

Life at the Top Chapter 621

Skyward Aluminum's share price began to fall without stopping until it arrived at the week's first limit down.

It had been no more than three hours since the share price rose to the limit only to fall to the limit down. It was just in time for the morning market to close.

"We'll wait for the afternoon market to open and buy everything there is. I'm going to forcefully raise that price at the limit down until it reaches the upper limit. That should be enough for 5% of shares." Jasper leaned against the chair and smiled at Henry who was gaping in shock.

Henry gave him a thumbs up. "So this is what true power looks like."

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The unusual movement in the share market had also piqued the interest of Skyward Aluminum's Investing Department that had been watching its company's shares.

"Uh, Mr. Clark? Should we tell Mr. Monty about this?" A trader turned to ask Benjamin as he stared at the share price that had reached the limit down. Sweat was beading on his forehead.

Benjamin had a very weird expression on his face as well. The company's shares had been rising to the limit when the market opened this morning and he naturally believed that it was because JW Capital was trying to buy more shares.

He was about to follow up on it when a sudden piece of news came to light. Then, the share price immediately plummeted.

The K-line for the share price was now in the shape of an upside-down V after reaching the summit only to plunge into a gorge.

“I’ve already called him, but it was the butler who picked up instead of Mr. Monty. He said that Mr. Monty is meeting with an important guest and can’t be disrupted no matter what.” Benjamin ground his teeth together. He could not help but feel like something big was going to happen.”

Pondering over it, there were still two more hours before the market opened in the afternoon, so Benjamin stated, “Watch the market during noon. Don’t do anything even when the market reopens without my instructions. I’m going over to Monty Manor.”

With that, Benjamin rushed to Monty Manor.

At the door to Monty Manor, Benjamin was drenched in sweat as he spoke to the butler, “Please tell Mr. Monty that Benjamin has come to see him. It’s really important.”

The butler frowned and replied distastefully. “What makes you think that Mr. Monty will meet you just because you want to see him? I told you on the phone, didn’t I? Mr. Monty is with a very important guest and cannot be disturbed no matter what.”

Benjamin glanced at his watch and realized that there was still an hour before the market reopened. He presumed that their lunch would be over in another hour anyway, so he had no other choice but to wait at the door.

Time ticked by slowly and Benjamin felt more anxious with each growing minute. The butler, though, looked at him calmly with slight disdain.

Up until two in the afternoon when it was time for the market to reopen, there was still no sign of Conrad. Benjamin was frantic now.

“What are you doing?” the butler shouted at Benjamin who was trying to force his way in. “Does Monty Manor look like a place for you to fool around?”

With that, around half a dozen bodyguards rushed out and stared Benjamin down.

“What the f*ck... I’m the investment manager of Skyward Aluminum. I have some very important news to tell Mr. Monty!” Benjamin was close to tears with how frantic he felt.

The butler scoffed. “I don’t care who you are. All I know is that Mr. Monty has ordered that no one is to disturb him no matter what. Either listen and wait, or I’ll throw you out. Understood?”

As the two spoke outside, sounds of conversation could be heard from inside the room as well.

At the next moment, out walked Conrad and Colin together.

Conrad had a small and satisfied smile on his face.

After personally sending Colin out the door, Conrad reached out to shake the man’s hand. “It’s been a pleasure talking to you today, Mr. Walter. So I presume that what we’ve discussed will be confirmed, then. I’ll have to thank you seriously once all of this is over.”

Colin hurriedly replied before looking at Benjamin weirdly. The latter looked like he was about to explode at any second. Colin smiled, saying, “Of course, of course.”

Seeing how the two were still dilly-dallying, Benjamin could no longer hold it back and directly spoke, “Something has happened, Mr. Monty! The company’s share price started off rising to the limit this morning only to suddenly drop to the limit down because of a false rumor! I suspect that Jasper’s doing this on purpose so he can sweep more of our shares!

“He’s going to end up buying all the shares on the market if we don’t do anything!”

Before Conrad could react, Colin’s expression immediately turned weird.

Life at the Top Chapter 622

“Haha. If you’re busy, Mr. Monty, then I shall leave you to it.”

Guilty, Colin did not dare to stay for too long and hastily told Conrad.

