

Life at the Top Chapter 1076

With Mr. Clem's help, and Mr. Marshman's promise as the Dean of Hoofmorn University, Tiffany's admission papers were quickly processed.

Almost no time was wasted as Mr. Clem took Tiffany's documents and went to the relevant departments to finalize her admission.

All while Jasper and Tiffany sat in the lounge. Half an hour later, Mr. Clem returned with a stack of materials in his hand.

"It's done. As a special recruit freshman in Civil and Commercial Law in our Law Department, you will study full-time for four years, Tiffany. Your diploma will be the same as the other students who enrolled via the traditional entrance exams.

"Should you wish, you can also take the postgraduate entrance exam for further studies."

Dorian smiled as he told Tiffany, "Welcome to Hoofmorn University, freshman."

Tiffany was respectful and understanding, so she immediately bowed to Dorian once she heard the man's words. "Thank you for your trouble, Mr. Clem."

Mr. Clem smiled widely. He could tell that Jasper cared for Tiffany after this series of events. He did not know what relationship the two shared, but that did not matter to him.

As long as Jasper was Hoofmorn University's partner, then there was nothing wrong with these 'privileges'.

“Not at all. This is my name card, you’re free to look for me if there’s anything you don’t understand in school.

“The lecturer arranged to head your tutorial class is in a lecture right now, so I’ll bring you to meet him after he’s done later. Most of your time here in school will be spent with these lecturer and other classmates,” Dorian said.

Tiffany took the name card with both hands and replied with pursed lips, “Okay, I understand. Thank you, Mr. Clem.”

Jasper got up and shook Dorian’s hand with a smile. “I’ll have to trouble you to help Tiffany from time to time, Mr. Clem.

“I’m not always free, nor will I always be in Waterhoof City. Tiffany’s studying all alone here in Waterhoof City, so I’ll have Tiffany see you as an older brother to turn to. I’ll put her in your care.”

Dorian quickly replied, “It’s no trouble at all. I’m very happy to help.”

Mr. Marshman was in a meeting, so Jasper did not go to visit the man. After processing Tiffany’s admission, Jasper and Tiffany followed Mr. Clem as they arrived at Tiffany’s assigned dorm.

“Tiffany, our school provides single dorms. Are you sure you don’t want them?” Dorian asked.

“No, thank you. Jasper told me that I should socialize more, and I like making friends too,” Tiffany replied softly.

Dorian nodded, feeling that Tiffany was indeed an understanding child.

After they settled Tiffany in, Jasper then pulled out a bank card and placed it into Tiffany’s hand.

“I’ve already pre-deposited your living expenses in this card, and there are many ATMs on campus. Use it when you have to—there’s no need to be frugal. This bit of money doesn’t matter much to me.

“I sent you to school so you can study, so don’t starve yourself of things and experiences just because you’re unwilling to spend the money.”

Jasper reminded, fully aware Tiffany's character.

Tiffany pursed her lips but did not reject it. She took the bank card and looked down as she said, "Thank you, Jasper."

"There's no need to thank me for this," Jasper huffed a laugh, "I'll be going, then. Look for Mr. Clem if you need anything. You can come talk to me too, as I'll come and visit you from time to time. If you're free, you can also go back to Nauritus City to visit your big sis Schuler."

Tiffany nodded heavily as she watched Jasper and Mr. Clem leave.

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Tiffany sighed slightly as she watched Jasper leave with his head held high while Mr. Clem followed with the slight desire to please on his face. An indescribable feeling surfaced in her innocent and pure heart.

Jasper and Dorian spoke happily among themselves as they exited the dormitory. The two men ignored the woman running the female dorms as they walked out openly, garnering the attention of many female students.

Some of them had even recognized Mr. Clem and were immediately stunned. Why would the dean's secretary come all the way to visit the girl's dormitory?

Hoofmorn University had a huge campus with a great environment. A short distance away from the dorms, Jasper pulled out a pre-prepared check and handed it to Dorian.

