Life at the Top Chapter 1946 - 1950

Meanwhile in the Somerland futures

market, Kelly Group was very strong

willed. When they said they would invest 1

o billion, the funds arrived immediately

without any hesitation.

When this 10 billion short order entered

the domestic futures market, Soros's

scalp was tingling.

Kelly Group was not the only one making

his scalp tingle.

Because one after another, a large number

of short orders began to appear in various

sub-catalogs of Somerland domestic

foodstuff futures.

There were many short orders

everywhere for soybeans, wheat, and

other products.

These lists were not large when they were

on their own. The largest amounts were

just orders with hundred million as the

unit of measurement, but the sheer

number of orders were too much.

According to past experience, Soros immediately asked the team to analyze where these scattered short orders came from. It would be fine if he did not analyze it, as he started cursing immediately after the analysis.

The sources of these short orders were almost all from the Somerland mainland and there were various sources for the short orders.

It was fine for some of them that were food companies. They would be considered forward-looking and strategic if they were willing to take out ten thousands to short sell. They knew that they would only get short-term benefits if the price continued to rise. If the pricing power of future foodstuff prices were to be robbed by the West, they would be finished sooner or later.

So, this kind of short-selling was reasonable, but if you were a hardware company and a small company with a profit of only 20 million a year, why the hell would you put together 4 million and start short-selling foodstuffs?

"Aren't these rascals from Somerland

afraid to lose all of their money?"

Soros was furious. His balding head

became brighter and brighter as he cursed

with a strange, surprised, and angry

expression, "It's just a few million empty

orders. We can defeat all of them with a

single wave, yet they have the balls to

come and join in the fun?"

Rogers next to him also had a gloomy

expression. He said, "But there are too.

many of the same orders. If one of them is

several million, then 10 or 100 of them

would be several hundred million. This

will be very unfavorable for us."

After speaking, the corners of Rogers'

mouth twitched and he said to Soros.

Why do I have the feeling that we are

being beaten up by the entire Somerland

merchant group?"

"And that blasted Kelly Group!"

Soros gritted his teeth with a livid

expression.

"They're so bold and blatant. Aren't they

afraid of the sanctions by the United States? By then, they would not be able to buy even one gram of raw materials internationally. How long will it take for a sugar company to go bankrupt without sucrose and raw materials?"

Rogers pursed his lips, ignoring Soros's

grumbles.

This kind of thing was not something

they could decide, nor could it be dealt

with now.

Hence, Rogers began thinking about how t

o solve the current problem.

"The financial market will directly affect the spot trading, but in turn, the spot trading can also directly affect the futures market. My friend, we should now release the food we bought that are in our hands."

Soros immediately understood what Rogers meant. He frowned slightly and said, "But the amount of food we bought is far from the expected amount. That damn Grandland Corporation is too cowardly. They immediately breached the contract after Jasper played some dirty trick on them. No matter how we threaten and tease them, they just lower their heads and dare not come out. This is very troublesome!"

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"Of the four major international foodstuff

merchant groups, three were native to the

United States."

Rogers smiled slightly and said, "

Whether it is ADM or Bunge or Cargill,

they are all the main investors in our plan

this time. We only need to continue to

increase our efforts to use capital

dumping to shuffle the domestic food

market in Somerland. When the time

comes, the financial market will crash

right in front of you.

"Then, we'll go bottom fishing for

Somerland's domestic foodstuff

companies. These arrogant Somerland

punks will soon understand that their

garish resistance is just a joke in the face o

f real strength."

The color finally returned to Soros's face.

"Yes, this is indeed a good plan."

Rogers glanced at the futures grain prices

that had begun to fall with contempt.

After that, he said, "So what if they have some tactics? Those barbarians who have just come into contact with modern global trade laws don't even know how powerful capital is."

"Alright, old man, Half-the-Harbor Langdon and the gang have been waiting for you for a long time, are you going to see them?"

Soros nodded and said, "Sure. You are responsible for continuing to communicate with the three major foodstuff merchant groups to facilitate this matter as soon as possible and tell them that if they want to take down Somerland's gigantic market with 1.2 billion people, they have to agree with the operation of our capital."

"This is what I'm good at. I know what to do."

"Mr. Laine, domestic foodstuff futures. prices have begun to fall, and our strategy has begun to bear fruit," Baz said to Jasper while in high spirits.

