

Life at the Top Chapter 761

A video call that spanned the distance of half the earth was established.

Celine Maynard sat in front of the computer. She stared at the image of Paulson on the screen with a calm expression.

Due to the time difference, it was now afternoon on Paulson's side of the world.

Evidently, he was extremely busy. After accepting the video call, he immediately said, "Celine, you have ten minutes to talk to me. There's another important meeting that I need to attend in ten minutes' time."

Celine nodded to indicate that she understood. "In that case, I'll get straight to the point. I don't mind if the headquarter sends a team to investigate me, but Jasper Laine's listing plan for Sena cannot be put on hold because of this," she said intently.

Paulson shook his head. "Celine, although I've always admired your capabilities, you let your emotions get in the way this time," he said in a regretful tone.

"You have to understand that the questions raised by the directors are perfectly reasonable, and they also have the right to do so. This is the power that has been granted to them during the shareholders' general meeting, and I cannot do anything about it."

Celine replied solemnly, "Even so, anyone can tell that this listing benefits not just Jasper, but also our investment bank, right? We cannot just push Jasper into the hands of our competitors just because a few directors disagree.

"If that happens, Layman and Merlene Investments will be laughing at us in their sleep."

Paulson frowned. He fixed a deep gaze upon Celine and said, "Celine, tell me right now. Why did you take the initiative to reduce Jasper Laine's commission by 20%?"

"I did that to win him over," Celine replied immediately without thinking twice.

"As I had previously reported to you, Jasper Laine is undoubtedly a business prodigy that everyone is underestimating. Sena, which is an extremely high-achieving company in our eyes, is simply one of the many companies in the diverse group of businesses that he owns.

"I think that our investment bank will benefit greatly from working together with someone like that."

Paulson smiled and said, "I have to admit that Jasper Laine is a wondrous businessman. However, this does not mean that the board of directors will accept your excuse. To them, this listing case is indeed rewarding, but they are more concerned about the possibility of collusion occurring between internal members of the company and outsiders."

"That's why I'm not against the headquarters' decision to send an investigation team over. They can investigate all they like. However, if Jasper cancels his deal with us over this, we will hurt badly!" Celine argued.

A slight frown formed on Paulson's face. "As I said, this is our directors' choice. There is no way for me to prevent it from happening," he said.

"Yes, you can. As the chairman, you can use your veto power to veto their review of the listing," Celine said.

Paulson burst out into laughter. "Celine, are you kidding me right now? Are you asking me to go against those directors because of Jasper Laine? What good does this do me?" He asked.

"I'm willing to bet my entire career on this!" Celine suddenly said.

Paulson's smile froze on his face. He pinned a deep gaze on Celine and asked her solemnly, "Do you know what you're talking about?"

"By all means, run the investigation, but any no circumstances can you stop the listing. If any problem arise, I'll resign immediately," Celine said calmly after taking in a deep breath.

Paulson remained silent for some time.

Right then, someone knocked on the door to Paulson's on the other end of the line. His secretary had come over to remind him that his time was up.

"Ask them to wait for a moment as I have an important matter to handle right now," Paulson said. After that, the sound of the door closing could be heard. He then continued to face the screen to look at Celine. "Celine, your father and I have been close friends for decades. I don't want to see you make this big mistake," he said.

"This is too risky for you. There is too much at stake. If something unexpected happens, you will not be able to continue working in the financial industry for the rest of your life. This does not just apply to Wall Street. No other investment bank in the world would dare to employ you ever again."

"I know what I'm doing. Please help me this once, Uncle Paulson," Celine said in an even tone.

Paulson let out a sigh and said, "I'm afraid that your guarantee isn't enough to change the minds of those stubborn directors."

"In that case, I'll add on one other thing. If the share price of Sena is less than a hundred US dollars, I will voluntarily resign as well. I will also compensate the investment bank for their loss with an amount three times the commission. I'm giving you my word as the second-in-line heir to the Maynard family. Is that enough?"

Celine's words traversed across the oceans and rang out loud and clear in Paulson's office room.

Paulson stared at Celine, who was wearing a calm and determined look on her face, in shock. He then shook his head.

"A hundred US dollars? Do you know what a share price of a hundred US dollars means? After Nasdaq went through the Internet bubble, there are only a few dozen stocks worth more than a hundred US dollars left. Those companies all consist of large and well-known global companies!"

