

Life at the Top Chapter 411

When Jasper said that, Zachary, who had already informed him about the situation, felt his eyebrows tremble. Unexpectedly, Jasper's opinion was so direct and pessimistic.

Were the four rich families in Harbor City so weak even after joining forces?

Zachary felt that Jasper was underestimating the influence of all of the big shots in this room.

The other four heads' expressions did not change, and one could not tell how they were feeling.

After a long time, Spencer said, "Why do you say that? You must know that we're much stronger than the locals in the Mainland, whether it's capital or experience we're talking about it. We'll still have a great advantage, no?"

Jasper laughed and said, "We can't simply calculate this sort of thing based on the advantages we have in our accounts. Naturally, I believe that the strength of those locals can hardly compare to the four rich families. However, the problem right now is that since this is such an important matter. It would be such a headache even for the higher-ups to distribute the profits.

"You must know that the way we do things in the Mainland is different. A lot of things cannot be summed up based on experience in doing business abroad. Moreover, once commercial interests are sufficiently involved, political forces will also leave the playing field. This happens even in the west.

"Regardless of whether it's the local groups or the four rich families of Harbor City, whoever wants to dominate this huge profit will inevitably attract dissatisfaction from the higher-ups."

Jasper's fingers made a circle in front of him and then he cut it from the middle, saying, "The technique of checks and balances is also the technique of the emperor."

After hearing these words, Joe laughed and said, "Your opinion is the same as the result of our previous discussion."

Jasper looked at Joe. He did not think that Joe was forcibly acting like a poser with his remarks.

Would the four rich families be fools if they had status and wealth of this level?

Each of them was smarter than anyone else. Naturally, there was no need to say more about this kind of unsound truth.

Jasper knew that the truly intractable problems for the heads were yet to come.

Sure enough, Joe immediately said, "So in your opinion, how do we approach this and how much is reasonable?"

Jasper sighed in his heart. This was a difficult problem, and it would be difficult to predict no matter who answered it.

If it was just the Laws, then it would be easy to solve.

However, the problem now was that there were four rich families and there were many problems within this unformed alliance.

What was more, they were talking about sharing this with the locals now.

This was what the higher-ups had to consider, so how could it be Jasper's turn to rack his brains about this?

However, this question was brought to Jasper now and he could not pretend that he did not hear it. After a moment of silence, he said, “My opinion is to take less.”

The words ‘take less’ caused the heads of the four families to frown.

Jasper’s answer was obviously not in their interest.

However, everyone stayed calm and was waiting for Jasper to explain.

“Now our greatest advantage is the wealth in our accounts or so-called experience. These people are not lacking in those as well, at least the gap is not too big to be considered incomparable.

“Our real advantage is that the higher-ups hope to establish a good cooperative relationship with us so that we can return to the Mainland to invest. On one hand, it’s to drive the economic development of the Mainland. And on the other hand, it’s also to accelerate the integration of the two places.

“This is our real advantage, and to maximize this advantage, what we need to do is not to compete with others, but to take what we can and then put more energy into other regions and industries in the Mainland.”

With a confident smile on his face, Jasper said, “As long as we reveal this, we will gain a favorable impression from the higher-ups and the local faction will owe us a favor.”

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“The most important thing is that investment in other regions and industries in the Mainland is very promising. Our vision should encapsulate the whole country and not just the next Olympic venue.”

Joe's eyes flickered as if he was thinking about something.

Meanwhile, Spencer frowned and said nothing.

Only Old Master Law and Wallace still had no expressions on their faces, nor did they display their attitude toward Jasper's words.

Jasper sighed and said, "This is a choice of short-term and long-term interest. The construction of Olympic venues can of course get the greatest benefits in the shortest time. But in the long run, if we have an acrimonious falling-out with the local factions and excessively overdraw the favorable impression of businesspeople from Harbor City, it'll only be killing the goose that lays the golden eggs."

"Jasper, you're a bit of an alarmist."

The person who said this was Kennedy who had stayed silent this entire time. He looked at Jasper cheerfully and said calmly, "At the end of the day, the businessmen will solve the business problems by themselves. How will the higher-ups be bothered with so many things?"

"Of course." Jasper shrugged. "However, it also depends on when and where. You want to take down the construction of the Olympic venues so badly because it's of great significance, no? Since it's of great significance, how can you guarantee that the higher-ups will not personally split the profits themselves?"

Kennedy smiled coldly and said, "Jasper, who in this room has less experience than you? The reason we called you here is to flatter you. Don't take yourself too seriously."