Jasper had been keeping an eye on future prices all the time, so naturally, he knew about this. However, he did not dampen Baz's spirits and simply smiled while saying, "Very well, this time, it's everyone's victory. By comparison, we just kicked things off."

Jasper knew that if he did not scare this group of people, they would not take out every penny they had to fight him.

Moreover, the facts had also proved that the hidden power of these people was really terrifying.

If this wave of counterattacks continued, even Soros, who came with a huge amount of funds, would not be able to take this. He would need some time to at least digest it.

Moreover, this period happened to allow Jasper to carry out the next step of his plan.

"Has the guest I made an appointment with arrived?" Jasper asked.

"They're here and are waiting in the reception room," Baz replied.

"Okay, I'll go over now. Keep an eye on

the market, come to me anytime if there i

s any change."

After Jasper finished speaking, he went

directly to the reception room.

As soon as he walked in, Jasper saw two

men and a woman standing up in the

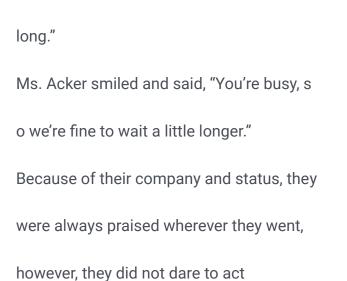
reception room.

"You're Ms. Acker, right?"

Jasper walked over and shook hands with

the woman in the lead with a grin on his

face. "I'm sorry for making you wait so



recklessly in front of Jasper.

These people were the representatives

from the Somergrain headquarters.

They came here because Jasper invited

them over to talk about the plans and

methods to deal with the current domestic foodstuff problems.

Because of the importance of this matter, Somergrain dared not waste any time. Ms. Acker who was asked to come here was truly a second generation with political connections, and was the current president of Somergrain. Meanwhile, her father was the founder and first chairman of Somergrain.

Such statuses were not unimportant.

After the two sides sat down according to seniority, Jasper said directly, "I don't think I need to say anything about the current situation. Although earlier, we have withstood the first wave of Wall Street capital's attack, I believe that they will have a follow-up attack and it will be even more violent."

Ms. Acker had a serious expression on her face. At this moment, no one in the country dared to neglect Jasper or take him lightly when they were speaking to him.

She asked, "Mr. Laine, thanks to your

previous reminder, Swallow Capital has made enough preparations and we have

also been preparing for the upcoming food trade war under the guidance of higher authorities. However, I still want to know, is it really that serious?"

Jasper recalled the food trade war that occurred in his previous life. If it were not for Swallow Capital's courage and Somergrain's deep history and heritage, that group of Western capital might have succeeded.

Although the ending was good, Jasper

learned from many sources that the cost o

f victory was extremely high. When he thought about this, Jasper nodded slightly and said, "It will only get more serious, and there won't be a most

serious case than this.

"I can tell you responsibly that this time, the West is definitely not only launching a n offensive on our foodstuff security from the capital level, but the most terrifying thing is the spot level. This is where the real fight will be, and there won't be any skills required because we will be fighting with our background and heritage. Whoever has a weak background will lose,

and it will be a crushing defeat.

"Of the major foodstuff merchant groups in the world, except for one in France that is ranked fourth, the top three are all from the United States.

"Moreover, they used this naked and violent position to control the lifeline of the foodstuff in other countries. This is not a one-off occasion, rather, they've done this

repeatedly. As the state-owned enterprise with the largest official foodstuff security reserve, Somergrain will not be unaware about this."

Ms. Acker sighed softly and said, "Yes, and for this reason, the entire company is standing by."

Jasper contemplated before saying, "I won't inquire about how much grain reserves Somergrain has as this is a state secret. You don't need to tell me either, but I need to know something. How big of a foodstuff trade war can you take before you start having shortages in the reserve?"

As soon as he said this, Ms. Acker's expression changed slightly.

Although this was not a direct disclosure of f Somergrain's reserve secrets, it was still close. Ms. Acker would never dare to tell him the answer so easily. Once it was revealed, there would be huge issues if something went wrong.

Jasper seemed to have noticed Ms. Acker's distress and seemed to be prepared for it. Therefore, he said directly, "It's okay if it's not convenient for you to answer directly. I'll ask in another way then. Can Somergrain resist the three major foodstuff merchant groups purchasing more than 100 million tons of staple food at a high price?"