Conrad grabbed Colin’s hand intimately and spoke, “Then I shall trouble you with this, Mr. Walter.”

Colin bid him farewell and got into his car.

From the rearview mirror, Colin watched Benjamin speak to Conrad nervously and sighed.

Today might just be the last day Conrad treats him respectfully.

It would be a miracle if Conrad does not kill him the next time they meet.

In addition to the fear swirling in Colin’s chest, there was an inexplicable sense of pride as well.

Naturally, he knew of the situation that Benjamin just reported.

‘Benjamin’s a skilled man himself and he has precisely caught Jasper’s goal. It was a shame... that Conrad would never expect me to turn against him.

'He probably won't care about Jasper's move, would he?'

Colin suddenly exhaled a long sigh. 'Jasper's terrifying. This was a simple plan, to have me pretend to agree to whatever Conrad requests. I'm essentially brewing a cup of poison and making Conrad drink it willingly.'

Hearing Colin fish, the driver asked curiously, "Why are you sighing, Mr. Walter?"

Colin replied calmly, "Change is coming to the Southeast Province."

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"So what?"

Conrad heard Benjamin's report in the study and turned on his computer. It had already been half an hour since the afternoon market reopened.

The shares limit down had been opened but the share prices did not plummet. As if someone was trying to control the market and not let the share prices drop.

"Victory is already ours."

Conrad was in a great mood as he thought about his agreement with Colin today and smiled. "We have 45% of the shares at hand, and with the Southeast Province Mining Co., Ltd on our side, Jasper can do whatever he wants and he'll only have 20% of the total shares. What's he going to do then?"

Scoffing, Conrad spoke, "This is merely his last crazed attempt."

Benjamin was stunned and he asked instinctively, "Mr. Monty, so we'll ignore him, then?"

Conrad laughed aloud and spoke, "He wants to buy shares, doesn't he? Then let him. Instead of fighting for it, we'll sell the 5% we bought with high prices over the past few days."

"This 5% of shares had cost me more than a billion unnecessarily. Now we'll make Jasper give me all that money back. I wonder how angry he'd look when he finds out."

Benjamin's eyes shone and he spoke, "I understand, sir."

Watching Benjamin leave in a rush, Conrad realized that he liked this employee of his a lot. Ignoring everything else, this man's sense of responsibility was a very rare trait.

Planning to promote Benjamin, Conrad walked over to the window to stare at the beautiful spring scenery. His emotions had also truly relaxed since all of this started.

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"That's a lot of transactions."

Henry suddenly shouted at the computer monitor. The man sat in the study with a straw in his mouth as he drank his bottle of coca-cola.

"I saw." Jasper's eyes shone.

"That's a huge business, he's giving you control over the market." Henry gasped.

Without hesitation, Jasper bought everything. Thus controlling the k-line to stay unmoving as it approached limit down.

"I'm more than happy to control it."

Jasper stared into the monitor as if he could see Conrad through it and spoke calmly, "It's him. He wants to earn all that money he paid unnecessarily for these stocks from me."

Henry snickered. He was about to speak when his phone suddenly rang.

Picking it up, Henry conversed with the other end shortly before he waved his phone at Jasper. "It's from Colin. He called and said that Conrad invited him to a two to three-hour lunch."

"As you predicted, Conrad requested that he take a stand on his side. Colin's acted just as you requested and Conrad must've been sold."

The k-line moved around the limit down throughout the entire transacting day and along it tugged the heartstrings of thousands of investors.

Everyone stared at the weirdly moving market and was engulfed in utter turmoil.

Some people could tell that this market was the result a dealer wanted. These people wanted to join, but they did not dare. For the moment the dealer retreated, they would have to take up control next.

However, if they do not enter the market, not earning from a rapid jump in share prices would be as distressing as losing money.

Even organizations with professional teams were confused, let alone retail investors.

Countless professional analysis teams within organizations around the world were wracking their minds trying to analyze and predict what this dealer had in mind.

Amidst everyone's internal conflict, it was currently two-fifty in the afternoon, ten minutes away from when the market would close.

The moment the minute hand hit fifty, the renowned Skyward Aluminum's shares suddenly skyrocketed.