Celine did not say anything. She understood what Paulson was implying more than anyone else.

However, if she did not come up with such a bargain, the directors would never concede.

Therefore, Celine continued stare directly into Paulson's eyes calmly.

Meanwhile, Paulson did not say anything either. He had watched Celine grow up and understood that whenever she showed such an expression, it meant that she would not go back on her words.

"I will try my best," Paulson said and hung up on the video call.

After going through all of that, Celine leaned back on her chair in exhaustion. As she lowered her head, she caught sight of the red high-heels that she was currently wearing. Suddenly, she laughed out loud.

Was it worth it? Nobody knew.

Anyways, she had bet everything, her career included.

It was all because of this pair of red high-heels from that night.

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Jasper did not see Celine for a few days. On the first day, Julian told him that he had caught sight of Miss Stone leaving the hotel despondently with all of her luggage.

Jasper was not sure about what had happened within the company. He did not intend to understand what had happened either.

He had even begun to contact other large investment banks like Layman or Merlene Investments.

In his opinion, Colossal Investments was acting like they were high and mighty. If that was the case, he could just change partners. It would be just another collaboration.

In any case, the company would be listed on the Nasdaq all the same. He did not worry about it at all.

On the third day, which was the last day of Celine and Jasper's agreement, Celine knocked on the door to Jasper's room.

She was still as graceful and charming as always. There was a hint of gentle loveliness in her pretty, feminine features as she smiled at him sweetly.

"It's done. The listing of Sena has officially been approved. On the other hand, the headquarters have already begun lobbying the Nasdaq Review Committee. We shall soon head to New York to ring the bells," she said.

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“Are you alright?”

Jasper glanced at Celine, who was sitting in his living room, in the midst of enjoying some snacks with milk. He then asked her this in a suspicious tone.

Although Celine looked exactly the same as she did usually, Jasper felt that something was wrong.

“I’m good,” Celine said, casting an odd glance at him. She then lowered her head to look at herself. “Is there something wrong?” She asked.

Jasper sat down and opened a bottle of beverage for himself. “Has everything been resolved?” He asked.

“Everything has been resolved,” Celine said in a relaxed tone. “Are you forgetting who I am? Is there anything that I can’t deal with? Do you really think that I’ve gained nothing from working at Colossal Investments all these years? I have plenty of connections, alright?” She added.

“You make it seem easy,” Jasper said. He narrowed his eyes at her as he did not believe a single word that she was saying.

The more indifferently Celine behaved, the more he certain he felt that the issue this time was serious.

Although he had never worked at Colossal Investments before, Jasper had been a veteran in the financial circle in his past life. He had seen all sorts of workplace battles.

Furthermore, he was managing a bunch of people under him in his current lifetime.

Jasper knew very well that one could be wiped out at any moment as people in the company schemed and plotted against each other.

It was a battlefield where smoking barrels could not be seen.

This was especially true for top investment banks like Colossal Investments, as they already had in place a complete ecosystem nestled within the company. Such working environments were terrifyingly cruel.

There were plenty of power struggles constantly occurring within the company.

“If you can’t do it, you can just give up. I’ve told you that we’ll still be friends. When it comes to Colossal Investments, I can always change working partners. There’s no need to give in to their demands,” Jasper said.

Celine pinned a long, meaningful gaze upon Jasper. “I’ve put in a lot of effort and work into this. I’ve put almost all that I have into this project, and now you’re saying that you want to change your working partner? I won’t agree,” she said.

“Alright, alright,” Jasper chuckled. “Since you’re giving me a 20% commission, I won’t let you down,” he said.

“Also, I heard that you fired your secretary.” Jasper asked casually.

“I’ve fired her,” Celine said nonchalantly. It was as if he was talking about something insignificant. “She is no longer qualified for her current position, so she has no choice but to leave,” she added.

“Your personal secretary wasn’t qualified for the position, and you only just realized it now? You’re only tackling this issue now?” Jasper asked.

Celine stared at Jasper. “Why are you asking so many questions today?” She questioned.

“Was she going against you or me?” Jasper asked her another question, blatantly ignoring Celine’s evident distaste.

Celine huffed and threw a chip into her mouth. “She was going against the both of us,” she said.

“Was it William?” Jasper asked.

“You’re quite a smart one,” Celine praised him.

