

Life at The Top – Chapter 1141

Jasper loved gaming in his past life too.

Because of this, he did hear of some god-level players in a few different games.

WindChaser from Journey to the War, for example, was the trust-fund child of one of Waterhoof City's richest families. The man's family was in the banking business and he had an endless stream of money to use.

Or even Rich All The Way from West Fantasyland.

No one dared to call themselves wealthy in the game without spending at least tens of millions on it.

The most powerful as well as the earliest God-level account was the legendary 8Ls.

The account had spent twenty to thirty million on the game and won in a one against the entire area fight.

The last thing Jasper expected was this legendary 8L player to be Henry.

While Jasper did bring United Legends to the world sooner in this lifetime, fate had still run its course and Henry had still gotten into the game.

While ordinary people might think that spending tens of millions on games was something unimaginable, it was considered a small expense to Henry.

“I have to say, this game of yours is actually pretty fun to play; There are even invitations to fight or defeating bosses. Still, there’s something I don’t like about it.”

Jasper was intrigued when he heard Henry say this.

“What is it? Tell me, and if it makes sense then I’ll go and put in a word with Sena to have them improve it.”

The few young men behind the computers were stunned when they heard Jasper say this.

Holy f*ck. They thought that Mr. Law was already an extremely powerful man.

They did not expect to meet another even more powerful figure who could control Sena.

If this was any other time, these youths might have mocked Jasper for being crazy. However, they watched with their own eyes how uncaring Mr. Law had been as he poured money into the game without batting an eyelid.

There was no way Mr. Law would chat with a madman so joyfully.

“The max level is too low and the map updates are too slow. Everything I have is already maxed out and I only get invites to fight other people,” Henry complained to Jasper, ignoring the shock that all the other youths were experiencing.

“I have no control over specific updates, nor do the reports pass by my hand. But I can help you ask later if there are any arrangements to improve this coming soon,” Jasper suggested with a crescent-eyed smile.

Jasper thought back to how he had pulled Wendy over to open an account when United Legends had just opened a server. He had planned to get married in-game.

In the end, they had not managed to fight the boss with the wedding ring item and had instead been tortured by a guild many times. Holding a grudge, Wendy requested Jasper to ban their accounts and she had only relented after quite a bit of consolation.

Now that he thought of this, Jasper found himself missing Wendy.

The two had audio or video calls every night, but it was different from speaking in person.

“Great, then I’ll await your good news... Oh, right. I just received news from Harbor City. I think you’d be very interested.”

Henry lowered his voice and leaned in to chuckle by Jasper’s ear. He continued, “One of my lackeys in Harbor city said he saw Lisa appear in Harbor City some time ago.”

“What’s she doing in Harbor City?” Jasper frowned slightly.

“Hehe. My boy said that he saw her shopping in a mall. She was alone, but she arrived and left in Fabian’s car!”

Jasper’s eyes lit up when he heard him.

“When was this?”

“A month ago.”

Jasper replied calmly, “That explains a lot, then.”

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Henry still wanted to ask more questions when Jasper waved his hand and said, “Come on, let’s go eat. What about your team of players, should we get them something?”

Henry replied nonchalantly, “No need. I already told the hotel staff to send three meals a day to the room. Their diets are even more balanced than ours.”

Jasper chuckled and replied, “Alright, then. Let’s go.”

...

At the same time, in the Gardner family’s villa.

An old doctor walked out of the room with his assistant in tow. He sighed and turned to Lisa, who looked worried, “Miss Gardner, Mr. Gardner’s condition isn’t looking very good...”

“Our initial diagnosis of Mr. Gardner’s stroke today pins the cause as large emotional fluctuations as well as a long period of irregular diet and rest.”

Lisa’s heart sank when she heard him. She clenched her fists and asked, “Will my dad recover from this, Dr. Tingey?”

The doctor shook his head and replied, “There’s no cure for stroke as of now.”

“Especially when it comes to elders. After having a stroke once, there will likely be multiple relapses and the situation will only become more severe. Please be prepared for the worst, Miss Gardner.”