A big upward trendline had pulled Skyward Aluminum's shares from its lowest limit down price straight up.

The line truly resembled a rocket launch.

Countless organizations and retail investors cursed. They wanted to join in but the share prices were rising every second.

The price changed every second and by the time one wanted to buy it, all shares of that specific price were already sold out and the price would rise by another point.

Countless people were so impatient they wanted to break their keyboards, and they regretted their indecisiveness.

Just like that, a huge sum of 2.5 billion entered the market in less than ten minutes. It pushed the market price that was struggling by the limit down for the entire transaction day all the way up to rise to the limit. Locking it there.

In a single day, Skyward Aluminum had undergone a total trade of shares worth over 10 billion. This terrifying amount of transactions had undoubtedly created history in share market A for the year 2001.

One could only imagine how editors of financial channels would have to burn the midnight oil working tonight. For all financial news outlets would be reporting this incident tomorrow.

While the mastermind behind it all was sharing a celebratory glass of champagne with Henry.

"I currently have 24% of the shares on hand right now. I've got to thank Conrad for that 5%, though. Coupled with the 30% premium shares from Southeast Province

Mining Co., Ltd, I suppose it's time for Skyward Aluminum to change its name.” Jasper chuckled, sipping on a glass of champagne with a relaxed look in his eyes.

This wasn't even a true battle, but man was that f*cking exciting,” Henry exclaimed to Jasper with his eyes shining brightly.

Jasper was in a great mood too. He was about to speak when he suddenly received a call from Gale.

This old man must have been watching the share market as well.

“I may not understand the share market, but I do have the country's best traders and analyst teams. I am an old man, sly child, but your work today has me dazed just from listening to them explain it to me.”

‘Do you know how they described you? They said that your work today would be entered into a series of actual analysis cases taught in countless Schools of Economics. You have shown textbook control of the stock market. Very well done. Good job!’

Life at the Top Chapter 623

“One can only do this provided that one is backed by a strong capital, Old Master Hurlbutt. In short, one should spare no expense in exchange for the greatest share of earnings in the shortest time possible.

“Even though this is a good method, it can't be used often as the price-performance ratio is too low.”

Jasper said rationally, not losing his head just because Gale complimented him.

He needed to prepare Gale mentally lest he thought he was losing money upon finding out that he had merely purchased 25% of Skyward Aluminum's shares with a whopping ten billion.

"Mineral resources are massive gold-swallowing beasts. Skyward Aluminum's mine in the Southeast Province was initially worth 60 billion in exploration value. Even after several years of development, it is still worth about 40 billion. This money is worth spending." Gale laughed.

Jasper grinned but did not proceed with the topic.

He could think of several massive mineral resources overseas off the top of his head. Once those mines were developed, each of them would have an output value worth hundreds of billions, and most importantly, the currency was in US dollars.

However, he could only set the plan aside because first of all, the time was not right yet; second of all, the funds and power he had were not enough for him to develop foreign resources.

Nevertheless, the mines would always be there. As soon as Jasper was competent enough, any mining site he chose to develop could easily surpass the mine that Gale and Conrad treasured so dearly.

"I plan to hold a shareholders meeting. I've submitted the application to the Securities Regulatory Commission this afternoon and an announcement will be made much later. Are you sending anyone over, Old Master Hurlbutt?" Jasper asked.

Gale was in high spirits, saying, "I am not going to make a trip there myself. I put you in charge. It is not that easy to earn my commission, you know? I still need you to run a few errands for me.

"Just do what you need to do. I do care about that young man Conrad Monty. His father Steven Monty used to be my good pal. I will talk to him."

After receiving Gale's promise, Jasper said, "I've been waiting for you to say those words. Well then, wait for my news tomorrow."

That night, the Securities Regulatory Commission issued an announcement on their official website.

JW Investment Company now held more than 25% of Skyward Aluminum's shares, and according to the company's article of association under shareholder rights, an official request in convening a shareholders meeting in Skyward Aluminium Co., Ltd had been sent to the Securities Regulatory Commission and was approved.

Conrad had been notified by the Securities Regulatory Commission even before the announcement was made.