Ms. Acker asked in horror, "100 million tons? Mr. Laine, do you mean that they will directly empty domestic stocks at high prices to raise food prices and then steal the domestic food pricing power?"

"100 million tons is still a conservative estimation. It might go up to 120 million tors or more," Jasper said.

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Ms. Acker and her assistants could not

believe what Jasper had just said.

How much was 100 million tons?

One had to keep in mind that in the past

2000 years, the total annual foodstuff

production in Somerland was only 380

million tons.

Although 2001 was not over yet,

according to the calculations of the

Statistics Bureau, the total annual

foodstuff production would not exceed

420 million tons.

This was the total amount considering all

types of food including wheat, rice, corn,

and so on. If they only calculated rice and

wheat, the amount would be less.

One year's food rations for the people of

the whole country was a big deal no

matter which country it was.

And according to Jasper, this was only a

conservative estimate. If it was 120

million tons and upward, then it would

almost certainly exceed the national one

year production volume.

With a conflicted expression, Ms. Acker hesitated and struggled for a while before saying, "Our limit is about 140 million tons. If it is more, then there will be a great risk, and according to the regulations, no matter what the situation i

s, it will be necessary for us to retain a

portion of the foodstuff in the reserve

which cannot be moved under any

circumstance."

Jasper was very satisfied.

He knew that Somergrain's family background would not be too shallow.

Besides this, Jasper was sure that even if Ms. Acker said that the limit was 140 million tons, there must be a certain amount of room. Although this would not be too much, there should be no problem if they braced themselves and increased the limit to 150 million tons.

In his last life, Somergrain eventually

defeated the three major foodstuff merchants of the United States. Even until the end, nobody, including the three major foodstuff merchants and the people of Somerland, did not ever learn how powerful Somergrain's background was,

And this time, Jasper finally had some ideas.

"I know what to do now. N."

Jasper said with a smile on his face, "I am more certain now."

Looking at the puzzled looks on Ms. Acker and her assistants' faces, Jasper explained, "In truth, the most essential trading rules of the futures market are very simple. It is just a sublimation of spot trading. No matter how fancy the operations and strategies are, this level of battle will only end in a spot transaction, and the fight will be between both parties' backgrounds.

"Either there is enough money, or there are enough spots.

"Take foodstuffs as an example. In the futures trading market, if the market price is 10 Somer Dollars per 500 grams, the other party would first take all the trading orders for 10 Somer Dollars per 500 grams, and then orders with 11 Sommer Dollars, and then the ones with 12

Sommer Dollars.

"And we want to maintain a stable market price of 10 Sommer Dollars per 500 grams, so when the other party takes the goods of 10 Sommer Dollars per 500 grams, then we must come up with enough orders to deal with the other party.

"If they put out 100 million to buy, then

we'll take out 100 million worth of spots t

o sell.

"If our goods are not sold and their funds are not exhausted, then this tug-of-war will continue until one of us can no longer hold on.

"In this matter, our biggest advantage lies in local operations. The capital of the three major foodstuff merchant groups is strong, but their business is global. Therefore, it is impossible for them to put all the funds and energy into Somerland.

"Once enough time has passed and the amount of funds consumed is large enough, then they are likely to be drawn into the abyss by this quagmire. Therefore, no matter how large their

investment is, there will inevitably be a limit. On the other hand, we are strategically safe so we can only fight till the end because we cannot retreat.".

After Jasper said that, Ms. Acker pondered for a moment and asked, "So, is there a possibility that they will give up everything and destroy Somerland's food reserves?"

"Not at all."

Jasper's answer was firm.

As he looked at Ms. Acker, who wanted to refute but did not, Jasper chuckled and continued, "Don't forget, JW Foundation still has more than 180 billion US Dollars of funds in the United States financial market. If they want to burn their boats, it will be equivalent to exposing their bottoms in the broad daylight. I will give them such a crushing defeat that they will have no choice but to sell even the underwear on their bodies."

Although Jasper was speaking very softly, every word revealed unparalleled dominance.

As Ms. Acker looked at Jasper, who was

young and full of charm in front of her,

her eyes shone.

....Don't get me wrong, Ms. Acker was in her forties and all her children were in

high school.

She was looking at Jasper entirely out of gratification and appreciation.

It would be arrogant and ignorant to say something like this to any other person, but Jasper had proved with countless events that he could achieve things that were impossible in the eyes of others.

