Life at the Top Chapter 1886 - 1890

"I've also received the news as well."

The little prince did not keep them in suspense as he immediately said, "The people from Swallow Capital have arrived and are at Shangri-La Hotel right now. The main star is the second-in-command in finance. I believe that everyone can feel a little more relieved now, right?"

In Somerland, no one commanded more

respect than a superior did when they

made an appearance.

Not to mention that he was a second-in command of a legitimate department. It meant that Swallow Capital was in support of everyone here.

The venue's atmosphere immediately lightened up.

The little prince waved his hands and said, "Alright, I've only just arrived, and I came over in advance because I guessed you guys would be worried. Now that I've told you the news, please settle down and wait for the cars that will be sent over to escort you to Pearl Tower right before the economic forum begins. I'll be leaving now as I still have a lot to attend to,"

Respectful -sounding murmurs rose as

the little prince hurriedly left to head

towards the Shangri-La Hotel,

The others were already at Jasper's room

when the little prince arrived.

The little prince looked up and noticed

that Lord Alvarado, Moses, and Simson

were all staring at him.

"Why are you looking at me? Your eyes

are as large as light bulbs."

The irritable little prince said snappishly a

s he flopped onto the couch, grabbed a

drink, and chugged down several

mouthfuls before saying, "D*mn it, I've

been so anxious about all this sh*t lately.

These Americans are out to break our

backbone."

"By the way, the person from Raydon is

not coming."

The little prince looked up at Jasper and

said, "They said they're farmers and can't

be bothered getting mixed up in our

affairs."

"Raydon? Farmers? The Habers family?"

Lord Alvarado asked as he frowned.

The little prince nodded and said irritably,

"F*cking hell, if Jasper hadn't explicitly

said to invite them, I couldn't be bothered

with that bunch. They're so cocky. Why

don't they come and show off in

Waterhoof City if they're really that

capable?"

"You know Channing Habers, right? You

were on pretty good terms with that son o

fab*tch several years ago.

Lord Alvarado nodded and replied, "I

know him. He's a pretty idiotic guy."

"That's him. I don't know what got into

him this time, but not only did he show n

o one any respect, he hung up the phone o

n me too. He said something about how w e southern barbarians have no right to meddle in Raydon's affairs." Lord Alvarado laughed at the indignant expression on the little prince's face and said, "True, that's what the idiot's personality is like. But since when did he have a say in matters as important as this?" "I bet he's gotten recognition from his family." Jasper massaged the space between his eyebrows. Raydon province had fertile black soil that stretched for miles and was considered the largest agricultural area in Somerland. The Habers family owned a large business

that mainly produced grains and owned

several hundred thousand acres of land.

"It doesn't matter if they don't want to

come."

Jasper chuckled and said, "You don't need

to be mad, Little Prince. I can guarantee

they'll come crying and begging you after

the forum. You can treat them however

you please then."

The little prince whooped when he heard

that and said, "Jasper, you're boasting.

People from Raydon have always had a

lousy temper, and they couldn't care less

about respecting you when their

stubbornness takes over. Are you sure of

this?"

Life at the Top Chapter 1887

The little prince had just finished speaking when his phone rang.

The little prince first looked down and then looked back up at Jasper and said, "It's from that idiot Channing."

Jasper did not think too much about it as he reached his hand out and said, "Let me answer it."

The little prince grinned and said, "Alright, since you insist. Have a taste of how arrogant this Raydon idiot is."

The little prince had already handed his phone over to Jasper when he finished speaking.

Jasper answered the phone and put it in speaker mode so that everyone could listen in. Then, he said, "Hello, I'm Jasper Laine."

The person on the other end of the line was visibly shocked. Then, a young man's voice said, "Jasper Laine? I've never heard that name before. Isn't this the little prince's phone number? Ask him to answer the phone."

Jasper was about to speak again when he heard a conversation happening on the other end of the line. Then, the person speaking to him changed to a middle aged man's voice.

"Good day, Mr. Laine. I'm Weston Habers from Grandland Corporation, Channing's father. There was a misunderstanding just now because my son didn't know who you were. Please don't hold it against him."

