

Life at the Top Chapter 271

Cavern City, Ritz-Carlton Hotel.

As one of the top global five-star hotel brands, the Ritz-Carlton in Cavern City was the second branch of the flagship hotel in the country after it first opened in Andros.

Needless to say, this was the most luxurious hotel in the whole of Cavern City right now. No other hotel could top the degree of luxury it provided.

Following the address Jack gave him, Jasper went straight to the highest floor of the hotel.

The presidential suite was located on this floor.

A woman dressed in a business suit was standing by the door once he got out of the elevator.

“May I know if you’re Mr. Laine?” The woman, who resembled a secretary, asked him courteously.

Jasper nodded.

“Please follow me,” the secretary said while gesturing at him to follow her. She led the way in front of him. “Miss Maynard is in the midst of a video conference right now. There was a last-minute decision to hold the conference, so we did not have the time to notify you, Mr. Laine,” she explained while walking.

“It’s alright, I can wait for a while,” Jasper said.

The secretary brought Jasper into the suite. After arriving at a reception room, she prepared some tea and left the room.

The presidential suite of this hotel had a master bedroom and a minimum of two other guest bedrooms in addition to a lounge, meeting room, reception room, and a study. It was fully equipped with a wide range of facilities.

Even the reception room that Jasper was currently situated in was about 70 to 80 squared meters in size.

After waiting in the reception room for almost an hour, the door suddenly opened.

A pretty, tall, and slender woman that gave off an air of competency walked into the reception room.

Celine headed straight toward Jasper after entering the room. She extended her hand with an apologetic smile plastered on her face. "I'm really sorry, Mr. Laine. There was a last-minute emergency meeting, so it took quite some time. You must have waited for a long time," she said.

"I'm the one who's disturbing you. I should be the one apologizing instead," Jasper said politely as he shook hands with Celine. The two of them then sat down.

Celine's secretary came forward and placed a cup of tea in front of each of them. After that, she sat down in a corner of the room and remained silent.

Meanwhile, Celine and Jasper quietly sized each other up.

She was indeed the same Queen of Investment that he had seen on a magazine cover in his past life. However, her aura had yet to grow to the same level of sophistication as it was in his past life.

At the moment, Celine Maynard emanated a sense of competency and dominance that could not be compared to her future self. She had long been

complacent and comfortable with her position in her future days. Thus, she did not shine as brilliantly as she did right now.

In other words, once a woman concealed their ambitious demeanor, it would not be discovered easily. Nevertheless, that meant that she even more dangerous.

At the same time, Celina was observing Jasper.

Like most of the people who were meeting him the first time, her first reaction to Jasper was shock at his young age.

At an age like this, Celine could hardly associate him with the powerful figure who had dominated Harbor City.

As the general manager of the Terra regional branch of Collosal Investments, Celine knew very well about the incident whereby the Harbor City stock market had gotten attacked by Western capital during the crisis of the bursting economic bubble some time ago.

She even knew that Quantum Fund was the one behind all of it.

This young man before her was the one who had presided over Harbor City's 100-billion-dollar rescue plan.

Not everyone had the ability to do something like that.

Not only did he handle it, but he also did an amazing job at that.

Life at the Top Chapter 272

Besides that, Celine also knew that this young man shared an extremely close relationship with the top four families of Harbor City.

He was especially close with the Laws.

Even the Harbor City Government took a great liking to Jasper as he had played a decisive role in this economic defense battle.

If it had not been for these glorious achievements, Celine would not have decided to meet the mere chairman of a local investment company.

“Mr. Laine, Jack is a longtime friend of mine. He told me that you wanted to meet up with me because of an urgent matter. May I know what this matter is regarding?” Celine spoke up first.

Jasper pondered for a while before deciding to go straight to the point. “I know that Sena is planning to get listed on the Nasdaq. Did they ask Colossal Investments to be their agent?” He asked straightforwardly.

