

Life at the Top Chapter 216

Henry, who was eager to curse, did not show any fluctuations in his expression. He was even looking forward to seeing what sort of performance and script Jasper would put on and say next.

Jasper's comment which was said with a tone that made him appear calm made Leilani experience a brief moment of suffocation.

"I still have some personal questions. Usually, when you're making friends, do you have any special criteria? Do you disregard identity and status, or do those who are able to mingle with you need to possess a certain amount of wealth and status?"

"I have no criteria. What matters is that I get along with them. I never look at their wealth nor status when I'm making friends because I know that usually, those who are of the same age as me will not be as rich as me!"

Henry caught the sign and grasped it on his chest. He was feeling an ache in his heart as he looked at Jasper's calm expression. Suddenly, he was feeling slightly envious of him. 'When can I be just like Jasper, able to blurt out such arrogant words carefreely?'

"Mr. Laine, you've such high expectations in your investments. I heard that your returns from your previous investment were terrifying. May I ask what's your feeling about that?"

"Well, I don't have many feelings about it. Actually, when you've earned a ton of fortune, money will become just numbers to you."

Hearing it made Henry, who was beside him, and Leilani feel a strong urge coursing through them...

Leilani forced herself to suppress the emotions within her. Her expression remained composed as she continued with the interview.

“Then, may I ask, do you have a target, Mr. Laine? Or in other words, have you ever thought that one day, you’ll be able to obtain the title of being the richest man in the country?”

“Nope. if you insist on asking for a target, well I guess I should at least be the richest man in the world?”

Leilani was speechless.

This time, it was both Leilani and Henry whose expressions turned dark again. Even Leilani, who had received very stern training, was unable to remain composed in this interview.

Even Henry wanted to purchase some cardiac medications!

‘Are... Are these even words spoken by a human?’

‘In his eyes, being the richest man in the country is not at all something to be proud of?’

Next up, Leilani followed her usual schedule and asked Jasper a few more questions before ending the interview.

After the camera was off and the interview was over, Leilani let out a breath of relief. It was as if she had completed a big project.

“Mr. Laine, you’re no doubt a more unique rich man I’ve ever interviewed. Not one of them but the only one.”

Leilani’s comment was approved by all the workers.

The interview session was completed after being struck by a few continuous sudden strikes.

Leilani and the two men left. Henry wiped off his sweat and glanced at Jasper with a weird gaze before asking weakly, "Do you have any idea how well you can act?"

Jasper said astonishingly, "But all this while, I've just been stating the truth."

Henry was speechless.

Henry let out a dry laugh, and his expression was dark.

In no time, Henry started scolding while leaving the scene.

Judging from the contents of his words, he was feeling depressed and was heading over to look for his two girlfriends to comfort his soul that was injured.

On the next day at Hennessy Road of Harbor City, number 777, on the ground floor of Gladness Entertainment Movies.

Hennessy Road was considered the most crowded street where all entertainment companies were. The four big movie companies were over here, and not far away from number 777 where Gladness Entertainment Movies was located, was Elite Corporation.

At that moment, Gladness Entertainment Movies was very crowded. Even though it was a fact that the movie industry of Harbor City had declined, the company still shone brightly despite the poor financial status. At the entrance of Gladness Entertainment Movies, there were still people lingering around and it was extremely lively.

Jasper had come over today because he had made an appointment with Michael to sign the final purchasing agreement.

He was not in a hurry, but Michael was.

Michael was desperate for cash as half of the cash he had was trapped within the stocks. He had earned five billion with five billion, which allowed him to have capital with a profit of ten billion. However, he was not Jasper, and Zachary did not abuse his powers to help him out. Hence, it would take a very long time if he wanted to take out that ten billion.

That was why Michael kept remembering the 1.5 billion that Jasper would be paying to purchase Gladness Entertainment Movies.

Even though they had agreed to sign the agreement on that day, Jasper did not inform Michael in advance when he came over. He planned to have a look at Gladness Entertainment Movies' operation, whether or not it was still functioning well.

