. It seems that they have been anticipating our plan to short sell Harbor Stocks." to

Sawyer said grimly, "We are all standing on the edge of the cliff now, we'll fall and break into pieces if we're not careful."

"There's no turning back now."

Half-the-Harbor Langdon finally spoke. His expression was calm, but there was an unrelenting determination in his tone.

“Release all the news that should be released, including the losses of each of our three companies. Even if it is fraudulent, it will also cause panic in the market. Since the conspiracy did not work, then we’ll openly fight Jasper. I don’t believe Jasper can change his fate by just relying on the wealthy families that have already been emptied out by Wall Street.”

Life at the Top Chapter 1941

The Harbor Stock market opened immediately after the call auction phase was over.

Countless dense transaction data refreshed like torrents.

There were so many things that happened this weekend, and most of them were major events in the financial field, hence they directly reflected the stock prices of various listed in Harbor Stock. The fluctuations in the stock prices of these listed companies had contributed to the ups and downs of the market and were reflected on the screen in front of all investors.

Harbor Stock started low at the opening of the market on Monday because it was affected by Fongroup, Atticus Group, and Hope Group's large-scale dumping of their properties in Harbor City, as well as Fongroup's acquisition of Layman in the United States and the news that Layman went bankrupt all at the same time.

The downturn in the entire real estate sector accentuated the abrupt boom in the rubber industry-related sectors.

The Harbor City government opened the barriers to entry for the rubber industry so almost anyone could enter this industry. With JW adding fuel to the fire, the rubber sector had risen instead of going against the market.

With such a low opening, Half-the

Harbor Langdon was not happy, and

Jasper was not worried about it.

Although they had not met or communicated with each other, the two who had already started fighting from opposite ends of the earth were very clear that this was just the beginning.

Sure enough, Fongroup was the first to issue a notice on the company's major operations

Under the requirements of the Somerland Securities Regulatory Commission, all listed companies had stipulated that they must inform shareholders and society as soon as possible if they faced major operational changes. Another thing was to release the financial report of the

previous quarter or the previous fiscal

year at the specified time.

These were all subject to audit.

The Securities Regulatory Commission also used these rigid requirements to regulate the normal operation of listed companies. After all, even if only a minimum of 100 shares were bought, they were still shareholders of listed companies in the eyes of the law and had the right to know.

It was just that these reports had a very long release period, and the report released by Fongroup this time had no warning. However, in the eyes of insiders, it was quite reasonable.

When the investors opened this report, they were all dumbfounded.

Fongroup's report was only 6 months away from the last report, but in these 6 months, the company's profit had gone from 8.7 billion Harbor Dollars to a loss of 38.9 billion Harbor Dollars, which was equivalent to 6 months' worth of accumulation. Over time, Fongroup lost

nearly 40 billion Harbor Dollars.

"Fongroup lost 40 billion Harbor Dollars in 6 months, with an average monthly loss of 6.666 billion Harbor Dollars and a daily loss of 222 million Harbor Dollars!"

This piece of news spread across Harbor

City instantly, as if it had grown wings.

"Joe Half-the-Harbor Langdon finally met his Waterloo and the huge losses from the failed acquisition of Layman shattered the dreams of this business legend in New York overnight."

"Joe Half-the-Harbor Langdon stepped off the altar. Fongroup, which has been profitable for 10 consecutive years, broke the record of the largest loss for a listed company in Harbor City!"

A series of news was like an invisible hand as it tightly grabbed the fragile hearts of Harbor Stock investors. Panic began to spread and Fongroup's stock price soon plunged.

In the capital circle, no one believed in the myth of invincibility. If the company performed well and the stock price could rise, you would be everyone's god, but once your investment failed and the stock price dropped, it was this group of believers who would send you straight to hell.

However, Fongroup was closely followed by the financial reports of Hope Group and Atticus Group.

"Affected by the company's tight cash flow, Hope Group concentrated on selling a large number of properties in Harbor City. At the same time, investment in the mainland is stuck at the negotiation stage, and billions of Harbor Dollars may be lost."

"Affected by the growth of industry costs and the company's cross-industry development losses, Atticus Group announced that its estimated loss for the quarter exceeded 10 billion..."

Whether it was Fongroup, Hope Group, or Atticus Group, they were all major listed companies on Harbor Stock.

Hence, they could influence the market to a certain extent.

Life at the Top Chapter 1942

When the three companies announced

that their huge losses were irreversible,

panic spread rapidly across the market. The most direct embodiment and reaction of all this was that Harbor Stocks plunged directly after the market opened low.

At this time, Wendy's press conference had ended.

At the same time, Nine Dragon Corporation and JW Company's new Ocean City plan was already made known to the public, and JW Company had made a series of investments in Harbor City. With the help of the Laws and the Boyles, all the news began to make an impact across all of Harbor City.

The first thing that bore the brunt of these revelations was that the share price of Nine Dragon Corporation skyrocketed.

Funds in the capital market had the instinct to seek advantages and avoid disadvantages. When several important sectors were falling and odd stocks were soaring against the market, the scattering and fleeing funds seemed to have found a haven which they all flowed to without thinking.

The consequence of this was with Nine Dragon Corporation in the lead, all the holding companies related to the old giants such as the Boyles and the Laws began to rise wildly.

The stock market was divided into two distinct camps, with one side leading the decline while the other side rose frantically.

What was hidden beneath the intricate

financial situation was the turbulent

capital game.

"The current situation in Harbor Stocks is complicated, but the overall downward trend has begun to appear. As expected, J W can't save Harbor Stocks!"

In New York, Fabian looked at the market and breathed a sigh of relief.

"It opened at 8942 points, and it has now fallen to 8880 points. It is still slowly descending towards the support point of 8850 points."

Fabian looked excited as he said, "We are going to beat Harbor Stocks to 7600 and withdraw!

"According to the proportion of our invested capital, once it reaches 7600 points, then our income will be doubled. At that time, we will take the money and go regardless of the chaos in Harbor Stocks."

"I'm afraid it's not that simple."

Kayden furrowed his brows tightly and

said, "From what I know about Jasper, he

won't give up so easily."

"What else can he do? Do you think he will support Harbor Stocks all by himself? Stop dreaming," Fabian sneered.

And at this moment, in Nauritus City.

Baz knocked on Jasper's office door before

opening it.

"Mr. Laine, the domestic A-share market

will open in fifteen minutes." Jasper nodded, got up, and said, "Let's go

and focus on the domestic market."

The moment Jasper got up, the Harbor City branch of JW Company that was just established made a heartwarming announcement.

"In response to the fact that Fongroup,

Hope Group, and Atticus Group collectively selling the Harbor City property due to cash flow difficulties, JW Company has sent a diplomatic note to the three companies and expressed our willingness to acquire the properties sold by the three companies as a whole at a valuation slightly higher than the market price. If necessary, JW Company is willing to provide an interest-free loan of no less than 10 billion Harbor Dollars to the three

companies.”

At the end of the announcement, there was a final statement. “We are all from Somerland. So, JW Company has the responsibility and obligation to help the three companies with their difficulties.”

As soon as this announcement came out, Harbor Stocks exploded.

Life at the Top Chapter 1943

This announcement looked sentimental and righteous no matter who read it. It was an announcement to help friends in difficult times and it was full of morality and humanity.

It was a touching move of lending a hand to help Fongroup, Hope Group, and Atticus Group when they were in trouble.

Nobody knew how many people cheered the fact that JW Company was so powerful and kind-some even claimed that JW Company was a model for the business community of the next generation.

However, when the announcement reached New York and the eyes of Half-the-Harbor Langdon and the gang, they were so disgusted they wanted to throw up.

“That rascal!”

Sawyer’s eyes were red as he stared at the announcement on the screen. He was so angry that he wanted to pull Jasper out of the screen and skin him alive. “F*ck...”

Kennedy, who had always prided himself as an elite from the upper class, could not help but swear at this time.

Meanwhile, Half-the-Harbor Langdon’s eyelids twitched, and he said, “The announcement that cost him nothing has turned a lot of our efforts into jokes.”

The reason why the three companies collectively released negative news was that they thought their company’s large share of stock value could affect the market trend to a certain extent.

Therefore, they strived for their own value to plunge and so that the market would plunge with them.

When the stock price of their company had fallen, their value would certainly fall, but these were all book losses. If the company’s stock price rose in the future, these losses would be completely wiped out.

The most important thing was that they could get money in exchange for a decline in the market, which was also the fundamental purpose of their painstaking

efforts to do so many things during this

period.

However, as soon as JW Company's announcement was made, the ever changing Harbor Stocks market immediately rebounded.

With JW Company's foundation in making various big moves and cooperating with giants before, its name had been very popular in Harbor City so no one would doubt its strength.

So, when JW Company expressed its willingness to help the three companies wholeheartedly, the stocks of the three companies that had fallen sharply were lifted by speculators who tried to make a profit from them.

At this moment, the entire Harbor Stocks had witnessed the power of this group of speculators. They not only stopped the losses of the three companies, but in just a few minutes, they also pressed forward with triumphant progress.

In the eyes of many speculators, JW Company was now the most prosperous and strongest private company in the mainland. It could even represent the will of the mainland to a certain extent. As long as JW Company assisted these three companies, it meant that the mainland would not allow Harbor Stocks to fall. Therefore, wouldn't buying the stocks of these three companies at this time be equivalent to making money with no effort?

Under the temptation of this interest, this group of speculators abruptly made this logic self-consistent.

So, Harbor Stocks proved one thing to the world with what was now cold hard fact; there were so many rich people in Harbor

City.

Under the leadership of the three companies, the entire Harbor Stocks quickly changed from opening low to opening low and closing high. The market price directly surged upwards, and this hot trend caused a snowball effect. More and more hot money was constantly pouring into Harbor Stocks under the premise that investors and retail investors believed that an ideal market situation was right in front of them, and it

would be very profitable...

"8950 points!"

A touch of fear appeared on Sawyer's face. He looked at Half-the-Harbor Langdon and said, "Harbor Stocks has recovered the previous loss and it's even 8 points higher than the opening point. If this situation continues and reaches 9100 points, we'll go bankrupt!"

"What should we do?"

Kennedy looked serious as he stared at Harbor Stocks firmly. Although he did not say a word, he suddenly regretted it at this moment.

Impulsively shorting Harbor Stocks with these two people was probably the stupidest choice he had ever made.

Although everyone knew that Sawyer was just saying that they would go bankrupt, after all, they were not children, and they had a rich family background that ordinary people could never imagine. There had a way out, but heavy losses would be inevitable.

Their alliance had just begun and they had encountered their Waterloo. How would they deal with Jasper in the future?

Could they win?

The thought of this made Kennedy's

expression turn even more unpleasant.

He looked at Half-the-Harbor Langdon and said softly, "Joe, we have to take action. If this continues, it is equivalent to suicide."

Half-the-Harbor Langdon slowly rubbed his old Citizen watch on his wrist.

He deliberately presented his watch in front of the media countless times to establish a frugal image in front of others. He understood that in this society, the poor were always the majority, and for the rich, the best way to make the poor become willingly exploited was to make them think that the life of the rich was actually how it was presented and not much better than themselves.

Therefore, everyone knew that Half-the Harbor Langdon had a piece of Citizen that had been worn for decades, but few people knew that he was one of Patek Philippe's biggest customers in Terra.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon, who had played with people's hearts for most of his life, suddenly discovered that there was a young man who was no worse than him in this regard.

"That announcement only had a few words and it really played with the human heart." Half-the-Harbor Langdon sighed quietly and said.

This thoughtless sentence confused

Sawyer and Kennedy.

Sawyer, who was more impatient, frowned and said, "Joe, it's not the time to sigh about these kinds of things. We should come up with a plan quickly. We can't just sit here and wait for our deaths."

"There is no better way."

Half-the-Harbor Langdon said slowly, "No matter how much we say or do, our intentions will be more obvious. Once we truly expose our purpose of emptying Harbor Stocks to everyone, do you think we will be able to stand tall in the global

business community of Somer descendants, let alone Harbor City and the mainland?

"This is tantamount to a fall-out, and this is exactly what Jasper wants to see most."

Kennedy could not keep his cool after he heard what Half-the-Harbor Langdon said. He asked, "So we should just sit here and do nothing?"

"First, we'll announce the name of each company rejecting Jasper's so-called help. Then, I will take you to meet Half-the-Harbor Langdon said after hesitating.

Kennedy and Sawyer looked at each other and asked, "Who?"

"Soros."

Half-the-Harbor Langdon seemed to have made up his mind as he said, "It's not that we betrayed them, but they betrayed us first. Since we want to do this, we should do it thoroughly. What's wrong with cooperating with Wall Street? After we take down Jasper, all of the fame, wealth, and status will return."

Life at the Top Chapter 1944

Jasper did not waste too much energy on Half-the-Harbor Langdon and his small league or Harbor Stocks,

It was not that he did not pay much attention to Half-the-Harbor Langdon, but it was because today's Harbor Stocks could only be regarded as a supplementary small market compared to

the domestic A shares and the United

States' Nasdaq and Dow Jones.

If he could win on the domestic A-shares market and Nasdaq and Dow Jones in New York, he would naturally not have to worry about this small market.

Besides, a pond that was almost dried up could not make too many waves no matter how much someone flopped it. The few plan Bs that Jasper had made was enough to cope with all emergencies.

Hence, Jasper quickly put all his energy into the domestic A-share market that had already commenced trading.

To be precise, he focused on the overall domestic financial situation.

Even though he had been mentally prepared, Jasper could not help but furrow his eyebrows when the opening data came

The situation was much worse than he thought.

"The A-share market opened at 2449 points and dropped 15 points. The current point is 2434 points. Several important sectors that took up a large portion of the market are all falling

“Light industries such as clothing and textiles fell the most, and the ones that went against the market and did well were all food-related companies.

“The market opened for 5 minutes and the global trading volume exceeded 120 billion Somer Dollars. Large amounts of money were changing hands frantically, but the stock price kept falling.

“At present, 82 stocks have reached a limit down, 103 stocks have fallen by more than 5%. However, as a small sector, the food sector has a total of 48 stocks where more than 20 stocks were rising, and of which 3 stocks have hit the daily limit.

“The trend of the A-share market was almost completely affected by the futures market. The decline in the light industry was due to the plunge in the prices of futures products such as cotton while the futures prices of foodstuff continues to rise.”