“If she only went against you, I wouldn’t have been able to guess it. There are 8000 to 10000 employees in Colossal Investments, and the only people I know there are you and William. Therefore, if she was going against me as well, he had to be the one behind it,” Jasper said in a calm tone.

“Why? Are you unhappy about it? Do you want to go challenge him as well?” Celine asked him cheerily.

“If the opportunity arises, I won’t let him go so easily,” Jasper replied.

Although Jasper did not care much about the internal power struggles taking place within Colossal Investments, nor did he care about working together with them, someone that wanted to defeat him would be a danger to him sooner or later. This was especially true if it was someone holding a high-ranking position like William, the president of the Terra regional branch.

“Alright, I’m full now. I’m going back,” Celine said as she stood up and brushed off the crumbs of food from her hands.

“I’ll be busy with work the next few days due to the heavy workload. I still need to organize the entire process of your listing, so I have an afternoon flight back to Harbor City.”

Jasper got up and replied, "Since the listing of Sena has been confirmed, I need to make some arrangements as well."

"In that case, we'll both be busy with our own work," Celine said with a smile as she walked in front of Jasper.

"Will you miss me?"

"I won't miss a married woman," Jasper said with a rigid expression on his face.

Noticing the frown forming on Celine's brows, Jasper spoke again. "But I'll miss my friend," he said.

"You know exactly what to say," Celine said happily. She waved her hand and said, "Also, don't call me a married woman. We simply staged a wedding and received a foreign marriage certificate that isn't recognized in Somerland. That's it, there's nothing else going on between the two of us."

"Are you hinting that I can try becoming the third party in your relationship?"

Jasper chuckled. After knowing her for some time, Jasper knew that she could take a joke like that.

Celine rolled her eyes at Jasper. "You can try. It's easy to win my heart," she said.

"I could never move your heart," Jasper said as he stared at Celine's imposing figure.

"Tsk, what a man," Celine pouted in distaste as she walked toward the door.

She opened the door and stood by the exit. Then, she suddenly turned around and smiled radiantly at the sight of Jasper watching her leave. "In that case, see you in New York?" She asked.

“See you in New York.”

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Celine left just like that. She did not look back.

She did not even ask Jasper to send her to the airport.

She called a taxi to the airport on her own.

Noticing that she had checked out and left, Jasper felt slightly somber.

“Please be careful, Jasper,” Julian, who was beside Jasper, blurted out suddenly.

“You little rascal. You rarely say anything, but your words never fail to make me uncomfortable.”

Jasper glared at Jasper. “Why should I be careful? There’s nothing going on between the both of us,” he said.

“I don’t know about that, but from a man’s perspective, if Ms. Schuler and Ms. Law are both beautiful flowers with contrasting styles, Ms. Celine Maynard is a wildflower that men simply cannot get out of their minds. It’s addictive,” he said.

“Furthermore, she’s a married woman. How exciting is that? A man will surely have fantasies, right?”

Jasper stared at Julian in shock. “F*ck, what have you been doing these days? The way you speak has levelled up greatly,” he said.

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After bickering with Julian, Jasper no longer felt downcast about Celine’s departure for Harbor City. He then called Jack Tanner over.

“Jack, are you interested in going to New York with me to ring the bells?”

Jasper’s words caused Jack to feel a surge of excitement.

“Has the deal been completed? Didn’t you previously mention that there were some problems with it?” Jack asked in surprise.

Jasper could not hide his plans of listing Sena from Jack, who was in charge of the company. In fact, the both of them had negotiated and decided on many of the strategies that they would be imposing during this period.

Jack looked forward to Sena’s listing as well. For any professional manager out there, getting listed would be the highlight of their careers.

“Everything has been resolved,” Jasper chuckled.

“We’ve now officially started the countdown to the listing. We are yet to decide on a specific date, so you’ll need to carry out the relevant preparations. The company must not face any problems during this period.

“When the company gets listed, it will definitely benefit the employees. You should also design a reward scheme. After all, good things should be shared.”

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The news about Sena’s upcoming listing in the United States was spread by unknown sources.

This news instantly lit up the entire domestic Internet industry.

Frankly speaking, people with a long-term vision could already see that Sena's moves would completely change the ecosystem of the entire domestic Internet industry when the game "United Legends" was released.