Also, Jasper genuinely did have such strength.

"So, how do you want us to cooperate with you, Mr. Laine?" Ms. Acker asked.

"I am hoping Somergrain can open a

position and enter the market."

Jasper said while thinking, "Although

Soros has been under tremendous

pressure this time, the effect will not last

too long. When they start their next

offensive, they will be very powerful. The

self-regulation of the market can no longer solve this problem.

"So, Somergrain must enter the market immediately with only one policy in mind. Once Soros collects the foodstuff, you will sell it. Somergrain will sell as much as he collects.

"Using capital means to influence the spot, or use the spot to influence the capital. The ultimate fight is nothing more than how many bargaining chips everyone has on hand. This is a tough battle without any glamor where only a bloodbath can determine a winner."

Ms. Acker and her two assistants looked a teach other. Then, she said, "I understand, I need to report this matter immediately."

"I have prepared a quiet room for the three of you," Jasper said.

Ms. Acker smiled and nodded. She then got up and went to a room next door

under Jasper's lead.

After he took them there, Jasper left the room.

Next, Ms. Acker and the gang would

discuss this with the headquarters. Hence,

it was not suitable for Jasper, an outsider, t

o stay inside.

At this time, the efficiency of state-owned

enterprises and agencies in handling

affairs was likely to be horribly low, but in

the event of an emergency, the operation o

f the state apparatus was absolutely

amazing.

Jasper had only just returned to the room t

o have a cup of tea when Ms. Acker

returned.

"The higher-ups have agreed and

approved your plan, Mr. Laine."

This result did not surprise Jasper. He got

up and said, "Okay, then it should not be

too late. Ms. Acker, thank you for working

so hard to immediately complete the

relevant procedures for opening and

entering the market. Once Soros starts the

next step in the fund market, I will

immediately ask Somergrain to enter the

market."

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The capital market was always changing.

While Jasper was arranging the means to deal with Soros, Soros was not idle either.

The two sides had fought to this point, so even if they did not know each other very well, they still had to take some precautions.

Hence, after sending away Ms. Acker and her gang, Jasper immediately returned to the command room. As soon as he sat down, Baz walked in.

"Mr. Laine, take a look at the market."

The huge screen in the command room immediately showed the domestic A share market.

It was plummeting.

It was plummeting horribly!

More than 500 stocks had hit their limit downs and the scene was simply shocking.

"Find me the stocks that have fallen by more than 5% within the past hour." Jasper frowned.

In just a few minutes, the team completed

the instructions given by Jasper.

As Jasper looked at the densely packed

names of listed companies on the screen,

his expression was solemn.

"What can you see?" Jasper asked.

Baz frowned and said, "Except for a few o

f these stocks from the newly-listed

companies that have fallen sharply due to

market reasons, most of them are

showing heavy traces of man-made

actions. It can be concluded that it must b

e Quantum Fund. Tch tch, 120 billion US

Dollars? How arrogant."

Jasper said angrily, "Do you think I need

you to tell me something that even the

blind can see?"

"These listed companies that have been

attacked seem to be from the light

industry. "From textiles, tea, wood, to furniture, the upstream and downstream industrial chains of these industries seem to all be affected," Baz said suddenly. Jasper shook his head. He was quite dissatisfied. Although Baz's performance was already very good and he had shown great improvements compared to when he started, compared to Jake, there was still something missing. And it was a strategic overall view. He did not show enough depth, structure, or quality when he was looking at a problem.

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These problems might not normally be

big, but at a critical moment, they would b



So, Jasper considered whether to give Baz more opportunities to lead the team alone. Even if he had to put in some money for the tuition fee, it would be worthwhile for Baz to make up for the shortcomings of not being able to look at the overall situation.

Regardless of whether it was in the past or this life, Jasper had already verified this.

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However, these were things for the future.

After he shook his head and dismissed these thoughts, Jasper said, "Now that

you're in his position, you can't analyze the problem by simply looking at the surface. It is necessary to summarize the information you have on the surface to analyze the deep-seated problems.

"From the list of these listed companies, you have summarized the state of the industries, but why don't you think more about why Soros chose these industries to start with?

"What benefits can they get and what difficulties will we encounter after they choose to start from here considering the domestic business structure and economic situation?

