

Life at The Top – Chapter 1306

A moment later, the Covington father-son duo left the receptionist area and immediately walked out of JW Financial Investment Co., Ltd.'s office.

“Dad, is there really nothing we can do? What, what about Scott? Is he useless now?” Emmett asked sorrowfully.

Gerald waved his hand lethargically and despondently as she said, “This is already the best result we can ask for. At least Jasper isn't going to completely kill us off.”

“Do as he says and don't pull any tricks. There's no point. The Covington family is alone now, we're no longer as we used to be.”

“If you're willing, then give birth to another son. If you're not, then find a wife for Scott. Her family might not be as well off, but it's enough if she's willing to accept a crazed Scott.”

“It won't be difficult to find a girl like that. But no matter what, we have to continue the Covington family bloodline.”

“These properties might be able to still keep on for a few more years after I pass, but everything in the future will depend on the karma of our ancestors and if our descendants are hardworking. I’m already old, and I can’t manage so much anymore.”

“I understand.” Emmett looked at his old father who had lost all energy and resembled a walking corpse. He replied while suppressing the sorrow he felt.

Tefa City’s number one family for the past few decades, the Covington family, now completely walked off the stage of history.

From today onwards, Tefa City had a normal Covington family that did not bother themselves with others’ businesses and only managed their own small ones and lost a domineering Covington family.

This would continue until Gerald passed and Emmett’s second son grew into an adult and took over his father’s business with the ambition to further develop it, but this was another story to be told.

With the Covington family dealt with, it would still take a bit more time before the new company was able to operate on its own.

This marked the end of Jasper’s business in Tefa City so he left and returned to Nauritus City. The first thing Jasper did once he returned to Nauritus City was to gather the company’s cash flow.

“The company’s book of accounts shows a current cash flow of 569 million. To not interfere with the company’s operations, you can take our 300 million worth of funds at most.”

Jasper felt his heart squeeze at Wendy’s words.

“Are we really that broke?”

Wendy replied exasperatedly, “There’s nothing we can do about it. You spent 100 million on acquiring the financial investment company, then the follow up investments that company made also cost us quite a bit. More importantly, the business fight with the Covington family also lost us quite a bit of money. 300 million is already the maximum amount of funds you can take out after setting aside the necessary cash flow to run the business.”

Jasper rubbed his temple and was too embarrassed to meet Wendy’s chiding gaze. He spoke up, “It’s still not enough. What’s the situation with the other subsidiaries and branches?”

Wendy replied, “The real estate company definitely won’t be able to spare any. Sean even sent me a report some time ago asking for 30 million from the headquarters. He said that there’s a plot of land in Waterhoof City that’s very worth investing, but I considered how you need money immediately so I told him to take a loan from the bank.”

“The real estate company’s got a high return on profit, but they’ve also got a high demand for cash. If we take funds from them, it’ll likely result in the halting of construction in more than ten construction sites. This will affect JW Real Estates’ business reputation, so never mind.” Jasper weighed his options and shook his head, giving up on the real estate company.

“The entertainment company’s situation is a little better, they can spare 50 million.”

Jasper widened his eyes. “50 million only?”

“The artist’s package, production of films and dramas, and the opening of new cinema chains all cost money. 50 million is already a lot,” Wendy said.

Jasper rubbed his temple again. The entertainment industry in the year 2001 had yet to get to the point where he could sustain the company by making money off of fans. The industry was still at its initial stages and it would be at least 2008 when the industry truly matured. This was not something to be rushed.

“The electronics company is doing quite well, there’s 600 million extra to spare.”

Jasper finally heard some good news.

“But they also said that since they’re researching on the stepper, they’ll need an astronomical amount of funds each day and the second round of funds have to be sent to the lab. So it’s safest that you leave some funds and only take out 400 million.”

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Jasper’s expression darkened. “Those brats. They’re best at asking me for money but now that I need funds to spare, each of them comes up with all sorts of excuses to say no.”

Wendy looked at an amloyed Jasper and could not help but chuckle. “Weren’t you the one who sought them out and have them work for you? Stop complaining already, they’re doing their best.”