Dorian was stunned by the act. 'What is Jasper doing?

'Bribery?

'Since when do people bribe in broad daylight so openly?

'In broad daylight, in school where teachers and students are everywhere?'

Dorian frowned and did not take the check. He turned to look at Jasper with a rather stern look in his eyes.

Jasper knew that Dorian had misunderstood, so he explained himself with a smile, "Mr. Clem, I realized that one of Hoofmorn University's libraries is long due for reparations.

"As a businessman with few achievements, I wish to contribute to the maintenance of Hoofmorn University's campus."

"This money is my donation to Hoofmorn University so it can build a new library."

Dorian's doubts vanished when he heard Jasper's explanations. He asked with elation, "Really, Mr. Laine?"

To repay Hoofmon University for their quick process of Tiffany's enrollment, coupled with the fact that they were also research partners, Jasper would not be stingy when it came to doing things that would both better his reputation and improve their relationship as partners.

"Why would I lie about this? It's just a library. I plan to donate even more in the future, mainly to beautify the campus and to improve the living and learning environments of the staff and students," Jasper said with a crescent-eyed smile.

Jasper sure knew how to talk to ensure his own benefits!

Dorian was well aware of what Jasper was trying to do and took the check. He looked at the sum that was more than enough to build a new library and was impressed. "This is a huge donation, Mr. Laine. A ceremony should be held for this."

"There's no need."

Jasper looked around at the youthful and romanticized students as he thought back to the low-ranked university he had graduated from in his past and present life. It could not compete with Hoofmorn University, but it was still his, so he felt that he should go back to visit from time to time.

Emotional, Jasper turned to Dorian and said, "I'm mostly busy with work, so there's no need for any unnecessary formal ceremonies. Just relay it to Mr. Marshman later, he'll understand."

"You're a noble man, Mr. Laine," Dorian said genuinely.

Any other person, wealthy businessman, or Hoofmorn University's successful alumnus would have liked telling the entire world that they had come to donate something.

While they called it donations, the ceremony and everything made it seem more like a chance to show off. Yet, Hoofmorn University had no other choice but to play along exasperatedly with them as they were one of the best academies in the country.

Even if they were a university where teaching and research took priority, people still had to make a living and there was no escaping worldly customs.

However, while Jasper's simple donation was of the largest amounts Hoofmorn University had seen in decades, the man had not said anything nor did he plan to broadcast his contribution.

'What else, if not noble?'

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After bidding Mr. Clem goodbye, Jasper then called Henry only to find that the latter had turned his phone off.

Perhaps he had managed to find a female university student and was trying his luck with her.

Jasper was too lazy to care about what he was up to.

After all, there was no need to worry about Henry's safety when they were in a place like Waterhoof City.

Only madmen would seek out Henry to cause trouble. Not to mention that Henry was well-versed in the ways of trust-fund children and he would be the first to back out when he knew that he could not beat them in a fight. After this, he would either look for Jasper or his family to take revenge for him.

After leaving Hoofmorn University, Jasper and Julian went to pay a visit to the construction site.

Even though the matter was over, Sena's heart still hurt whenever he thought back about the incident. Therefore, he would take a trip to the site whenever he was free. The site also became much more orderly after what had happened.

However, Jasper was surprised to find that he was warmly welcomed by the workers.

"Are you here to see our progress, Mr. Laine? Don't worry, we're all doing our parts well and I'm sure we'll be able to finish construction before the targeted date!"

"That's right, Mr. Laine. I heard from everyone that you're a great employer, how you not only give us workers a good salary, but you always pay us on time too. The catering's fine and I heard that the site even gave Bo ten thousand bucks in advance when his dad got sick!"

"All of us remember the good that you've done for us!"

Jasper acknowledged each of the workers with a smile.

"I had no idea about Bo, nor was I referred to when it happened. But I did advocate for a more humanized management to look out and be considerate of each other since it's not easy working out here."

