

Life at the Top Chapter 546

Jasper, who was willing to lend him a hand during his most critical time, would never look at him again.

Taking a deep breath, all Kai could do now was to pray for the price to drop quickly.

However, things did not turn out as he wished. The price of the cotton futures continued to rise, slowly but surely.

As though to deliberately provoke Kai and Jasper, Samuel had gotten someone to send in a few luxurious meals at some point.

Samuel clicked his tongue and sighed as he sat on the sofa, eating caviar. "Ah, this is delicious, but it's a little expensive. You two could still afford to eat it before this, but after today, I'm not sure."

Kai gritted his teeth and stared fixedly at Samuel. He hated that he was unable to pounce at Samuel and beat him up.

Jasper, on the other hand, had been looking at the computer screen. He could not be distracted no matter what Samuel did.

When it was 2:30 p.m., the business department of the authority website that Jasper had been paying attention to finally published an information message.

[Half an hour ago, our country successfully signed a series of trade treaties with three neighboring countries, which includes the bulk cotton trade. It is predicted that after obtaining this batch of imported cotton, the future domestic cotton market will not suffer a major impact due to the lack of harvest.]

Kai almost leaped up with just a few words.

“Oh my God! This announcement!” Kai exclaimed, his voice cracking. His sudden yell surprised Samuel so much that the caviar in the latter’s hand fell to the ground.

No longer caring about the caviar, Samuel got up from the sofa and hurried to the computer.

One should never look down on the extent of the capitalists’ interest in the news. When Samuel ran over after the news was published, there was already a response in the capital in the futures market.

It fell!

It dipped off the edge of a cliff!

The price of cotton that had been steadily rising saw a reverse in the direction of its arrow and went into a precipitous decline as though someone had stepped on it mid-air.

The price of cotton had collapsed rapidly in a short period of time. A straight, downward line formed on the stock market chart.

Who knew just how many who planned to take advantage of the wave of the current market trend to make a big profit were now crying in anguish after having their accounts emptied in a snap?

Countless individuals were going bankrupt with every single second.

At the same time, there were also a very small number of people like Jasper who were earning abundantly with every single second.

Jasper noticed that although the trend of the cotton market was the same as that in his previous life this time, the final price was not 18,980 dollars. Instead, it had begun falling from 18,977 dollars.

Although the difference of only three dollars was innocuous, it was a good wake-up call for Jasper.

He could not be emboldened by his memories of his past life all the time. Many things had already changed in this life.

The impact of these changes would become greater as he grew his wealth and influence.

The price of cotton fell below 14,000 dollars from 18,877 dollars in just half an hour.

It was as if Kai and the others were able to feel the devastation and cries of countless people across the screen.

However, Kai had no other thoughts now. He could only look at Jasper as if he were a god.

“Mr. Laine, I’m thoroughly impressed. if anyone could foresee the future in this world, it would definitely be you,” Kai murmured.

Jasper chuckled. Seeing that the book capital had already reached 6.2 million, he said coolly, “You can be filthy rich in the previous second and penniless the next. You can be in high spirits in one moment before the world comes crashing down the next. This is the futures market—the riskiest, most thrilling game.”

Looking up at Samuel who was completely stunned, Jasper got up and picked up the check on the table. He said indifferently, “Thank you, Mr. Ray, for the gift.”

Life at the Top Chapter 547

Samuel stared at the garish numbers on the computer screen blankly. He felt like a mouthful of blood was rushing from his stomach straight to his throat.

“How is it possible? How is this possible!?” Samuel yelled in disbelief.

“How could 800,000 possibly turn into six million in a day? This is impossible! It’s a ruse, it must be a ruse!

“Did you deliberately use fake software to deceive me?” Samuel glared at Jasper fiercely and roared madly.

“Your imagination isn’t bad,” Jasper praised.

Kai, on the other hand, was not so good-tempered. He decided to close the position of the futures quickly before immediately withdrawing the money.

He pressed into the text message on his phone notifying him that 6.8 million had been credited into his account and then threw the phone in front of Samuel.

“Open your eyes and take a good look. Could this text message be faked?”

Samuel looked at the genuine text message on the phone and was completely dumbfounded.

“No way!”

Samuel thought of something and suddenly exploded. He stared at Jasper and growled, “Give me my money back!”