In the face of the inquiries made by the relevant person in charge sent by the Securities Regulatory Commission, Conrad let out a breezy smile and said, "Please do what you need to do in accordance with the company's articles of association. He does hold 24% of Skyward Aluminum's shares, and I have no right to refuse the convening of the shareholders meeting, so be it.

"Since he wants to be humiliated so much, don't blame me for using this opportunity to teach him a lesson."

After hanging up the call, Conrad summoned Benjamin.

"The shareholders meeting will be held tomorrow. I need you to make necessary preparations," Conrad ordered.

Still unaware of the news, Benjamin was slightly stunned and said, "Why is he holding a shareholders meeting when he only holds 25% of shares? Does that even make sense?"

“He’s putting up a deathbed struggle, perhaps. Or maybe he’s just trying to release news into the outside world to tell them that he hasn’t given up yet.” Conrad chuckled, fidgeting with the cigar in his hand.

Benjamin sneered and said, “Does he have nothing better to do?”

“Doesn’t matter anyway. Victory lies in our hands. He can do whatever he wants in front of me but I will never let him slip through my fingers.

“That kid Henry is always with Jasper and that’s a bit tough to deal with.” Conrad found this problem slightly difficult to deal with.

He had no scruples about trampling Jasper to death, but when it came to Henry who had the Laws as his backing, he could not help being cautious when taking action against Jasper.

The Laws could not be more terrifying, and the higher one’s ranking was, the greater the effects one would experience.

Life at the Top Chapter 624

Conrad knew he could not offend this unruly young master in public.

After thinking about it, Conrad picked up his phone and made a call to Harbor City.

“Interested to come to Nauritus City to have some fun, Mr. Langdon? The flight’s tonight. You’re in for a great show tomorrow.

“Yeah, I just want to show you how I’ll end Jasper and Henry. Jasper is easy to deal with, but Henry...

“Okay, I’ll leave Henry to you, then. I’ll book your flight ticket and pick you up at the airport.”

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With the outside world following this news, Skyward Aluminum’s shareholders meeting began on time at eight o’clock the next morning.

Downstairs of Skyward Aluminum, Jasper met up with the Securities Regulatory Commission’s retail representative.

“We meet again, Mr. Laine.”

This time around, the representative was a man called Dwayne Martin. He was from the Securities Regulatory Commission’s middle management, representing the Securities Regulatory Commission to oversee the shareholders meeting and to represent the retail investors.

Listed companies were required to accept the Securities Regulatory Commission’s supervision when it involved events that could bring major changes to the company.

Since this was a listed company, there were bound to be retail investors who held the company’s shares. The law stipulated that the right to exercise shareholder rights be given to these retail investors, but since it was impossible for a company to gather all its retail investors, a retail representative would be chosen instead.

As a representative, Dwayne was also here to protect the interests of a group of retail investors.

Jasper shook hands with Dwayne with a smile, saying, “How are you, Mr. Martin? I see you’re here to handle this in person today?”

Dwayne let out a wry smile. “Share prices have fluctuated greatly these days because of you. Yesterday, there was a record-breaking 60 billion direct trading volume and even the higher-ups were alerted. We even worked overtime till late last night just to investigate this.”

“Haha, this was done unintentionally. Please don’t come to me for your overtime pay, Mr. Martin,” Jasper joked.

Jasper would not hesitate to build good relationships with those who held true power and authority because he would never know when he might need their help.

After letting out a chuckle, Jasper and the rest walked into the company’s private elevator. Dwayne spoke under his breath, “Mr. Laine, it’s best if you lie low this time. After all, the share market is really volatile right now and many people are keeping an eye on this news. This won’t be easy for the higher-ups to handle.”

“Rest assured Mr. Martin. Everything will be carried out according to the rules and regulations. I won’t do things rashly.”

At the sight of Jasper’s indifference, Dwayne was a little puzzled.

If this kid knew better than to do things rashly, he would not have caused such a huge problem, and they would not have to deal with this massive headache either.

What was more, in Dwayne’s opinion, Jasper merely owned 24% of the shares. He simply had no ability to contend with Conrad in the shareholders meeting.

Why was he holding the shareholders meeting, then? He would only be tormenting himself, no?