Baz reported as he raised his head to look at Jasper. Then, with a solemn expression on his face, he said solemnly, “Mr. Laine, the current average increase in foodstuff has exceeded 8%.

“According to our team’s research and analysis of international grain price fluctuations in recent years, once the grain price on the financial market rises for more than 3 consecutive trading days or the increase rate exceeds 10%, it will affect the price of spot trading in the market.

“Some food distributors are already hoarding goods.”

Everyone understood the principle of

buying low and selling high in business. Right now, the price of food was likely to usher in a wave of increases. Naturally, speculators would stock up in advance and wait until the price was higher before shipping and harvesting. This was the operation of the economy and also basic human nature.

So, Jasper was not surprised.

“Soros is determined to take action on the domestic food prices.”

Jasper's tone was a bit heavy. He said, "At present, our country is the world's most populous country with a full population of 1.2 billion. The demand for food is huge. We just got rid of our dependence on food imports in the past few years, so if they wanted to shake our social foundation in a fast and effective manner, foodstuffs will be the best choice.

"Those punk from the United States are not studying their Twin Towers that was just bombed, instead, they decided to rack their brains to study our country's national conditions and culture."

Jasper was somewhat helpless.

Somerland people's preference for land and food was the most profound gene that

was buried in their bones.

The saying 'food is the God of the people' could perfectly describe this.

Throughout the history of Somerland, which dynasty was not taken over because the people could not live and had no food to eat?

The people of Somerland were the most docile. As long as they had a bite to eat, they would not think of rebellion.

However, at the same time, the people of Somerland were also the most violent. They would kill anyone who left them without food.

Although the current situation was not so serious, in the face of a huge population base, even a 1 cent increase in food prices would cause great turmoil and unrest in society.

It could be said that even if he did not want to admit it, Jasper knew very well that Soros' move truly hit Somerland

where it hurt..

"Hedging."

Jasper said, "Hedge foodstuff futures products in the market. We will short wherever Soros goes long."

Baz was taken aback and hurriedly said, " Mr. Laine, if you do this, the financial pressure will be huge. At present, JW's cash flow has reached the caution line and no more funds can be drawn out."

“Do you think we hosted that economic forum for nothing? It’s time to use private capital. Open a hedge position first to send a signal to the market and there will be funds to keep up.”

Jasper’s tone was light, but his expression was extremely serious. He said, “These people are smarter than the others. JW has done enough, but JW is not a gold vault. Even if we are, how many vaults can the money JW threw out fill?”

“They all understand that if JW falls right

now, everyone will be finished. Just do it

and see the market’s reaction.”

With that, Baz stopped talking nonsense and immediately got up to arrange the transaction.

The efficiency of the professional team was fully demonstrated at this moment, not to mention that this team had experienced the attack of the United States financial market. In terms of experience, efficiency, and execution, no one in Somerland could match them.

In the futures trading market, an extremely conspicuous and eye-catching sell order appeared in the spectacular purchase order in the grain sector.

The amount was not large, just 10 million Somer Dollars.

Short orders of 10 million appeared in various foodstuff sub-categories such as sugar and soybeans in the major foodstuff category.

Although this 10 million short order was swallowed by the market in an instant, it was like the most conspicuous signal light in the dark launched from Nauritus City, illuminating a vast territory.

Far away in Meleya, Robert, who had just

arrived in his office, immediately heard

his subordinate’s report on the matter.

“Sir, as per your instructions, we have been keeping an eye on the domestic futures market in Somerland. The moment the futures market opened, the price of Somerland’s domestic grain futures products was soaring, but just now, there was a 10 million Somer Dollar short-selling order for sugar.

“Since you have instructed that we report to you immediately once there is a sell order of more than 1 million in the buying market, so we dared not waste any time. This happened just now, so do you have any instructions?”

Robert raised his hand and the secretary beside him immediately took out a document from his briefcase.

Robert handed over the file to his subordinate and said, “Follow the order stated here.

“This is the tacit understanding between me and that boy. He has given me a signal, hence Kelly Group and Coyle Brothers Group will cooperate with him fully.”

Life at the Top Chapter 1945

The subordinate glanced down at the content of the file. There was not much written on it and there were only a few lines, but all of them frightened him.

“S-Sir... This...”

Robert patted him on the shoulder and said, “Joss, you will always have a home if you have your country. The Coyles will always belong to Somerland. Look at my company, which one of them who has real power is not a Somer descendent, including yourself?”

“Because I always believe that people who are not my own kind will have different mindsets and they will say it is chauvinism or nationalism. However, I decide on my company, and no one can say anything about who I hire!

“And one more thing. I like to hire people of Somer descent not because I don’t like foreigners, but what I hate most are people who act like Westerners and think they are superior. In the face of such huge trouble, a little short-term loss is nothing. I hope you can understand that.”

Joss nodded seriously as he looked at Robert’s face and said, “Sir, I understand. I will convey what you said to everyone around me.”

“Very well, get back to work.”

As Robert walked to his office while being surrounded by a group of people with his hands on his back, Joss immediately followed Robert’s instructions to execute what he asked.

With that, Kelly Group, one of the world’s largest sugar suppliers, initiated three major events.

Each of these three major events caused huge sensations.

First, Kelly Group invested 10 billion. Somer Dollars to invest in the Somerland futures market. The reason was that Kelly Group believed that the Somerland

domestic sugar futures market had huge profit margins and was suitable for short selling,

Second, Kelly Group announced that the sugar supply output to Western countries would be reduced by 60% this year and this part of the output would be used to expand the domestic market in Somerland.

Third, Kelly Group would investigate the domestic market of Somerland with the intention to build two sugar and edible oil processing and refining plants in the mainland of Somerland. The total investment plan for those would be no less than 5 billion Somer Dollars.

The combined meaning of these three messages was simple and clear.

Daddy found out that you Westerners were unreliable, and we could not make money from doing business with you. Now, daddy had discovered a new and better place to make money in Somerland. So, will be off to make a fortune.

This, combined with the current futures. financial market in Somerland, which had attracted the attention of all forces, successfully produced some subtle changes.

From Kelly Group's belief that the Somerland mainland market was profitable, it became, "F*ck you little

sons of bitches, you want to control Somerland food prices? Have you asked Kelly Group? Do you think everyone in Somerland is dead?'

The outside world soon discovered that Kelly Group was not just making empty promises.

As soon as the announcement was made, six fully loaded cruise ships that were already halfway to Europe immediately turned around and rushed back to Somerland.

This stunned the downstream partners waiting to receive the goods in Europe. Aside from the loss in the cost of transportation, the compensation for breach of contract was not a small figure either. Even if Kelly Group was a big business, they could not play such dirty tricks, right?

This was how Kelly Group went about things, and they carefreely contacted these distributors to negotiate the payment of compensation for breach of contract.

Regarding this, those distributors could not so much make a peep. Although they were out of stock, they could get compensation and still make a fortune. As for the increase in the price of sugar products in the European local market due to the sudden supply break, they could just make it back from places like Brazil.

They did not manipulate the price of foodstuff in Somerland anyway, so if someone were to die, it would be those damned jokers from the United States.

Life at the Top Chapter 1946

Meanwhile in the Somerland futures market, Kelly Group was very strong willed. When they said they would invest 10 billion, the funds arrived immediately without any hesitation.

When this 10 billion short order entered the domestic futures market, Soros's scalp was tingling.

Kelly Group was not the only one making his scalp tingle.

Because one after another, a large number of short orders began to appear in various sub-catalogs of Somerland domestic foodstuff futures.

There were many short orders

everywhere for soybeans, wheat, and other products.

These lists were not large when they were on their own. The largest amounts were just orders with hundred million as the unit of measurement, but the sheer number of orders were too much.

According to past experience, Soros immediately asked the team to analyze where these scattered short orders came from. It would be fine if he did not analyze it, as he started cursing immediately after the analysis.

The sources of these short orders were almost all from the Somerland mainland and there were various sources for the short orders.

It was fine for some of them that were food companies. They would be considered forward-looking and strategic if they were willing to take out ten thousands to short sell. They knew that they would only get short-term benefits if the price continued to rise. If the pricing power of future foodstuff prices were to be robbed by the West, they would be finished sooner or later.

So, this kind of short-selling was reasonable, but if you were a hardware company and a small company with a profit of only 20 million a year, why the hell would you put together 4 million and start short-selling foodstuffs?

“Aren’t these rascals from Somerland

afraid to lose all of their money?”

Soros was furious. His balding head became brighter and brighter as he cursed with a strange, surprised, and angry expression, “It’s just a few million empty orders. We can defeat all of them with a single wave, yet they have the balls to come and join in the fun?”

Rogers next to him also had a gloomy expression. He said, “But there are too many of the same orders. If one of them is several million, then 10 or 100 of them would be several hundred million. This will be very unfavorable for us.”

After speaking, the corners of Rogers’ mouth twitched and he said to Soros, “Why do I have the feeling that we are being beaten up by the entire Somerland merchant group?”

“And that blasted Kelly Group!”

Soros gritted his teeth with a livid expression.

“They’re so bold and blatant. Aren’t they afraid of the sanctions by the United States? By then, they would not be able to buy even one gram of raw materials internationally. How long will it take for a sugar company to go bankrupt without sucrose and raw materials?”

Rogers pursed his lips, ignoring Soros’s

grumbles.

This kind of thing was not something

they could decide, nor could it be dealt

with now.

Hence, Rogers began thinking about how to

solve the current problem.

“The financial market will directly affect the spot trading, but in turn, the spot trading can also directly affect the futures market. My friend, we should now release the food we bought that are in our hands.”

Soros immediately understood what Rogers meant. He frowned slightly and said, “But the amount of food we bought is far from the expected amount. That damn Grandland Corporation is too cowardly. They immediately breached the contract after Jasper played some dirty trick on them. No matter how we threaten and tease them, they just lower their heads and dare not come out. This is very troublesome!”

Life at the Top Chapter 1947

“Of the four major international foodstuff merchant groups, three were native to the United States.”

Rogers smiled slightly and said, “Whether it is ADM or Bunge or Cargill, they are all the main investors in our plan this time. We only need to continue to increase our efforts to use capital dumping to shuffle the domestic food market in Somerland. When the time comes, the financial market will crash right in front of you.

“Then, we’ll go bottom fishing for Somerland’s domestic foodstuff companies. These arrogant Somerland punks will soon understand that their garish resistance is just a joke in the face of real strength.”

The color finally returned to Soros’s face.

“Yes, this is indeed a good plan.”

Rogers glanced at the futures grain prices that had begun to fall with contempt.

After that, he said, “So what if they have some tactics? Those barbarians who have just come into contact with modern global trade laws don’t even know how powerful capital is.”

“Alright, old man, Half-the-Harbor Langdon and the gang have been waiting for you for a long time, are you going to see them?”

Soros nodded and said, “Sure. You are responsible for continuing to communicate with the three major foodstuff merchant groups to facilitate this matter as soon as possible and tell them that if they want to take down Somerland’s gigantic market with 1.2 billion people, they have to agree with the operation of our capital.”

“This is what I’m good at. I know what to do.”

"Mr. Laine, domestic foodstuff futures. prices have begun to fall, and our strategy has begun to bear fruit," Baz said to Jasper while in high spirits.

Jasper had been keeping an eye on future prices all the time, so naturally, he knew about this. However, he did not dampen Baz's spirits and simply smiled while saying, "Very well, this time, it's everyone's victory. By comparison, we just kicked things off."

Jasper knew that if he did not scare this group of people, they would not take out every penny they had to fight him.

Moreover, the facts had also proved that the hidden power of these people was really terrifying.

If this wave of counterattacks continued, even Soros, who came with a huge amount of funds, would not be able to take this. He would need some time to at least digest it.

Moreover, this period happened to allow Jasper to carry out the next step of his plan.

"Has the guest I made an appointment with arrived?" Jasper asked.

"They're here and are waiting in the reception room," Baz replied.

"Okay, I'll go over now. Keep an eye on the market, come to me anytime if there is any change."

After Jasper finished speaking, he went directly to the reception room.

As soon as he walked in, Jasper saw two men and a woman standing up in the reception room.

"You're Ms. Acker, right?"

Jasper walked over and shook hands with the woman in the lead with a grin on his face. "I'm sorry for making you wait so long."

Ms. Acker smiled and said, "You're busy, so we're fine to wait a little longer."

Because of their company and status, they were always praised wherever they went, however, they did not dare to act recklessly in front of Jasper.

These people were the representatives from the Somergrain headquarters.

They came here because Jasper invited them over to talk about the plans and methods to deal with the current domestic foodstuff problems.

Because of the importance of this matter, Somergrain dared not waste any time. Ms. Acker who was asked to come here was truly a second generation with political connections, and was the current president of Somergrain. Meanwhile, her father was the founder and first chairman of Somergrain.

Such statuses were not unimportant.

After the two sides sat down according to seniority, Jasper said directly, "I don't think I need to say anything about the current situation. Although earlier, we have withstood the first wave of Wall Street capital's attack, I believe that they will have a follow-up attack and it will be even more violent."

Ms. Acker had a serious expression on her face. At this moment, no one in the country dared to neglect Jasper or take him lightly when they were speaking to him.

She asked, "Mr. Laine, thanks to your

previous reminder, Swallow Capital has made enough preparations and we have

also been preparing for the upcoming food trade war under the guidance of higher authorities. However, I still want to know, is it really that serious?"

Jasper recalled the food trade war that occurred in his previous life. If it were not for Swallow Capital's courage and Somergrain's deep history and heritage, that group of Western capital might have succeeded.

Although the ending was good, Jasper

learned from many sources that the cost o

f victory was extremely high. When he thought about this, Jasper nodded slightly and said, "It will only get more serious, and there won't be a most serious case than this.

"I can tell you responsibly that this time, the West is definitely not only launching a n offensive on our foodstuff security from the capital level, but the most terrifying thing is the spot level. This is where the real fight will be, and there won't be any skills required because we will be fighting with our background and heritage. Whoever has a weak background will lose, and it will be a crushing defeat.

"Of the major foodstuff merchant groups i n the world, except for one in France that i s ranked fourth, the top three are all from the United States.

"Moreover, they used this naked and violent position to control the lifeline of the foodstuff in other countries. This is not a one-off occasion, rather, they've done this repeatedly. As the state-owned enterprise with the largest official foodstuff security reserve, Somergrain will not be unaware about this."