Samuel was rich compared to ordinary people, but it was not to the point where he could throw six million away like this.

Otherwise, he would not have gone to great lengths to try taking a 30% commission from Kai, much less stay in the office all day just for this bet with Jasper.

Samuel was worth a little more than ten million at best. Taking six million away from him at once was tantamount to taking away half his life.

In a fit of rage, Samuel completely tossed his dignity aside and reached out to grab the check from Jasper's pants pocket.

However, John stepped in and stopped in front of Jasper. John, who was tall and strong, looked very intimidating. He glared at Samuel and said, "What's the matter? You were willing to gamble but are now unwilling to admit defeat? You still wish to commit robbery in broad daylight?"

Samuel's face turned red with anger. He roared, "This is clearly a damned trap that the two of you had deliberately set up to trick me into the game! I won't accept it!"

"Mr. Ray."

Jasper spoke coolly.

"You seem to not understand something.

"No one dragged you into this bet. It was you who wanted to join in. Besides, until half an hour ago, you had been very sure that you would win and even fantasized about how you would spend the six million that you thought I'd lose to you, right?"

Samuel gritted his teeth so hard it creaked. He stared at Jasper coldly and said, "Kid, it's easy for you to take my money but it won't be easy for you to spend it. Since you dare take my money, beware of not being alive to spend it."

“Oh? It looks like Mr. Ray is planning to play some tricks?” Jasper chuckled and said coolly.

“Back then when Hugh lost the bet with me, even he didn’t dare owe me the bargaining chip he lost to me, let alone you?”

Samuel’s eyelids jerked upon hearing these words.

Samuel knew all too well the kind of person Hugh was.

It was Hugh who had held him down and made him forever the second-best in Faith County.

It was not that Samuel did not think of forcibly taking over the leading position. He had even tried several times but was oppressed by Hugh every time, making him suffer heavy losses.

Later on, Samuel became too afraid of Hugh, and only then did he give up his idea of fighting against Hugh.

However, Hugh had suddenly lost one day. It was an unexpected opportunity for Samuel. Not only did he take over most of Hugh’s businesses, but his own business had also flourished.

Samuel once thought he was the chosen one. Even though he did not make a move against Hugh, Hugh still dropped from the top of the ladder on his own.

Yet now, when he suddenly heard Hugh’s name from Jasper’s mouth, Samuel was a little confused.

“Who exactly are you?” Samuel stared at Jasper and spat out the words through gritted teeth.

“Samuel Ray, you’ve been too proud and unbridled all this while, which has made you supercilious. You don’t put anyone in your eyes at all.”

John said to Samuel coolly, a playful smile on the corner of his mouth.

Life at the Top Chapter 548

“He’s called Jasper Laine. Why don’t you go back to Faith County and find out who screwed Hugh Lewis over? That’s why merely for you, it’s still a little too soon.”

Samuel heard this and felt as if he had been struck by lightning.

Jasper Laine... He had heard of this name.

Faith County’s most famous stock god of the year. He heard that Jasper had even clashed with Hugh Lewis back then.

However, who the hell was Jasper Laine? He had never met him before.

That was because Jasper had already set off for the province when he returned from somewhere else. Later on, Jasper had been in Harbor City and Swallow Capital for some time before only returning recently.

There were rumors that Hugh had been taken down by Jasper, but Samuel only turned his nose at it.

He had fought Hugh for so many years when he was at Faith County and never once won.

Yet, some guy who had crawled out of God knew where could?

The truth was right in front of his eyes now, however, and Samuel had no choice but to believe it.

Immense shock and fear shrouded him. When Samuel raised his head to look at Jasper again, there was no longer the overweening attitude from half a minute ago.

“Mister... Mr. Laine, I... I didn't know you were...”

Samuel was even fumbling over his words.

He really could not muster up the courage to offend the person who could easily bring down Hugh Lewis.

“It doesn't matter who I am.”

Jasper glanced at Samuel and said faintly, “I had no interest in you, yet you were the one who kept looking for me for trouble.”

Samuel was almost in tears. He stooped down, apologized to Jasper with all his might, and said, “I'm sorry, Mr. Laine. I was truly blinded by anger just now. I didn't expect you to be Kai's patron. Otherwise, I wouldn't have dared to trouble you even if I were given three shots of liquid courage.”