That would affect his decision on whether or not he should change the employees of the higher management after purchasing Gladness Entertainment Movies officially.

Once the ruler was changed, the underlings would be changed as well. Those who were of no use to Jasper would obviously need to step down.

“Out of the way, out of the way!”

As soon as Jasper entered the entrance of the building, he heard an impatient voice coming from behind. Following then, there was a hand stretched out, attempting to push Jasper away.

Jasper took a step back and evaded that hand.

“What the f*ck, didn't you hear me asking you to get out of the way?”

The owner of that hand was a middle-aged man with an average physique and a potbelly. Earlier, he ended up pushing the air and felt that he had lost his dignity as he looked at Jasper with a fierce gaze.

“You must be Scarlet’s fan, right? Did you happen to know that she’ll be coming here to Gladness Entertainment Movies this morning? Hence, you’ve come here earlier to wait? Hurry up and get lost!”

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Jasper calmly stared at the middle-aged man who had a big head and equally large ears.

Then, he glanced at the latter’s working pass on his neck and said faintly, “You’re an employee of Gladness Entertainment Movies?”

The middle-aged man suddenly let out a smile and said, “I’m glad you’re aware of it. Later, you’d better behave appropriately and stand aside. Don’t go causing any trouble, you hear me?”

While he was speaking, a commotion suddenly broke out at the entrance. A luxurious car came to a halt at the entrance of the company, and immediately, there was someone who went over attentively and opened the car door while serving the owner.

This scene was as if a director of a company had shown up.

Jasper calmly said to the middle-aged man who had an excited expression on his face while he tidied his suit, “In the eyes of your movie company, no matter how famous a celebrity is, they’re just a money-maker. Do you have to do things in such a grand manner?”

The middle-aged man glanced at Jasper and said scornfully, "What do you know? How is Scarlet the same as others? The son of our company's vice president, Mr. White, is courting her. She might just become the daughter-in-law to the vice president."

"A loser like yourself, who can only lick her on the screens, can just forget about it for the rest of your life."

At that moment, the door of the car flung open. The first to come down was a young man, who insisted on wearing a suit that was made specifically for him. His entire body was giving off an exquisite aura, revealing his identity as a young master to a rich family.

That man put on a smiling face and opened the car door attentively. Then, a female celebrity who was well known throughout the entire nation came out of the car.

Scarlet Yates.

Being a part of Purple Fairy had immediately pushed her up to the peak among the female celebrities of Harbor City.

She was considered the crush of most of the people in the same age group in the entire nation.

Currently, Scarlet was at the point where she was extremely famous. As soon as she got down from the car, there was a reporter frantically taking her pictures and there were lots of fans holding up her posters and pictures while shouting out her name.

If it was not for the security personnel blocking the way, perhaps the scene might be thrown into chaos.

When faced with the questions from the reporters, Scarlet smiled politely but did not answer any of them. Under the escort of the young master from the rich family from earlier, they went straight into the company.

The young man glanced at the entrance of the company, feeling disgusted. He even pouted his mouth at those reporters who were rushing in and muttered, "These reporters are way too annoying..."

As he was saying, the man glanced at the surroundings. He immediately spotted Jasper, who had long ago been standing at the side. He found Jasper to be an eyesore.

"Who is this guy?"

He pointed at Jasper and asked irritably.

The middle-aged man planned to head forth and reply but he soon got ruthlessly lectured, "Didn't I mention before that the company doesn't permit these ordinary people to enter?"

"These fans are just so disgusting. They think of all means to get in here to cause havoc!"

As he was talking, the young man lost his patience and waved his hand to Jasper as if he was getting rid of a fly. "Get lost!"

Jasper said with a stony expression, "Regardless of whether or not I'm a fan, am I causing you any trouble by just standing here and having a look?"

The young man did not expect Jasper to answer back. He snorted and said with his eyes squinted, "Judging from your slang, you must be from Mainland?"

The young man put on a disdainful expression when he commented on that as if there was a disease on Jasper that would spread to him.