“Additionally, Abbylon is the only one out of the three Internet companies that haven’t made enough profit to spare yet. Terizone can spare 200 million and Sena has 400 million.”

Jasper’s eyes lit up.

As expected, the dot-com industry had begun to bare its fangs.

Sena’s starting to make more money.

“Including that, we’ve got 1.35 billion in funds. I can add the 500 million from my account but that’d still be 1.9 billion in total.”

Jasper rubbed his temple again. He felt like he was about to go bald around his temple with how he kept rubbing it.

“That’s still not enough.”

Wendy could not help but suggest, “How about we ask my dad?”

“He has 1.2 billion remaining funds on his accounts and we can take 1 billion out any time.”

Completely standing on Jasper’s side, Wendy sold her dad out without hesitation.

“Every time I don’t have enough money, I ask your dad.” Jasper did not know if he should laugh or cry in response to Wendy’s suggestion.

“But you return it every time, don’t you? Plus, he’s the one who said he’ll put his business in our hands in the future.” Wendy’s cheeks flushed.

“Alright, then. I’m pretty certain about succeeding this time. Ask your dad for 1 billion, I’ll pay back with at least 1.5 billion after a month,” Jasper said with a crescent eyed smile.

Jasper knew that as long as he asked, Dawson would surely lend him money.

With that all together, Jasper currently had 2.9 billion available in funds. 1 billion from Dawson, 1.35 billion from the company, and the rest from his own bank accounts and were already given to Jake to open accounts.

These were enough funds, but Jasper wanted to be greedy.

So Jasper called Vita who was far away in Waterhoof City.

“What’s up, Jasper?” Vita accepted the call quickly and asked cheerily.

After everything that happened, their friendship no longer required any small talk

Jasper went straight to the point. “I have a credit of 12 billion from your bank, right? I need to use that money now.”

Vita's aura grew serious and he asked, "How much do you need?"

There were of course limits when it came to credit from such a huge commercial bank.

The first regulation was that this sum of funds could not be used for financial investment, but only business operations.

However, there was a way to deal with every policy and Jasper had long talked to Vita about this. So the bank could not dictate how Jasper wanted to use this money. Jasper's assets were available to them so the ICBS mostly turned a blind eye. However, if Jasper was about to use a huge amount of funds for financial investment, it was only natural that the bank grew concerned about not getting their money back.

So after weighing his options, Jasper gave a number.

"At least 4 billion."

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Vita's heart skipped a beat at the number.

He lowered his voice and asked, "Tell me the truth, Jasper. Are you using this money for business operations or other purposes?"

Jasper replied with a smile, "Other purposes of course."

The two had a tacit understanding that this 'other purposes' meant Jasper was taking this money for investment.

Vita's suspicion was confirmed and he said, "Then I'll be frank with you too, Jasper. For such a huge sum of funds, the headquarters will definitely supervise you."

"So if you're going to use the money for other purposes, then you have to deal with it carefully. I can have your back here, so this 4 billion shouldn't be a problem."

Then Vita was afraid that Jasper would misunderstand him, so he explained. "After all, this isn't a few hundred thousand or a few million Somer Dollar loan that ordinary people apply for. The bank wouldn't care even if a majority of people took their loans for investment since the loans are all mortgaged."

"But a group of people will lose their jobs if a problem arises with a loan worth a few billion Somer Dollars. So no one's willing to take this risk."

Jasper smiled. "I understand. Don't worry, I just want 4 billion."

"Alright, then. Come over later to go through the procedures, the money will be transferred within three days," Vita said.

Jasper ended the call, energized.

With this 4 billion added to the original 2.9 billion, Jasper had almost 7 billion Somer Dollars on hand now. Jasper gave it some thought before he dialed another number.

"Yo. Does Mr. Laine finally have time to think of me?"

John laughed out loud on the other end of the line.

"There's something I need your help with John."

Jasper went straight to the point.

If Vita was someone close enough to forgo unnecessary pleasantries, then John could be considered Jasper's confidant. There was no need for any small talk or flattering comments.

Unsurprisingly, John's demeanor immediately fell stern, and took back his mischievous smile to reply seriously, "Shoot."