Jasper said indifferently, “I'm nobody's patron. It just so happened that John asked me for help this time. Not to mention, Kai has quite a good character and is unlikely to be beyond redemption for just a single mistake.”

“Yes, yes, it's as Mr. Laine has said.” Samuel did not dare refute him and continued pandering.

Jasper stood up. He walked toward Samuel and said with a smile, “Do you still want to take back the six million dollar check?”

Samuel's expression was bitter. He had really messed up this time, and there was no chance for him to even say that he felt wronged.

"No, no, I dare not. I was willing to bet, so I'll admit defeat."

"That's great. I would like to thank Mr. Ray for his generosity. Coincidentally, I will pass this money to a relative of mine to invest in a hotpot business. Once it's successful, you have to come support it."

Samuel's face went taut. He did not know what Jasper meant but still replied carefully and respectfully, "Of course, I'll definitely be there."

"Alright, the matter here is resolved. I have to head back first." Jasper stretched his waist and bade farewell to Kai and John.

Kai hesitated before saying, "Mr. Laine, I only need six million. The 800,000..."

"Just keep it. With this personality of yours, you will still suffer plenty of losses in the future. I don't care about the 800,000." After saying this, Jasper left.

Kai was stunned. He did not know whether to cry or laugh.

Turning his head away, Kai said to John, "What should we do with the 800,000 dollars? I can't possibly keep it. Mr. Laine has already helped me so much. It's the same as him saving my entire family's lives."

"Isn't it simple? It's going to be New Year's soon. You could find an excuse to give a New Year's greeting and deliver the money to his door. It would be a gesture of good faith and thoughtfulness," John patted Kai on the shoulder and said with a smile.

Kai nodded in agreement and then said with a sigh, "It's so amazing. If I hadn't seen it with my own eyes, I would never have believed in Mr. Laine's ability. Not even in my dreams. It's such a shame that I doubted him before. I was such a... snob."

As soon as Jasper walked out of Kai's company, his phone rang. It was Wendy calling.

"Jasp, where are you? I'm at your place."

"Where are you? I'll come pick you up now!"

Life at the Top Chapter 549

After Jasper had picked Wendy up, she sat in the Bentley's passenger seat and blushed as she said, "Jasp, my dad said he would like to invite your parents to dinner after Christmas."

Jasper smiled as he said, "That's a good thing. When?"

"There are only four or five days before Christmas, so probably three days after that. Do you have any relatives you need to visit then? We can make further arrangements regarding the date," Wendy answered gently.

Jasper thought for a moment before saying, "No, we don't have any relatives to visit this year. My family has already discussed it among themselves. They were worried I wouldn't have time, so my relatives will be coming over instead."

Wendy blinked. "Is it because you're rich now?"

"If you're either powerful or rich, you'll get special treatment as long as you check off one of these boxes," Jasper said gleefully.

Wendy huffed and asked confusedly, "But my family home is always silent during Christmas, and my relatives rarely come visit. I used to be so jealous of the other kids because they got so much money during Christmas."

“Didn’t your parents give you any?” Jasper asked.

“Of course, they did. Never anything less than 10,000 Somer Dollars,” Wendy answered naturally.

Jasper, “...”

Back in the 90s, one was considered rich if they had more than 10,000 dollars in their account. Yet, the amount of Christmas money Wendy’s family gave was equivalent to an entire family’s savings?!

“I used to get ten or 20 Somer Dollars when I was younger. Then, when my family’s financial situation improved, I got around 50 to 100 Somer Dollars. You get 10,000 Somer Dollars in one go and you’re still jealous of other people?” Jasper asked gloomily.

Wendy replied confidently, “I meant that other people received money from many relatives, unlike me. I only ever received money from two people, my mom and my dad. After I lost my mom, my dad would give me 100,000 dollars every year to make up for it.”

“I don’t understand how you rich people live your lives,” Jasper said gloomily.

Both Sally and Charlie were extremely happy to see Wendy. Even Charlie, who was usually sullen, smiled happily at her.

“Wendy, why didn’t you let me know you were coming over in advance? I would have prepared you some food in advance. Have you eaten yet?” Sally took Wendy’s hand in hers and smiled as she talked to her.

It was not their first time meeting, so Wendy had long since become close to Jasper’s parents. Back when Jasper was in Harbor City, she had often come over to accompany them.

