

Life at the Top Chapter 196

“You be the host?”

Henry was completely stumped for words. Even though he knew Jasper had the ability to do so, this involved the economy of Harbor City, and his father was recommending him to conduct this!

The more responsibility one had, the more honor one would get!

If Jasper successfully conducted the market rescue, then he would cause a sensation in Harbor City!

His status and position would be higher than his!

However, if Jasper failed, not only would he need to bear the infamy, he would also affect the Laws.

At the side, Anna also looked as if she was in deep thought. On one hand, she supported Jasper, but on the other, she was worried that Jasper might fail.

Of course, she wished that this man in front of her would succeed.

However, the market rescue involved too many people and if there was a slight mistake, then it would cause an incurable loss as well as huge trouble.

“A-Are you confident about this?” Anna asked in a low voice.

“Someone has to do it. The Laws have placed so much value in me so naturally, I don’t wish to embarrass you. However, I’ve never conducted this kind of quibble worth a few hundred billion before.”

Jasper's expression looked solemn. After a while, a burst of light flashed across his eyes. "However, I've said that I won't let anyone destroy Harbor City!"

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On the other side, an office in the government of Harbor City.

"Are you guys crazy?"

A man in his 30s who looked as if he had an out-of-the-ordinary character yelled loudly. His face had turned green.

His name was Jake Cullen, and he was an exceptional stock trader and investor from Wall Street.

Inside the room, Zachary and another high-level official from the government of Harbor City who was about the same age as him were looking at him calmly.

"Two years ago, I was the stock market genius in Wall Street. Now that I'm back in Harbor City, I've never failed after hosting more than a dozen trade wars in the stock market. Aside from me, who else in Harbor City is qualified to host this market rescue?"

Jake slammed his hand down on the table angrily as he glared at the people sitting in front of him with a dark face.

"Now, you're recommending a minor nobody from Mainland to steal this mission from me? What is the meaning of this?"

The official glanced at Zachary who had no expression on his face. He later chuckled and said, "Mr. Cullen, don't be mad. Mr. Law must have his reasons to say this."

Actually, the government of Harbor City was surprised and embarrassed at Zachary's suggestion.

It was because in Harbor City, Jake was indeed the top of the top when it came to controlling the trade war in the stock market. No one had better qualifications than him.

The government had planned to entrust him to host this market rescue worth 100 billion.

However, the government had to take Zachary's suggestion into consideration as well. As such, that was why there was this scene in the office.

Zachary knew who Jake was, but his expression did not show that. On the other hand, he said slowly, "Everyone, firstly, I need to mention that this young man named Jasper is not an unknown nobody.

"He started out by depending on the stock market in Mainland. He was the mysterious retail investor who defeated the capitalist big shots in the international crude oil futures market a few months ago.

"He was also the one who purchased Gladness Entertainment Movies and caused a stir in Harbor City a few days ago.

"Plus, he was also the one who tried hard to save the market this morning."

While Zachary said that, he looked expressionlessly at Jake and the official.

"Next, this is not just my suggestion. This is also a suggestion made by my father to the higher-ups of the government."

Jake and the official still disapproved while listening to the first two statements, but when they heard that Jasper, who saved the market in the morning, was also recommended by Old Master Law, their expressions changed.

The market rescue this morning had given the citizens of Harbor City a lot of confidence. When the hearts of the citizens wandered in this kind of economic crisis, it would be hard to assemble them again.

It was because of Jasper's market rescue this morning, the government had time to release the press statement at noon to strengthen the confidence of the citizens.

It could be said that Jasper was already the hero of Harbor City with just the market rescue this morning and nothing else.

Plus, with the recommendation of Old Master Law, even the higher-ups of the government had to attach some importance to him.

Jake moved his lips. The reason he dared to slam down on Zachary's table just now was that the government officials supported him in doing the market rescue, so that was why he had the guts to be so arrogant.

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However, he did feel a little guilty now after hearing Jasper's past achievements and how Old Master Law had already taken action.

"If that's the case, then I think Mr. Law's suggestion is reasonable."

The official wiped the sweat from his forehead and thought of a compromise.

"Everyone is just trying to protect the economy of Harbor City, so there's no need to make this so tense. Why don't we let Jasper host the mission this time? However, Jake, as the representative of the government, you should go along. If Jasper can't handle it, then you can help him too."