This one word reply was much more reliable than any promise.

Jasper smiled. "There's no need to be so serious. It's not too big of a deal. I just need a 3 billion Somer Dollar loan. I'll use the ownership over the entire Southface River project as collateral, with Schuler Group as a joint guarantor."

John was stunned. "Your company is the most outstanding asset there is and there should be no problem at all with the Schuler Group as your guarantor. Forget 3 billion, you can apply for 10 billion and it'll still go through."

Jasper told him directly, "I'm taking this money for investment. And I need it done within 3 days. I've also taken 4 billion from Vita."

John sucked in a cold breath when he heard Jasper's request. "Are you preparing for a global financial battle?"

What John believed was a joke was actually the truth.

“Just tell me if it’s possible or not.” Jasper did not explain further to him.

John gave it some thought before he replied, “It’s possible. It’s just that three days might be a little tight. How about this, send someone over to the provincial branch right now and I’ll apply it for you myself. There shouldn’t be too big of an issue using special procedures for special cases. I’ll have your back for this 3 billion.”

“Nice. I’ll treat you to dinner afterward.”

“Don’t give me this bullsh*t. Just be careful with the money. I’ll be the first to lose my job if anything goes wrong.”

“Since when have I failed in terms of investment?”

“Haha. Just have someone come and get the procedures done now.”

Jasper put the phone down and smiled at Wendy. “It’s done. A total loan of 7 billion, coupled with the 2.9 billion we have at hand. That’s around 10 billion Somer Dollars, this should really be enough this time.”

Yet Wendy could not find it in herself to feel happy.

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Up until now she still had no idea what Jasper was planning to do.

She was just suggesting methods to him out of her unconditional trust and support.

“Jasp, what are you planning to do with so much money?”

Wendy could not help but ask. As she was in charge of the company finances, she was very sensitive when it came to loans. “This 7 billion worth of loans increase our liabilities exponentially. JW will crash if anything goes wrong.”

“Don’t worry,” Jasper patted Wendy’s hand and said gently, “I’ve got my reasons and guarantee before I chose to do so.”

“I established JW on my own and it’s a fruit of both our efforts and hard work. There’s no way I’d make a joke out of it.”

“I will succeed this time, and there won’t be a better opportunity than now in the next ten or even twenty years.”

“If this goes smoothly, not only will we solve our funding issue, but we’ll also get to officially change JW into a group.”

Hearing Jasper, Wendy nodded. “I believe you.”

Then, knowing Jasper was fighting against time, Wendy personally went to the provincial branch of the Agricultural Bank to look for John and proceed with the procedures.

Jasper let out a soft breath as he watched Wendy leave. This was a battle Jasper bet everything he had on. Unless those terrorists suddenly decided not to follow their plan, victory was in Jasper’s hands!

With this thought, Jasper called Jake who was in Harbor City.

“How’s the situation going?”

Jake replied courteously, “We’ve already opened the short positions you requested for the stock index.

We've lost 80 million as of this moment.”

“Good,” Jasper nodded.

“Keep opening positions to sell short the index and long positions for gold. I'll arrange for the funds later, so all you have to do is open the positions. Don't worry about making a loss now. The more the loss now, the more we earn by then.”

While Jake was completely confused about Jasper's plan to lose money, he still replied loudly, “I understand, Mr. Laine.”

The funds in Jake's control began to move after he received Jasper's instruction.

At almost the exact moment the funds moved, a gaze pinned on these funds realized the abnormality.

Harbor City.

“Mr. Atticus, Jasper’s funds moved and he’s starting to open huge positions.”

“They’re currently selling short the indices but selling long for gold. We don’t know if this is a smokescreen to divert our attention or not.”

Fabian’s brow twitched when he heard his subordinate report, drinking tea with someone in the garden.

“Did he go crazy? What, does he have too much money to waste?”

Opposite Fabian, Mitch said with a sneer before the former could say anything.

Fabian gave a small smile and said, “We’ll sell if he buys and we’ll buy if he sells. Keep reporting follow up situations.”

The subordinate left courteously and Mitch proceeded to apple-polish Fabian.

