

Life at the Top Chapter 866

“Everything is going smoothly.

“As things stand, we have used up 600 million dollars. According to our original plan, 200 million dollars from the total of a billion dollars will remain as our backup funds. Once we get our hands on 800 million dollars worth of shares, we can start taking action,” Valentine said.

“At our current pace, we can start taking action the day after tomorrow as there’s still one more trading day tomorrow. We will start carrying out our plan at about nine o’clock in the evening on the day after tomorrow during Nasdaq’s trading time.”

“The day after tomorrow?”

“It must be fate. The topping-off ceremony of his project at Southface River will be taking place on the day after tomorrow. I wonder if Jasper Laine will be so touched by our massive gift for him that he’ll lose sleep over it at night,” Conrad said with an unreadable expression on his face.

Valentine chuckled when she noticed that Conrad was in a good mood. “I’m not sure if he’ll be touched, but he’ll surely lose sleep over it,” she remarked.

Conrad guffawed loudly.

...

Sena was instantly thrown into a state of turmoil after Jasper’s phone call.

Jack had called everyone in Sena’s financial department to the company in the middle of the night. The sky outside was still pitch black, but the meeting room

within the company was brightly lit up. Jack scolded each and every one of them harshly.

“First off, I need to reflect upon myself for causing this incident as I’ve indeed become complacent. I’ve been blinded by our recent success.

“However, from this incident, it’s clear to see that the moment we get too relaxed, we’ll encounter a crisis. Mr. Laine managed to discover it early on this time around, but what if he didn’t manage to?!”

“Can anyone tell me who Mr. Laine would hold responsible for this incident?! Will it be you guys or me?!”

All the executives lowered their heads, not daring to look at the heavy expression on Jack’s face. Although there were more than ten people in the room, nothing else could be heard except for Jack’s voice. Nobody dared to utter a single word.

At that moment, someone knocked on the door of the meeting room. Jack’s secretary then entered the room.

“Mr. Tanner, here’s the data. It can be projected on screen right now,” the secretary said in a cautious tone.

“What are you waiting for? Project it at once!” Jack shouted.

The secretary responded to him aggrievedly and began to start up the equipment in a hurry.

Not long after, Sena’s share trading data and trend chart during this period appeared on the huge projection screen in the meeting room.

Everyone in the room was involved in financial trading. Thanks to Jasper’s guidance, they managed to detect the unusual parts of the data after some careful observation.

Everyone instantly broke out into a cold sweat.

Obviously, someone was manipulating Sena's share price. Once the other party started attacking them, the consequences would be unimaginable.

"Mr. Tanner, the other party has been planning this since a long time ago. It seems like they own a hefty amount of shares right now. I'm afraid we can't resolve this on our own," a pale-faced deputy manager said.

Jack replied icily, "What's wrong now? You guys were busy celebrating, shopping, and accepting interviews from financial magazines without anyone reminding you to do so. That's why none of you managed to detect the problem.

"Now that someone else has given you a clear reminder, you're telling me that you can't resolve this on your own. In that case, why did the company even hire you?"

The deputy manager's lips quivered. He did not dare to say a word.

"From today onward, none of you are allowed to go back home until this problem is resolved. All of you are required to stay at the company and pay attention to the activity on the Nasdaq at all the times. Meanwhile, Mr. Laine and I come up with a plan to salvage this situation."

Life at the Top Chapter 867

"However, due to the time difference, we need to pull an all-nighter if they take action. Make sure to re-adjust the work schedules of your departments. If anyone makes a mistake, don't bother explaining it to me. Explain everything to Mr. Laine himself."

Everyone gazed at each other after hearing Jack's words. Heaving a collective sigh, they agreed unanimously.

...

Back in Nauritus City, it was already two in the morning when Jasper arrived home after sending Celine back to her hotel.

Jasper had been communicating closely with Jake throughout his journey home.

Jasper did not have anyone that he could rely on in the United States, and the topping-off ceremony would be held in two days' time. Because of this, it was impossible for him to stay up all night just to monitor the American stock market. Thus, he had no choice but to hand this task over to Jake.

"Sena's funds amount to 600 million dollars right now. I have another 300 million dollars on hand. This is all held in US dollars. I'll let you handle this sum of money for now—our main goal is to snatch back all of their shares."

Jasper remained on the phone with Jake after arriving home.

"Mr. Laine, it shouldn't be hard to take over their shares, but the other party has been preparing for such a long time. It is unlikely that we'll be able to obtain an equivalent number of shares within such a short period of time. If we try too hard to do so, the share price will rise. If that happens, we will have to pay a higher price."

"We'll just have to pay the price then."

Jasper said in an even tone. "After taking down this cunning wolf, we'll gain a considerable amount of profits. The problem now isn't money. We need to know is how many shares they have under their control, and when they intend to take action."