“Scarlet, your fans from Mainland have chased you all the way till here,” said the man as he burst into laughter.

Scarlet could no longer tolerate it and said to Jasper, “Nice to meet you. If you’re my fan, I need to tell you that I’m currently rushing to a meeting in the company. So, right now, I don’t have much time. Why don’t I give you one of my pictures with my signature on it?”

Jasper was rather surprised to see Scarlet being so polite. She knew her manners. He said faintly, “Alright.”

In Jasper’s past life, he really did fancy Purple Fairy for some time.

Scarlet gave a sweet smile directed to Jasper. Then, she spun around and received a picture from her agent... Celebrities like her would often bump into fans when she was out of her house. Hence, she had prepared all these things in advance.

She signed the picture, then gave it to Jasper while saying, “Thank you for your support!”

After receiving the picture, Jasper was surprised that it was a picture from the drama where Scarlet was dressed up as Purple Fairy.

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“Beautiful,” Jasper said sincerely.

Scarlet smiled. She turned around and was about to walk away, but noticed the gloomy expression on the wealthy, second generation White heir’s face.” “Alright, can you go away now?”

“I came to Gladness Entertainment Movies to take care of some business. Why should I leave?” Jasper shot back.

Mack almost laughed out loud. “The f*ck, you damned country bumpkin, I’ve met a lot of sons of b*tches, but you’re the biggest one there is. You’re here at Gladness Entertainment Movies to take care of business? Do you actually know what this place is?”

“Get lost now! Or I’ll call security to throw you out!”

Jasper said coldly, “Are you an employee of this company?”

Mack gave a smug smile as he replied, “My father is the vice president of Gladness Entertainment Movies!”

“I asked—are you an employee of this company?”

Mack’s expression gradually darkened. “You’re really not going to give up until reality smacks you in the face, huh? You want to act all high and mighty in front of me even when you’re not? Alright then..”

Seeing that the situation was escalating, Scarlet hurriedly said to Mack, “Mack, why don’t we leave now?” Today’s company meeting is very important and Mr. Lane will be attending personally. Let’s not waste any more time.”

Mack eyed Jasper coldly and ground out through gritted teeth, “Count yourself lucky today, bumpkin.”

As he spoke, Mack directed his words at the middle-aged man beside him, who had broken out in a cold sweat. “This is Gladness Entertainment Movies. It’s a big company! Not every Tim, Dick, and Harry can come in here. You don’t want your job anymore, is that it? If that’s the case, I’ll just let my father know you can get out immediately!”

“No no no, rest assured Mr. White—I’ll call security immediately and chase him out.” The middle-aged man’s expression was full of panic.

With a snort, Mack eyed Jasper and sneered, “Bumpkin, Harbor City isn’t somewhere you can come and act like some pretentious prick. Remember that. Now get lost!”

With that, Mack and Scarlet left together.

With a frosty glance at Mack’s back, Jasper headed inside the building.

“Hey!” The middle-aged man exclaimed, and hurried over with two security guards to stop him.

“You were told to get lost—didn’t you hear? Are you that keen on digging your own grave?” The middle-aged man asked Jasper in flustered exasperation.

“Why are you acting like his flunky when he’s not someone from the company?” Jasper asked coldly.

With a sneer, the middle-aged man retorted, “How can a country bumpkin like you be such an idiot? His father is the vice president. The vice president—do you understand? He could crush you with just the tip of a finger. You’re already pretty lucky to have gotten an autographed photo, so go home and lap it up. Now hurry up and leave!”

As the middle-aged man was speaking, the door of the elevator opened and a capable, experienced career woman hurried out.

The moment she noticed Jasper at the door, her eyes lit up and she approached him with the utmost respect.

When the middle-aged man saw her, he was startled. In an instant, his expression altered, becoming a million times more circumspect than when he had faced Mack. He went up to her and said very cautiously, “Secretary Lee, why

are you here? If you have any instructions, you only need to give us a call and we'll take care of things.