“Looks like Jasper’s really gone crazy, Mr. Atticus. The market’s doing so well yet he’s choosing to sell short and buy gold. Does he think that World War Three is coming? Haha. You’ve really got an eye for these things, Mr. Atticus.”

Fabian replied with a crescent eyed smile, “Whether he’s truly crazy or if he’s just pretending to be, the people I sent to keep an eye on Jasper will send word over very soon. The truth will come to light by then.”

Mitch’s gaze shone with maddening delight and he said, “Mr. Atticus, don’t forget me when you have the chance to destroy Jasper and split his properties.”

Fabian patted Mitch’s shoulder and laughed out loud. “We’re friends, aren’t we? How could I possibly forget you? Go prepare the money, we’ll completely defeat Jasper this time!”

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An excited flush spread across Mitch’s cheeks when he heard Fabian.

After losing countless times to Jasper, Mitch had even grown to fear the sight of the man now.

However, looking at Fabian beside him, Mitch felt at ease.

With Fabian’s support, there was no way Jasper could turn the tables around no matter how powerful he was.

“Jasper, I’ll make you suffer painfully this time!”

“All the humiliation you made me go through, I’ll make you pay for them ten, no, hundred times over!”

Fabian chuckled, looking at Mitch who was drowning in his extremely exciting delusions. A meaningful look flickered in Fabian’s eyes.

In a rather private kitchen not open to the public in Waterhoof City.

Jasper was currently drinking and talking happily with Vita and John. Jasper had come here solely to go through the loan procedures.

It was a huge sum of funds and while Vita, the most authoritative vice president, was in charge of it personally, many procedures involved signing and identity confirmation. So Jasper had to do it himself.

“It’s rare that the three of us get to meet and eat together. Let’s drink until we drop tonight!”

John grabbed a bottle of brandy and shouted, intoxicated and his cheeks slightly flushed.

The private room was not big, but it was the perfect size for the three of them to sit together. On the table before them were many rare types of meat.

The six extremely expensive royal crabs alone were something so exquisite that not even the rich could always get.

“Here, Jasper. Come try this royal crab. This is something I had an old friend buy. There’s only one royal crab in two thousand crabs, and only one superior royal crab in every ten royal crabs.”

Vita took a royal crab and spoke as he placed it in front of Jasper.

Jasper had just touched glasses with John when he heard Vita and smiled. “That must really be something great. I’ve got to try it, then.”

Born from poverty, Jasper was not picky with food at all. All he requested was that the food be edible.

This was the year 2001 and the issue with food and health had yet to be as severe as it would in the future. Most of what was consumed now were healthy. However, when it came to treasures like the royal crab, it was a delicacy that ordinary people might ever get to try regardless of era.

“Hehe. This royal crab isn’t the main dish. We’ve got better food coming.”

As the host, Vita lowered his voice and told the two, pretending to be mysterious.

John looked at Vita and said, displeased, “That’s enough, Vita. I already know that you’re the foodie of your bank, the great banker of the gourmet industry. Stop hiding things from us and get to the point.”

Vita laughed out loud and replied, “The main chef of this private restaurant is one of the best chefs in Waterhoof City. The best dish here also happens to be a chef’s specialty, the blowfish!”

John was stunned. He might not know gourmet as Vita did, but he still had some common sense. He frowned and asked, “The blowfish is poisonous, isn’t it?”

“The saying that goes ‘The most poisonous food is also the freshest’ is precisely about the blowfish.”

Vita said with an exaggeratedly shocked expression, “From their organs to their bloodstream, the blowfish is full of poison. One blowfish’s poison alone is so potent that it can kill ten thousand people.”

“But while it is poisonous, there’s also a way to cook it. In the hands of a chef that knows how to cook it, this dish then becomes the best dish in the whole world.”

“Don’t worry. The main chef here’s made their name for more than a decade thanks to this dish and nothing’s ever happened before. Everyone who’s tried it misses its taste.”

“This main chef makes five portions of blowfish every week, and some wealthier people even book flights all the way from the north over to order in advance. It wasn’t easy but I pulled some strings and managed to order a portion today. It’ll be brought up shortly.”