Ms. Acker sighed softly and said, "Yes, and for this reason, the entire company is standing by."

Jasper contemplated before saying, "I won't inquire about how much grain reserves Somergrain has as this is a state secret. You don't need to tell me either, but I need to know something. How big of a foodstuff trade war can you take before you start having shortages in the reserve?"

As soon as he said this, Ms. Acker's expression changed slightly.

Although this was not a direct disclosure of f Somergrain's reserve secrets, it was still close. Ms. Acker would never dare to tell him the answer so easily. Once it was revealed, there would be huge issues if something went wrong.

Jasper seemed to have noticed Ms. Acker's distress and seemed to be prepared for it. Therefore, he said directly, "It's okay if it's not convenient for you to answer directly. I'll ask in another way then. Can Somergrain resist the three major foodstuff merchant groups purchasing more than 100 million tons of staple food at a high price?"

Ms. Acker asked in horror, "100 million tons? Mr. Laine, do you mean that they will directly empty domestic stocks at high prices to raise food prices and then steal the domestic food pricing power?"

“100 million tons is still a conservative estimation. It might go up to 120 million tons or more,” Jasper said.

Life at the Top Chapter 1949

The capital market was always changing.

While Jasper was arranging the means to deal with Soros, Soros was not idle either.

The two sides had fought to this point, so even if they did not know each other very well, they still had to take some precautions.

Hence, after sending away Ms. Acker and her gang, Jasper immediately returned to the command room. As soon as he sat down, Baz walked in.

“Mr. Laine, take a look at the market.”

The huge screen in the command room immediately showed the domestic A share market.

It was plummeting.

It was plummeting horribly!

More than 500 stocks had hit their limit downs and the scene was simply shocking.

“Find me the stocks that have fallen by more than 5% within the past hour.” Jasper frowned.

In just a few minutes, the team completed the instructions given by Jasper.

As Jasper looked at the densely packed names of listed companies on the screen, his expression was solemn.

“What can you see?” Jasper asked.

Baz frowned and said, “Except for a few of these stocks from the newly-listed companies that have fallen sharply due to market reasons, most of them are showing heavy traces of man-made actions. It can be concluded that it must be Quantum Fund. Tch tch, 120 billion US Dollars? How arrogant.”

Jasper said angrily, "Do you think I need you to tell me something that even the blind can see?"

"These listed companies that have been attacked seem to be from the light industry.

"From textiles, tea, wood, to furniture, the upstream and downstream industrial chains of these industries seem to all be affected," Baz said suddenly.

Jasper shook his head.

He was quite dissatisfied.

Although Baz's performance was already very good and he had shown great improvements compared to when he started, compared to Jake, there was still something missing.

And it was a strategic overall view.

He did not show enough depth, structure, or quality when he was looking at a problem.

These problems might not normally be big, but at a critical moment, they would be fatal.

A master's starting moves were roughly the same, but the winning moves were often decided by the few later steps.

However, Baz could not be entirely blamed.

He had worked hard enough, and he was talented.

Although he was still not as good as compared to Jake, who had received professional training and had more

experience because he came back from abroad, in Jasper's view, Baz had spirituality, which was an advantage over Jake even though the former was not a professional.

The overall view, experience, and skills could be exercised and cultivated, but spirituality was such a mysterious thing. Some people would be born with it while others would not obtain it no matter how hard they worked. Basically, it was a gift from God.

Baz obviously belonged to the latter in the field of financial trading.

Regardless of whether it was in the past or this life, Jasper had already verified this.

So, Jasper considered whether to give Baz more opportunities to lead the team alone. Even if he had to put in some money for the tuition fee, it would be worthwhile for Baz to make up for the shortcomings of not being able to look at the overall situation.

However, these were things for the future.

After he shook his head and dismissed these thoughts, Jasper said, "Now that

you're in his position, you can't analyze the problem by simply looking at the surface. It is necessary to summarize the information you have on the surface to analyze the deep-seated problems.

"From the list of these listed companies, you have summarized the state of the industries, but why don't you think more about why Soros chose these industries to start with?

"What benefits can they get and what difficulties will we encounter after they choose to start from here considering the domestic business structure and economic situation?

"If you understand these two issues, the opponent's intentions will be exposed. Then you can arrange and plan according to his intentions to achieve the effect of getting twice the result with half the effort."

Jasper was talking while Baz was listening.

He listened very carefully and seriously. He understood that a lot of people wanted the opportunity to be corrected by Jasper, but would never have the chance. On the other hand, he was experiencing such an opportunity that could not be bought with money.

“It can be seen that Soros has chosen light industries as his entry point in both the futures market or the stock market, and in our domestic economic layout, light industry is a very important basic market...”

“It’s the Haddock Chamber of Commerce.”

Jasper gave Baz the answer directly.

“The attack on foodstuffs is the real method used by Quantum Fund to leverage our country’s economic market. When it comes light industries, especially textile, tea, and wood, these have been the private plot belonging to the Haddock Chamber of Commerce since ancient times.

“This group of clowns from the United States really studied us thoroughly. The Haddock Chamber of Commerce will be their best offensive, and they are also the ones most likely to have conflicts and suspicions with us after due to our

history. Gale and us are not true friends after all.”

Jasper’s words brought Baz’s analysis to an abrupt end.

Financial wars were all about money, but at the same time, the will of the people was also challenged.

The advantage of Quantum Fund was that they were huge. With a total of 120 billion US Dollars, they could overturn anyone.

The domestic disadvantage lay in the fact that there were too many people and too many factions running the show. Although Jasper’s efforts had now reached a basic consensus, once there was a crack in these already scattered bodies of interest, then they could be breached from within without needing the enemies to work too hard.

Just as Baz was sweating over this speculation, Jasper had already given his instructions.

“Save textiles first.”

Compared with furniture and wood, which were relatively simple and isolated industries in the upstream and

downstream industrial chain, the textile

industry was obviously more important.

The upstream involved cotton and the downstream involved clothing fabrics. The entire industry chain could be subdivided into more than ten industry sectors. The companies involved and the commercial value could not be estimated, so Jasper decisively determined the main rescue target first.

It was as if Baz had woken up from a dream as he immediately replied, "I'll do it right away."

The efficiency of the JW team was beyond any doubt.

When JW began to enter the domestic A share market and bought shares of the leading listed companies in the textile industry with great fanfare, the move instantly gave the market great confidence.

At the same time, self-help behavior in the textile industry was also unfolding.

All of a sudden, the slump was temporarily contained.

At this moment, in New York of the United States, Soros, Half-the-Harbor Langdon, and others toasted to celebrate.

"Our old enemy has been fooled."

Life at the Top Chapter 1950

“Half-the-Harbor Langdon, thank you

for the information.”

Soros patted Half-the-Harbor Langdon on the shoulder with glowing expression as he said with a smile, “If it weren’t for your telling us that the Haddock Chamber of Commerce represented by Gale is currently the easiest breakthrough point in Somerland, I would still be racking my brains trying to navigate the spikes of this hedgehog known as the Somerland domestic A-share market.”

Half-the-Harbor Langdon shrugged casually and said, “I don’t want to target Somerland. The only person I target has always been Jasper. As long as it can cause him some trouble, I’ll be thrilled.”

Soros laughed loudly, “Yes, our enemies are the same, so we can definitely become friends or even very good friends.”

“So, what will the Quantum Fund do

next?” Half-the-Harbor Langdon asked.

Soros smiled faintly and said, “Of course, we will continue to increase our efforts to attack the main industries of the Haddock Chamber of Commerce. After we destroy industries like textiles, tea, furniture, and building materials, then there is no need for us to go to Jasper because Gale from the Haddock Chamber of Commerce will be the first to step out against Jasper due to the pressure.

“This strategy is both a trap and what you

Somerlanders call a conspiracy. If Jasper i

s not strong enough, or if he is

determined to save the Haddock Chamber of Commerce, then it is a conspiracy that will kill Jasper. If Jasper doesn't intend to really invest too much in the Haddock Chamber of Commerce, this will be a huge trap, a big trap that is enough to divide them internally."

Not far away, Kennedy and Sawyer frowned slightly. Their expressions were far less relaxed than those of Half-the Harbor Langdon and Soros.

"This guy is a bad cookie," Sawyer lowered his voice and said to Kennedy beside him.

The guy he was referring to was naturally Soros.

Kennedy gave Sawyer an exasperated look and sneered, "A bad cookie? Do you think a good cookie would be standing here?"

"Do you think we're asking a tiger for its hide?" Sawyer asked suddenly.

Kennedy was silent for a moment. Then, he said, "This is a plan that we have to go through with no matter what. It is not enough to rely on three of our powers to deal with Jasper. Even if it were enough, both us and Jasper would lose out in the end, and when that happens, who would reap the spoils of victory?"

"It's those who are watching us like we're clowns. So, no matter how dangerous this tiger is, we can only rely on it."

Sawyer sighed and said, "But even if we win, what's the point of getting rejected and looked down on by all of the Somer

descents in this world at the end of the rebellion?”

When these words came out, Kennedy looked a little off-color.

After holding back for a long time, Kennedy replied, “So what? We’ll be kings if we win. If we manage to defeat Jasper, all the Somer descents will have to behave according to our preferences. When that happens, there will naturally be opportunities to make up for it, but if we can’t defeat Jasper, then we will be swept away like trash. Do you want to end up like that?”

Sawyer did not speak. He looked calm with not many emotions such that no one knew what he was thinking.

The war without gunpowder in the financial market continued to ferment.

Although the market had been oscillating under the competition between the two sides, it had always hovered around a relatively safe point and could not rise anymore. After all, the 120 billion US Dollars from Wall Street’s Quantum Fund was no joke, but with Jasper as the core, the bulls had always kept a safe point and did not allow it to break.

The data that most directly reflected the cruelty of this financial war between capital exchanges was the transaction volume.

If you wanted to buy, then I would sell. If you wanted to sell, then I would buy.

Both parties invested huge sums of money, and together with the market’s own funds, the trading volume of Somerland’s domestic A-share market broke through the historical record before the noon break, reaching a terrifying scale of 2 trillion.

This number almost reached the historical value of the Terra financial crisis set off by Quantum Fund a few years ago.

This meant that the bears and the bulls had entered a white-hot battle where one of those sides would die no matter what.

Under this scale of financial war, massive wealth was evaporating with every passing moment. Almost everything being evaporated was the result of hard work that had been accumulated in Somerland in recent years.

In the first half of the trading day, the one suffering the heaviest loss was the Haddock Chamber of Commerce.

Although it was unnoticeable at first, as time passed and the losses increased, all listed companies in the Haddock Chamber of Commerce became keenly aware that their faction was being targeted.

Many of them had participated in the economic forum before.

It was slightly better for those in the textile industry because Jasper was helping them, but other industries like tea and wood were doing horribly.

Moreover, this series of pressures instantly fell on Gale, the leader of the Haddock Chamber of Commerce.

The white-haired Gale was sitting in the study. As he listened to the report, his frown became deeper.

"I got it," Gale said slowly.

The one who was reporting this to him was Dean, whom Jasper almost skinned alive.

After the previous events, Dean became steadier. He looked at Gale and said softly, "Grandpa, this is very fishy. It's as if Soros is putting pressure on Jasper through us."

Gale leaned on the chair and asked in a slightly tired tone, "If you were me, how would you deal with this matter?"

Dean closed his eyes slightly and immediately placed himself in Gale's shoes. After thinking for a long time, he said, "If my guess is right, we actually have no choice now."

"This matter cannot be solved by the Haddock Chamber of Commerce's own power, and we can't ignore it, so we must ask Jasper for help.

“But Jasper has helped the textile companies take on a lot of pressure.” Gale continued.

“This is Wall Street’s conspiracy. If we ignore the demands of the members of the chamber of commerce, then the Haddock Chamber of Commerce will be flung into chaos.

“But we cannot save them.”

Gale looked at Dean and said.

Dean frowned slightly. After that, he opened his eyes and said, “So in the end, we still have to seek out Jasper to solve this matter.”

“Jasper may not be able to solve it.”

Gale patted the table lightly and said, “We can see this, so I don’t think that sly child won’t be able to see this too. However, since he did not speak or do anything more, he is waiting for us to make a decision first.”

Dean thought carefully and suddenly said, “Jasper, gave us the right to choose. If we look for him, the Haddock Chamber of Commerce and us will seem incompetent. If we don’t look for him, big problems will surface inside the Haddock Chamber of Commerce. We’re stuck in a dilemma.”

Life at the Top Chapter 1951

Gale nodded when he saw Dean finally understood.

“So, I will still go back to that problem. If you were me, how would you solve this issue?”

Dean thought for a while as he looked at Gale’s calm face. He knew very well that Gale had already decided what to do in his heart.

This question seemed casual, but it was actually an inspection.

Gale had no heirs, and he only adopted many orphans like Dean until he was old.

That was why not a lot of people could call Gale their grandpa.

Because of Gale’s deliberate training,

many of them were able to be independent and take charge of matters themselves.

Dean was originally one of the best, but after he messed up the last matter, it greatly reduced Gale’s good impression of him.

Although he could still stay with Gale and help him now, Dean could clearly feel that Gale’s attitude towards him was not as good as before.

This test was a rare opportunity.

Dean knew Gale too well. Gale was not stingy in giving opportunities to others,

otherwise, he would not be able to be here today, let alone be asked this question.

However, Gale had a very distinct personality.

What he really needed was not a talented successor, but a successor who maintained a high degree of consistency with him and could implement the Haddock Chamber of Commerce's management philosophy even a hundred years later.

Gale was too conceited. In his opinion, his ideas and opinions were the most suitable for the Haddock Chamber of Commerce, so he would not allow others to change them.

Even if it was someone he cultivated, he would not allow them to influence the management philosophy no matter how good the person was. It just so happened that Dean was the best

candidate among the successors that Gale

had cultivated thus far.

That was why he could get a second chance.

Hence, in the face of this test, Dean's answer could not indicate how he would solve the problem most appropriately, instead, he needed to guess Gale's attitude. If he guessed right, he would win. However, if it was wrong, he might really be over.

It was a matter of life and death, so Dean did not dare to waste any time.

He took a deep breath and put himself in Gale's shoes to think about the problem and weigh all the pros and cons.

He did this for an extremely long time.

Dean did not say anything, and Gale did not rush him.

Just as Dean understood him, Gale also understood Dean well.

He was sure that Dean would realize what he meant.