It cleared the path and introduced a new way for Internet companies to make a profit, which was by earning money from online gamers through the development of online games.

For companies that were yet to find a profitable direction under the traditional Internet business model, online gaming was obviously a good way to plug their losses and increase their profitability.

However, when news about Sena's upcoming listing broke, everyone was shocked when they realized that this had been their actual goal all along.

Because of this, Sena's overall strategy and intentions had gradually become clear to the public.

Sena made use of United Legends to achieve profitability, and it proceeded to make use of its high profitability to promote the listing of the company.

It seemed like an easy process as it only consisted of two steps.

However, how could Sena be so sure that they would be able to achieve profitability through United Legends?

In fact, not only did they achieve profitability, but they earned crazy amounts of profits.

All the personnel within the domestic Internet industry gained a surge of confidence through their achievements. They looked up to Sena and wondered how a domestic company like them would perform after going public on the Nasdaq.

In a sense, Sena's public listing in the United States represented the honor of the whole of Somerland's Internet industry.

If Sena gained popularity, everyone else would be thrown under the spotlight as well. If Sena's market widened, the whole industry would benefit from it.

Moreover, if Sena did not make it big, everyone would just disregard them and just look for other online games to monitor. They could always think of other solutions if that were to happen.

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As change rippled through the outside world and drew the attention of countless individuals toward Sena, Jasper, who was the driving force behind it all, was having tea with Mr. Malibu in his office in Nauritus City.

Henry Law, who had a wide smile on his face, was seated next to them.

"Malibu, your Somerish really sucks. You should really get a better teacher so that you can learn better," Jasper said while he handed a cup of tea to Mr. Malibu. Mr. Malibu, who was born in the United States, had fallen in love with the tea culture in Somerland lately. He had also miraculously quit drinking coffee.

With teary eyes, he had expressed his regrets of being poisoned by coffee for decades before encountering the magic of tea from Somerland. Indeed, it was such a pity.

"Really? However, Kelly told me that I have progressed a lot. Somerish is really difficult, but I will work hard to learn the language," Malibu said in a slightly embarrassed tone.

"Malibu, you meant to say that you have improved a lot, right? Progress isn't the right word," Jasper said in exasperation.

“Haha,” Mr. Malibu let out a bark of laughter. “Yes, yes, I have improved a lot...” he said.

After chatting and joking around for a while, Jasper looked at Henry. “How’s the plan? Have you figured out how much money you can raise?” He asked.

Henry had a look of anguish on his face. “Can’t I ask my father and younger sister to pay in advance?” He asked.

“I will send a document over to each of them. Don’t you want to spend the money that you’ve earned on your own? If you do, you have to use your capital, and yours alone. Borrowing money from others does not count,” Jasper told him in an irritated tone.

“I can’t bear to watch the opportunity to earn a fortune slip by. I can withdraw a sum of 30 million Harbor Dollars at most,” Henry said with a tormented expression plastered upon his face.

Jasper looked at him in shock. “You must be the poorest man among all those from the wealthy second generation out there,” he remarked.

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“I’ve already bought a yacht and a car. Besides, I also spend up to several tens of thousands of dollars every time I go out,” Henry said in a regretful tone.

Once Sena gets listed, an internal placement process will be carried out. In other words, shares will be sold to internal buyers in advance. When Sena gets publicly listed, they will then be able to sell their shares according to the market price.

Transactions like this usually yielded a profit unless the share that they owned was worthless, causing the listing price to fall below the opening price. In that case, a huge loss would be incurred. However, such incidents rarely happened.

After all, it was impossible for the shares of a foreign company that was worthy of being listed on the Nasdaq to be worthless.

Furthermore, anyone with decent insight could tell that Sena definitely had the prospect to be a profitable investment.

Naturally, Jasper did not forget about Henry when this excellent opportunity to earn a fortune arose.

Jasper gave the Laws a pre-IPO quota of 200 million dollars. Meanwhile, Kayden Langdon was allocated a quota of 100 million dollars as per their previous agreement. Of course, he did not forget about Schuler Corporation either. Dawson Schuler was also allocated a quota of 200 million dollars. As for the others, Jasper intended to release a quota of 50 million dollars for the company's veteran employees.

For instance, Hudson Moore and his team had worked under him for a long time and had faced countless struggles throughout their time with him. Nevertheless, it seemed like they did not have many opportunities to reap benefits or wealth.