Jasper narrowed his eyes slightly and said, "Mr. Habers, I was hoping you would attend the economic forum."

"That's exactly why I asked my son to make this phone call because I wanted to offer the little prince an explanation. It's even better that you've answered the phone yourself, Mr. Laine. I'll explain it to you myself.

"I have no intention to attend this so called economic forum. Isn't it entirely self-voluntary? I don't suppose you can force me to attend, right?"

When Lord Alvarado heard the fake cheerfulness in Weston's voice, he leaned towards the little prince with a sulky expression on his face and whispered, The older one is even denser than the younger one."

"How could the older one reared such an idiotic youngster if he wasn't dense?" Little Prince said with a huff.

However, Jasper ignored their mutterings and replied calmly, "Of course, it's entirely self-voluntary. No one will force you to attend if you don't want to, Mr. Habers. However, I personally hope that you can still participate, as Wall Street is currently planning to launch a sneak attack on the domestic financial market..."

Before Jasper could finish speaking, Weston interrupted him and said, "Mr. Laine, I have no time or interest to listen to this stuff. What does the stock market have to do with us? Grandland Corporation is not a publicly listed company. All we do is sell food. We don't want to get involved with you guys."

Jasper, who had not been interrupted in a long time, said calmly, "But the price of grain on the futures market is something that concerns you, right?"

Weston laughed and said, "Yes, it

concerns me a little, but aren't the prices.

rising now? It's good news for us

farmers."

Jasper immediately understood when he

heard that.

Weston was an idiot. At the very most, he

was an idiot who had taken advantage of

the dividends accumulated over time and used them to make something of himself. There was no point in trying to talk sense into an idiot. "Alright, I see what you mean, Mr. Habers. So be it." Jasper did not bother waiting to see if Weston had anything to say before he hung up the phone. Jasper had a dark look on his face as he stood and said, "Everyone, please wait for me. I need to take care of something, and I'll be right back." Little Prince asked cheerfully, "Are you so mad that you need a place to vent?" Jasper replied exasperatedly, "Vent? I've

run out of patience. I don't think I can wait until the forum ends before I cause trouble for the Habers family. If they can't be bothered with anything, then I'll teach them a lesson for being so short-sighted about the future."

Lord Alvarado watched Jasper walk out the door before leaning forth and asking curiously, "Does Jasper have a way of teaching the Habers family a lesson in such a short time?"

"It's not realistic, is it? The Habers family are virtually unreachable. They've isolated themselves in Raydon and don't partake in anything besides planting crops. It's difficult for their family to get into any scandals, and it's even harder for someone else to mess with their family.. Jasper wouldn't have the necessary tactics, right?"

The little prince huffed before saying, "Haven't you gotten a feel of Jasper's personality yet? Those who offend him don't know what's coming until it arrives. Jasper must be confident in himself if he's said this. All we need to do is sit back and wait for the show to begin. Let's not talk. about the Habers family's other faults.

Even I want to mess with them when I see that ignorant and gloating attitude."

Simson and Moses listened nervously. When they exchanged glances, they saw the look of relief in each other's eyes.

Thank God Jasper had not been upset

when they tried to act smart and pull

some tricks out of their sleeves.

Jasper raced towards Mr. McNeal's room.

He did not waste much time in explaining the gist of the entire situation to Mr. McNeal, who did not say much and only told him he knew what to do after he finished listening.

However, as Jasper left, he looked out the corner of his eye and caught sight of Mr. McNeal furrowing his brows together in annoyance as he scrolled through his contacts...

It's done.

In Somerland, not even the most niche industries could afford to offend the officials.

The agricultural industry was a very niche

and isolated industry that rarely needed to form a supply chain with any other industries. They could dominate the market on their own.

This was why the Habers family could afford to not take anyone else into consideration. Most importantly, as Wall Street continued raising the prices on the futures market, it was a given that food prices would have a massive rise so long a s the market did not collapse.

This huge benefit was the reason behind the Habers family's arrogance toward anyone and everyone.

However, the problem was he could ignore the little prince.

He could ignore Jasper too.