“Mr. Laine, we’ll surely be able to notice the signs before they start carrying out their plan. I will be monitoring the share price the entire team. If anything happens, I’ll be the first one to tell you.”

Jasper nodded with satisfaction and replied, “Sure, I’ll hand this task over to you.”

“Don’t worry.”

After hanging up the call, Jasper stared out the window. The sky was always darkest before dawn. He sighed lightly.

Time passed at an alarming rate. The next day, people from Easy Media told Jasper that they have already completed all the equipment debugging and rehearsals required for the topping-off ceremony.

The Southeast Province, which was thrown into the spotlight after the mining company’s scam was resolved, became the center of everyone’s attention due to the upcoming topping-off ceremony.

Everyone had their eyes set on the Southface River project. Hundreds of millions of dollars had been invested into this project, which had lasted for a year. Now, it was finally time to unveil it to the world.

On this day, the mining company incident was collectively resolved with the joint intervention of the municipal government, the bank, and two state-owned enterprises.

Vista Mining Company declared bankruptcy less than a week after its establishment. The funds obtained from the Agricultural Bank in the company account were all recalled by the bank. After this, Vista Mining Company would no longer be held accountable by the Agricultural Bank or state-owned enterprises.

This included Hill County. Conrad had invested a lot of money into the poor county town of Hill County for the construction of roads and to develop utilities.

Since the people of Hill County benefited from the substantive welfare that he had provided, they did not continue to hold Conrad accountable for his actions.

After all, it's not like any of them were made worse off by this.

Conrad, who had set up the entire scheme from the very start, was the only one who suffered from this. The funds that he had previously invested vanished into thin air.

Most parties considered this to be an acceptable ending. However, they were now not as friendly toward Conrad as they had been in the past.

After all, anyone would be cautious when dealing with a vicious person who was willing to lose a hundred million dollars just to set up a trap for someone else.

Therefore, the number of people gloating over Conrad's misfortune soon outnumbered the number of people who felt sympathetic sorry for him after his scheme failed.

Life at the Top Chapter 868

The topping-off ceremony attracted plenty of prominent figures due to Jasper's renowned reputation and extensive connections.

Among other things, Zachary Law's appearance at the event alone garnered a lot of attention.

"Not bad. I heard that a lot of celebrities from Harbor City have volunteered to attend this event. Something like that is truly rare."

Seated in one of the reception rooms in Southface River Tower, Zachary chuckled as he stared out at the lively and happening ceremony going on outside the building.

The large reception was empty except for Jasper and Zachary. Meanwhile, Henry sat by the side of the door like he was a mascot for the event.

“Everyone simply feels obligated to show their support,” Jasper chuckled.

“You’re now a big boss within the entertainment industry. Those celebrities will definitely have to deal with the two entertainment companies under you. Nobody would dare to not show you their support.”

Zachary seemed to be in a good mood that day as he joked around with Jasper for a while. However, a frown formed on his face once he turned around to look at Henry.

“What’s with that private jet of yours?” Zachary asked him with a dark expression on his face.

“I bought that with the money that I earned on my own. It’s none of your business,” Henry said in an aggrieved tone.

Zachary was angered by his response. “Money you earned on your own? Do you think I’m unaware of how much money Jasp lent to you? He’s paid for half of that private jet. How dare you say that you bought it with your own money!” He barked at him.

“Besides, that private jet is parked in our space now. Our family is paying for its maintenance crew. How dare you tell me that it’s none of my business?”

“I’m your son. Do you need to be so calculative with me over every single thing that I do?” Henry asked bitterly.

“Hmph, when I took over our family business from your grandpa back then, I used the car that your grandpa passed down to me. I would never dare to even think of a private jet. What did I tell you? All you know how to do is enjoy life. You’ve never thought about where those luxuries come from.

“Let me tell you right now. If you continue being such a bum, I’ll pass down all of our property to Anna in the future. When that happens, you’ll have to rely on the family trust fund for your daily expenses. I’ll give you an allowance of a few million dollars every month. Let’s see what will happen to you then.”

“No! I can’t live a single day in such poverty!” Henry shouted out in terror.

“Pfft...”

Zachary and Henry both turned around to look at Jasper, who had spit out a mouthful of tea, with an odd glance.

“It’s alright, sorry for interrupting. Please continue,” Jasper said as he waved his hand awkwardly. He wiped away the water on the coffee table immediately.

The life of an aristocrat was really extraordinary! Even a disobedient son could receive a monthly allowance of a few million dollars. In this era, an ordinary person may not even be able to earn a few million dollars in their entire lifetime.

In the eyes of an aristocrat, a few million dollars was simply their monthly allowance.

Henry turned around and told his father, “Father, why don’t you give me more allowance? Besides, Anna is my younger sister. Isn’t it all the same if you gave all the property to me?”