The 100 billion market rescue plan was funded by the four rich families and the government. As such, it did not matter who was the host. The four rich families or the government would definitely ask someone to keep watch.

As this was the case, Zachary did not have any opinions on it.

“Okay, I want to see how skillful this country bumpkin from Mainland is!” Jake said with a cold chuckle.

He did not go against what the Laws wanted, however, he was genuinely looking down on this country bumpkin named Jasper.

He was just a hillbilly from Mainland, so what knowledge and experience did he have? How dare Jasper steal this chance to rescue the market from him?

Initially, he wanted to use this market rescue opportunity to better his reputation so that his business would have a bright future.

However, everything had gone down the drain now.

Jake’s heart was bleeding.

Half an hour later, Zachary went back home. The people tagging along were Jake and a few officers from the government of Harbor City.

“Jasper, this is Jake Cullen, the number one professional stock trader in Harbor City. He just came back from Wall Street. Initially, the government planned to ask him to host the rescue, but I recommended you.”

Zachary reminded Jasper indifferently. Then, he patted his shoulder and said in a low voice, “However, he’s nothing to me compared to you. You don’t have to treat him like a fellow human being.”

Jasper almost burst out laughing at Zachary’s last sentence.

“You’re Jasper?”

Jake narrowed his eyes and said with a cold chuckle.

“Mr. Cullen, hello,” Jasper nodded and said courteously.

On the other hand, Henry’s eyebrows twitched at one side. Even though he did not hear what his father said to Jasper, Jake’s expression, eyes, and tone...

...were pissing him off!

Usually, he would be the one looking down on people with the kind of despise that came from the bones because he was Young Master Law.

“Mr. Cullen, may I know which university did you graduate from? What course did you do?” Jake asked with a smirk.

Jasper answered indifferently, “Just a regular university in Mainland. I have a degree in Business Administration.”

“Hahaha...”

Jake guffawed and said, “I was a postgraduate student in an Ivy League university in the United States and I majored in Economics. After I graduated, I joined one of the Big Four companies in the United States as an investment supervisor. I’m the most well-known young stock trader on Wall Street!

“You graduated from a diploma mill in Mainland and you’re here hosting a market rescue worth 100 billion? Are all Mainlanders so shameless?”

Jasper could feel Jake targeting him, and it was obvious that he was not happy with him. However, Zachary had given him a lot of confidence just now.

At this moment, Jasper did not plan to exercise forbearance with him. The situation was urgent now, and he could not let anyone affect the market rescue!

“You don’t think I can succeed in this mission?” Jasper asked indifferently.

“Hehe, I don’t care what you’ve achieved before this, but you have to know that the 100 billion market rescue will directly affect the future of the economy in Harbor City. Not any Tom, Dick, or Harry can host this thing!”

Jake suppressed the jealousy and displeasure in his stomach, saying coldly, “I would advise you to give up voluntarily.”

Jasper sighed and turned around to call the security in Law Manor over. “Get me a few people and make this idiot sit over there quietly.”

Everyone in Law Manor from the maids to the bodyguards knew Jasper. Naturally, they would not dare to defy his orders.

As such, two beefy bodyguards walked over with malicious looks on their faces immediately.

Jake widened his eyes and backed away subconsciously. He roared, “What’s the meaning of this?! I came here representing the government of Harbor City and you have the balls to call the security to control me?”

“Shut up then!” Jasper suddenly opened his mouth and yelled, “This is serious, and there’s no time for you to be so presumptuous! I don’t care who you are. We’re doing a market rescue right now, so I won’t be fighting with you over the position of authority!”

“I don’t care which Ivy League school you graduated from and I don’t care what stock genius you are on Wall Street. If you want to be a poser, then get the hell out! If you affect my decision-making with your nonsense, you won’t be able to pay for the losses even if you sell your body!”

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Jasper's words shocked everyone into looking solemn.

No one expected Jasper, who usually appeared so cultured and refined, to look so terrifying when he got angry.

Henry almost burst out laughing at one side.

"Listen. Listen to that. What a beastly statement."

Henry only thought of one word while listening to Jasper scold Jake.

'Great!'

It was so great that it felt refreshing!