Celine was stunned. “How did you know that, Mr. Laine? Yes, they have. Not many people know about this. Furthermore, Mr. William, the regional president, is handling this personally,” she answered in surprise.

Mr. William was the one who had called for an emergency video conference just now. The main topic of discussion was Sena’s public listing.

Once the listing plan for Sena gets launched, it would become the Terra regional branch’s largest business deal of the year. They would gain a lucrative sum of profits from handling this.

William, who was eager to present his achievements to the headquarters, placed a great deal of emphasis on this issue. Therefore, the conference just now was mainly centred on the arrangements required to help Sena obtain a public listing as soon as possible.

Furthermore, this plan had only been circulated among the top executives of the Terra regional branch of Colossal Investments who had participated in the video conference earlier. How did Jasper Laine know about it?

Jasper chuckled lightly. "I have my ways. I came over today in hopes that you'd be able to work together with me, Miss Maynard," he said.

Celine shook her head after listening to what he said. "My apologies, but I can't help you with this. Mr. William is handling this issue personally and no one else is allowed to interfere in his plans. Besides, both parties have already signed a contract. Why are you suggesting that we should work together, Mr. Laine?" she asked.

Jasper directed a scorching gaze at Celine. "I don't want Sena to obtain a public listing!"

After registering his words, Celine's expression immediately changed.

She looked at Jasper with a frown as she wondered what were the true intentions behind his words.

Jasper looked straight into Celine's eyes. "Miss Maynard, you don't really want to see Sena obtain a public listing, right?" He asked this in a playful tone.

"I don't understand what you're implying here, Mr. Laine. The public listing of Sena is the Terra regional branch's largest deal of the year. There's no reason for me to sabotage this deal," Celine said in a cutting tone.

“Indeed, it is the largest bit of business for the Terra regional branch of Colossal Investments this year. However, this has nothing to do with you. Am I right, Miss Maynard?”

Jasper’s words caused Celine to fall silent.

They were both intelligent people. There was no need to squabble over a trivial matter like this.

Although Celine was extremely competent, she had just taken up this mantle. She arrived at her current position after going through many exchanges of interests and cruel battles.

Hence, both her opponents and those in support of her were all waiting to see how she would perform in this position.

Evidently, William was not one of those who supported her. The responsibilities of the president and general manager both overlapped greatly, which meant that their individual capabilities would determine the one between them who would emerge as the boss.

William would not remain dormant while watching Celine grab all the power from his hands.

Therefore, Celine had not been involved in Sena’s listing at all.

Once the plan succeeds, it would be difficult for Celine, who did not have access to many resources in the Terra regional branch, to surpass the deal and soar toward greater heights.

Jasper took a sip from his cup of tea. “Miss Maynard, you need to preserve the right to speak for the Terra regional branch in order to retain the dignity and authority befitting of a general manager. Meanwhile, I don’t want Sena to get listed. Therefore, we share common interests,” he said with a smile.

Celine pinned a deep and thoughtful gaze on Jasper. She was rather taken aback.

What was the background of this young man, and why did he know so much about the internal strife for power within the Terra regional branch of Colossal Investments? How could each and every of his words resonate with all of her heartfelt thoughts?

Life at the Top Chapter 273

Even if Celine was smart, she did not expect that Jasper had been rebirthed with more than 20 years worth of memories.

In her past life, when Celine had climbed the corporate ladder abruptly, people had dug up some secrets about her.

One of the most well-known secrets was how she changed jobs from Seefa Securities to Colossal Investments as a young newbie and then immediately jumped into the position of the general manager in the Terra region.

Then, there was the story of how she fought for power with the current president in the Terra region, William, as a general manager.

This later became Celine's entry point.

Celine looked at Jasper calmly and said, "Mr. Laine, what are you planning to do? How do you want me to work with you?"

Jasper smiled and said, "First, I hope to know what price Sena had to pay for you to be their agent."

Celine furrowed her brows and said bluntly, “Mr. Laine, you should know that before the listing succeeds, that this is a trade secret. If I leak this, I’ll face the risk of getting sued.”