What about the officials?

Jasper's lips curled upwards into a satisfied grin as he walked back to his room.

"Alright, the forum will start in about two hours. I gathered everyone here before that because I have something to inform you in advance about..."

While Jasper began talking to the little prince and the others about matters. regarding the economic forum, Mr. McNeal made a phone call to the Ministry of Agriculture in Swallow Capital.

Several minutes later, the Ministry of Agriculture made a direct call to Raydon's Department of Food and Drug Administration. At the same time, Mr. McNeal made a second phone call to the magistrate's office at Raydon.

Then, the key leader at Raydon's Department of Food and Drug Administration immediately headed toward the Raydon magistrate's office. The two parties had a short discussion before coming to a decision.

They would launch a comprehensive review of Raydon's largest privately owned crop-growing and marketing company, Grandland Corporation. All other activities would be halted for the entire duration of the review.

In simpler terms, it meant that they were seizing the company.

Every man had to be held accountable for the country's greatness!

The order had just left Raydon's magistrate's office when the Habers family, who were in charge of Greatland Corporation, received the news.

With that, the family that had spent countless years establishing themselves in Raydon immediately flew into a frenzy.

Life at the Top Chapter 1888

"Dad, our company has been seized for

review!?"

It was slightly later when Channing heard

the news. He raced over to Weston's office

and barged in with this question.

Just then, Weston was having an

emergency meeting with several of

Channing's uncles.

Weston had a gloomy expression on his

face as he said, "It's been seized. I just got

the news that people from the taxation

department and Department of Food and

Drug Administration have arrived at the

company's headquarters. Nearly all our

land has been sealed off."

The muscles on Weston's face twitched as

he spoke. He had never had something

like this happen during the many years he

had been in charge of the Habers family

business.

"How's that possible? What about our

friends and contacts in those

departments? What did they say?"

Channing asked frantically.

As the heir, he knew perfectly well that

his privilege and power came from his

family. He would also be in trouble if his

family's business ran into difficulties.

It concerned every aspect of his life, so of

course he was frantic.

Weston's face was a pale shade of green as

he said, "It's no use. No one is of any use

because the order came right from the

province magistrate's office. No one can d

o anything about it. Who would dare go to

the provincial magistrate and help put in

a good word for us?"

"That doesn't make sense. We didn't

offend anyone..."

Channing was in the middle of his

sentence when his gaze met Weston's. A

name flashed through the father and

son's minds.

"Jasper Laine!"

Channing yelled out those two words in

astonishment.

"But we just ended' our phone call a short

while ago. Does he hold that much power!?"

"He needed just half an hour to contact the magistrate and use his power to mess with us!?"

Channing's dismayed exclamations caused the look on Weston's face to turn even uglier.

Just then, Weston's phone rang.

"It's from a friend who works in Swallow

Capital. I asked him to look into

something a while ago. Let me take this first."

Everyone in the office held their breath and stared at Weston when they heard what he said. No one dared make a sound.

"Mr. Haddow, it's me, Weston," Weston immediately said after answering the phone.

He had not expected the person on the other end of the line to be in an even greater panic than him.

"Weston, what are you doing? How could you have offended Swallow Capital now?"

Weston was at a total loss as he said, "Mr. Haddow, you know how I am. I've always stayed in Raydon and had no ties with Swallow Capital except for you. How could I have offended Swallow Capital? Besides, how could a small family like mine have the guts to throw our weight around in a place like Swallow Capital?"

"You won't admit it even to me?"

The person on the other end of the line sounded visibly angered as he said, went around asking about you and got so frightened I broke into a cold sweat. Tell m e, you aren't attending the economic forum at Waterhoof City today, right?"

Weston said indignantly, "I'm not attending. It's got nothing to do with me anyway. Come on, am I a criminal just because I refuse to attend a forum?"

"God, it wouldn't have been an issue if you didn't attend, but you shouldn't have been so final with your words. Not to mention, you said them to Jasper Laine. Do you know what kind of person he is?"