"If you understand these two issues, the opponent's intentions will be exposed. Then you can arrange and plan according to his intentions to achieve the effect of getting twice the result with half the effort."

Jasper was talking while Baz was listening.

He listened very carefully and seriously. He understood that a lot of people wanted the opportunity to be corrected by Jasper, but would never have the chance. On the other hand, he was experiencing such an opportunity that could not be bought with money.

"It can be seen that Soros has chosen light industries as his entry point in both. the futures market or the stock market, and in our domestic economic layout, light industry is a very important basic market..."

"It's the Haddock Chamber of

Commerce."

Jasper gave Baz the answer directly.

"The attack on foodstuffs is the real method used by Quantum Fund to leverage our country's economic market. When it comes light industries, especially textile, tea, and wood, these have been the private plot belonging to the Haddock Chamber of Commerce since ancient times.

"This group of clowns from the United States really studied us thoroughly. The Haddock Chamber of Commerce will be their best offensive, and they are also the ones most likely to have conflicts and suspicions with us after due to our

history. Gale and us are not true friends

after all."

Jasper's words brought Baz's analysis to a n abrupt end.

Financial wars were all about money, but a t the same time, the will of the people was also challenged.

The advantage of Quantum Fund was that they were huge. With a total of 120 billion US Dollars, they could overturn anyone.

The domestic disadvantage lay in the fact that there were too many people and too many factions running the show. Although Jasper's efforts had now reached a basic consensus, once there was a crack in these already scattered bodies of interest, then they could be breached from within without needing the enemies to work too hard.

Just as Baz was sweating over this speculation, Jasper had already given his instructions.

"Save textiles first."

Compared with furniture and wood, which were relatively simple and isolated industries in the upstream and

downstream industrial chain, the textile

industry was obviously more important.

The upstream involved cotton and the downstream involved clothing fabrics. The entire industry chain could be subdivided into more than ten industry sectors. The companies involved and the commercial value could not be estimated, so Jasper decisively determined the main rescue target first.

It was as if Baz had woken up from a dream as he immediately replied, "I'll do i t right away."

The efficiency of the JW team was beyond

any doubt.

When JW began to enter the domestic A share market and bought shares of the leading listed companies in the textile industry with great fanfare, the move instantly gave the market great confidence.

At the same time, self-help behavior in the textile industry was also unfolding.

All of a sudden, the slump was temporarily contained.

At this moment, in New York of the United States, Soros, Half-the-Harbor Langdon, and others toasted to celebrate.

"Our old enemy has been fooled."

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"Half-the-Harbor Langdon, thank you

for the information."

Soros patted Half-the-Harbor Langdon o

n the shoulder with glowing expression as

he said with a smile, "If it weren't for

your telling us that the Haddock Chamber

of Commerce represented by Gale is

currently the easiest breakthrough point in Somerland, I would still be racking my

brains trying to navigate the spikes of this

hedgehog known as the Somerland

domestic A-share market."

Half-the-Harbor Langdon shrugged

casually and said, "I don't want to target

Somerland. The only person I target has

always been Jasper. As long as it can cause

him some trouble, I'll be thrilled."

Soros laughed loudly, "Yes, our enemies

are the same, so we can definitely become

friends or even very good friends."

"So, what will the Quantum Fund do

next?" Half-the-Harbor Langdon asked.

Soros smiled faintly and said, "Of course,

we will continue to increase our efforts to

attack the main industries of the Haddock

Chamber of Commerce. After we destroy

industries like textiles, tea, furniture, and

building materials, then there is no need

for us to go to Jasper because Gale from

the Haddock Chamber of Commerce will b

e the first to step out against Jasper due to

the pressure.

"This strategy is both a trap and what you

Somerlanders call a conspiracy. If Jasper i

s not strong enough, or if he is

determined to save the Haddock Chamber

of Commerce, then it is a conspiracy that

will kill Jasper. If Jasper doesn't intend to really invest too much in the Haddock Chamber of Commerce, this will be a huge trap, a big trap that is enough to divide them internally." Not far away, Kennedy and Sawyer frowned slightly. Their expressions were far less relaxed than those of Half-the Harbor Langdon and Soros. "This guy is a bad cookie," Sawyer lowered his voice and said to Kennedy beside him. The guy he was referring to was naturally Soros. Kennedy gave Sawyer an exasperated look

and sneered, "A bad cookie? Do you think

a good cookie would be standing here?"