Jasper held up his hands and said, “There are no risks in this world that you can’t handle, right?”

“Power is always obtained from battles that are full of risks, and never given to you by the enemies out of pity.”

Celine stayed silent for a while before saying indifferently, “Sena is willing to give us 25% of their stocks in exchange for Colossal Investments to help them get listed on the Nasdaq.”

“How generous.”

When Jasper heard this price, even he silently praised Dane’s decisiveness.

How much was 25% of the total shares worth? This would take away a quarter of Sena’s value.

Even though they would need to pay a huge price, in the face of Sena’s capital chain rupture crisis, it was a necessary step. After all, you could not make an omelet without breaking a few eggs.

If Sena wanted to get through this crisis and start anew, they would need to give up on short-term benefits.

Ordinary people would not be able to do this.

It was through bold moves like that Dane was able to make Sena into the most outstanding web portal in the country.

No mediocre leader would be able to get to this position.

“Miss Maynard, will you work with me to take down this 25% figure from your investment company?” Jasper asked indifferently.

Celine’s expression changed immediately.

Jasper was saying that he wanted her to steal from her own company. This was not as simple as leaking a trade secret now.

Before she could say anything, the secretary who had been staying silent this entire time stood up to speak.

“Impossible!” The secretary’s tone was stern.

“Miss Maynard, you can’t promise him this. This is impossible. The company is planning to help Sena get listed. We can’t transfer the shares away. You won’t be able to get past William on this matter.

“More importantly, so what if he gets the shares? Sena won’t be publically listed, and they’ll end up suing us. When that happens, we’ll be in trouble.

“This person is harboring evil intentions. Who knows what’s the purpose behind him coming here?”

The secretary’s words caused Celine’s face to darken. She did not say anything.

A secretary was interrupting the conversation of their superiors but was not immediately berated.

This meant that her boss was carefully considering her words.

Life at the Top Chapter 274

Jasper's expression looked calm and tranquil. He ignored the secretary's overbearing attitude and was only looking at Celine.

"Mr. Laine, Miss Stone came here with me from Seefa Securities, and she's been working with me for 6 years. At work, she's my secretary, but in my daily life, she's my best friend. Therefore, her words are equal to mine."

Celine had a calm look on her face.

The implication was that she had already rejected Jasper.

"150 million." Jasper suddenly said.

"Colossal Investments wants Sena's stocks because you hope it might grow in the future. Despite this, I am currently offering to pay you 150 million on the spot in exchange for 25% of the stock. For an investment company like you guys, this is a deal that is a win for you any way you look at it."

Celine replied without any expression on her face, "Mr. Laine, I don't think you understand. For our investment company, the most important thing is trust. Since we've already signed an agreement with Sena, we'll do things according to the agreement."

"If that's the case, what if Sena is destined to never be listed? Even though Dane is the chairman of Sena, he might not be the biggest shareholder," said Jasper insipidly.

"In order to get more investment, Sena kept diluting and issuing stocks over the years. Three investment companies in the country held a total of 34% of Sena's stocks at the time, and that 34% are in my hands now."

Jasper laced his fingers together and looked at Celine and Miss Stone whose expressions had changed abruptly. Then, he said calmly, "A company will only go public after gaining approval from two-thirds of all of the shareholders. I already own over 34% of the shares, so I have the sole power to decide if we go public or not.

"If I disagree, what will Colossal Investments use to list the company? The decision alone from the internal shareholders of Sena will not be sufficient to save the deal in this situation. Is Dane going to use his head to try to get listed on the Nasdaq?"

Jasper's words felt like a clap of thunder. It was so shocking that Celine and Miss Stone started to breathe heavier.

"How is that possible? We did a background check but we didn't learn anything about this. Moreover, does Dane not know about this?" Miss Stone muttered.

Jasper replied calmly, "I am deliberately scheming against Dane, so why would I let him know? As for your background check, to be honest, you still need to strengthen your information network in the country.