Jasper said lightly, "Then, do I need to thank you, Mr. Langdon, for your support? Why don't you think about whether I need this or not?"

Kennedy's face darkened as he said calmly, "You're so hot-tempered, young man. Do you really think you're the chosen one just because you achieved some success during this period?"

"I dare not be the chosen one, but if you don't want to listen to me, you can leave." Jasper looked directly at Kennedy, not giving way.

"You!" Kennedy stood up suddenly, and the atmosphere between the two of them instantly became a state of mutual hostility.

"Ken."

Wallace interrupted Kennedy. After he called Kennedy by his name, Kennedy did not dare to say more.

After taking a deep breath, Kennedy smiled coldly at Jasper and sat back down.

"Okay, I think that's all for today," Wallace said insipidly.

"If we have any new ideas in the future, we can sit down and talk again."

Wallace's words ended this informal meeting.

After everyone left, Old Master Law called Jasper into the study alone.

"Jasper, how sure are you about what you just said?" Old Master Law asked.

"From my point of view, there's nothing wrong with the advice I gave," Jasper said confidently.

After nodding thoughtfully, Old Master Law said, "Then it's settled. The Laws are determined to get the construction project for Olympic Village. We estimate that the entire construction will be between 20 to 30 billion Somer Dollars and I plan to divide this into three parts.

“The Laws will account for 40%, Joe accounts for 30%, and you will account for 30%.”

Jasper raised his eyebrows and said, “30%?”

Old Master Law smiled and said, “Too little?”

Jasper smiled wryly. “It’s a bit too much. This project takes too much money and I need the money somewhere else.”

“The Laws will help you pay in advance in terms of the funds,” Old Master Law said in astonishment.

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Jasper hurriedly said, “No. If I take this offer, won’t I be getting this advantage in vain?”

The old master laughed and said, “Jasper, don’t you understand? Whether it’s the venue construction or Olympic Village, the Laws can’t devour them alone. Moreover, the construction of the Olympic Village is too large. As businessmen from Harbor City, Joe and I have already taken 70% and it’s already a lot.

“Meanwhile, you’re the local representative we elected.”

Jasper frowned and said, “I’m not in any faction.”

Jasper knew too much about how fierce the conflict between factions was. He did not intend to get involved unless it was the last resort.

“Jasper, you’ll find yourself to involuntarily be in many things when you reach a certain position. You’re from the Mainland, so you’ll naturally be regarded as being in the local faction.

“Plus, this is also to protect you. The others regard you as a local faction, but now you have a better relationship with us. When the time comes, you’ll be caught in the middle with enemies coming at you from both sides.”

Old Master Law cleared up the confusion in Jasper’s head.

“The surrounding of the local factions see me as an innate local faction, but in the eyes of their core, such as the W. Langdons, I’m on the side of Harbor City businessmen.”

Jasper frowned, his face thoughtful.

Old Master Law looked at Jasper with a faint smile. He did not disturb his thoughts and was waiting for him to continue his analysis.

“Caught between enemies... Who among the four rich families wants me dead? Is Kennedy so anxious?” Jasper suddenly looked up and said.

Old Master Law was really interested this time. “Why do you say Kennedy instead of Wallace?”

Jasper smiled bitterly. “Old Master, no matter how conceited I am, I’m not arrogant enough to think that Wallace needs to deal with me cautiously.

“On the contrary, it’s Kennedy. Ever since I met him, we haven’t been able to get along. Plus, judging from his attitude toward me tonight, he has tolerated me for a long time.

“As long as he has the opportunity, he certainly wouldn’t mind hitting me when I’m down.”

Old Master Law laughed and said, "Smart."

"In fact, this so-called alliance was initiated by Spencer by mediating and pulling strings in the middle of the proposal. The Boyles' focus has always been on the shipbuilding industry, but this industry relies too much on international trade. If there's turmoil, they're the first to be ruined.

"Spencer is now anxious to find other ways, but his ability falls short of his wishes. He wants to do it but he dare not try, so he proposed to make such an alliance. However, Joe and I are actually not optimistic about it.

"And you've analyzed the reason why just now."

Jasper sighed. "In that case, Spencer is probably also very dissatisfied with me as I broke up the alliance just now."

"If you're in our position, there's no satisfaction or dissatisfaction when you treat a person. It's nothing more than interest." Old Master Law waved his hand, and he was not bothered.

"I've discussed with Joe about the matter from just now. As long as you nod your head, it'll be done." Old Master Law smiled.