He did not mind the people below him trying to figure out what he meant because this was exactly what he wanted.

He was over eighty years old, so no matter how energetic he was, he would still need to count his days. Moreover, over the past two years, he had clearly felt that his energy and physical condition were not as good as before.

As his age and influence began to decline in the Haddock Chamber of Commerce, factions separate from his own had begun to appear.

Under the superposition of various factors, the task of appointing his successor had become something urgent that Gale had to solve immediately.

Seven or eight minutes passed before Dean finally spoke.

"I think we should go to Jasper."

Upon hearing this, Gale did not show the slightest expression and closed his eyes slightly, hiding a hint of disappointment.

"Why?"

Faced with Gale's question, Dean continued, "What I am talking about is the Haddock Chamber of Commerce, not you, Grandpa."

"Oh?"

Gale opened his eyes and looked at Dean with a grin.

Dean bowed slightly to Gale, smiled, and said, "The current situation is already

broken and crumpled. Wall Street is just putting the pressure on Jasper through us.

“Although the Haddock Chamber of Commerce is powerful, in the face of international capital, we can only be cannon fodder. Hence, it is absolutely impossible that they are deliberately targeting the Haddock Chamber of Commerce.

“And what Jasper did was transfer the pressure from Wall Street onto us and let us make this choice.

“When the pressure is on us, why can’t we pass it on to the next level?

“Many from the Haddock Chamber of Commerce participated in the previous economic forums. Now that everyone has agreed to help each other, it’s only reasonable for them to go to Jasper now that they are under attack.”

When Dean said this, he paused slightly. Then, he faced Gale, who was beginning to appear increasingly satisfied, and continued, “And you can’t be the person who’s going to talk to him, Grandpa, because you are the Haddock Chamber of Commerce and the Haddock Chamber of Commerce is also you. Hence, as long as you speak, no matter what you say, it will become the will of the entire Haddock Chamber of Commerce.

“Having said that, the one to speak can’t be the bosses of the most severely attacked companies in the Chamber of Commerce. To put it bluntly, they don’t have enough weight.

“Therefore, I will be the most suitable candidate.”

Upon hearing this, Gale laughed.

He pointed to Dean as he laughed and said, "Yes, very good.

"Since you got it right, then you should do it right away. Once it is done, you will be the next vice president of the Haddock Chamber of Commerce."

When Dean heard these words, his expression was full of uncontrollable excitement.

"Thank you, Grandpa."

"This is what you deserve."

Gale's smile gradually diminished, and his eyes and expression became more serious. "I am letting you know in advance that this will be the reward you will get. You will only get it once the matter at hand is done well, otherwise, even if I forcefully appoint you, this position will be nothing but a name because you will still have no contribution to the Haddock Chamber of Commerce.

"Only when you have really saved their lives and made a large enough contribution, will you wield true power when you obtain this position. People will

respect you, and you will have the power to

rally supporters and influence others."

"I will remember your teachings, Grandpa," Dean said respectfully.

"Go and execute it now."

Gale closed his eyes contentedly as if the violent mood swings just now had consumed too much of his energy. He waved his hand lazily and said, "It does not matter whether you go to meet him in person or communicate over the phone. It does not matter what method you use as the process does not matter. What the Chamber of Commerce and I want to see is the result."

Dean did not say anymore when he heard those words. After bowing slightly, he left the room.

Gale's brows trembled and a meaningful smile appeared on his face when he heard the door closing.

Dean got into the car that had already been prepared at the door after exiting the manor.

“Go to Nauritus City right now.”

Life at the Top Chapter 1952

Dean was in luck.

By the time he rushed all the way from Suesville to Nauritus City, it was half an hour before the afternoon opening.

Jasper was eating when he received a report from downstairs that someone named Dean wanted to see him.

Wendy was still in Harbor City, so no one would bring him lunch anymore. Hence, Jasper and Baz could only have lunch prepared by the team of chefs from a five star hotel.

Jasper was picking at the food in dissatisfaction. Then, he said without looking up, “Let him come up and ask him to come here directly.”

A few minutes later, under the guidance of the staff, Dean appeared in front of Jasper.

“Have you eaten yet?”

Although there had been some conflicts between them, in Jasper’s view, they were all adults. Thus, personal grievances and things like that did not exist in their world. Instead, they were all here for profit.

Now that the previous matter had been settled and mutual interests had been taken care of, there was nothing to worry about.

If he was here, he should sit down and talk if he had something to say. If he did not, he should leave after the meal.

There were not so many grudges in the adult world.

"I was in a rush, so I didn't."

Dean was not courteous at all as he said

this directly.

"What can I do then? My meal portions are all fixed, and I didn't prepare yours,"

Jasper said.

After speaking and watching Dean's stunned and embarrassed expression, Jasper laughed and said, "I was just teasing you. I will get them to make some even if I don't have it right now since we have a guest, right? Come sit."

Dean sat down opposite Jasper, clenching his teeth secretly.

That small so-called joke made him lose the opportunity to seize the initiative.

This was not a good sign.

At the same time, it secretly surprised

Dean.

Jasper was even more cunning than when they were in contact a few months ago.

Soon, the sumptuous and delicious dishes were served. Dean also picked up the fork and took a few bites. When he saw that Jasper was not going to say anything, he sighed and spoke after putting down the fork, "Mr. Laine, I think you must know the reason why I came here this time."

"I don't like guessing. I like to say whatever's on my mind."

Jasper wiped his mouth and glanced at the

time while he was at it. After this obvious gesture, he smiled at Dean and said, "There are still 20 minutes before the opening. I don't have much time to accompany you."

Dean gritted his teeth slightly. Then, he looked at Jasper and said, "Okay, I'll go straight to the point.

"This morning in the market, the Haddock Chamber of Commerce suffered heavy losses. With the exception of the textile industry, our other industries have suffered a lot. More than 60% of the listed companies belonging to the Haddock Chamber of Commerce have reached the limit down. The Haddock Chamber of Commerce won't be able to hang on for

long if this continues. So, I was entrusted by others to come to ask you for help."

"Entrusted by others?"

Jasper smiled and asked, "Is it Gale, or someone else?"

"It's not my grandpa."

Life at the Top Chapter 1953

Dean shook his head. At this moment, obviously, he would remove all traces of Gale's involvement in this.

"My grandpa has been retired for many years, and over the past two years, he has hardly taken care of the affairs of the Chamber of Commerce. According to him, it is time to enjoy the blessing after having worked his entire life. He doesn't want to care about so many things."

Jasper replied with a faint smile, "I remember him saying the same thing when I first met him, but in the end, if there is something important happening i

n the Chamber of Commerce, shouldn't he decide on it?"

"It can't be helped. After all, Grandpa is still around. If something huge happens, it's not appropriate for the Chamber of Commerce to take the initiative and act without his consent, but Grandpa didn't express any opinions this time, so the people below him can do whatever they think is suitable. After all, grandpa can't control them forever, right?"

"Well, that makes sense."

Jasper said, "You said you want me to help you, but this is not easy."

"You should be very aware that the reason why the listed companies in the textile industry have not suffered too much is that JW is protecting them. I don't need to tell you the reason why we choose textiles, right?"

"Textile enterprises are a relatively important part of the current domestic light industry system. Large upstream and downstream enterprises with large output values have a wide range of influence, so I can only choose to protect the textile industry right for."

"As for other industries, it's not that I don't want to protect them, but that my power is limited. You must know that in the morning alone, JW's small capital chain was almost emptied, not to mention Wall Street has a capital pool of 120 billion US Dollars. If they wanted to smash these industries at all costs, JW will have difficulty protecting themselves, let alone others."

"Mr. Laine."

Dean quickly replied, "I understand, but we are all sensible grown-ups. JW is not a

listed company so even if it is affected, it will be the last one to be affected.

“Only when almost all the other listed companies are finished, the industry is crashing, and the economy is on the verge of collapse, will it really affect JW. Besides, JW has its own deterrent, so Mr. Laine, do you really need to worry about yourself?”

“Of course, I am here this time on behalf of those members of the Haddock Chamber of Commerce to ask Mr. Laine for help, but at the same time, I’m also giving you a chance, right, Mr. Laine?”

“Oh? Giving me a chance?”

Jasper was amused. He asked with a smile,

“What do you mean by that?”

“Everyone knows that you and the Haddock Chamber of Commerce don’t get along. If the Haddock Chamber of Commerce fails to get through this, what will outsiders think of you, Mr. Laine?”

Will this be considered as you seeking revenge through alternative methods,

which, in this case, is just standing by and

doing nothing?

“In the economic forum that Mr. Laine hosted before, what you said about everyone working together to resist foreign enemies is still ringing in their ears. Now that such a thing is happening, such actions would be very chilling indeed.

“When the will of the people is scattered, then it will not be easy to lead them anymore. Don’t you agree, Mr. Laine?”

Dean’s words made Jasper narrow his eyes slightly as the smile on his face gradually faded. Jasper asked faintly, “Are you threatening me?”

Dean was shocked.

He raised his head and looked at Jasper, who was sitting across from a dining

table, with surprise and regret in his heart.

At this moment, he remembered that the Jasper in front of him was no longer the same Jasper as before, not to mention that even the original Jasper was not someone he could threaten.

He thought about a lot of rhetorics along the way here, but he forgot that he had to watch his mouth and remember his place when he was speaking to Jasper.

Dean was feeling conflicted and he hesitated for a moment. Finally, he apologized, "I'm sorry, Mr. Laine. I didn't mean that."

"You have already said it doesn't matter if you mean it or not. This is not your own opinion."

Jasper looked at Dean and sneered, "If Old Master Hurlbutt thinks that I am not doing well enough, then that's okay. Please ask him to come out and play the leading role. If he just nods, I will hand all of the responsibility over to him.

"Do you think I really want to do all this thankless work?"

Life at the Top Chapter 1954

The cold sweat on Dean's head visibly

oozed from his skin, forming droplets of

sweat as big as peas.

Dean was under extreme pressure at this

moment.

Although he knew that Jasper was only using this as a pretext to kick up a fuss, the huge gap in status and power between

them made him afraid to continue to provoke Jasper..

After taking a deep breath, Dean gritted his teeth and said, "Mr. Laine, I didn't mean that. I said the wrong things and I apologize for that."

"No need to apologize."

Jasper saw Dean turning pale, so he did not continue to embarrass him.

Jasper was very busy now. He was required to make decisions and strategies for all kinds of things. At this moment, Jasper was the most fed up with people like Dean who would play cheap tricks with him.

Hence, he decided to give Dean a warning with an initial show of strength right from the beginning. At the very least, Jasper would let Dean know that he was the one with the final say here.

Now that the desired effect had been

achieved, he did not need to be aggressive anymore.

"I understand your worries and concerns very well. If I can help you, I will definitely not stand idly by, for example, with the textile companies. If I didn't provide help in the morning, you would all be finished.

"But whether it was on the forum at that

time or here now, I will still say the same thing, and that is my ability is limited. At the moment, we are surrounded by powerful enemies and the enemies are stronger than ours in terms of experience and capital reserves, so it's impossible to only count on me to save the market.

“Therefore, by my calculations, even if we end up defeating Wall Street, we can’t retreat completely because we will still have to pay the necessary price.”

Dean tried to calm down. Then, he said, “The Chamber of Commerce and I understand this, but please, Mr. Laine, you must retain as much of the blood and sweat of the Haddock Chamber of Commerce as possible.

“At the end of the day, the Haddock Chamber of Commerce is not that bad. Everyone is honest and responsible when it comes to doing business. It is not easy for any of them to support their families. If the Chamber of Commerce, which has been passed down for hundreds of years collapses, it will develop into a precarious situation which won’t be good for anyone.”

Jasper gave Dean a deep look and said, “I know.”

After speaking, Jasper saw that there was only a few minutes before the opening. Hence, he got up and said, “I’m going to work now. You can come along if you are interested.”

“Can I?”

Dean looked at Jasper in surprise.

Even fools could see how important the command center of Nauritus City was. The security center below and outside of the entire building, as well as the 24-hour police patrol was proof that there was no room for error.

As for the command center, it would be impossible to enter without Jasper’s approval or if they were not the core figures surrounding Jasper.

Before this, Dean had not really thought that Jasper would agree to let him enter the command center that was almost mythical to the outside world.

“Why not? There is nothing shameful about it. Will you become a spy and contact the enemies from the inside again?” Jasper asked rhetorically.

Dean smiled bitterly and said, “Anyone can be a spy except me.”

Jasper smiled. In a sense, Dean’s words were not exaggerated.

The Chamber of Commerce certainly had its drawbacks, but it also had an advantage. The organization of the Chamber of Commerce deeply binded the

interests of every member to this country.

Doing things that damaged the national interests would not do any good to the Chamber of Commerce and it would do nothing to the members of the chamber. Hence, they tend to have higher loyalty to the country than some individual companies.

This was even more true for the Haddock Chamber of Commerce. In the early stages of the reformation and

opening up, when the national economy was still lagging, the rise of the Haddock Chamber of Commerce was earlier than that of the River City Chamber of Commerce or Canter Chamber of Commerce, and their contributions were even greater. Even Jasper, who did not like the Haddock Chamber of Commerce that much, had to recognize this fact.

When Jasper took Dean to the command center, Baz and the others just glanced at Dean, and then continued on with their business.

Meanwhile, Dean looked at the busy team with emotion.

To be honest, if it were not for what happened before, he might have been a frequent visitor here.

Furthermore, this place could even be said to be the current financial command center of Somerland.

The rise and fall of the financial market could be determined with one word in this several hundred square meter area.

Moreover, it was the man in front of him, Jasper, who made these decisions.

There were not many surprises during the opening this afternoon.

Soros' attack on the Haddock Chamber of Commerce continued, but the futures market was calmer than before. It even felt like the calm before the storm.

It could be said that the timid ones and the ones with insufficient funds had already fled, whether in the stock market, or specifically, the futures market.

The remaining players were either the ones who were strong enough to fight, not afraid of death, or players who had been trapped in a high position and could only beg for a miracle.

Thus, the entire financial market seemed extremely calm before Jasper and Soros started their fight.

Everyone was accustomed to the big fluctuations. It could even be said that they were numb to it.

The two sides of the futures market were standing still, while the stock market was a bit turbulent.

Soros was still pushing the stock prices belonging to the Haddock Chamber of Commerce while Jasper adopted measures appropriate to the actual situation and only protected the life and death of the textile company. As for the rest, he would not even bother about them.