Celine looked heatedly at Jasper and said, "If that's the case, then the contract William signed with Sena has major issues. I need to report to the headquarters now."

Jasper said casually, "While you're at it, tell your boss that you're only going to make them a profit of from this 150 million dollar deal."

"Please wait for my update, Mr. Laine," Celine said.

Jasper smiled and replied indifferently, "I've been babbling for too long, so I should take my leave now."

Miss Stone watched as Jasper left. Then, she could not control herself and asked Celine, "Miss Maynard, can we trust him?"

Celine sighed deeply. "If this were someone else, I would not believe them, but he hosted a market rescue of hundreds of billions in Harbor City and has a good relationship with the Laws. Even the government of Harbor City admires him, so I don't think he has a need to lie to us."

"In that case, what are we going to do?" Miss Stone said in appall.

"I think we should ask the headquarters in Wall Street to start a shareholder meeting to talk about this," Celine sighed.

"What does Jasper want from doing all this? Even if he's all that, it was all done in Harbor City. Our country is not like Harbor City, yet he thinks he can defeat Dane? I don't believe him," Miss Stone spat coldly.

Celine looked fixedly at her and said, "We don't have any business in his gripe with Dane. Now, I need to immediately report this to the higher ups."

Miss Stone huffed and was looking down on Jasper's personality. She felt that he was a vile character who would backstab others at a moments notice.

What big accomplishment could this despicable vermin achieve?

She scoffed.

Miss Stone was suddenly looking forward to this. She could not wait to see Jasper suffer a crushing defeat at Dane's hands even after doing so much and spending so much money.

At this moment, Jasper had just walked out of the hotel as he called Jack.

"Jack, contact the person in charge of Montagne Capitals. Tell them I want to buy their 34% stake in Sena. If they don't agree, tell them I've already gotten 25% ownership of Sena from Colossal Investments."

Life at the Top Chapter 275

After going back to Terizone, Hudson and the rest were not back yet. Inside the office, Jasper and Jack were sitting next to each other.

“I’ve contacted Montagne Capitals and they want to confirm whether you’ve really gotten Colossal Investments’ 25% of the shares, Mr. Laine.”

After he heard what Jack said, Jasper smiled and said, “You want to know too, right, Jack?”

Jack chortled and said, “I think it’s true. If this was someone else, I won’t believe them, but if it’s you, there’s a possibility.”

“You think so highly of me.” Jasper shrugged. He was not a god, so he could not make everything go his way.

Basically, the plan this time was to use the misinformation between Montagne Capitals and Colossal Investments to create a chance to gain some advantages.

Jasper told Colossal Investments that he had Montagne Capitals’ 34% of the shares. He was using this to threaten them to make them realize that if they did not nod their heads, Sena would not be able to float in the market.

As such, they would definitely sell their shares.

As it was Sena’s internal problem that caused their float to fail, according to the agreement, Colossal Investments would automatically get 25% shares as compensation.

On the other hand, Jasper could use the fact that he got Colossal Investments’ shares as a requirement to buy the shares Montagne Capitals had.

Montagne Capitals would not have a reason to decline that as well.

After Jack heard what Jasper said, he widened his eyes and said in disbelief, "You're saying that... you're lying to them?"

Jasper smiled and said, "I'm not lying because I'm this close to getting my hands on Colossal Investments' share of Sena's shares, and it is indeed 25%."

Jasper told Jack about his plan.

Jack was dazed and dizzy after he heard it.

"To be honest, I'm so impressed with you," Jack said sincerely.

"These are just cheap tricks. The main problem is that we're still not strong enough. If not, we wouldn't have to use such cheap tricks and could just crush them brazenly," Jasper lamented.

Jack said, "You're still young and have a long future ahead. In a few more years, you'll be able to reach the height you mentioned. To be honest, I have no idea where you'll be in the future, but it must be a height that other people can only look up to.