Lisa’s expression paled as she asked, “What’s the worst possible outcome?”

The doctor sighed again and replied, “Severe and later stage strokes can lead to Parkinson’s disease. This is also known as dementia.”

“Another possibility would be for the stroke to worsen whereby the patient will no longer becomes able to take care of themselves...”

Lisa’s expression darkened and the doctor did not dare to say more. All he could do was comfort her softly, “These things have already happened, and we cannot go back in time to change it. Please don’t think plague your mind with negative thoughts, Miss Gardner.”

“With appropriate treatment and rehabilitation, there should be no major issue. He’s not in any life-threatening danger, so we just have to prevent the situation from getting worse.”

“It would be best to bring him to the hospital for a systematic full-body check-up. I’ll contact the best team and have them come up with a treatment plan for Mr. Gardner.”

Lisa smiled wryly. “Alright. Thank you, Dr. Tingey.”

The doctor left with his assistant as Lisa opened the room door and entered the ward.

Norman was currently lying in bed. His complexion was horrible, like he was half-dead.

Lisa felt her heart clench at the sight. She walked over to the bed to take Norman's hand as she greeted him, "Dad."

"Did the doctor leave?" Norman asked weakly.

"Yeah," Lisa nodded.

"Has there been contact with Harbor City?" Norman asked again.

Lisa's gaze darkened and she replied softly, "Don't worry about that now, Dad. What you need to do most is rest."

Norman opened his eyes to look at Lisa and said slowly, "Did Mr. Atticus... ignore you?"

Lisa knew she could not hide the truth from Norman, and she bit her lip. "I haven't contacted them yet. Maybe Mr. Atticus is busy, I'll call again later..."

Before Lisa could finish speaking, Norman waved her off. "There's no need. Gale's already thrown us aside, so why wouldn't Mr. Atticus? To them, we're already discarded pawns."

Lisa replied hatefully, “Dad! I won’t just give up so easily!”

“I’m already useless, and all I can do is lie in bed. What can you do to Jasper?” Norman asked.

“We couldn’t even win against Jasper when I could still move around. He still managed to force the Waterhoof City branch to dissolve, and we’ve already lost our biggest form of support.”

“Instead of thinking about how we should take revenge on Jasper, we need to think about how to stay alive now.”

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Lisa felt both terrified and in despair when she heard this.

“Are you giving up too, Dad?”

Norman shook his head and replied, “I’m not giving up. I’m just stating the reality of the situation.

“When we first met Jasper in Swallow Capital for the first time... To be honest, did we actually hate him that much?”

Lisa bit her lip and stayed silent.

“But it’s too late for all of this now.”

Norman sighed deeply.

“Gale and Mr. Atticus certainly won’t help us now, so we’ve got to think of a way to help ourselves.”

Lisa looked at Norman and asked, “Do you have a plan, Dad?”

Norman looked down lightly. An unstable light flickered in his weak gaze as he replied, “There’s only one thing to do now.”

“There are still people Jasper can’t afford to offend in Waterhoof City. We just have to pay a higher price for their protection. I’d bet more than half my family’s wealth if it means Jasper loses big this time!”

...

The following day, news of the dissolution of the Haddock's Chamber of Commerce's Waterhoof City Branch had spread throughout the city.

This meant nothing to the majority of civilians. However, people higher up in the social ranks knew how perilous the situation actually was.

The dissolution of the Waterhoof City branch meant that Haddock's Chamber of Commerce's influence had completely exited Waterhoof City.

Everyone thought that this was Teo Chamber of Commerce's work. After all, the two chambers were mortal enemies, and traces of work of businesspeople from Teo could be seen in the dissolution of Haddock's Chamber's branch.

However, what was even weirder was that there were no signs of Teo Chamber in Commerce in Waterhoof City either.

Instead of taking this chance to enter Waterhoof City's market, they had completely vanished.

Overnight, Waterhoof City seemed to have turned into a vacuum where there were no signs of life from either organizations.