Even so, Jasper's defenses still seemed too passive and weak under the pressure of Soros' powerful funds.

So, when the market closed in the afternoon, not only did the traditional

core businesses of the Haddock Chamber of Commerce, such as wood, furniture, and tea, reach their limit downs, even the stocks of two listed companies in the textile industry were forced to a limit down.

Jasper was helpless even if he had the

intention to help when he looked at the

millions of limit-down orders.

At this time, anyone could clearly see a very obvious situation developing, that was, under Soros's reckless attack, even Jasper could not turn the situation around.

After all, in the capital market, when the size was large enough and it was this kind of obvious offensive and defensive situation between the two sides, it was not a battle of skills or luck anymore. Instead, they were competing with their backgrounds. To put it more plainly, it was a fight between who had the most money.

If they did not have enough money, they would go short if the enemy went short, and go long if the enemy went long. Even if Jasper was the real stock god in this world, he would not get anywhere without his equipment. Therefore, he could only watch as the companies fell to their limit downs one by one.

Life at the Top Chapter 1955

As it got near to the closing time, Dean opened his mouth and stopped himself from talking countless times.

He was almost dying from anxiety.

Right now, not only were the members of

the Haddock Chamber of Commerce

keeping an eye on him, even Gale was

keeping an eye on him.

If there was no reaction in the stock market, then, of course, everyone would think that the purpose of his trip had failed.

And this time, the mission was related to his position as the vice president of the Chamber of Commerce.

With Gale's increasing age, this position was equivalent to almost half of the heir's identity.

Hence, this mission was very important to Dean.

However, Jasper's show of strength just now was a bit ruthless, so the horror that

he had just experienced still lingered.

Hence, Dean did not have much courage to

bring it up again.

It did not matter if the mission failed, but if

Jasper was offended, then even Gale

would not be able to save him anymore.

Hence, Dean was feeling very conflicted at

this moment.

"Don't worry, this drop is nothing."

When he saw Dean's pain and internal

conflicts, Jasper finally took the initiative to

speak.

"In the domestic stock market, the 10% rise and fall limit are to control certain unpredictable risks that will cause extreme market fluctuations. The limit of the rise and fall is only 10%. Soros can't break this limit even if he has all the money in the world."

Jasper's words gave Dean some comfort.

However, Jasper's words caused him to

put on his mask of pain again.

"This is just the beginning, and there will be many 10% declines in the future, but the Haddock Chamber of Commerce has built up a stockpile of reserve over the years that will be able to help you guys make it through this period.

"Therefore, we won't see a decisive victory or defeat in the domestic financial market battle within the next day or two. As long as we drag this out and prevent the stock market from crashing completely, we can consider it a victory.

"Soros doesn't own even ten dollars more than the money he is currently holding. Most of them belong to investors, and investors' money did not appear out of thin air. What they need to see are the huge short-term benefits, otherwise, it would be a joke for them to take such a big risk.

"The money is all that they could piece together when the United States financial market was about to be overturned by the financial turmoil, which further increased their requirements for the return cycle

and rate of return. "Hence, we can drag this on, but Soros can't afford to do so.

"If he wants to take decisive action in this complex situation, then I will take as much time as I can to show everyone my real ability. This will also require certain methods."

Jasper's words made Dean very

uncomfortable.

"Mr. Laine, are you saying that this

situation will continue for a long time?"

"I don't know how long it will take, but it will definitely take some time. You have to understand that under the huge disparity in strength between the two sides, many things are actually visible right on the surface. What we can do is drag on as much as possible while waiting for an opportunity to strike."

After Jasper said this, the market immediately stopped all trading and the dense data that was previously refreshing was also frozen.

"Okay, the market's closed for today."

Jasper glanced at the market, which had fallen by a full 8%, and sighed.

On this day alone, at least 100 billion Somer Dollars had evaporated in the domestic financial market.

This was the price of being inferior to others.

Looking at Dean's unpleasant expression, Jasper said, "If you really want to be the savior of the Haddock Chamber of Commerce, I can give you a chance, but again, you have to understand that everything in this world must be paid for. You know what I mean, right?"

Dean was stunned for a moment as his brain swiftly started thinking about the meaning of what Jasper said.

He did not dare to give any promises immediately, so he could only say cautiously, "I have no intention of being a savior..."

"There is only one chance, so don't play dumb with me. If you don't want it, I really don't care. However, it won't be that easy if you want to come back after turning away now," Jasper said with a frown.

He really despised it when Dean would pretend to be astute and play hard to get. This was not the time to play these kind of dirty tricks.

Dean gritted his teeth.

His temper was chased away by Jasper.

“Mr. Laine, tell me.”

Jasper said, “Soon, I will cooperate with Swallow Capital to adopt a series of market stimulus measures to counter the reshuffle of the domestic financial market started by Soros. There are some more intense methods that will provide huge opportunities, such as the centralized listing of mega-level central enterprises. Once approved, the market will quickly warm up.

“And among these opportunities, the biggest is the entry of the Social Security Fund. If possible, I will try my best to include a few companies from the Haddock Chamber of Commerce list of listed companies in the Social Security Fund’s buying position. Once the Social Security Fund is there as backup, it’ll be hard for this stock to lose money, but the quota is definitely limited and the threshold will be high..

“You should know what the Social Security Fund is. It is closely tied to the stability of Somerland’s entire society. Even Swallow Capital is afraid to make a mistake on this issue, let alone you or me. Therefore, the stocks it selects are not in an attempt to maximize profit, but to ensure that the stocks are safe and will not lose money. This threshold is already very high.

“As for this quota, I can ask you to recommend part of it. In this way, the Haddock Chamber of Commerce will not suffer as much right now, and also will not be destroyed completely. When the time comes and you want to take over, it will also be much easier.”

Dean’s eyes gradually became brighter.

He knew very well that once Jasper’s statement was true and the Social Security Fund invested in listed companies of the Haddock Chamber of Commerce, then the power to control this quota would be

extremely huge.

Everyone wanted to be included in this quota so how would they do so? Of course, they would all curry favors with him,

please him, and promote him to the highest authority.

If this worked out, he would not even have to wait for Gale to pass away before taking over.

The thought that appeared in his mind suddenly caused Dean's breathing to quicken.

After lifting his head abruptly, what Dean saw was Jasper's grin.

Dean was shocked, but he did not try to hide his greed. He knew that Jasper must have figured out his thoughts, so it was completely unnecessary to hide his emotions in front of Jasper – not that he could do so anyway.

After he took a deep breath, Dean asked in a deep voice, "Then, what do I need to sacrifice?"

"All you need to do is replace Gale Hurlbutt."

Life at the Top Chapter 1956

Even if he expected this, Dean was still shocked when he heard this from Jasper.

"What?"

Jasper smiled and said, "Don't tell me you don't want to. In a sense, you will fulfill my request sooner or later, so why the dilemma?"

"You guys are all vying for the position of the crown prince. At the same time, the power in my hands is enough to put you on the throne and crown you the king with

the right to rule. Do you still want the position of the crown prince if that's the case?"

Jasper patted Dean, who was trembling all over, and continued with a smile, "Believe me, the taste of being above everyone is much better than the taste of being above everyone but one."

Dean swallowed subconsciously.

He looked at Jasper and said, "But my grandfather has a position that no one can replace in the Haddock Chamber of Commerce. He is the spiritual leader of all of Haddock Chamber of Commerce..."

"He is old, and he's already abandoned by time. Haddock Chamber of Commerce doesn't need such an old guy to boss everyone around. Over the years, what results has he led the Haddock Chamber of Commerce to achieve? How much profit has he generated?"

"He is more like a person who has already stepped down but is actually controlling everything behind the scenes. Meanwhile, the Haddock Chamber of Commerce is a business organization. The world is bustling and everyone's chasing after profit. As long as you show greater value than him and let others see that, then naturally, there will be people supporting you."

Dean asked seriously, "I want to know what is your purpose for doing this?"

"My purpose?"

Jasper chuckled and said, "Can't I just hate that old fart?"

The corners of Dean's lips twitched and h

e could not say a word.

“Stop guessing.”

Jasper glanced at Dean and said faintly, “I am not interested in the measly assets of Haddock Chamber of Commerce. Besides, the Chamber of Commerce is a loose organization. Everyone is just adhering to the tradition and it’s indeed easier to obtain warmth by staying close together. Even if Gale is asking the members of the Chamber of Commerce to hand over all the money, so do you think anyone will pay attention to him?”

“If that’s the case, what else can I get after I help obtain the leadership position?”

“If you insist on me having a reason, I can only tell you that the financial war is only temporary. Neither we nor the United States can fight a protracted financial war.

“If you look further out at the overall situation, you will find that countries such as the United Kingdom and Sunrise Land are thrilled because they’re making money in the dark. At the end of the day, they are the biggest winners of this financial war.

“Now neither Soros nor I have a way to stop immediately because the cost is too great, but the time for us to stop will come sooner or later. After the financial war subsides, stable development will be the main theme of this era and what I want is a stable home front.

“JW’s vision has always been on the global layout. Somerland is the back garden of JW, and I need a group of more unified and forward-looking kindred spirits, understand?”

Dean was stunned for a long time before h

e finally smiled bitterly.

If he did not want to admit that he was

unconvinced and jealous before, right

now, he was truly won over.

He also understood that since then, it would be difficult for Jasper to have an opponent in Somerland.

Everything else aside, just his dignity and mind, as well as a strategic vision, far surpassed the others by at least 10 years. This was what made Jasper invincible.

“Do you need time to consider?” Jasper asked.

Dean was stunned for a moment. Then, as if he had made up his mind, he replied in a deep voice, “I don’t need to think about it. I agree with your terms.”

With a chuckle, Jasper said, “That’s right. Those who do big things shouldn’t split hairs on trivial matters. If you’re hesitating and indecisive, it will only make you lose the opportunity that’s right at your fingertips.”

Life at the Top Chapter 1957

Just as Jasper and Dean were planning out how to take Gale down, far away on the endless open sea of the Atlantic Ocean.

A huge fully-loading cruise ship was mooring on the sea. There were no waves on the calm sea, as extremely thick black smoke rose from this huge vessel.

The black smoke first poured out of the warehouse before the fire spread instantly within a few breaths.

When the crew on the ship saw the fire, they were shocked.

They knew that the ship was full of rubber.

Rubber was a flammable substance, and once it burned, it would immediately release toxic smoke.

A cruise ship full of rubber was on fire on the vast sea, so it meant that they had almost no means of escaping.

Although these crew members had tried their best to put out the fire, the fire still relentlessly devoured everything it could reach.

With that, it took only more than ten minutes for the heavy smoke to turn into open flames, after which, it took only half an hour for the fire to immediately devour the whole ship.

There were screams and cries for help everywhere. This huge cruise ship transformed into a huge fireball as it undulated on the sea.

If one could look down from a higher vantage point, they would find that it was not just this ship that had caught on fire. Several more ships nearby were also caught on fire.

These ships all shared one similar characteristic.

They were the fleet belonging to the Boyles in Harbor City, and the goods on them were the supplied goods accumulated by the King of Rubber, the Atticus family over the past six months.

The fire was still burning, and when the news reached Sawyer, he had just fallen asleep.

Because of the stress during this period, Sawyer would turn off his mobile phone while he was sleeping. If there was something urgent, they would contact him through Fabian.

Sawyer figured there was still about four to five hours till the opening, so he could take a nap. The moment he lay down, he bolted right up from being shocked by the rapid knocking on the door.

“Dad, it’s me, open the door! We’re in trouble!”

After hearing Fabian’s voice outside the door, Sawyer quickly got up and put on his slippers to open the door immediately.

“What’s up?”

Seeing Fabian’s face full of panic and anxiety, Sawyer, who was originally enraged by Fabian’s impatience, also had a bad premonition. Thus, he asked immediately.

“Dad, I just received the news from Harbor City that our goods were all burned in a fire at sea! It was 4 million tons of rubber!”

This short sentence turned Sawyer red.

“Bullsh*t! There are 7 ships, each of which is only hundreds of thousands of tons, even if one caught fire... Did they all catch on fire?”

Fabian panted heavily and said, “All seven ships were caught in the fire. When I got the news, two of them had sunk. The 4 million tons were either burned out or are now at the bottom of the sea as fish food. Dad, what should we do? The family is in a mess now!”

Sawyer’s eyes widened. At this moment, he only felt that he was short of breath. He could feel some blood stuck in his throat and he could not swallow or spit it out. Then, his vision turned black and he became lightheaded. He could not even stand up straight anymore.

Life at the Top Chapter 1958

When he saw that Sawyer was swaying and looked as if he was about to pass out, Fabian was terrified, and he quickly stepped forward to support the man.

“Dad, don’t get too emotional. Now that the matter has reached this point, we have to find a solution quickly. If you collapse right now, we’ll be finished.”

At this moment, Sawyer was seething. He was gasping and there was a look of fierceness in his eyes. His expression was almost cannibalistic as he growled, “This is a conspiracy. Someone is targeting us. They want to uproot the Atticus Family!”

There were 4 million tons of goods, and at this critical moment, the loss of these goods would cause Atticus Group to directly breach all partnerships and contracts. Aside from the immeasurable loss of reputation, the liquidated damages alone could crush the current Atticus Group.

A series of chain reactions that were likely to happen, which made Sawyer panicked and frightened.

“Dad, what do we do now? I just asked, if it is a natural disaster, the insurance company will handle it, but once it is determined to be man-made arson, the insurance company will not pay us a single dime.”

Fabian’s words made Sawyer’s eyelids tremble fiercely.

“Go find Half-the-Harbor Langdon first.”

Sawyer asked worriedly, “Will they give a sh*t about us?”

“They have to even if they don’t want to!”

Sawyer gritted his teeth and said, “Now, the three of us are allies. If the Atticus Group collapses, then they will be the only ones left standing. What else can they do? The reason I choose to cooperate with them in the first place is because of this relationship where we’re bound together for better or for worse.

“When we divide the benefits, everyone will scramble to get it. Now that we are in trouble, they want to run? No way. They won’t do such a stupid thing.”

After speaking, Sawyer took Fabian and walked towards the room of Half-the Harbor Langdon.

More than ten minutes later, Kayden, who was the last to arrive at the scene, hurriedly barged in through the door. By

then, everyone else was already there.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon, Sawyer, and Kennedy sat in three corners of the room, while Fabian stood behind Sawyer. After Kayden walked in the door, he walked behind Half-the-Harbor Langdon and observed the situation silently without saying anything.