Jasper laughed and said, "I'm not in a hurry. After all, the whole plan doesn't even have a proposal. Besides, I don't think the locals will be willing to give up the Olympic Village."

"I'll let Zachary and the others follow up on this matter."

The old master got up and patted Jasper's arm. He said warmly, "Just do anything you want to do boldly. Young people should not be afraid of making mistakes. It's precisely that they have to make more mistakes while they're young so that they won't make any huge mistakes when they're old later."

Jasper got up and smiled. "Old Master, you should rest earlier. I'll remember your words."

Old Master Law smiled and nodded to Jasper before he walked out of the study.

At the entrance of the hotel suite, Zachary sent Jasper out.

"Uncle Law, you should go back too. You don't have to walk me out," Jasper said.

Zachary nodded. Then, he frowned suddenly and said, "Is Henry, that b*stard, doing something again?"

The image of Henry giving Lisa and Ben an evil smirk appeared in Jasper's head suddenly. He said embarrassingly, "He knows when he needs to stop."

"If he truly knows that, I wouldn't have to worry about him so much!"

"Their parents even complained to me, saying that Henry was carrying their son to the room where he stayed and threatened to mess their whole family up!

"What nonsense!"

Looking at the furious Zachary, Jasper silently wished Henry good luck in his heart. However, it was not strange for Henry to do such a thing judging by his temper.

"It has something to do with me this time, so you can't put all the blame on him." Jasper exculpated Henry.

Zachary frowned. "It has something to do with you? Then it seems that this kid is not completely useless. At least he knows who's close to him and who isn't now. Is he avenging you?"

If Henry were here, he would definitely wonder who was Zachary's biological son just from the difference in treatment.

"That kid still needs more training. You need to put in more work in this regard," Zachary said to Jasper.

Jasper nodded and smiled. "I'll treat him as my biological brother."

Zachary grinned. He was very satisfied with the answer.

While watching Jasper leave, Zachary suddenly said, "Be careful with the Langdons."

Jasper paused, nodded to Zachary, then turned and left.

In the car going back, Jasper was looking pensive.

Zachary's reminder sounded extremely unusual.

It was not about Kennedy, but about the Langdons.

Among these four families, there were two Langdons.

The other Langdon family was also cooperating with the Laws to develop the Olympic Village... This was going to be interesting.

When he was back in the hotel, Jasper had just stepped into the lobby when he saw Julian walking toward him. After Jasper saw his face, he sensed that there seemed to be an emergency.

"Jasper, I couldn't get through to you after calling you repeatedly. Something bad has happened," Julian said to Jasper when they met.

Jasper frowned and said, "I was in an important meeting and turned off my phone. What's the matter?"

"It's Henry, but I don't know what happened specifically... He just told me to find you as soon as possible. Jasper, hurry. Go up and have a look," Julian said.

During this time, the relationship between Henry and Julian was strangely well.

A top-notch young master and a top-notch master.

The two who were originally completely unrelated to each other actually had a common topic. Henry also liked this person who was ruthless but not talkative. The two had a good relationship in private, otherwise Julian would not be so worried about Henry.

"Let's talk upstairs."

Jasper said and walked into the elevator.

He had a hunch that his enemies had already begun to take action against him, and Henry might just be their attempt... However, who was so courageous to use the Laws as a touchstone for himself?

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After coming upstairs, Jasper saw Henry in the room. He was sitting on the sofa with a frown on his face.

"What happened?"

Seeing that Henry still had the mood to be mad, Jasper was a little relieved. It seemed that it was not a big deal, at least.

Upon hearing Jasper's voice, Henry raised his head. Only then did Jasper see his blood-red eyes.

"I got into huge trouble."

Henry gritted his teeth while feeling both regretful and angry. There was also a trace of inexplicable grievance.

"Do you think that you haven't been causing huge trouble already? In Anna's words, you grew up in trouble. What are you afraid of? Tell me what happened and I'll help you solve it." Jasper frowned.

Henry clenched his fists and punched down on his knees heavily. He then said in an extremely angry tone, "After I messed with Lisa and Ben a few days ago, I was in a good mood. So I went out to drink with my friends last night.

"However, I don't know what went on. The alcohol yesterday was particularly intoxicating so I got muddle-headed and I think I signed a few contracts... In Swallow Capital, I serve as the general manager of my family's branch here. The more I think about the contracts, the more I think there's something not right with them."

Speaking of this, Henry lifted his head to look at Jasper with fear and anxiety in his eyes. "The family's qualification for the application of the construction projects of the Olympic Village and the Honeycomb Stadium is all dealt with in this branch, and there's more than one billion in the account for the preparation of the project.