Although Jasper paid them a salary that was above the industry standard, this did not stop him from awarding them with a variety of benefits for their conscientious work.

As for Henry Law, Jasper had always given him special treatment.

In addition to the Laws' pre-IPO quota, Jasper had promised Henry that he would allocate him shares equivalent to whatever amount that he was able to raise.

However, Henry did not fare well. His savings only consisted of 30 million Harbor Dollars.

According to the currency exchange rate at the time, it was only worth around 28 million Somer Dollars.

“You should just give up. I’ll help you round it up to 50 million dollars,” Jasper said. He had a headache when he thought about it.

Henry stared at Jasper blankly. “How much will I be able to earn then?” He asked.

“Don’t worry, you’ll definitely be able to get yourself a private jet,” Jasper said cheerily.

Henry immediately got excited. “Sure, I’ll follow you to the United States for the listing then. I’ve been there countless times before, but I’ve never seen the bell in Wall Street being rung before,” he said.

“No problem. Have all the issues at the amusement park been resolved?” Jasper asked.

“Everything has been resolved. There are just some small problems left, but matters like sorting out the materials and submitting them for approval do not require my involvement,” Henry said with a stony expression on his face.

Jasper chuckled. “Sure thing, I’ll notify you later on when the time comes. It should happen in the next few days,” he said.

After going through everything, Jasper suddenly realized something that seemed slightly off.

When other companies got listed, they usually worried about not being able to sell off all the shares allocated under their pre-IPO quotas, and they were usually left with a large sum of shares because of this. However, the pre-IPO quotas that Jasper had prepared were insufficient to meet the current demand.

As things stood, Henry's quota of 50 million dollars, the Laws' quota of 200 million dollars, Dawson Schuler's quota of 200 million dollars, the Langdons' quota of 100 million dollars, and the 50-million-dollar quota allocated to the company's veteran employees had all been confirmed. A total quota of 600 million dollars had already been met by these people alone.

"Mr. Laine, I would suggest not allowing any more pre-IPO allocations," Malibu offered Jasper his suggestion.

"A pre-IPO quota of 600 million dollars is already considered excessive as these will count toward the total share capital in the future. If it increases any further, too many shares will be cashed out at once when the market opens, and this will impact the share price."

Jasper nodded understandingly as he registered Malibu's words.

Once the stock price stabilizes, the pre-IPO quota of 600 million dollars will definitely be cashed out. If too many shares are cashed out at the same time, Sena's share price will indeed be affected.

If that happens, they might take a heavy blow.

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Jasper had just finished his discussion with Malibu when his phone rang. He had received a call from someone unexpected.

It was a call from Gale Hurlbutt.

"Old Master Hurlbutt, how have you been lately?"

It was necessary to remain respectful when he spoke to the leader of Sander Merchant Faction

Gale's laughter rang out from the other end of the phone. "You've been quite active recently, you sly child. Can't you put a hold on things for a moment?" He asked jokingly.

"There are too many wolves chasing after me from behind. I can't stop now. If I put a hold on things now, I'm afraid that they will swallow me whole," Jasper replied in a contemplative tone.

Gale was amused by Jasper's metaphor. "You're exaggerating. You're now a popular hotshot within the domestic financial circle. Countless people are using all possible means to seek out connections or win favors in hopes of buying over some of Sena's pre-IPO stocks from you," he said.

Jasper suddenly became alert upon hearing what he had said. "Old Master Hurlbutt, to be honest, I'm also struggling due to this issue right now. The pre-IPO quota is limited. The Laws want some of it, and my father-in-law wants some of it as well. I've also allocated some of it to Half-the-Harbor Langdon," he said.

"I can't refuse any of their requests. With requests coming in one after another, there simply isn't enough to go around. I have already used up the quota in my hands," he added.

Gale hummed and said, "You're a sly child indeed. Don't worry, I'm not interested in such businesses. I won't ask you for any."

After hearing what he said, Jasper was overcome with a sense of relief. If Gale disregarded his reputation and insisted on taking some of the reallocated shares, it would be impossible for Jasper to reject his request.

After all, both of them had shared a pleasant collaborative relationship before this.

Since a prominent old senior like Gale Hurlbutt was saying that he did not want any of the pre-listing shares, Jasper would not argue. Even so, Jasper did not mind asking him again out of courtesy.