The three elders were here, so he did not have the right to be the first to speak.

However, Kayden already knew what had happened. He could not help but glance at Fabian, who looked terrified beside him, and Kayden silently mourned for him in his heart.

At this juncture, the Atticus Family might have to bear the consequences if something like this happened.

Now it was up to the three alliances to see how much power they could invest to save the Atticus Family.

Sawyer spoke slowly, "This is the situation now. My family in Harbor City is in a mess right now. They're all waiting for me to come up with a solution, but the situation is really difficult, so everyone please give me some ideas."

Kennedy snorted coldly and said, "I don't even need to guess to know that this had to have been done by Jasper, that little punk. He has the power and ability to do this, and he also has a motive for it.

"How would the others dare to do such a big thing? Plus, this is also something unending with the Atticus Family, which is no less than seeking vengeance.

Moreover, even if others had the ability to do this, they would not start such a war with the Atticus Family."

Half-the-Harbor Langdon sighed in exhaustion, "No, this is not man-made."

As soon as these words were spoken, Kennedy was taken aback. Sawyer, Fabian, and Kayden all looked over at him.

Kayden was the only one who seemed to holding a thought in his mind.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon did not keep them on tenterhooks either. He continued, "Whether it's man-made or not, we can't investigate now. We can only say that this is an accident."

"Do you mean I should seek insurance compensation?" Sawyer asked.

After glancing at Sawyer, Half-the-Harbor Langdon answered, "The value of 4 million tons of cargo is astronomical. In addition to this, it is now impossible to fulfill the previous supply contracts, so a breach of contract is also inevitable.

"Therefore, you can't avoid paying for the breach. In this case, how to stop the loss is the first thing we need to consider.

"As for whether or not Jasper did it, does it even matter? Even if it wasn't him, do you think we can shake hands with Jasper and ask for peace? If it was him, we still have to fight Jasper to the end. Hence, it really doesn't matter anymore."

"Still, all seven ships caught fire" "Still, all seven ships caught fire

consecutively and I'm sure the insurance company is not a fool. They won't pay for it," Fabian said.

Half-the-Harbor Langdon said indifferently, "So the most critical point in this matter is this. Of course, the

insurance company does not want to pay this sky-high compensation, but now all seven ships have sunk into the sea. There's no evidence even if they want to investigate. As long as there is no evidence to prove that it was man-made, then they must pay.

"The three of us have each mobilized contacts and resources to carry out businesses related to this matter. The most important thing at the moment is that we can't be thrown into confusion. If we do, then we will suffer, and our enemies will have the time of their lives."

In an isolated fishing village in Filopo.

Conrad looked at the people standing in front of him with a smile on his face. Then, he said, "You have done a good job and I am very satisfied."

Although the bodies of these people were still intact, they looked extremely worn down, as if they were under tremendous mental pressure.

The leader of the group cautiously said, "Mr. Monty, since the matter has been settled, then about the things you promised us..."

"Don't worry, I won't cheat you. I never treat people who do things well for me unfairly."

Conrad waved his hand. Then, a lone bodyguard walked out from among the several other bodyguards behind him. He opened the suitcase in his hand and pushed it in front of the group.

Inside that black suitcase was a box full of US dollar bills.

"It's all cash totaling 2 million US Dollars. They are not new banknotes, and they are non-sequential so you can use them without worries."

Those people looked at the box of banknotes in front of them with scorching eyes and they all gulped. Their eyes were overflowing with greed.

Why did they risk their lives to do that?

It was all for these colorful little darlings.

Since they had succeeded now, no amount of fear could suppress the joy of seeing these little darlings at this moment.

“Okay, since our transaction has been completed, then I should also go now. You can take the money to wherever you want to go and do whatever you want to do. No one will care about you. You are free now.”

Life at the Top Chapter 1959

After Conrad finished talking, he got up lazily and walked towards the door of the room.

“Mr. Monty.”

The person in the lead spoke suddenly.

Conrad turned around and looked at him with a smile and asked, “Is there anything else?”

The person asked nervously, “Won’t the Atticus Family and the Boyles look into this?”

“I have no idea.”

Conrad shrugged and said lightly.

The expressions of a group of people changed suddenly.

They were working for the Atticus Family or the Boyles, so naturally, they knew the power of these two giants. How would they live if the two families decided to pursue this matter with them?

“Mr. Monty, that’s not what you said before, you said it would be fine,” the leader said anxiously.

Conrad was surprised. "Are you a child? The two of them have lost billions in cargo and hundreds of millions in ships, do you think they will just forget it? I was just saying it for the sake of it."

The leader said angrily, "But why didn't you tell us this clearly before?"

"You could get 2 million dollars just by starting a fire. If there's no risk to this, do you think such a good thing would fall onto your laps?"

The smile on Conrad's face slowly disappeared and he said flatly, "So if I were you, I would quickly divide the money and run as far as I can. Why waste time with me here?"

After speaking, Conrad left.

When Conrad and his bodyguards left, the group of people in the room looked at each other.

In the end, everyone rushed to the box of

banknotes.

Despite their inner fears and worries, the deed had been done so there was no point

worrying about it anymore. It would be better to take the money and go have the

time of their lives.

At this moment, Conrad dialed Jasper's number after he walked out of the fishing village and was walking on the embankment along the coast.

"It's done. The finishing touches have

also been handled."

"How is the crew?" Jasper asked.

"Don't worry, those are all the Boyles employees. The Boyles had prepared twice as many as the regular reserves on the boat, and we also had people standing by. Even if they fell into the water, they would be salvaged. This time there is only loss of property and no loss of life."

Conrad's news made Jasper very happy.

Jasper was saved a lot of worries and effort in having a helper who had such a strong ability, sufficient means, most importantly, knew what he wanted.

“In addition to this, I have prepared the video evidence that should be left behind. When the time is right, we will send it to

the insurance company and then they will

naturally refuse to pay the compensation.” “Very good, thank you very much.

“Since the deed is done, then come back as soon as possible.”

“Okay.” Conrad agreed before hanging up.

After putting down the phone, Jasper glanced coldly at the news channel of Harbor City on the computer screen.

As expected, it was all about the fire

surrounding the Atticus Family’s rubber

goods on the high seas.

These reporters were using words that would send the world into chaos. What was even more disgusting was that there were indeed some well-informed and skilled reporters. Not only did they describe the whole thing vividly, but more importantly, the subsequent impacts of this incident were also analyzed perfectly.

After roughly scanning through the news, Jasper closed all his tabs.

Although the methods were a little dirty, Jasper did not regret using such means to deal with the Atticus Family.

When they decided to use more despicable means to deal with Wendy, they should have expected to encounter Jasper’s unscrupulous, crazy revenge.

Moreover, this was just the beginning.

After dismissing the chaotic thoughts in his head, Jasper recomposed himself and walked to the command room.

Soon, the United States stock market

would open.

Jake replaced Baz as he appeared next to

Jasper.

“This is the first time the United States stock market is opening after the weekend break. Last Friday, the United States subprime market closed at 1230 points, there was a decline of 1899 points throughout the week. The entire situation has festered and it’s already beyond redemption.

“Especially after the Layman Investment Bank officially declared bankruptcy, the entire financial crisis came to its climax. Now, no one wants to continue investing in the subprime market and this place has become a ruin.

“On Friday, the Dow Jones and Nasdaq closed at 26760 points and 21119 points respectively with an overall decline of 30 %. The financial crisis is still ongoing and the overall situation in the United States is not optimistic.

“But according to our analysis, this wave of trillions of dollars of evaporation has also allowed the United States financial market to cleanse themselves, which means that their financial market will soon bottom out.

“After all, the United States is still the world’s number one economic power. They have the most patents and the most powerful companies in the world, so once the financial market drops to a certain limit, it will be very difficult to fall again. Now, it has already approached this threshold.”

Jasper thought for a while and said, “Ignore the subprime market for now and

let's wait for the settlement date to come. Then, we will cash out and leave the market. How much profit is attributable to us?"

Jake's face immediately became excited and said, "We have invested 80 billion US Dollars of principal in the subprime market. This time, if the settlement is completed, then all short orders will be settled at the market price and the profit attributable to us will be as high as 210 billion US Dollars. In addition to our principal, we can withdraw 290 billion US Dollars."

"Finally, a piece of good news."

Jasper breathed a sigh of relief and said, "This 210 billion US Dollars of profit will be the largest single profitable financial transaction in human history. Since this money was looted from the United States' vault, I'm afraid it won't be so easy to cash out."

"Mr. Laine, are you worried that the United States will play dumb about this?" Jake asked.

"Never overestimate how shameless the enemy can be, especially when your enemy is a group of capitalists. They are very likely to do just about anything."

Jasper narrowed his eyes slightly and said, "The subprime market is a small, high-risk financial market. If the United States is so shameless and decides to delete all the files and clear all records, then we will lose out badly."

"They won't do that, right? Are they not afraid of causing protests from all investors around the world? If so, who will continue to play in their market?" Jake frowned.

"They should be hesitating, otherwise, there is no reason to delay the settlement date this time.

"At the opening today, let's give our enemies huge insurance and use the empty orders that are about to be settled in the subprime market as collateral. Then, we will try our best to short the top 50 listed companies in the United States."

Life at the Top Chapter 1960

What were the people in the United States

most afraid of now?

Their biggest fear thing was that Jasper would make a wild profit of 210 billion US Dollars in the subprime market and then leave with this profit that was enough to cause a global sensation.

It was like Jasper was a player on the gaming table of someone from the United States. No matter how many chips Jasper won at the gaming table, as long as Jasper was still seated at the table and the game was not over, this matter was not conclusive.

However, if Jasper stood up and walked away with his chips, then it would be all over.

Once such a thing happened, the United States, as the world's largest economic power and the country that laid down modern economic laws, would be left humiliated.

This was not merely about the 210 billion US Dollar. The United States, as the global economic hegemon, would not allow this kind of humiliation to happen in front of everyone.

So, Jasper did not intend to provoke the United States on this. He would not stimulate its already sensitive and famished nerves that were equivalent to a forty-year-old widow.

After all, if the United States decided to throw everything away and act like a hooligan, then Jasper would be the one who would suffer.

Hence, Jasper's choice was to use a mortgage to exchange the profits won on the subprime market without losing out of n the financial stock market, which would allow him to continue playing this game.

It was like Jasper had won a big ticket in Baccarat, and as the dealer, the United States already had a very unpleasant expression on its face but still held back their anger and did not flip the table on him. Now, Jasper did not leave, but instead, he just used his winning chips to play Blackjack, so the United States was still cool with this.

Although the two sides did not have any communication and negotiation, or rather, they did not even have any basic

communication, Jasper, as the biggest player, and the United States, as the dealer, still maintained a certain tacit agreement in front of the basic rules.

Therefore, as per Jasper's instructions, the process of Jake entrusting the legal team in the United States to go through the mortgage procedures went smoothly. Even the United States functional agency, which had always been known for its inefficiency, hurriedly handled the application from JW Foundation.

Both parties were like old men and women who already had countless affairs. With just one look, they managed to finish all the procedures without saying a word.

Half an hour after the opening, all the procedures were done.

JW Foundation was like a greedy and hungry lion. It jumped from the financial stock market to the subprime market, and after killing everything in its way and overturning the entire subprime market, it returned with generous spoils.

They were shorting and they were shorting in huge amounts!

When JW Foundation began to short the top 50 listed companies in the United States, the stock market was full of grief.

"The Dow Jones Index fell by 759 points and is currently encountering a support level of 26001 points. The Nasdaq Index fell by 1119 points and encountered an integer mark of 20000 points. The rebound sentiment in the two markets is serious. With the support of strong support points, our resistance to the short selling is very high."

Standing in front of Jasper, Jake said with a worried face, "The rebound we estimated before has begun to take place. The current position should

be the market's defensive point. It will be very difficult if you want to continue to attack. Mr. Laine, do you want to hold it on now?"

Gazing at the constantly refreshing data stream on the screen in front of him, Jasper said with a serious expression, " Abandon shorting listed banking companies such as Morgan, and settle all

our accounts on them. Focus on dealing with technology companies such as Apple, Amazon, Oracle, Weresoft, and stocks from internet companies."

"The funds are still not enough."

Jasper sighed.

The financial market of the United States was too strong and too big. It was like a vast ocean, so even if Jasper held more than 300 billion US Dollars of capital on hand, his opponent was the United States financial market with such a deep and powerful foundation. Thus, it would still be difficult even with the help of the power gained from the financial crisis.

Needless to say, they would have been daydreaming if they wanted to attack the two stock exchange centers in the United States at the same time with the little money they obtained without the blessing of the financial crisis.

Jake opened his mouth and wanted to say something when he heard what Jasper said, but upon seeing Jasper's serious expression, he swallowed his words before turning to get to work.

JW Foundation's performance on the first trading day of the reopening of the United States was strong. Even if it switched from an overall umbrella attack to a direct peer-to-peer attack on technology and Internet giants, it still put the entire Nasdaq and the Dow Jones market under tremendous pressure.

However, the actions of JW Foundation still exposed some information, and this information allowed some people and funds to spot excellent opportunities.

When Jasper noticed that while he was suppressing the stocks of technology and Internet companies that someone was secretly buying stocks at a low price, he

knew these people had discovered his intentions.

He could not underestimate the people of the world.

Furthermore, Jasper could tell that there were definitely his old friends among them.

The man who was regarded as the god of stock.

Also, under the premise of the financial crisis, the stock value of the financial market and those high-quality companies were generally lower than their actual value. If the man who was good at making long-term investments and was as stable as an old dog did not do anything, then it would be strange.

“Mr. Laine...”

As soon as Jake came in, Jasper said, “I know. Just let them do whatever they want.

“These people are crocodiles wandering in the international capital market and they will appear wherever there is the smell of blood.

“In the United States financial market, most of the valuable listed companies now have their stock prices critically lower than their actual price. Will these guys miss out on this opportunity to make a fortune?

“Whether it is our follow-up suppression or the self-rescue measures of these companies in the future, after the financial crisis, these listed companies would inevitably be the first batch to restore the high-quality characteristics of their stock prices and allow their holders to make a fortune. Unfortunately, we can't do anything to them at this moment.”

“But we’re shorting and they’re buying, which is equivalent to standing on the opposite side of us!” Jake said, feeling a little pissed.