Secretary Lee ignored him. Walking over to stand directly in front of Jasper, she said deferentially, "Mr. Laine, you've already arrived. Mr. Lane is in the meeting room upstairs waiting for you to commence the signing ceremony. Would you follow me, please?"

Jasper gave the ghastly-pale middle-aged man a bland look and asked, "What is this person's position?"

Secretary Lee did not know what the middle-aged man had done to offend Jasper. Nevertheless, she replied, "He is one of the deputy reception managers."

"Have him pack up his things and leave."

After saying this, Jasper immediately headed toward the elevator.

Secretary Lee looked at the violently trembling middle-aged man, whose forehead was drenched in cold sweat. Shaking her head, she noted, "You heard him, right? Go get your salary from finance, sign the termination agreement, and leave."

The middle aged man asked indignantly, "That fellow? Who is he? Isn't he just some country bumpkin from the Mainland?"

"He's our new boss."

With a look of pity at the middle-aged man, Secretary Lee hurried to catch up with Jasper and left.

With a plop, the middle-aged man sat right down on the floor, ashen-faced...

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The building of Gladness Entertainment Movies had a total of 26 floors. Jasper took the elevator directly to Michael's office on the top floor.

"Mr. Laine, why didn't you tell me you're coming? I could've arranged for someone to welcome you in advance."

Michael laughed aloud as he stood up and walked to the door. He shook Jasper's hand.

"I came to take a look at how Gladness is and I wasn't disappointed," Jasper said meaningfully.

Michael smiled a little and thought nothing of it. He dismissed Secretary Lee with a wave of his hand.

He invited Jasper to take a seat and said, "All families have skeletons in their closets. To be honest, I've indeed neglected my business in the film industry in the past two years, which has led to some issues within the high-level and mid-level management," Michael tapped his temple lightly as he said.

"Mr. Lane, you're throwing me a mess," Jasper rubbed between his brows and said.

Michael smiled and replied, "You don't have to be so pessimistic. Most of the higher-ups are fairly diligent and conscientious, such as the current CEO, Ryder Lawrence. He was hired back from Halluvu with a large sum of money. You can use him as you wish."

"We'll talk after I get to know him," Jasper said.

“Shall we get going then? The signing ceremony is ready. All the higher-ups and top-tier celebrities who are important to the company are already there,” Michael said.

Jasper got up, nodded, and said, “Let’s go.”

The meeting room on the 25th floor of the company.

The huge meeting room was full at the moment, and everyone was whispering to one another.

The people sitting in the frontmost row were all the current top executives of Gladness Entertainment Movies. CEO Ryder Lawrence was a man in his early 40s who was wearing gold-rimmed glasses and a solemn expression.

A wealthy-looking middle-aged man came over from the side and inquired, “Mr. Lawrence, what is Mr. Lane’s plan? I’m a little puzzled that the company has been sold all of a sudden? I heard that it was sold to a Mainlander. Do you know anything about it?”

Ryder shook his head and said, “I’m not sure. Mr. White, just mind your own business. You still have to work regardless of who the company is sold to, no?”

Joseph chuckled and said yes, but in his heart, he was cursing Ryder.

‘You, Ryder Lawrence, is a CEO who can just brush his bottom and leave anytime. I’m f*cking tied to Gladness Entertainment Movies since a long time ago. Where else can I go besides here?’

Joseph’s worry echoed with the vast majority of people in Gladness Entertainment Movies.

No one knew what this new boss was like. Some of the top-tier celebrities were quite fine with this. With their fame, they were not afraid of not being able to put food on the table.

However, for the other shady mid to high-level managers, their hearts were drumming in their chests.

A little to the front from the middle of the meeting room, Mack said to Scarlet who was next to him, "Rest assured, my dad holds a veteran status within the company.

"No matter who the boss is, they'll have to count on him. When the time comes, I'll ask my dad to keep you busy, and the resources you will get will definitely be much more than what you have now."

Scarlet suppressed her annoyance and said politely, "Thank you then."

Mack smiled smugly and said, "My dad started this business with Mr. Lane. Many matters in Gladness Entertainment Movies were personally spearheaded by my dad. My dad's status is higher than anyone else's."