Henry wanted to laugh out loud when he saw Jake's face that looked as if he had eaten dog excrement.

Jake was stumped for words.

To him, a hillbilly from Mainland would be very gutsy if he could say a complete sentence without stammering in front of him.

However, what was going on now?

Was he being berated now?

Was he being scolded?

He felt angry and wronged as a series of emotions became intertwined in his heart. Jake's face was green, and his entire body was trembling.

He stared fixedly at Jasper, and his eyes were filled with so much bitter resentment.

However, when he saw the two bodyguards who were waiting longingly for him to explode, Jake burst out laughing suddenly.

He was laughing from anger.

"Alright, hot stuff. Okay, I won't talk. I'll see how you're going to lose later! If you cause the market rescue to fail because of your problems, then let me tell you, no one will be able to save you when that happens!"

Jake's tone was extremely cold. It was as if he was hoping for Jasper to face a crushing defeat. He wanted the Laws and the government to know that it was their biggest mistake to have chosen this hillbilly from Mainland over him!

"Are you hoping that I'll fail?" Jasper looked at Jake and asked flatly.

Jake scoffed, and there was visible disdain on his face. He said, "This is a battle of capitals of hundreds of billions. This is a capital trade war! Do you even know what you need?"

"You need structure! You need foresight and strategy! You're just a country bumpkin from Mainland, so what do you even know?"

"Do you think you know the capital trade war just because you've made a few coins from stock speculation?"

"Please take a piss and look at yourself in the reflection. I just can't bear watching the funds from the four rich families and the government being wasted by an ignorant country bumpkin like you!"

Jasper placed his hands behind his back and watched Jake coldly. He said, "What if I win?"

It was as if Jake had heard the funniest joke in the world. He pointed at the floor and said, "If you win, I'll kneel in front of you in front of the four rich families of Harbor City. I'll grovel to you and admit my mistakes. Then, I'll formally become your apprentice!"

"Same goes the other way. If you lose, you need to kneel, grovel, admit your mistakes, and apologize to me. You don't need to become my apprentice. You're not worthy!"

Jake smirked and looked at Jasper. He did not believe that Jasper would agree to these circumstances.

Even though he did not know what kind of spell Jasper had cast on the Laws to make them support him so much, so what?

Everything depended on one's ability in the finance market.

You could not do anything you want just because you have someone powerful backing you up.

"If you don't dare to do it, then hand over the authority to command. Tell the government that you're a piece of trash and you're just a country bumpkin from Mainland who's not brave enough to gamble!"

The smile on Jake's face was sinister and malicious. "Don't do something that you'll regret forever because you're impulsive. You have to think carefully. This is a trade war that is worth hundreds of billions and not the child's play of millions or tens of millions you're used to in Mainland.

"Everyone is watching the stock market in Harbor City and you want to host the market rescue this time? Are you even qualified for this?"

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When Jake was close to getting the opportunity to humiliate Jasper, he heard four unenthusiastic words.

“Alright, I’ll do it.”

Jasper’s four words caused Jake to have a million words in his head but he was unable to even utter one word.

“What did you say?” Jake narrowed his eyes and looked at Jasper.

“I’ll take this bet. If I win, you’ll kneel and formally become my apprentice. Of course, you have to kneel and grovel. It’ll depend on my mood if I want to take you as my apprentice.

“And vice versa,” Jasper said fully.

Jake laughed angrily and said, “Alright, you’re the one who said this. I’ll take this bet!

“Country bumpkin from Mainland, remember this, the worst mistake in your life is stealing this market rescue because you seek to impress people by taking on more than your ability. From this moment on, you’re going to have your reputation swept away!”

Jake smiled coldly and said, “The facts will tell you that Harbor Stocks is the one place where all the international capitals come together. On the other hand, a country bumpkin from Mainland like you will only be an ignorant and narrow-minded toad. You have no idea how big the outside world is!”

“I have no idea how big the outside world is, but there are a lot of idiots in society nowadays,” Jasper said insipidly.

Jake said sharply and unkindly, “Don’t think you’re all that because you’re quick-witted. I’ve seen a lot of people like you. They don’t have any talents and only know how to dupe people with their smart mouths, but actually, they’re just lying.