Mr. Haddow sighed and said, "On paper, this economic forum hosted by Jasper Laine will discuss private capital, but in reality, it's got a lot of support from the

officials. Do you know who's attending? M r. McNeal himself from the Ministry of Finance is attending it with his people.

Weston exclaimed, "How's that possible? Jasper is just a businessman..."

"He's indeed a businessman, but haven't you taken a look at who he works for now? He works for the country!

"Now, Swallow Capital is counting on

Jasper to step up and take the lead!"

Mr. Haddow said ruefully, "The current situation is that the West wants to launch a sneak attack on the domestic financial market and bring down Somerland's economic development. If you take this into account, Jasper is suited to be a leader in private capital. He's hosting this economic forum to resolve this matter.

"But look at what you did. You refused to get involved in this matter just because grain prices were rising. That can be ignored, but look at the attitude you showed Jasper, as well as the way you spoke to him. Do you know how you're acting?

"If they're nice, you'll be called selfish. If

they decide to exaggerate things, you'll be

a double-faced traitor!"

It was not just Weston, the entirety of the

Habers family felt a layer of cold sweat

form on their foreheads when they heard

that. Panicked expressions appeared on

their faces.

"Mr. Haddow, you know what sort of

person I am. I did not have that

intention!" Weston hurriedly explained.

"So what if I know? The problem lies with

what the higher-ups think!"

"You've got a bounty on your head now.

The higher-ups think you're ignoring the

greater good for personal gain, and Mr.

McNeal is coming over to conduct the

investigation into the Habers family

himself and find out if you have any

offshore capital. Mr. Habers, you have to b

e honest with me. Do you?"

Mr. Haddow's voice on the other end of

the line turned solemn as he arranged his

features into a serious expression.

He had already decided that if the Habers

family showed even the slightest hint of having offshore capital, he would cut ties with the Habers family immediately.

He did not have the guts to get involved in something that was such a big deal.

Weston immediately said, "Mr. Haddow, I swear on my entire family's life that the Habers family has zero offshore capital!"

Mr. Haddow felt slightly more at ease when he heard that, and sighed before saying, "That's good. At least it won't be a s serious as anticipated. But more trouble i s probably coming your way since there's a bounty hanging over your head now.'

"Mr. Haddow, you have to help me," Weston said frantically.

Mr. Haddow laughed bitterly and said, Help you? What means do I have to help you? You have to address the root cause of the problem. Go to whoever caused you to get into this trouble in the first place and ask them for help.

"Listen to me. You must go to Jasper Laine immediately. If he's willing to not hold it against you, the Habers family might come out the other end unscathed. I f not, you're on your own."

Mr. Haddow hung up after saying that.

Weston felt as if he had been wrung inside out as he put his phone down. He glanced a t Channing and said, "Find a way to get in touch with Jasper Laine immediately."

Channing looked near to tears as he wailed, "But I don't have his number. I only got in touch with him because I called then little prince."

"Then call the little..."

Weston did not finish his sentence before changing his mind and saying, "No, go to Waterhoof City immediately! We can't afford to waste even another second!"

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Channing had an indignant expression on his face as he said, "But will we make it if we leave now? Will Jasper Laine pay any attention to us?"

Weston gritted his teeth and said, "We have to go even if we won't make it in time -and agree to whatever conditions Jasper offers. This matter takes the Habers family's survival into account. We absolutely cannot be sloppy!"

Weston had never felt this much regret in his life.

He should not have been so greedy to reap temporary benefits that he treated Jasper with such arrogance.

Now, he could not care less about the vengeance Jasper felt. All he worried about now was how low he would have to stoop before earning Jasper's forgiveness.

Mr. Haddow had been clear just now. If Jasper was not in agreement, it would be hopeless for the Habers family.

Weston felt even more regret when he

thought of that.

"I shouldn't have done that!" Weston sighed bitterly and dragged Channing along with him. Channing hurriedly said, "Dad, why don't I contact the little prince now and see what he says? Perhaps he can help put in a good word for us." Stunned, Weston said, "Alright, we'll head over to the airport now. You start contacting him now." Channing nodded. Feelings of hope surged in him as he dialled little prince's number. Just then, at Waterhoof City. The little prince was just about to get up and leave for the venue at Pearl Tower with Jasper and the others.