While countless rumors filled the air, Jasper met Gerry in the hotel.

Gerry sat partially on the sofa, his expression frantic like he had lost his home.

The weather was getting cold and the air conditioning in the room was set to Jasper's favored 24 degrees Celsius. Despite this, Gerry's forehead was beaded with sweat.

This was due to shock.

"Mr. Laine, no matter what, we can't do this anymore!" Gerry pleaded with a slight wail in his tone as he looked at Jasper.

Jasper frowned.

Gerry had been wearing this expression on his face ever since he walked through the hotel room doors. Jasper initially thought that Gerry was acting, but he had a feeling that things were not that straightforward now.

“What happened?” Jasper asked with a frown.

Gerry wiped the sweat off his forehead and gulped before replying, “I was warned that someone’s already stepped up to protect the Gardner family. I really can’t offend this person.”

Jasper was no stranger to Gerry’s arrogance. The man’s business had never been completely legal, and he was not someone to be offended lightly.

‘But both Gale and Alban had completely left Waterhoof City now, so who could terrify Gerry so much?’

“They’re the Royals,” Gerry continued, without waiting for Jasper to ask.

“Royals?” Jasper arched his brow.

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“Don’t you know, Mr. Laine? There’s a saying, the North has the Browns and the South has the little prince. These two are extremely formidable leaders of the younger generation.”

“This Waterhoof City little prince is the heir to the Royal family. They’re an extremely powerful presence here in Waterhoof City. They’ve been here since the Republic and their roots run deep. They’re not people small fries like us can compare to.”

“We all call him Little Prince in private. The old master to his family is officially recognized as the supreme emperor.”

Jasper’s gaze changed as he listened to Gerry.

‘A prince and a supreme emperor. What kind of feudal game is this?’

Despite how unbelievable it all sounded, Jasper could tell that Gerry was speaking the truth from his mannerism.

Even if Gerry wanted to lie to him, he would not be stupid enough to make up a whole family on the spot.

“Go ahead and tell me what happened,” Jasper said.

Gerry began, “This morning, I decided to gather a few people to cause trouble at Norman’s company. I also contacted a few of Norman’s old clients to ask them to kick up a fuss.”

“But my men had just gone out when they immediately came back completely injured.”

“Then someone called me and warned me not to interfere with the Gardner family. They told me that the little prince had already intervened.”

“I made my way over immediately after this.”

“Mr. Laine, ninety-five percent of the people in Waterhoof of City don’t know who the little prince is. But the remaining five percent that do definitely don’t have the guts to try to falsify his identity. Hence, the person on the phone mostly likely spoke the truth.”

“Mr. Laine, you can put a knife to my neck and I still won’t do it. I suggest you let it go as well. The Gardner family doesn’t mean anything to you anymore, and they’re not worth offending the little prince over.”

Jasper narrowed his eyes after listening to Gerry, then waved his hand. “Alright, I’ve got it. Go back”

After Gerry left, Jasper pulled Henry over while the man was having fun playing games.

“Since when did Waterhoof City have a supreme emperor and little prince? Do you know anything about them?” Jasper asked straightforwardly.

Henry was stunned for a moment before he spoke, “Yeah, the Royal family. They were the richest family in Waterhoof City before the Republic, but no one knows how powerful they are now.”

“Let me put it this way. The Royal family is the majority shareholder of Peace Bank. Eqven Pansky Industrial, probably the most powerful privately-owned group in the country, belongs to them.”

“I met that little prince or something seven or eight years ago. He was a smiley man like you. He definitely wasn’t up to any good...”

“Not to mention that he was still young then. He was gentle and frail, and looked like bullying material, but my dad warned me not to offend him before we met. Therefore, you can imagine that their status in Waterhoof City is equivalent to my family’s among Harbor City’s four richest families.”

Henry then nudged Jasper after he finished explaining this and asked, “Why, are they coming after you? Don’t worry, there’s nothing really special about them anyway. The little prince’s dad, the head of the Royal family, has got quite the relationship with my dad.”