“I’ve already eaten.”

Wendy sat down and glanced meaningfully at Jasper.

Jasper then told his parents about how Dawson wanted to treat them to dinner.

“Ah, your dad was just nagging me about this two days ago. He said we should find a chance where we can all sit down and have dinner together. At least the parents on both sides could get to know each other better,” Sally said excitedly.

“I didn’t expect Wendy’s father to bring this up so soon. Charlie, shall we travel to the province three days after Christmas?” Sally turned and looked at Charlie.

Charlie was the head of the family, so they needed to get his approval.

After a moment’s thought, Charlie replied, “I’m fine with the date. Nothing else is more important than this. But Jasper, you should book the hotel we’ll eat at. I’ll pay for the meal.”

Wendy blinked and was just about to speak when Jasper tugged on her arm, saying, “It’s how we do things here. It doesn’t matter where we go. Besides, it’s a must for the man’s parents to pay. It wouldn’t make sense for the woman’s parents to make the arrangements.”

Finally realizing what was going on, Wendy said angrily, “What do you mean by the man and the woman?! My dad just wants to get to know your parents!”

As they chatted, Wendy heard from Sally that she was planning on going Christmas shopping. Thus, she readily volunteered to accompany Sally.

Life at the Top Chapter 550

“Sally, I heard that a supermarket on the west side of town is having a huge sale now. Everything is at least 75% off, and there’ll be lucky draws too. Let’s go together!”

Jasper was startled when he heard that and glanced suspiciously at Wendy. “The supermarket on the west side of town? That’s where Tefa City is. The only supermarket there besides the one your family owns is Walmart, right? Not only are you not going to shop at the supermarket you own, but you’re going to fund your competition’s supermarket instead?”

Wendy huffed and said, “I’ll go wherever the cheaper options are. Isn’t that right, Sally?”

Sally was tempted as well. “75% discounts, and there’ll be lucky draws too. What a bargain!”

Jasper sighed as he watched the two women excitedly plan their day.

Wendy was born with a silver spoon in her mouth. Back in the days where few families had savings up to 100,000 dollars, she was already receiving 10,000 dollars as presents.

As for his mother, he transferred around 50,000 to 60,000 dollars to her bank account as an allowance every month. She should have at least 500,000 to 600,000 dollars under her name now.

Yet, these two women were still attracted by discounts.

However, Jasper still felt grateful. He knew Wendy was doing this to please his mother, who had been born in a rural area and had to be frugal her entire life.

Jasper merely reminded them to be careful before he let the two women set off excitedly.

The issues that his mother previously had with her daughter-in-law, which had plagued Jasper in his past life, did not seem to exist this time around.

Julian naturally trailed after Wendy when they arrived at the front door.

Ever since what had happened the last time, Jasper would arrange for Julian to protect Wendy unless there were any special circumstances.

Sally also knew Julian as the silent but sincere bodyguard. She smiled at him as she said, "Jul, pick out anything you need later. I'll pay."

Julian blushed as he said, "Mrs. Laine, Jasper pays me quite a high salary. I can't even finish spending it."

As Sally dragged Wendy toward the door, she said, "Get your sister to come and celebrate Christmas with us. The two of you don't even have any other family members to spend it with. It must be lonely."

Julian said awkwardly, "Mrs. Laine, it's fine. We've always celebrated Christmas this way."

"Alright now, just go along with my plans." Sally was insistent.

Julian seemed like a reliable person to her, and both her son and future daughter-in-law's safety were in his hands. It only made sense for her to treat him well.

Besides, the two siblings did have quite a pitiful life...

Just then, Charlie beckoned for Jasper to sit down beside him on the couch.

“I have something to discuss with you,” Charlie said as he frowned.

When he saw the solemn expression on his father’s face, Jasper hurriedly asked, “What’s wrong? Did something happen?”

Charlie seemed to be having difficulty bringing it up.

Jasper grew uneasy as he hurriedly asked, “Dad, there’s nothing you can’t tell me. No matter what happens, you should always let me know about it.”

Charlie grunted for the longest time before he finally muttered, “Wendy’s from a rich family, and I even heard that her dad’s a tycoon. Should we prepare anything when we meet him? Should I get a new outfit? I’m worried I might embarrass you.”