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He grinned when he saw the caller ID.

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"It's Channing." "You can answer it," Jasper said. The little prince immediately answered the phone and put it in speaker mode. Channing's voice immediately rang out. "May I know if this is the little prince?" That voice was completely different from the arrogant one previously heard, as flattery oozed from every word. "Yes," the little prince said calmly. It was necessary to adjust your tone accordingly during such times, and that had always been the way little prince treated others. Heirs like them never had a good temper. Not to mention that the little prince was annoyed at Channing for embarrassing

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him.

Channing was also a rich heir, so there
was no way he did not hear the anger in
little prince's voice.
He forced himself to suppress his temper
and squeezed a smile onto his face as he
said,
"Little Prince, I was wondering if
you could help put in a good word for me t
o Mr. Laine? Just let him know that we've understood that we're at fault now and that we're on our way to Waterhoof City. We know that we must apologize to Mr. Laine in person, and we're willing to carry out any orders he gives us.
"Little Prince, please, you must help me. I'll be indebted to you forever."
When Channing finished speaking, everyone, including the little prince, gazed at Jasper like he was a god.
Never would they have imagined that the
Habers family would come to them with
their tails between their legs shortly after
Jasper said he was going to teach them a
lesson.

How on earth had he done that? Not even the little prince and Lord Alvarado, who were also experts at playing tricks and manipulating others, could make sense of it. However, that did not stop the little prince's mood from improving massively. "You fool, you're begging for forgiveness now? What were you doing before that?" "You refused to attend when I invited you, but you're snivelling and squeezing your way in now? What sort of place do you think this is? "And you're asking me to put in a good word for you? F*ck off!" The little prince hung up the phone after h e finished. "Hahaha, that was f*cking amazing!" The little prince grinned at Jasper and

said, "I've got to tip my hat to you for this

one. That idiot Channing has always

thrown his weight around because he

knew his family was so isolated in Raydon

that no one could do anything to him..

He's always been arrogant, but he's a

sniveling b*tch now. It's f*cking

amazing!"

Lord Alvarado gazed at Jasper curiously

and asked, "How did you do it?"

"It had nothing to do with me."

Jasper chuckled and said, "He lives in a

secluded area, but it's not that difficult to

reach him anymore. Did they think they'd

still be invincible if they actually angered a

nofficial?"

Both Simson and Moses felt the back of

their necks go cold when they heard that.

Jasper had never thought that Habers

family was a force to be reckoned with.

If Jasper hadn't worried that these bad

apples would spoil the entire bunch by

creating a bad atmosphere that incited

panic within everyone else, he would not

even have bothered dealing with them.

Since the Habers family were coming to

beg for forgiveness now, Jasper would set

that issue aside.

The time of the event was nearing as the

group rode to Pearl Tower.

This Waterhoof City landmark was much

quieter than usual now. The usual tourists

from all parts of the world had been

replaced with security guards wearing

matching uniforms.

Several reporters had not entered the

venue yet, as they were hoping for a

chance to meet the bigwigs on their way in.

Jasper and company were, without a doubt, the largest bigwigs of the day.

The reporters dashed forward when they caught sight of Jasper.

The security guards immediately formed a circle around Jasper and the others. They were about to shoo the reporters away when Jasper halted his steps.

Reporters were otherwise known as uncrowned kings. They had a love-hate relationship with superstars, but they never dared offend them.

However, this also depended on the kind of person it was.

Few reporters dared act recklessly when Jasper was concerned.

It was because Jasper did not rely on their reporting for his income, and he was already well-respected enough within the community. Thus, these reporters felt an innate fear whenever they met Jasper.

However, Jasper's behavior today was amicable.

"Thank you for waiting here, guys, but I really have a lot to do. Let's make a deal.

We'll do three questions. That way, you can return with something to show while I can head on upstairs and finalize my matters."

A warm feeling washed over the reporters when they heard what Jasper said.

No wonder he's the country's model entrepreneur. His poise and manners were vastly different from those who became rich overnight.