Shaking his head, Dwayne then said with a sigh, “Mr. Laine, our meeting today is going to be a tough battle to fight. Have you made any preparations?”

Jasper could tell that Dwayne was sounding him out and grinned, saying, "Preparations? Well, I woke up early this morning and even changed into a new set of clothes before coming here. Does that count?"

Dwayne glanced at Jasper. This kid's lips were clearly sealed. Not bothered to ask any more questions, Dwayne simply clammed up and said no more.

They were each occupied with their own thoughts. The elevator doors opened and closed several times. A moment later, the meeting on the 16th floor was ready to begin.

Life at the Top Chapter 625

Conrad and Colin were already in the conference room. After Jasper led Henry, Julian, Dwayne, and several of his employees into the room, the main door was closed.

The shareholders meeting had officially begun.

Countless forces and individuals in Southeast Province stared at the main door of the conference room.

In a sense, this was Jasper and Dawson, both emerging bigwigs, challenging the veterans of Southeast Province, the Monty family.

The result of this battle could potentially affect the trend of the entire upper class circle in Southeast Province.

In other parts of the country, the hot money market institutions involved in the mineral industry and even the real estate industry had their eyes fixed on this event today.

The shareholders meeting had a much wider scope of influence than anyone would have imagined.

In the conference room, Jasper and the group's arrival caught everyone's attention immediately.

After exchanging glances with Colin, they both tore their gazes away. Jasper was about to speak to Henry when he heard a fit of laughter.

Conrad walked toward them with open arms.

Obviously, he was here to greet Dwayne, not Jasper.

Conrad and Dwayne seemed really close.

"It's been half a year since we last met, Dwayne. I remember you have rheumatoid arthritis, are your legs better now?"

Jasper mulled over Conrad's deliberate show of friendliness.

Dwayne seemed a little awkward, but he still hugged Conrad lightly and said in a polite tone, "Thanks for your concern, Mr. Monty. My legs are much better now."

"Much better means that they haven't completely healed, then." Conrad seemed to be unaware of how awkward Dwayne looked. He finished his sentence with a smile and turned around to say to Benjamin, "Remind me to send Dwayne a jar of my old medicinal wine after this. That's the best cure for rheumatism. Even my father is drinking it."

Benjamin said delightfully, "Alright, Mr. Monty. I'll make sure to remember that."

Dwayne waved his hands immediately and said, "You're too kind, Mr. Monty. Should we get straight to business first?"

“Straight to business?” Conrad gave Jasper a meaningful look and said, “Of course, we should get straight to business.”

As soon as Conrad said those words, Benjamin said sarcastically, “I wonder what’s going through some people’s heads sometimes. Just because he got lucky and earned some money, he thinks he has become the richest man in the country? He should probably look at himself in the mirror and see who he really is.

“Just because he has a bit of stinking money, he thinks he can lay his fingers on everything? Be careful, because you might not even know how you got killed.”

Benjamin looked at Jasper as he said those words, sneering. “I’m talking about you, Jasper Laine. I really wonder what’s going on inside that head of yours. Why are you even holding this shareholders meeting? Just so you can get humiliated?”

“Does that have anything to do with you?” Jasper asked.

Benjamin said in disdain, “It has nothing to do with me, of course. Mr. Monty is a really understanding man. Since you’re so eager to be humiliated, I will very reluctantly work with him to give you a proper humiliation then.

“You’re holding a shareholders meeting just because you bought some shares on the share market? How hilarious! The shares you hold are only enough for you to do inconsequential things like that.

“Are you ashamed and angry because you’ve failed to acquire Skyward Aluminum after announcing it? Haha.”

Henry was most annoyed when someone behaved excessively complacent in front of him.

He cast sidelong glances at him immediately.

“Do you hear a dog barking? F*ck, I think only the boss has the right to speak here, don’t you think? You’re just a f*cking employee. Who do you think you are?”

“You!” Although Benjamin was furious, he still panicked when he caught sight of Henry’s sinister expression that seemed to be waiting for him to go berserk.

As soon as he panicked, Henry cut him off and spoke first.

“You what? I’ll drag you to a cesspit and throw you in if you keep looking at me with those smug eyes. Watch me!”

Henry’s words left more than a dozen people in the conference room dumbfounded.