"Do you think we're asking a tiger for its

hide?" Sawyer asked suddenly.

Kennedy was silent for a moment. Then, h

e said, "This is a plan that we have to go.

through with no matter what. It is not

enough to rely on three of our powers to

deal with Jasper. Even if it were enough,

both us and Jasper would lose out in the

end, and when that happens, who would

reap the spoils of victory?

"It's those who are watching us like we're

clowns. So, no matter how dangerous this

tiger is, we can only rely on it."

Sawyer sighed and said, "But even if we

win, what's the point of getting rejected

and looked down on by all of the Somer

descents in this world at the end of the

rebellion?"

When these words came out, Kennedy

looked a little off-color.

After holding back for a long time, Kennedy replied, "So what? We'll be kings if we win. If we manage to defeat Jasper, all the Somer descents will have to behave according to our preferences. When that happens, there will naturally be opportunities to make up for it, but if we can't defeat Jasper, then we will be swept away like trash. Do you want to end up like that?"

Sawyer did not speak. He looked calm with not many emotions such that no one knew what he was thinking.

The war without gunpowder in the financial market continued to ferment.

Although the market had been oscillating under the competition between the two sides, it had always hovered around a relatively safe point and could not rise anymore. After all, the 120 billion US Dollars from Wall Street's Quantum Fund was no joke, but with Jasper as the core, the bulls had always kept a safe point and did not allow it to break.

The data that most directly reflected the cruelty of this financial war between capital exchanges was the transaction volume.

If you wanted to buy, then I would sell. If you wanted to sell, then I would buy.

Both parties invested huge sums of money, and together with the market's own funds, the trading volume of Somerland's domestic A-share market broke through the historical record before the noon break, reaching a terrifying scale of 2 trillion.

This number almost reached the historical value of the Terra financial crisis set off by Quantum Fund a few years ago.

This meant that the bears and the bulls had entered a white-hot battle where one of those sides would die no matter what.

Under this scale of financial war, massive wealth was evaporating with every passing moment. Almost everything being evaporated was the result of hard work that had been accumulated in Somerland in recent years.

In the first half of the trading day, the one suffering the heaviest loss was the Haddock Chamber of Commerce.

Although it was unnoticeable at first, as time passed and the losses increased, all listed companies in the Haddock Chamber of Commerce became keenly aware that their faction was being targeted.

Many of them had participated in the

economic forum before.

It was slightly better for those in the textile industry because Jasper was helping them, but other industries like tea and wood were doing horribly.

Moreover, this series of pressures instantly fell on Gale, the leader of the

Haddock Chamber of Commerce.

The white-haired Gale was sitting in the study. As he listened to the report, his frown became deeper.

"I got it," Gale said slowly.

The one who was reporting this to him was Dean, whom Jasper almost skinned alive.

After the previous events, Dean became

steadier. He looked at Gafe and said softly,

"Grandpa, this is very fishy. It's as if

Soros is putting pressure on Jasper

through us."

Gale leaned on the chair and asked in a

slightly tired tone, "If you were me, how

would you deal with this matter?"

Dean closed his eyes slightly and

immediately placed himself in Gale's

shoes. After thinking for a long time, he

said, "If my guess is right, we actually

have no choice now."

"This matter cannot be solved by the

Haddock Chamber of Commerce's own

power, and we can't ignore it, so we must

ask Jasper for help.

"But Jasper has helped the textile

companies take on a lot of pressure." Gale

continued.

"This is Wall Street's conspiracy. If we

ignore the demands of the members of

the chamber of commerce, then the

Haddock Chamber of Commerce will be

| | fluna | into | chaos. |
|--|-------|------|--------|
|--|-------|------|--------|

"But we cannot save them."

Gale looked at Dean and said.

Dean frowned slightly. After that, he opened his eyes and said, "So in the end, we still have to seek out Jasper to solve this matter."

"Jasper may not be able to solve it."

Gale patted the table lightly and said, "We can see this, so I don't think that sly child won't be able to see this too. However, since he did not speak or do anything more, he is waiting for us to make a decision first."

Dean thought carefully and suddenly said, "Jasper, gave us the right to choose. If we look for him, the Haddock Chamber of Commerce and us will seem incompetent. If we don't look for him, big problems will surface inside the Haddock Chamber of Commerce. We're stuck in a dilemma."