“We’re not kids playing house. They will naturally pounce if there are benefits. It doesn’t matter if they’re buying or shorting, it’s all for profit. Now that there will be profit if they’re buying, then, of course, they will buy. This has nothing to do with standpoint, only profit. Plus, we don’t even need to investigate it. The background of international hot money is too complicated and confusing, so there is no way to find out more.

“Continue to go short. Today is the first trading day, so it will have a great guiding effect on the market. Today’s record will determine the confidence of the entire market over the next week, so we have to break them down. Even we have to buy these stocks, let alone this hot money.”

Life at the Top Chapter 1961

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Regardless of whether the career of his opponents was successful or not, or whether his enemy was strong or weak, Jasper always remembered that he could never regard himself as the world's most intelligent person and treat the rest as fools.

Especially when the plan to go against the United States financial market this time had lasted for half a year. The first attack to the present had lasted for more than four months. In nearly one year, Jasper could say that every step and every strategy he had made was very cautious and it was like walking on thin ice.

Even when JW Foundation succeeded in triggering a financial crisis in the subprime market and when JW Foundation was at the peak of popularity and was touted by the global financial media as being able to overthrow the United States financial companies' throne by themselves, Jasper was also very clear about one thing.

That was, the United States was a powerful opponent that was impossible to defeat. The immediate result right now came from the United States' own problems, and it was also achieved with the acquiescence of the people in the United States who had formulated the global economic rules as well as their secret cooperation.

Because the United States itself also needed someone to solve their domestic economic problems.

So, there were no absolute enemies or friends in this world. If you really believed that a certain party was your enemy and then you captured them to fight them to the death, and you even insisted on sacrificing your people just to defeat them, then you would be a fool.

Hence, to this day, did Jasper do all this just to break the United States economy?

Not unless Jasper was crazy.

Even if he were crazy, Jasper was not so crazy that he would seriously think that he had this ability.

To be honest, aside from Jasper, even if the whole of Somerland was on board with this and were determined to lose all their money to fight a deadly financial war with the United States, then the result was that Somerland would return to the time when it was mainly focused on agriculture overnight while nothing would happen to the United States.

Only 20 years later would Somerland be rising while the United States was declining. Only around 2020 would Somerland truly have the confidence and strength to say no to the United States.

Right now, it would just be wishful

thinking.

Therefore, Jasper's core purpose had always been to make a fortune in the United States financial market, and then to use this opportunity to buy the stocks of the top technology companies and Internet companies that would prosper in the future. Then, he would wait at least 20 years for the dividend profits.

He would get a large number of funds from the United States financial market in the financial storm to help JW complete the transformation and upgrade to become an international conglomerate.

Then, he would frantically buy those

technology and Internet companies that would control countless patents and technologies in the future. After that, with JW as the core in the domestic market, he would establish a giant business empire with Internet and technology as the two major industries.

These were all Jasper's ambitions.

When JW Foundation abandoned its attacks on listed banking companies such as Morgan, and instead stepped up its efforts to short Weresoft, Amazon, and another technology and Internet companies, the intention of the JW Foundation was fully exposed.

However, the management of these companies were not fools.

At the emergency board meeting held within Weresoft, Granger, who had no plans to retire, sat as the chairman among the board of directors. His gentle and elegant face was very gloomy at this

moment.

“The company’s stock repurchase plan was launched prematurely. The current situation does not allow us to wait any longer.”

The one who spoke was Granger’s deputy, Mobelli, and he was one of Weresoft’s earliest employees. He held important positions in the company as Granger’s right-hand man throughout the years. On many important occasions, he was also Granger’s mouthpiece. Right now, he was the first to open his mouth and tell the others Granger’s proposal to see what the rest of them thought.

Hence, it could be said that Mobelli was

Granger’s absolute confidant.

“I agree.”

Weresoft’s chief operating officer nodded and said, “The company’s stock price is already seriously undervalued. Weresoft’s stock is not junk stock. Since the financial crisis, the stock price has fallen by a full 27 %. This is what neither investors nor we want to see.

“Now, JW Foundation is continuing to short us. They are attracting low-cost purchases of international hot money. If this situation is allowed to continue, Weresoft’s shares will be hugely dispersed, which will not be conducive to the company’s development.

“Hence, it is imperative to start the stock repurchase plan in advance.”

At this time, Granger looked at the chief financial officer, who was hesitant to speak, and asked, “Henrik, what do you think?”

The chief financial officer said, “I agree with everyone’s opinions, but everyone must be aware that due to the financial crisis, the company’s performance has fallen sharply, and the investment department’s investment is basically operating at a loss. I am still worried about this year’s financial statements because it will look ugly, but if the repurchase program is launched in advance, a large amount of capital will be required, which will affect the normal operations of the company.”

Frowning slightly, Granger asked, ”

According to the current plan, how much capital is needed and how much capital does the company have?"

"The overall repurchase plan will require at least 1.8 billion to 2.2 billion US Dollars, but the funds we can use cannot exceed 800 million US Dollars. Once exceeded, it will affect our other plans, such as the development of new systems and many plans for the acquisition of other

companies. A lot of our plans are directly related to the fundamental interests of the company and shareholders... Our shortfall requires at least 1.2 billion US Dollars."

The words of the chief financial officer silenced most people in the conference room.

Everyone knew that this had to be done.

However, the question was how and where would they get the money to do it?

Back then, Weresoft would not take hundreds of millions of dollars seriously. The ones that slipped from the spaces between their fingers would be enough..

However, the problem was that the current economic environment was not good. Weresoft's profitable funds could not just lie in the bank and be left alone. They all had foreign investment plans and the financial crisis had caused serious losses in these funds. Plus, along with some project expenditures and fund retentions, the liquid funds that Weresoft could take out were sorely lacking at the moment.

Granger was obviously prepared for this. He said, "I will talk to investors about this matter. Whether it is my share with other shareholders or my personal expenses, eventually this money will definitely go to the company's account. There will be at least 2 billion US Dollars.

"So, you just do what you should do. Weresoft won't be ruined by those despicable punks."

Granger's statement made the chief financial official breathe a sigh of relief.

"If we can get a capital injection of 2 billion US Dollars, then the repurchase plan will be no problem at all."

Life at the Top Chapter 1962

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“Now that the management has unanimously passed this resolution,”

Granger scanned the room and then said, “Then we shall start executing this immediately.

“Dismissed.”

With the end of this conference, the world’s current largest Internet company, Weresoft, started to run at high speed like an extremely sophisticated machine.

At the same time, similar things also happened within a series of other companies such as Amazon and Oracle,

While all this was in full swing, it was time for the market to stop trading.

“The Dow Jones Index is the most concentrated place for bank stocks, so after we gave up our attack on banking companies, its position stabilized at 26010 points. The Nasdaq index is our focus area before the close. At one point, the market officially fell below the 20000 point integer mark and closed at 19986 points.’

Jake reported to Jasper with an expression filled with excitement, “And we learned that Oracle is in a capital chain crisis and its founder, Allison, has contacted Morgan, Citibank, and other banks to seek

further financing.”

The exhausted Jasper yawned and said, “They’re a company that specializes in databases, how much liquidity will they have if their stock price drops? It’s good that they could hold on until now.”

“Mr. Laine, do we want to entrust an intermediary to talk to Allison? Oracle has the world’s largest database software and there are countless related patents which are fully in line with our planned acquisition plan,” Jake proposed.

“No.”

Jasper shook his head and refused.

“This company won’t agree to our invitation. Even a capital injection is impossible, let alone an acquisition.”

There were racists everywhere in the United States, and one of the richest racists was the founder of Oracle, Allison.

This son of a b*tch had made public remarks on more than one occasion that people from Terra were inferior and that Somerland was a backward feudal country.

And in the future, when Oracle entered the domestic market of Somerland, it would use its status to treat the Somerland companies that they partnered with like second-class citizens.

To put it bluntly, this mongrel did not treat Somerland and the people in Somerland as human beings at all.

Jasper did not want to engage with such a character at all.

Moreover, Jasper even planned to destroy Oracle if the opportunity arose.

An Internet company like Oracle not only had the world’s largest database, but also the world’s largest enterprise-level software development. It was impossible to completely destroy it, but under the United States capitalist system, it would also be nice to use capital to destroy Allison, kick him out of his company, and turn him into a pauper.

However, these were trivial matters. Now,

Jasper’s status was no longer restricted to a certain company or a certain person. If the timing and conditions were right, it

could be done, but it was not necessary to pursue it deliberately.

The overall situation was still the most important thing at this time.

If he won in the overall situation, it would be easy to destroy this kind of person. Jasper would then let Allison understand that even if he was a white man with blonde hair and blue eyes, no one would want to save him when he was destitute.

“Soon, these companies will undoubtedly start a stock repurchase plan. As things stand in the market, as long as there is enough money to buy the shares of these companies for a year or more, we will obtain at least 50% of the profits.

“This has not only been noticed by the greedy hot money, these companies themselves know better than anyone else that they will not allow their stock to be taken away in vain.

“So, we should wait longer. We’ll wait until they resist this wave and then we’ll strike. Once they lose their energy and gusto, that’s when we enter and take everything.

“Furthermore, the enemies will only be more honest on the negotiating table if we hurt them.”

Jasper’s words made Jake nod his head thoughtfully.

At this time, Jasper’s cell phone rang. It was from Tony.

“The state-owned enterprise’s listing plans have been prepared and can be announced at any time.”

The contents of the call shocked Jasper.

“What about the Social Security Fund?”

The listing of giant state-owned enterprises would only stimulate market confidence and accelerate the influx of private capital into the stock market, but

the real killer against the United State would be the Social Security Fund, so Jasper naturally cared more about it.

“There is no problem with the procedure, but the higher-ups said that we’ll use this as a hidden trump card and will not make it public,” Tony said.

Jasper thought about it for a while and nodded. He said, “The higher-ups are so considerate.”

“The domestic and United States financial markets have all ended the first day of trading. Are you tired?” Tony asked in a concerned tone.

“I was born to work hard. I can’t help it. I have forgotten how long I haven’t slept well for.” Jasper smiled bitterly.

He was not trying to showcase how miserable he was. Everyone with a

discerning eye could see how much he had sacrificed during this period. Moreover, it was meaningless to do such a thing with Tony. Right now, Jasper was just expressing how he felt.

“Thanks for all the trouble. You should go to rest first, the relevant news will be announced at 8 o’clock in the morning, there are still about 4 hours until then.”

“Alright, I got it.”

Jasper hung up the phone and glanced at the time. As Tony said, because of the time difference, when the United States stock market closed, it was already 4:20 in the morning in Swallow Capital time.

It seemed that he had less than four hours to rest.

However, Jasper could not rest.

“Call Baz over.

“And also some of the more important people in the term. Call them all over.

“If my prediction is correct, the domestic financial market and the United States

financial market will launch their strongest counterattacks on the next opening day, which can largely determine the outcome of this financial war. So, we have to come up with the most secure plan before it happens.”

Jake said, “I’ll go right away, but Mr. Laine, please take this chance to rest for a while. You haven’t slept in 30 hours.”

“Those ten minutes of rest will be useless, on the contrary, it’ll make me even groggier. Go and summon them first.. After this, I will give myself a long holiday.”

Jasper waved his hand and said. He was feeling sore and swollen everywhere.

Jake stopped persuading him, turned around, and went out.

After that, Jasper got up and walked to the window to look at the dark sky outside the window. The night before dawn was the darkest because one could not even see their fingers even if they lifted them in front of them. There was no doubt that this would be the most difficult period.

Jasper had no idea whether he and the domestic financial market could survive this period.

Life at the Top Chapter 1963

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More than ten minutes later, a group of people with dark circles and messy hair gathered in the small meeting room in the command center.

Baz was woken up in the middle of his sleep. He knew that it was urgent and while in his confused state, this guy came in his pajamas.

He was a bit embarrassed, but when he got there, almost everyone was dressed the same, so he felt a little better.

After everyone arrived, Jasper took a sip of strong tea. The bitter and rich taste filled his mouth and throat. After that, Jasper felt a little refreshed as he said, "

Tomorrow at 8 a.m., the government will release the latest news. A batch of state owned enterprises monopolized by the domestic industry will be listed together, and the new stocks will immediately be available for transactions starting from tomorrow's trading window."

As soon as these words came out, Baz and the others became excited, as if they had been given a shot of adrenaline.

Jasper had previously disclosed to them that state-owned enterprises would be listed to boost market confidence and attract private capital. Its fundamental purpose was to utilize the special system under special national conditions and harness the people's confidence in state owned enterprises to gather funds to strengthen the support points in the market.

It was like a sturdy construction beam that supported the originally weak A share market.

Although it was unlikely for them to come to a decisive conclusion under the raging beast that was Soros, it definitely carried huge positive benefits for the market itself.

"Mr. Laine, which state-owned enterprises will be listed? Is there a specific list now?" Baz asked eagerly.

Jasper answered, "I don't have the detailed list now, but according to the results that Swallow Capital and I filtered after our discussion, Somerland Petroleum, PetroSomer, Somerland Telecom, Netcom, Nobile, Fortress Iron and Steel, Stellar Company, the big four commercial banks, Somerland National Nuclear Corporation, Somerland Ordnance Group, and Air Somer will all be listed.

“These large listed companies include the energy, communications, nuclear, banking, defense, and aviation industries. Most of the companies in the civil industry are listed directly under the company itself, but the defense industry and the nuclear industry, because of their particularity, will be listed as a wholly owned subsidiary.”

Jake, Baz, and the rest of the team were shocked when they heard these well known names.

These companies were all giants that monopolized their respective industries, and they were not comparable to ordinary private enterprises.

The concentrated listing of these state owned enterprise giants would inevitably lead to huge market benefits, which was a great thing for them.

However, Baz smacked his lips and said, “It’s a shame that the Tobacco Group is not being listed.”

As soon as they heard this, the group knew that this was definitely something that someone who had an understanding of domestic state-owned enterprises would say.

People would always say that state owned communication enterprises like Nobile and state-owned energy enterprises like the two oil companies would be able to make hundreds of millions a day, but they did not know the biggest taxpayer and the company that made the most money was the tobacco business.

However, Jasper had never seen Swallow Capital allowing this company to be listed in his previous life, so he figured nothing would change this time around.

It might be impossible for it to be listed

because of its regulations.