"Mr. Laine, what's the topic of discussion of this economic forum? Does it have anything to do with the massive change in the domestic financial market recently?". A reporter acted quickly and became the first to ask a question.

"Strictly speaking, these are two questions. But I'll answer both at the same time."

Jasper quickly drafted an answer before saying, "The reason behind me hosting this economic forum is so that I can provide a platform for everyone to have a n accurate view of our country's current economic development. This is so that we can gather all our industries and muster our greatest strengths to help the business environment in our country become more organized and formal.

"As for the recent changes in the domestic financial market, it has indeed been included as a topic for our discussion. As I said, we need a formal business environment, not some ambitious capitalists who will step on everything that needs to be discussed."

Jasper's statement sounded very formal, but there was no doubt his ferocious spirit was packaged within it.

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A glint appeared in the reporters' eyes

when they heard what Jasper said.

Although they could not change the words

spoken by a major figure like Jasper, they

were allowed to weigh in with their

opinions.

They would have an attention -grabbing

title once they added in their opinions.

Thus, the reporters let their questions

flow freely.

Coupled with the fact there was no host to

maintain order, the mess meant that

anything could happen.

Jasper even heard a brave reporter ask if h

e was considering launching a speculative

attack on the United States...

F*cking hell, anyone with even an ounce o

f financial knowledge would know it was

impossible to launch a speculative attack o

n United State dollars. It was such an

ignorant question that Jasper decided to

ignore it.

"Mr. Laine, I heard a rumor that there will

be some official guests attending this

economic forum. Is this true?

"Why would official guests attend an

economic forum regarding private

capital? Does this mean there's an ulterior

motive behind this economic forum?

"Moreover, we've noticed that this

economic forum is branded as the first of

its kind in the country. Does this mean

that a second and third forum will be held

at set times and frequency in the future?"

Jasper finally heard a question he was

interested in answering amidst

everything that was directed at him.

Jasper glanced at the good-looking

reporter,

who blushed from excitement

when she noticed Jasper paying attention t

o her, and said, "Firstly, I can say with

confidence that we have invited

government officials to this economic

forum. After all, we need proper advice

and guidance from officials if we want to

bring order to our markets. Thus, it's not

surprising that we've extended a formal

invitation to these officials to be our special guests. They've been very supportive of us all this while.

"As for the ulterior motives you speak of, I'm not sure what you mean by that, but I can assure you that everything is perfectly just and honorable. There aren't any conspiracies going on.

"We need to observe the markets and determine if it's a suitable time to host an economic forum, but I hope that it will become normalized, as we greatly need such platforms that allow people to converse freely with each other. We'll host a second and third one in the future if we get the chance to do so, but we need to have a great start first. I hope today will provide us with that golden opportunity."

"Mr. Laine, what is your opinion on Half the-Harbor Langdon merging and acquiring Layman, and then filing for bankruptcy just half a month later?"

Jasper grinned when he heard those questions.

Jasper's grin had a knowing look to it as if he were saying "if you know, you know".

News traveled so quickly through

different forms of media now that it was n

o longer a secret that Half-the-Harbor

Langdon and his son had stabbed JW

Foundation in the back. Thus, everyone

had guessed that Jasper and Joe had long

since cut ties with each other.

This could also be observed from how

Jasper launched numerous attacks on the

United States' financial market whereas

Joe had gone on to merge and acquire

Layman.

"It's a shame."

That was how Jasper decided to answer

that question as several pairs of eyes

stared back at him hungrily.

"From a technical point of view, it's

obvious that this was a failed investment of

n Mr. Joe Langdon's part. However, since

it's his money, no one has the right to

comment on how he wants to use it."

It was easy to read what he meant by that.

Who cares what a rich idiot like him does

with his money?

Whereas him saying it was a shame could be read as him finding it hilarious.

"Alright guys, your three questions have been answered. Do forgive me for having limited time for you. I'll try my best to answer more questions and quench your curiosity if I have the chance to do so in the future, but I really have to go now."

Jasper raised his arms apologetically as he walked towards Pearl Tower while surrounded by his group of people.