“My dad stole my mom from his hands. Hahaha.”

Jasper’s expression shifted.

'From the old master to Zachary... does the Law family also have the habit of stealing other people's wives?'

Jasper moved on from that thought and sighed lightly. "Norman asked the Royal family for help."

Henry frowned as well.

"The situation's a little trickier now.

"To be honest, in this flourishing and desirable land of Waterhoof City, the Royal family isn't one to be taken lightly."

"Rather than me seeking to offend him, I'm more worried that he'd come after me himself," Jasper replied calmly.

"I don't think he would," Henry shook his head, "Who the Hell is Norman? The Royal family helping him is already a surprise in and of itself.

"I don't know how Norman is qualified to ask them for help, but the Royal family are unlikely to take Norman seriously. Who knows, maybe Norman's overestimating the Royal family's involvement."

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Henry's analysis made sense.

Yet, Jasper could not help but feel like there was more to this incident.

In all honesty, from what he came to understand, the Royal family was an extremely powerful presence in Waterhoof City, or even the entire mainland.

If people like Norman could gain the Royal family's support, then he would have made a huge name for himself long ago.

However, he had only come to seek the Royal family for help once he was on the edge of life and death.

Either Norman and the Royal family had history and this was a favor the latter owed the man, or there was a more to this situation that outsiders did not know about

Still, Jasper could not help but feel like he would meet the Royal family sooner or later.

“The most important thing is that I’ve never planned to let Norman and Lisa go,” Jasper said calmly.

Royal family or not, Jasper would weed out and completely destroy the father-daughter duo.

He could not opt to give up and run just because some so-called Royal family appeared out of nowhere.

Jasper might as well sell his company and go back to farming if that was the case.

“If you really need it, I could help you get you a meeting with someone from the Royal family.” Henry suggested.

Jasper shook his head and rejected him.

“No. You can’t be involved in this, because that means the Law family will be dragged into it. The situation will only become difficult to control if that were to happen.”

“Let’s wait and see. If this Royal family wants to protect Norman, then they’re going to have to contact me.”

Henry shrugged and replied, "You decide then. I'm going back to play my game, but remember to ask if you need my help."

"The Royal family might be powerful, but that doesn't mean they can do whatever they want. Keep yapping bullsh*t and I will still slap them across the face."

Jasper's premonition was right, as a middle-aged man came looking for Jasper at noon.

"Hi, is this Mr. Laine from JW?" The middle-aged man was extremely courteous as he greeted Jasper by the door with a small respectful smile.

Jasper glanced at the man. He could tell from one look that this middle-aged man was not the host, but someone like a messenger.

"I am. And you are?" Jasper asked.

The middle-aged man smiled and replied, "I'm Coffey Copeland. My apologies for disturbing you so suddenly, Mr. Laine."

"Coffey Copeland... What a unique name." Jasper smiled.

Coffey was unfazed, as if he was used to people making fun of his name. The man bowed slightly and said, "Mr. Laine, I've been ordered to invite you to a meeting."

"With who?" Jasper asked.

"Dominique Royal, the little prince," Coffey raised his voice slightly when he said the name. He seemed to hold endless admiration and respect for the man.

Indeed.

Jasper's heart chilled.

"The little prince wants to see me, but he won't come and invite me himself?" Jasper asked calmly, narrowing his eyes.

Coffey frowned slightly, as if displeased by Jasper's 'arrogance'. Yet, he replied gently, "The little prince values this meeting with Mr. Laine very much. Thus, he's decided to wait at the venue in advance."

There was no fault in both the tone and content of the man's words.

Even so, Jasper still felt the forcefulness of the little prince in it.

Instead of appearing himself, the man had booked a place and sent someone to invite him.

This meant that the little prince was certain that he would attend.

“The car’s already waiting downstairs, so would you please follow me to the meeting, Mr. Laine?” Coffey piped up again, upon seeing how Jasper remained silent.

“Give me a moment, I need to change,” Jasper replied calmly.

The entire time, Jasper had never once planned to invite Coffey into the room.