“No, no. If you want it, I will allocate some to you regardless of the situation,” Jasper said.

“That trick doesn’t work on me. You’re a cunning one, sly child.”

Gale could tell that Jasper was giving him an offer out of courtesy since he had just become aware of the situation. Thus, he did not believe in him at all.

Since Jasper still did not immediately understand his intentions, Gale went straight to the point. “Alright, I’ll tell you everything straight. Initially, some of the members of Sander Merchant Faction that are involved in financial investment wanted to lend you a helping hand once they learned that Sena was about to get listed,” he said.

“However, I asked them not to join in since you already had the support of prominent families such as the Laws and the Langdons.”

A look of regret formed on Jasper’s face after he heard this. “Sigh, please thank them on my behalf. It is impossible to allocate any more shares to anyone now. We’ll work together if the opportunity arises in the future. We’ll earn a fortune together,” he said.

Gale agreed with him cheerily.

The two of them exchanged a few more words before hanging up the call.

After putting down the phone, Gale Hurlbutt got up from the armchair in his study. He snorted and cursed out loud with a smile on his face. “This sly child is always using the Laws and the Langdons to ward people off. Are you afraid that I’ll gobble you up? What a brazen and cowardly man,” he said.

At the same time, Jasper snorted out loud in his office as well.

“This old fox knows nothing about self-respect. Why is he being such a busybody at such an elderly age?”

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It was evident that the news about Sena’s public listing had a large impact on the financial industry, as even someone like Gale Hurlbutt had been tasked with requesting an allocation of shares from Jasper.

Plenty of people could only watch Sena get listed without being able to join the bandwagon as they could not touch any of the preallocated shares. They were all beyond regretful for missing out on an excellent opportunity like this.

Riskless trading was extremely rare within the financial industry.

However, everyone was sure that they would gain stable profits by purchasing Sena’s shares!

The tides surged as Sena, whose impact had just turned the Internet industry upside down, caused the entire financial circle to be on edge once again.

Plenty of people were focused on the next step that Sena intended to take. People were also waiting for Sena to announce the specific plan for the company’s listing.

Amidst the raging chaos, William was the most upset person out there.

William, who had thought that he could successfully defeat both Jasper Laine and Celine Maynard this time around, sat in his office with a despondent look on his face.

“Sign it,” Celine said as she placed an investigation document before him.

William glanced at the investigation document and sneered. “Miss Maynard, you’re quite skillful. You actually managed to persuade the chairman to use his veto power and managed to proceed with Sena’s listing despite offending three directors,” he said.

Celine said calmly, “Anyone can tell that Colossal Investments’ collaboration with Sena will result in benefits for both parties. Do you think that you can stop me with those tricks of yours?”

Laughing coldly, William replied, “Don’t forget that you’re still under investigation. Although you’ve already passed the Terra regional investigation, you’ll still have to face a direct review after returning to the headquarters.”

“I’ve never harmed the interest of Colossal Investments, nor did I receive bribes from anyone ever since I joined the company. Do you think that I’m afraid of getting investigated?” Celine asked in a stony voice.

“Are you going to sign this document? If you aren’t, tell me right now. I don’t need to waste time over here.”

William picked up his pen and signed the document with a blank expression. He then pushed it back to Celine. “Don’t tell me whether you’ve done it or not. Just tell the investigation team,” he said coldly.

“You and Jasper shouldn’t be too proud of yourselves right now. Although Sena is going to be listed, its opening price is yet to be known. I heard that you promised to withdraw from the financial sector and compensate the bank with a sum equaling three times the commission if the share price is below a hundred US dollars,” he teased.

“I really want to know if Jasper is that good in bed, to the extent that you’re willing to pay such a high price in order to protect his interests.”

As soon as William finished speaking, Celine splashed a cup of hot coffee onto him.

William screamed and jumped up after being drenched in coffee. He slapped his face, which had scalded by the hot coffee, repeatedly.

“B*tch, what are you doing?!” William yelled out in anger.

Celine stared at William frigidly. A delicate and charming smile suddenly appeared on her icy face. “Please remember that not just anyone can joke with me like that. Take yourself for instance. Your words disgust me. If it happens again, you’ll get something far worse than a hot cup of coffee,” she said.

After that, Celine picked up the document, turned around, and left gracefully, leaving William roaring in fury in the office.