Even though the Tobacco Group was called a group, it was actually the government’s functional department. It had jurisdiction over all tobacco brands across the country and was responsible for tobacco production and sales.

Such a department generated astronomical profits every year. It contributed more than half of domestic military expenditures, but this also made it impossible to go public.

There was also another group that was similar in nature, and that was the Somerland Merchants Group. If it was truly public, this giant that was founded in the late 19th and early 20th century would continue to rank among the top ten in the world in total assets until Jasper's reincarnation.

Normal people might be unfamiliar with it, but its subordinate companies were intertwined with all aspects of society, as well as people's livelihood.

60% of domestic expressways belonged to this company.

These companies were basically Swallow Capital's cash cow, and they were semi official in nature, so it was impossible for them to go public.

"Don't overthink."

Jasper waved his hand and said, "The domestic side will reap huge benefits tomorrow, but according to my estimations, the market rescue of the listed companies and the market rebound in the United States will also come soon, so we will not have a good time this week.

"But after this battle, the outcome of the whole situation can be determined."

As he was saying this, Jasper's eyes were as sharp as a falcon and he said in a deep voice, "To put it bluntly, these few days will determine if we will be able to have food on the table or not for the next half of our lives."

The meeting lasted almost three hours.

After the meeting, everyone left the meeting room. Jasper was the last to leave.

The moment he got up, his vision turned black and everything around him started spinning.

He raised his hand to support himself on the conference table before he lowered his head and took a few deep breaths. Only then did he feel a little better.

After undoing the button on the shirt collar to let himself breathe easier, Jasper felt that his body was starting to shut down after experiencing such a high intensity of workload during this period of time.

At this time, Baz came back after he had initially left. He was about to say something when he saw Jasper who was as pale as a ghost and his lips turning blue at the door of the conference room. Baz was utterly shocked.

“Don’t scream. Don’t call out to anyone.” Jasper opened his mouth and growled at Baz.

Right now, he was the spiritual support of everyone around him. Anyone could collapse except him. Once he did, everything would come crashing down. All their previous efforts would be wasted,

and everyone would be done for.

Therefore, Jasper definitely could not let Baz make a fuss at this critical hour.

Baz also reacted immediately. He hurriedly closed the door to the conference room and then walked to Jasper to help him sit down. After pouring a glass of water for Jasper, Baz watched Jasper drink the water with a worried expression on his face.

“Why are you looking at me like this? Are you afraid that I will suffer a sudden death?”

Jasper let out a sigh and cracked a joke at Baz.

Baz said with a serious expression, “Mr. Laine, you didn’t see how you looked just now. It was so scary. In the past four or five months, you haven’t had a good night’s sleep. You won’t be able to hold on any longer if you keep doing this.”

“I know my own body, it’s okay.”

Jasper waved his hand and said, "Plus, this is coming to an end now. The last hour is also the most critical and important period. I can't leave my post."

"But Mr. Laine, you have to let a doctor take a look at you," Baz said.

Jasper glared at Baz and said, "There's still an hour before the opening. Where will I get the time to let the doctor look at me? Don't you worry about this. Also, don't tell anyone what you saw just now, if not, I'll skin you alive!"

After Jasper said that, he got up and left.

Baz gritted his teeth silently when he saw Jasper walking away, seemingly steady and healthy.

He decided that he had to disobey Jasper this time. He would do this even if it meant he would be fired.

Life at the Top Chapter 1964

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Baz's first reaction was to call Wendy.

After all, Wendy was the boss of JW, so it

would be justified for him to contact

Wendy about this kind of thing.

However, as soon as he took out his cell

phone, he realized this would not work.

Currently, Wendy was still in Harbor City, and was equally busy. If the boss' woman came back at this moment, it would delay the work in Harbor City. Baz felt he would really die if he did this, to the point where even Wendy would not be able to save him.

After thinking about it, Baz saw another

name that he had just added to his

contacts some time ago out of the corner of his eye...

Judging from his manly instinct, Baz concluded that the relationship between this woman and his boss was pretty unusual when he first saw her.

This was not a joke. She was appointed as the future president of JW Bank the moment she joined the company. If these two had nothing going on between them, Baz would swallow the conference table in front of him.

With that, Baz decisively dialed the number.

The result of this was that after more than ten minutes, Jasper received the arrival of Celine and the medical team behind her instead of Baz's opening report.

Jasper did not even have time to say a word before he was pushed onto the bed by a group of doctors. Then, he was forced to undergo various examinations.

"Celine, are you crazy? Are you rebelling against me?"

Celine put her arms across her chest and said with a cold face, "You should accept the examination like a good boy. It will not take much time or delay the opening. You know from my character that I will not compromise on this kind of thing.

"You may think you can still go on, but what if you can't and you end up collapsing? At that time, who will save your staff and such a big industry? The more urgent the situation, the more you need to protect your own health."

After a doctor punctured his skin with a needle to collect blood, Jasper took a sharp breath, gritted his teeth, and said to the doctor, "Can you be gentle? I'm still alive and I can still feel pain."

The doctor said embarrassingly, "I'm

sorry, Mr. Laine. If you don't resist, I

won't be so anxious."

One should not continue to split hairs with someone who had just apologized. Plus, the doctor was only doing this for his own good. Thus, Jasper could not express his anger at this moment and could only bite his tongue while letting this group of people do whatever they wanted with him.

It took more than half an hour before

Jasper was freed and regained his

freedom.

This medical team also assessed his physical condition.

"It's not looking too good."

The lead physician shook his head slightly. He said, "Mr. Laine is now in his prime of life and it should be the time when a person's physical function is at its

peak, but even so, it has its limits. If I were to compare a normal and healthy young man's body to a river, then Mr. Laine's body is almost turning into a desert.

"To put it simply, it has been squeezed dry.

"Because of equipment and venue restrictions, we can only do the simplest blood-taking procedure right now, but even so, there are four indicators that have exceeded the normal value and the other three indicators that are far below the normal value. Mr. Laine, with all due respect, if you continue like this, your body will collapse soon."

Jasper, who was putting on his shirt, said helplessly, "Then what should I do?"

"The best thing to do is to rest immediately and give up all work."

“No way.”

Jasper refused without thinking.

“If you can’t do that for the moment, then

we can temporarily give you nutritional support. We can use medical intervention to

support the body’s consumption. However, this method only treats the symptoms but not the root cause. At least 2 months of complete rest is required for you to recover fully.”

“What nutritional support?”

Jasper was amused and he said, “I eat everything that is specially prepared by a nutritionist. It shouldn’t be a problem.”

After ten minutes, Jasper understood that the nutritional support the doctor spoke about was not the same concept as what ordinary people without medical knowledge thought they knew.

Jasper sat in his chair with no expression on his face as he had an IV attached to his left hand. Inside the IV was albumin that looked like milk, as well as various nutritional liquids.

Next to him, Celine, who had ordered someone to move her desk over, glanced at Jasper and lazily said, “Why are you pulling a face? I especially moved my office here to work with you. What else are you unhappy about?”

“This is the command center, why are you moving your office here? And what work do you have to do now?” Jasper asked angrily.

Although JW Bank would inevitably be founded by Jasper, it had not even started the basic construction work yet, and the team had just begun to release relevant talent recruitment information so that the headhunting company could source

people. However, the real executive team consisted of just Celine and nobody else at the moment. Jasper really could not figure out what kind of work she could do.

“Do you think it’s that simple? The domestic system is different from that of foreign countries, and the work and overall framework of the banking industry must be adapted to the domestic market.

“Moreover, you must have detailed knowledge and understanding of existing banks, especially commercial banks similar to those jointly established by local governments and capital. Do you think opening a bank is as simple as opening an account in the stock market? I have a lot of things to do, okay?”

Celine was obviously dissatisfied with

Jasper underestimating her

professionalism, so she started to lecture

him.

Jasper replied with a pounding head,

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Alright, alright, alright, you’re right. I

was wrong for saying that.

“But.”

Jasper lifted his hand that was attached to the IV and waved it. He said, “What’s the meaning of this? This thing is huge, and it will take four or five hours for it to finish. Are you planning to just attach this to me like this?”

“Duh.”

Celine finally smiled, but from that smile, she looked like a little girl who was satisfied and delighted after successfully pranking someone. “This is for your own good. You don’t want to collapse before you enjoy the fruits of victory, right?”

Jasper sighed. He did not think he would be able to escape this after he saw Celine’s attitude.

Therefore, Celine became the first and

only JW executive to arrogantly fight for a

n office space with Jasper.

Even so, Jasper's mind quickly shifted from this trivial matter, because in the call auction stage before the opening of the domestic A-share market, the futures market had already kicked off.

This time, Soros seemed to have made up his mind about something, so when trading started, he gave up the suppression of other futures products, and instead went all out to long more foodstuff futures.

He would buy, and he would buy a

massive amount.

Huge amounts of funds poured into the foodstuff futures trading market, to the point where it seemed like all foodstuff futures contracts in the country had been swept away in one breath.

What followed was a surge in foodstuff futures prices.

Life at the Top Chapter 1965

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The abnormal spike in foodstuff prices attracted the attention of Somergrain, who was already closely monitoring the prices of foodstuffs.

Almost immediately, Somergrain contacted Jasper.

Then, a large number of sell orders immediately appeared in the market.

The price of foodstuff was locked firmly within 5% to 8% of the price increase before the opening. Although there were fluctuations, no matter how much Soros devoured in the future, Somergrain could still hedge these orders by selling them..

Narrowing his eyes slightly, Jasper said, "We're going to enter a tug of war."

In the domestic futures market, the trading volume of the foodstuff sector was exponential, and the largest trading

parties were the buyers led by Quantum Fund and the sellers led by Somergrain.

Just ten minutes after the opening, the trading volume of both parties exceeded 1 billion Somer Dollars.

This trading volume was already comparable to the sum of other trading varieties at the same time.

One had to know that this was only more than ten minutes after the opening and it was equivalent to a turnover rate of 100 million Somer Dollars per minute.

Baz was overwhelmed by emotion. He whispered, "Mr. Laine, once the situation is in a tug of war, it is actually not good for

"Yes, if foreign institutions continue to long domestic foodstuffs, it will cause panic in the market. If there are people who want to stir public opinions to trigger citizens to stock up on foodstuff, then it is likely to cause social unrest."

Jasper agreed with what Baz said, and at the same time, he began to think about what happened when Somerland was facing the foodstuff war in his previous life.

He could not remember the details, but at that time, he remembered that several places had issued administrative orders restricting the purchase of foodstuff and cooking oil.

Because of this, the people who were already panicked at the time became even

more panicked.

Had it not been for the trust of the people of Somerland in the government, something terribly wrong might have happened at that time.

"This is easy to solve."

Celine, who had been silent for a long time, said suddenly, "If the price of foodstuff has fallen, we should fully open up the inventory so that the people can see that the government has enough food for everyone."

These words caught the attention of both Jasper and Baz.

Celine went on to explain, "It's the same with bank runs. Usually, the run occurs because people start to lose their trust in the bank, and they believe that the bank is losing money and is facing bankruptcy. They're worried about losing their assets in the bank, so they will be anxious to withdraw their deposits from the bank.

"But if there is sufficient persuasive evidence to tell everyone that this bank has sufficient capital and everyone's welcome to withdraw money at any time they want, no one will believe that the bank will go bankrupt.

"But if you limit the amount and frequency of withdrawals for everyone, then this bad news will intensify, and eventually it will become a self-fulfilling prophecy and the bank will really go bankrupt.

"The key to the question is, does the bank really have that much money?"

Celine looked at Jasper with blazing eyes and said with a smile.

Jasper sighed softly and smiled. "

Unfortunately, this bank has a lot of money."

"Then you don't need to worry-let them continue this tug of war. This kind of transaction in which you buy what I sell is based on how deep the pockets of both parties are anyway. One fight for foodstuff stock and the other for the abundance of funds. Whoever empties his pocket first loses."

Jasper thought for a while and finally decided that he should not interfere too much in the foodstuff trade war.

The higher-ups would know what to do.

with this.

He already had a lot on his plate and if he said or did more, he was likely to burn himself.

Now that the financial war had reached this point, Jasper had to start to consider the situation of himself and JW after the financial war.

What the higher-ups needed was a positive benchmark to face society, so this was his golden opportunity. However, there were risks behind the opportunity, which was, the higher-ups were absolutely unwilling to see a political businessman who would criticize the actions of the government.

“Mr. Laine, the press conference has begun.”

Baz’s reminder made Jasper turn his attention to another screen.

Currently, the news was showing the scene of the press conference of the chairman of the Somerland Securities Regulatory Commission and several leading state-owned enterprises.

At eight o’clock, the quiet and solemn official press conference immediately announced to all of society the news of the centralized listing of state-owned enterprises.

This news could be said to have caught

everyone by surprise.
Even foreigners knew that under the

special social system of Somerland, state

owned enterprises were truly behemoths.

Especially after undergoing the reform of state-owned enterprises and the stripping of most of the rotten assets that had been rendered ineffective, the remaining state-owned enterprises were supergiants that had monopoly positions in special industries where they had no competitors at all.

The influence it brought was absolutely beyond ordinary people's imagination.

What determined the stock price of a listed company?

Some say it could be determined by capital, but it was only needed for speculation. Capital acted as a promoter to suppress or push up a company's stock price, so it would always only be temporary and could not last forever.

Only the profitability and business ability of the company could really determine its price.

If the company's prospects were good enough and it was profitable, it would naturally be welcomed by the market, while the stock value would also match its true market value.

As for state-owned enterprises, their state-owned nature made them destined to never fail, and their monopoly of the market determined that their profitability always exceeded that of private enterprises and that there was no fear of them not making money at all.

For example, Somerland Petroleum,

PetroSomer, and the not-so-well-known Offshore Oil Corporation were monopolists in the domestic oil industry.

Even the oil from the private gas stations that ordinary people saw on the side of the road were purchased from the two

major oil companies. Aside from Somerland Petroleum, PetroSomer, and Offshore Oil Corporation, no other industries were allowed to set foot in the private oil industry in Somerland.

The communications industry was even more extreme.

With this premise in mind, the news immediately caused an uproar around the globe when it was announced at the press conference.

Soros, who got the news right after that, was furious.

“It’s here! Somerland’s countermeasures are finally here!

“Promoting the listing of state-owned enterprises and driving market funds into the stock market to maintain the stability of the market? This has your name all over it, Jasper!”