Sean sighed as he followed Jasper. "The country's real estate industry has been growing lately, Mr. Laine, and the worker's treatment has improved too. But with that also comes more messy situations.

“There are a lot of companies who owe wages to migrant workers and a lot of issues have arisen from this. There’s a lot of conflict and lack of trust between workers and us enterprises as well.

“But our JW is about to become a huge brand. While the other construction enterprises are looking for workers, our JW has workers taking the initiative to contact us for work whenever we put up notices about new projects.

“This happened back in Southeast Province and now in Waterhoof City. It fills me with joy to see such a thing.”

Jasper replied, “These are the benefits of an enterprise with more people-centric management. These are all pitiful people born from poverty-stricken families. There might be a few difficult ones among them, but most of them are honest folks trying to make a living.

“We can’t be too cold-blooded when doing business, and wages have to be distributed on time and according to the agreed upon standard. If there are any complications, then we should also look out and care for them.

“People have feelings, and this amount of money means almost nothing to JW, but it’s powerful enough to influence an enterprises’ public image.

“JW Real Estate’s image has to be shaped and established from the very beginning. Otherwise, it’ll be very difficult to change the horrible impression people have of us in the future.”

Sean nodded solemnly and replied, “I understand, Mr. Laine. I’ll make sure to carry out your instructions!”

Jasper laughed out loud and said, “You’re starting to sound more and more like you’re placating me just so I’d shut up, Sean.”

Sean replied aggrievedly, feeling misunderstood, “I meant what I said though.”

Jasper made his way around the construction site and found himself satisfied with the situation. He had preliminarily approved of this new construction team Sean had formed.

Jasper and Julian did not stay for long, opting to leave for the hotel once they ate something simple at the construction site.

The asset forum conference was to be held the next day, and Jasper had to make his preparations.

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Some unknown time ago, a piece of news began to circulate and affect the hearts of many people in Waterhoof City.

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The opening ceremony of an asset forum conference was about to begin.

This was the year 2001, and ridiculous high-end events had yet to become as common as they would be more than a decade later.

The asset forum, for example, was a concept they had taken from the West. Most people initially did not know what such an event entailed.

Basically, this was an event where a group of successful entrepreneurs would sit down with a few fake economic experts as they proceeded to predict and discuss their hopes for the country's financial situation or the industry's developments.

If the people attending were not powerful enough, then the forum became a joke.

However, this asset forum conference in Waterhoof City was held by Seatreasures International Group, and the person invited was a renowned financial expert in the country. Large companies in Waterhoof City's financial industry were also present.

The most well-known attendee would be the vice president of Haddock's Chamber.

Everyone knew that the symbol of Teo Chamber of Commerce was Seatreasures International Group, which was worth tens of billions on the market. The Teo and Haddock Chambers of Commerce also had many conflicts and they were at great odds with each other.

Therefore, this forum, with so many inter-connected figures, was already incendiary before it even began.

Especially when word got out that Haddock's Chamber of Commerce's vice president was Jasper. People were in an uproar when they did a background check on Jasper.

The majority shareholder of JW Company.

JW was no longer the small company that no one knew of in the past.

With its subsidiaries involved in the dot-com, electronics manufacturing, real estate, and entertainment industries, JW was starting to look more like an established group.

Especially to people in Waterhoof City, where Jasper was leading the construction of the future tallest building in the world.

The strangest part of all was that Jasper's birth and path to entrepreneurship had nothing to do with Haddock's Chamber of Commerce.

Some more knowledgeable people also knew that Jasper was in conflict with the previous president of the Haddock Chamber of Commerce Waterhoof City branch. In fact, Jasper was also directly involved in the other's downfall.

So why did Jasper suddenly become the vice president of the Chamber's Waterhoof City branch?

Under countless curious and confused gazes, the asset forum proceeded anyway in Waterhoof City's W Hotel's main conference hall.

The car slowly drove toward W Hotel's lobby entrance, and from afar, Henry exclaimed as he sat beside Jasper whilst observing the frenzied atmosphere in front of them. "It actually looks legitimate."