“I’ve seen more than you think you know. I can even make a name for myself in a place like Wall Street, so who do you think you are?” Jake said disdainfully.

“Not bad. You’re indeed educated so that’s why you keep saying the same old stuff. Remember what you just said so you can reminisce about them when you eat your words later. It’ll help you make clear of reality.”

After he said that, Jasper did not want to pay any more attention to this simpleton. He entered the door while talking to Zachary.

Then, the group went into the house together. Nobody paid any attention to Jake.

“Mr. Cullen, shall we go in?”

The official from the government who tagged along smiled bitterly and said.

Jake gritted his teeth while feeling aggrieved. He smirked coldly and said, “Go! Let’s go now. I want to see how he’s going to fail and how he’s going to die!

“When he fails, I want him to kneel in front of me, unable to cry!

“Those people who are supporting him now will also pay the price for being hot-headed. They will know that only I can host this rescue!”

...

Still in that secluded villa.

Bob stood at one side with an awkward and angry expression. Kennedy's face was grim, and he did not look good.

On the other side was Rogers. He lightly tapped the surface of the table with his fingertips and said coldly, "Lancaster, I think you're very stupid. It was such an obvious trap and you couldn't even see it. On the contrary, you even fell into it."

Bob's expression looked even worse.

Even though he was feeling extremely pissed, he did not try to defend himself.

He knew what everyone wanted now was results and not explanations.

The result was that he was the one who did not crash Harbor Stocks according to the initial plan, but instead, he fell into the other party's trap and caused them to lose a few hundred million of funds.

At this moment, the more he explained, the more mistakes he would make.

Kennedy scoffed. Even though he was displeased with Bob's useless performance, he still said, "Since it has already happened, there's no use explaining anymore."

"I just got the news that the Laws are going to make Jasper the host of the market rescue. Now, we can be sure that Jasper was the one behind what happened this morning."

At this moment, a Caucasian man walked in front of Rogers with a cold expression on his face. He handed him some documents.

“Jasper Laine? That young man...” Rogers lowered his head to look through the information in his hands. Suddenly, he guffawed and said, “Interesting! I didn’t expect this young man to give everyone such a huge surprise!”

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“Earlier this year, he made his first pot of gold in the futures market in Mainland. Then, he made a lot of money in the international crude oil market. I didn’t expect the mysterious retail investor that Quantum Fund contacted last time to be him as well.”

When Kennedy and Bob heard that, they were surprised.

“I guess we underestimated him last time!” Kennedy said profoundly.

“You guys got information on Jasper in such a short time?” Bob narrowed his eyes and said while suppressing the shock in his heart.

Rogers shrugged and said nonchalantly, “You have to believe in the ability of Quantum Fund. We have clients and information all over the world. As long as you can pay, I can even tell you what color underwear the top man of the United States is wearing right now.”

“I have to go to Law Manor in the afternoon. On one hand, I’m going to watch their every move, and on the other hand, I need to be prepared at any time. So, over here...” Kennedy looked at Rogers.

“You don’t have to worry,” Rogers said flatly, “My people from Quantum Fund will take over from now.”

Bob was not happy that he had been pushed aside. He asked quickly, “What about me?”

“You can watch from one side.”

Kennedy sighed and made eyes at Bob secretly.

Even though he was disappointed in Bob, Kennedy could not kick him away now.

The collaboration with Quantum Fund was fine for now, but Kennedy knew more than anyone that Quantum Fund was a coyote that would swallow a person whole.

He needed to go to Law Manor, so no one would be keeping an eye on Quantum Fund. He would not be able to be at ease this way.

Bob understood what Kennedy meant and could only nod.

It was as if Rogers had no idea what they were communicating about. He said insipidly, “Initially, my team and I planned to collaborate with the government and aristocrats of Harbor City to rescue the market. This time, we’ve prepared 150 billion Harbor Dollars in addition to your 50 billion.”

He lifted two fingers. “We have a fund of 200 billion, but the market rescue fund of Harbor City is only 100 billion. Plus, I have a team of the best traders in the world, so how can they fight with me?”

When Kennedy heard this, he got up and said, “Okay. We’ll do it according to the plan. I’ll go to Law Manor now. It’s almost time, so I have to get there before the market commences in the afternoon.”

...