"How should I reply to Montagne Capitals then?" Jack asked.

Jasper hesitated for a while before saying, "Did they quote a price?"

Jack said, "They did. 200 million."

"They only invested 80 million back then, right? It's just been two years and they're selling it for 200 million. What great businesspeople," Jasper said dully.

Jack laughed and said, "There's still a very large chance with this price."

Jasper shook his head and said, “No, we don’t need to negotiate the price. Just promise them. The requirement is to deal immediately.”

Jack was stumped for words. He could not help but say, “We could at least get it down to 180 million...”

“Jack, we don’t have any stocks with us. If this drags on, problems will arise,” Jasper said with a smile.

“The most important thing is that I can double this 200 million very soon. Everyone underestimates that Sena still has the value of Terizone. If I combine these two companies into one, who else would become the king of the internet in this country?”

Jack stopped speaking abruptly and looked at Jasper while overwhelmed with shock. He muttered, “If that’s the case, Terizone could skyrocket. It would be immeasurably valuable to be number one in the country’s internet industry.”

“That’s why I’m asking you to talk to them about this for me. Go as soon as you can,” Jasper said.

Jack got up and said seriously, “Alright, I’ll get to the airport now and talk to the people from the headquarters of Montagne Capitals. I’ll do my best to close this deal.”

“Thank you for your hard work.” Jasper patted Jack’s shoulders.

Jack smiled and said, “I’m included in the vesting. The more the company earns, the more I’ll get, so this is not hard work at all.”

“Indeed,” Jasper said with a loud laugh.

Sometimes, actual benefits would be more trustworthy than relationships and feelings.

Colossal Investments was an investment company that was top in the world and could be said to be very efficient.

Jasper received a call from Celine that night.

An hour later, the sky turned black and Jasper once again came to Ritz-Carlton Hotel.

This time, Celine was standing at the door to wait for Jasper unlike in the morning.

“Mr. Laine, we meet again,” said Celine as she reached out her hand to shake Jasper’s.

Jasper smiled and shook Celine’s hand. He said, “Is there a conclusion?”

Celine nodded and said, “Actually, the higher-ups are moved by Mr. Laine’s suggestion, because to us, gratuitously making 150 million just by reselling our stocks and agreement would be like finding money on the streets.”

Jasper and Celine walked into the hotel shoulder to shoulder. After Jasper heard that, he laughed and said, “Under normal circumstances, this would be followed by bad news, Miss Maynard.”

Celine looked at Jasper in surprise. She said, “Mr. Laine, do you know how to read minds?”

“I’m just very observant,” Jasper smiled and said.

Celine pondered for a while and then said, “Just as you expected, Mr. Laine, Mr. William is very opinionated about this plan. He thought we should investigate this properly. Even if we’re violating an agreement, we can only talk about this after we let Sena violate it first.

“His reason being that as long as Sena can float successfully, then the profits Sena will bring to Colossal Investments might be much more than 150 million.”

Jasper nodded and said, “Things will be as he said. After all, if Sena floats successfully, the shares of 25% would definitely be more than 150 million. What do the higher-ups think then?”

Celine’s expression looked solemn. She looked at Jasper and said, “I’ve already convinced the higher-ups, but Mr. Laine, I want to know how confident you are.”

Jasper chuckled softly. “100%.”

At one side, Miss Stone had been silent the entire time. However, at this moment, she displayed a cold smirk. “Mr. Laine, don’t talk big. In order to side with you, Miss Maynard has had to bear a very huge risk.”

Jasper furrowed his brows and looked at Miss Stone. He said coldly, “There are only advantages and no disadvantages to this plan no matter for Colossal Investments or Miss Maynard. This is a plan that benefits three parties, including me.

“Miss Maynard needs a huge contribution to stabilize her position, and there can only be one voice in the Terra region. It would either be hers or William’s. Miss Maynard, if you’re worried that this plan isn’t reliable, then you can say no. I’m not begging you to work with me!”