The hotel's lobby entrance was already surrounded and packed with reporters while a large group of suited workers with identity cards draping from their necks tried to maintain order.

Under the continuous flashing of cameras, the event had the atmosphere befitting of an important conference.

"Seatresures International Group wants to use this forum to crush Haddock's power in Waterhoof City so that they can get a foothold in the Waterhoof City, the country's financial center's financial industry. It's only normal they would arrange such a grand event."

Jasper was unsurprised as he replied.

Henry's eyes suddenly lit up and he snickered, pointing at a young man who was speaking to someone darkly not too far away. "That's the stupid f*cker from that day, no?"

Jasper looked up at the young man and realized that it was Dudley.

"His father, Alban Ball, is the founder of Seatresures International. I guess you could consider Dudley as its heir, so it makes sense that he's here."

"This is going to be fun!"

Henry rubbed his hands together excitedly. "Let's make it clear now, don't pull me back if that stupid f*cker jumps up. I've been holding it in these past two days and I'm at my limit."

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“It’s JW’s Mr. Laine’s car!”

“Mr. Laine is here!”

One of the sharper reporters had spotted the vehicle and shouted. In a flash, almost all the reporters flooded to approach the car.

Their gazes were filled with excitement as they all wanted to interview Jasper to obtain first-hand information.

At the same time, reporters still engaged in interviews with other people grew awkward and unsettled.

One reporter from South Somer Commercial Post stared at the old man they were interviewing, who was still speaking endlessly. The excitement of getting a chance to interview this renowned financial expert in Waterhoof City disappeared, quickly replaced with impatience and anxiousness.

Seeing how the side of Jasper’s car was already flooded by his competitors, the reporter was beginning to feel hasty since there was almost no space left.

“Of course, an expert’s opinion would definitely be more significant...”

The reporter could not hold it back any longer when he saw how Professor Mack was not done speaking yet.

“Alright, Professor Mack. Thank you for your explanation today, I look forward to more financial knowledge from you in the future! Thank you!”

The reporter interrupted Professor Mack and made his way to Jasper’s car. They did not even notice Professor Mack’s constipated and sour expression.

The balding Professor Mack was dazed.

Reporters would normally be extremely grateful when they had a chance to interview him, treating him with the utmost respect. Yet, this reporter had just interrupted him and cast him aside!

The furious Professor Mack glanced over resentfully. He sneered when he saw Jasper getting out of his car.

“You’re just an immature youth. A child. What economic and financial knowledge can you possess when you’re so young? You just happened to be lucky and made a bit of money! Just you wait, I’m going to make you pay when the forum starts!”

Jasper had just gotten out of the car when he was flooded by reporters.

Jasper smiled wryly at the microphones that might as well be forced into his mouth as he listened to all sorts of questions directed at him.

“Everyone, please calm down. Your safety is the most important thing now. I’ll answer each and one of your questions in a bit. Please forgive me as time constraint forbids me from answering every single one of you.

“This reporter over here, you can ask first.”

The reporter from South Somer Commercial Post was elated when Jasper picked him. He thanked the heavens for throwing away the imbecilic Professor Mack, or he would have lost such a great opportunity now.

Under the envious gazes of their competitors, the reporter asked.

“Mr. Laine, is the skyscraper in construction right now in Waterhoof City one of JW Real Estate’s properties? Have you thought of a name yet? Is it really being construction with the intention of it being the tallest building in the world?”

The questions voiced out the majority of the reporters’ thoughts.

After all, all the news thus far had merely been rumors among civilians and there had never been any formal response to the skyscraper’s construction progress from JW Real Estates.

Jasper gave it some thought before he replied, “You’re right. JW Real Estates is indeed the sole proprietor of the skyscraper in construction.

“Since its initial design, its goal has been to become the tallest building in the world. What I can tell you is that it was designed to be 666 meters tall, and that preliminary construction of the building is estimated to finish within the year. Its name is also confirmed. It will be the World Financial Center.”