Before the market commenced in the afternoon, the atmosphere in Law Manor was getting lively.

One after another, cars representing the top aristocratic families in Harbor City drove into Law Manor.

At the same time, the security had been heightened to the max. Not only did the millionaires have their own bodyguards, but the police force that was transferred here by the government was also patrolling around the place.

Before the end of the financial war, this place would be one of the safest places in Harbor City.

In the living room of Law Manor, Jasper was officially meeting the heads of the four richest families in Harbor City.

There was nothing much to say about Zachary.

The first one to greet Jasper was Clark.

“Young man, I’ve heard about you. Keith told me about you as well. You’re exceptional. I’m depending on you this time,” Clark shook Jasper’s hand and said.

Jasper nodded and said, “Don’t worry, Mr. Duvall. I’ll do my best.”

Clark laughed loudly and said, “You don’t have to bear too much burden. If the sky were to fall, us old farts will hold it for you.”

“I’m young and my body is still strong, so I don’t think you elders need to throw your caps in the ring.”

Jasper made a joke.

Clark guffawed and pointed at Jasper before he turned his head to say to Spencer and Kennedy, "Look, I told you that Zachary won't make mistakes. This young man is so interesting."

Kennedy smiled and looked at Jasper. He said, "Our hopes are on you."

Jasper replied neither obsequiously nor superciliously, "I'll try my best."

"To be honest, I was quite surprised when I knew it was you." There was a hidden meaning behind what Kennedy said and it was significant.

Jasper looked at Kennedy without saying anything.

Kennedy patted Jasper's shoulder affectionately. He grinned and said, "My son is insensible. It'll be useful for him if you taught him a lesson."

Jasper did not think much about what Kennedy said.

At this moment, perhaps he was worried that the animosity between the two of them would affect the market rescue plan, so Kennedy's words actually sounded pretty reasonable.

"Your son and I did have some beef between us, but it's between us. The present condition is more important for now."

Jasper's attitude caused Kennedy to smile in 'satisfaction'. He said, "We're looking forward to your performance."

While they were talking, Zack knocked on the door and came in. "Sir, three minutes till the market commences."

There were a lot of 'sirs' in this room.

However, everyone knew he was referring to Jasper.

Jasper nodded and extended his hand as an invitation. Then, he led the heads of the four rich families into the living room.

Clark, Zachary, Kennedy, and Spencer arrived in the living room, and the air there immediately became intense.

Even Zack and Jake, who wanted so badly for Jasper to fall flat on his face, were feeling more nervous than usual, let alone the stock traders.

After all, these four men were the heads of the four rich families of Harbor City.

It would be extremely difficult to meet even one of them on any ordinary day. Now, they were here together.

Everyone felt a sense of glory as they were in the same room as sovereign kings who were far removed from the masses and reality.

Jake suppressed the nervousness in his heart. With a scoff, he looked at Jasper who was the center of everyone's attention. He felt extremely jealous and furious.

If it was not for this country bumpkin from Mainland, the person enjoying the attention and escort from the heads of the four rich families would be him, Jake Cullen!

When he thought about this, Jake clenched his fists in anger. His eyes that were staring at Jasper were getting more and more hostile.

“Stock traders, get ready for the commencement of the market.”

Jasper did not care what the four rich families and Jake were thinking. He ordered calmly and unhurriedly.

After he said that, the stock traders under him started making preparations. A hint of solemnness and respectfulness appeared amidst the intense atmosphere in the living room.

After turning around, Jasper saw Anna handing him a pot of tea she just brewed.

Anna knew Jasper liked drinking tea and he would drink some whenever he felt like it. As such, whenever she was free, she would make a pot for Jasper.

This was the tacit understanding that had been cultivated between the two of them after spending these few days with each other.

Jasper smiled at Anna before turning around and lifting his head to look at the digital screen. Right now, it was the countdown to the commencement of the market.

At the same time in the secluded villa.

The team of stock traders had been replaced by blonde-haired Caucasians with blue eyes. As the person with the decision-making power, the man stood under the digital screen and stretched lazily.

“Brace yourselves, boys. This afternoon, I want to massacre Harbor Stocks. Tomorrow, all of the investors from around the world will know the name Quantum Fund. We’re the kings of the capitalist world!”