Suddenly, the buzzing meeting room quietened down. The side door of the meeting room opened and everyone's gazes were drawn to it.

The main character was here.

Michael was the first one to be seen but he was very polite. After entering, he turned sideways and made a gesture of invitation. A very young man with an imposing presence walked in immediately afterward.

Everyone was shocked by this man's youth upon seeing him.

Mack and Scarlet, who were sitting in their seats, had expressions that were beyond incredulous.

Especially Mack, whose eyes were widened and had his hair on end. It was as though he had seen a ghost in broad daylight.

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The person who came in was Jasper Laine, the one who was hooted and driven away by him downstairs earlier.

“Isn’t he that country bumpkin?” Mack cried out involuntarily.

At this time, Jasper had already walked toward the center of the meeting room at Michael’s invitation.

Michael would be selling the company to Jasper in the next moment, so he was tactful. Even though he was still the current chairman, he still deliberately lagged behind Jasper by half a step, highlighting Jasper’s future authority in Gladness Entertainment Movies.

After he took the microphone, Michael said to everyone who was still shocked by Jasper’s youth. “Today’s a sentimental day, but also a day worthy of joy.

“Today, the Gladness Entertainment Movies of the past will come to an end. But today is also the day where the brand-new Gladness Entertainment Movies will welcome a new life.”

Michael was very good with words. After his opening speech, he continued right away, “As the chairman of Gladness Entertainment Movies, I have one last thing to announce today.

“Gladness Entertainment Movies will be sold to Mr. Jasper Laine who’s next to me. He will lead everyone to higher glory in the future.”

Then came the signing ceremony. There was still thunderous applause regardless of what everyone below the stage thought.

After signing and exchanging documents, Jasper formally acquired 100% equity of Gladness Entertainment Movies and was automatically elected as the chairman of the board of directors and concurrent chairman.

Michael stepped down after handing the microphone to Jasper.

Jasper smiled a little as he stood on the highest spot of the meeting room, looking at the employees of Gladness Entertainment Movies beneath who looked at him with various expressions. He said, "Hello, everyone. I'd like to thank Mr. Lane for his trust. I will replace Mr. Lane and continue to push Gladness Entertainment Movies toward the peak from here on."

This was considered to be Jasper's declaration after he took the throne of Gladness Entertainment Movies.

There was another round of applause.

"However, today's meeting is an internal meeting. Is there anyone present who does not hold any position in Gladness Entertainment Movies and is not a contract artist of Gladness Entertainment Movies?"

Jasper's words distorted Mack's expression as he had already been anxious and fearful for the past few minutes.

The corners of his mouth twitched. His expression was stiff and his face was flustered.

The others also felt a little baffled by Jasper's words. Everyone gradually looked toward Mack.

In the past two years, Mack had done a lot of resentful things in the company using his father's identity. Even some female stars would bow down to him and had to please him.

Jasper's words immediately shrouded the meeting room with an extremely weird atmosphere.

At this moment, Jasper followed everyone's gaze and looked at Mack White.

Under everyone's gaze, Mack stood up with an expression of embarrassment and anger. He felt like a monkey being surrounded and watched by people in the zoo at this moment.

"This is Gladness Entertainment Movies' meeting room. You're neither an employee nor a contracted artist of Gladness Entertainment Movies, so what are you doing here?" Jasper asked dully.

At this moment, everyone understood that this would be the first cut of the newly appointed boss' knife.

Nobody knew how Mack White had offended the new boss, so much so that he was being addressed directly.

Most people looked at Mack gloatingly, wishing him bad luck.

"I..."

Mack found it difficult to speak and could not think of an appropriate reason. As such, he could only ask for help by looking over at his father, Joseph White.

Joseph frowned a little and looked at Jasper darkly, his expression slightly gloomy.

Naturally, Joseph could not bear to watch his own son be humiliated. Just as he was about to speak, he heard Jasper's voice shocking the audience through the speakers.

"Get out!"