"If I had gotten confused and signed a contract that shouldn't be signed, my family will definitely suffer a great loss this time. I can't make a mistake at this critical moment."

While listening to Henry, Jasper's expression also gradually became serious.

If Henry had really, as he thought, stepped into a trap set by others, this matter would be very troublesome.

"The signature of the person in charge is only one of the prerequisites on the company's formal contract. They need the official stamp as well for it to take effect." Jasper frowned.

After finishing speaking, Jasper saw Henry rubbing his face in pain.

"Did you take the official stamp with you? Did you stamp it too?" Jasper asked.

Henry nodded with difficulty. His expression looked horrible, and he said with a lack of confidence, "According to the rules, the company stamp cannot be taken out of the company unless a special application is made. However, in some curious coincidence, I brought the official stamp out yesterday.

"I remember that I seemed to have stamped it..."

Henry finished speaking. His face was as horrible-looking as ash.

Jasper fell silent, pacing back and forth in the living room with his hands on his back.

Although his movements were slow, his brain was spinning fast.

He did not blame Henry. Although this kid really failed to live up to expectations, it had already happened. Even if Jasper chopped Henry into pieces, they still would not be able to change anything.

The top priority right now was to find a way to make up for it immediately.

"Where did you drink yesterday?" Jasper asked.

“The Dynasty in Santos,” Henry immediately replied. As he said that, he raised his head and looked at Jasper with hopeful eyes. “Do you have a way?”

“No.” Jasper shook his head, causing Henry’s eyes to go dark.

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“However, the most important thing now is to make sure whether you signed the contract last night, what contract you signed, and whether the bar has security cameras. The surveillance footage will be much more accurate than your memories. Let’s figure out what happened before we do anything.”

With the bar’s address, Jasper immediately picked up the phone and called Hector.

A local bully like Hector would be much more useful than any other person in this situation.

...

In a private club in Swallow Capital, Erik raised his eyes to Lisa and Ben who walked into the room while trembling all over.

These two people still had wounds on their faces. It was obvious that they had been beaten by the people Henry hired before.

“Did you get the stuff?” Erik asked.

Lisa nodded hurriedly. She took out a thick stack of documents from her bag and handed them to Erik.

After doing all this, Lisa took a step back and stood by Ben's side. The two looked at each other and noticed the panic in each other's eyes.

Erik took the documents and looked at the contents of the contract. As he flipped through the pages, the joy on his face became more obvious.

"I thought it would be just an attempt at best. I didn't have much hope for this but I didn't expect you two to actually succeed!" Erik said excitedly. Even the look he gave Lisa was much better now.

He stood up and touched the bruise on Lisa's face. He said softly, "How are you? Does it still hurt?"

Lisa shook her head. She was feeling aggrieved and sad. Then, she choked and said, "Erik, this is too serious. We really don't dare to get involved in this."

The smile on Erik's face grew brighter when he heard the words. He shook the contract in his hand and said, "You're already involved in this even if you don't want to. Yesterday, you took the drug I gave you, asked someone to get Henry drunk, and then made him sign this contract.

"So now, we're on the same boat. You have no choice but to do this with me to the end."

Lisa looked at Erik incredulously and said, "You told me yesterday morning that as long as we do this for you, we'll be able to get out of this and you'll get engaged to me too!"

Erik had a look of disgust in his eyes, but it was fleeting before a gentle smile appeared on his face. He said, "Of course, I'll get engaged to you. After all, you've helped me so much. Why would I abandon you?"

"However, you also know that we now have a common enemy. If we don't get rid of Henry and Jasper, we won't have a good life in the future. If you help me, it'll also mean that you're helping yourself."

As he said that, Erik chuckled, his eyes full of coldness. He looked at the contract in his hand and said coldly, “Now, not only have we obtained the Laws’ proposal for the Olympic Village, but we also got this stock transfer agreement!

“This is our biggest trump card. As long as we’re willing, we can completely crush the Laws’ entire plan. At that time, even my father will personally thank you two, let alone me.”

Lisa murmured, “Erik, are you giving this contract to your family?”

Erik narrowed his eyes and said coldly, “What’s the hurry? Now that we have the initiative, I also hope to use this contract to play with Henry and especially Jasper. Who does he think he is? How dare he climb up the ladder by stepping on my head?!

“This time, I want the two of them to pay for their arrogance from before!

“After squeezing their value clean, I’ll give this contract to my family. When that happens, Swallow Capital will only have my name while Jasper will be destined to be a poor little worm!”