“Besides, I’ve thought about it. Why should I follow in you and grandpa’s footsteps? Both of you are always tired. Why should I work that hard? Grandpa is smarter than you—he retired a long time ago.

“Those old men around the same age as Grandpa who are still reluctant to retire are all riddled with illness. None of them are as healthy as Grandpa. If you go for a health checkup right now, you may discover that you are less healthy than him. Because of this, I reckon that I’m meant to live a busy working lifestyle. It’s good to live in idle relaxation.”

“Pfft...”

Jasper spit out another mouthful of tea.

As the father and son were busy expressing how much they cared for each other, Wendy came over and knocked on the door of the reception room.

“Mr. Law, Jasp, the officials from the municipal and provincial government have arrived. My father has gone to meet them. Shall we head over to greet them as well?” Wendy asked.

Jasper got up and told Zachary, “Uncle Law, shall we head over?”

Zachary nodded. He left Henry, whose figure was now slumped from all the scolding, and said, “Alright, let’s go.”

They made their way out of the building. The entire area was glowing with bright decorations and immersed in a lively atmosphere.

A short distance away, Dawson Schuler was chatting with two middle-aged men in front of some cars with special license plates. Those with lower-ranking positions did not even have the right to approach them.

Jasper and Zachary made their way toward them. In an event like this, Zachary had to stand behind Jasper. Meanwhile, Wendy stood next to Jasper because of her relationship with him. They then joined in the conversation with the highest-ranking officials from the municipal and provincial government.

“Nice to meet you, Mr. Law.”

“Hello, Mr. Law.”

The two high-ranking officials from the municipal and provincial government smiled widely when they caught sight of Zachary Law. They immediately took the initiative to greet him.

Zachary laughed cheerily. After shaking hands with the two officials, he said, “Look at me. My memory is getting poorer now that I’m older. I was chatting with Jasper in the reception room and I forgot to look at the time. Otherwise, I would have come out and welcomed both of you.”

Zachary’s words were a sign of respect to the two officials.

As the head of the Laws, Zachary had every right to stand tall amongst these government officials due to his prominent status and social ranking. However, he took the initiative to lower himself before them in order to please them.

The official from the provincial government laughed and said, “You’re being way too courteous, Mr. Law. We should have greeted you at the airport when you arrived in the province. After all, we’re the hosts, and you’re our guest.”

Zachary smiled and said, “I’ve invested in a number of projects here. Now that the amusement park and Southface River projects are complete, I should be partly considered as a host as well.”

The group exchanged glances, then burst out into laughter.

“Learn from your father,” Jasper told Henry.

Henry pouted and said, “It’s impossible for me to learn how to speak courteously like these cunning foxes.”

While they were speaking, the official from the provincial government chuckled and said to Jasper, “This must be the young talent from Southeast Province. This is our first time meeting, right?”

Jasper behaved respectfully but without any hint of inferiority toward the high-ranking official. He grinned and spoke to him in a tone that was neither humble nor arrogant.

“This is your first time meeting me, Sir. However, I’ve often seen you on television. Also, the province is burgeoning with talent. I’m young, but I won’t say that I’m talented. I simply managed to get things done at the right time.”

The provincial official was stunned. He laughed out loud and told the municipal official, “Look at how slick he is with his words. My son is about the same age as Mr. Laine, but they’re on completely different levels.

“Nauritus City has produced a real talent!”

Life at the Top Chapter 869

The municipal official had previously dealt with Jasper a few times before this, and Jasper had left a great impression on him. The official chuckled softly.

“Yes, the Nauritus City Government is planning to compile a list of young and promising entrepreneurs; we intend to give them a commendation in order to encourage all the young people within the city to learn from their peers!

“Mr. Laine from JW Capital is on the list. However, he hasn’t been officially notified.”

The provincial official nodded and said, “That’s good to hear. A young man like him deserves to be supported.”

“We shouldn’t just stand here and chat. How about Jasper and I bring all of you to see the Southface River?” Dawson asked them at the perfect timing.

“In that case, Mr. Law, why don’t we take a look together?” The provincial official invited Zachary as he turned to look at him.

“Alright, let’s go and take a good look at the project,” Zachary said with a chuckle.

Not only did the Southface River project mean a lot to Jasper, Dawson, and JW Real Estates, the Nauritus City Government and the Southeast Province City Government also considered it an extremely important project.

JW Real Estates had spent a total amount of 1.8 billion Somer Dollars on the project. With the support of massive funding and Dawson Schuler’s full-time supervision, the project had progressed at an astounding pace!

Amazingly, the construction was completed within ten months.

Usually, the construction of a complex, large-scale project like the Southface River project typically took three to five years. It was common for such projects to encounter a shortage of funds. Occasionally, construction could take as long as ten years.

However, JW Real Estates had outperformed them all.

While Jasper and Dawson brought the group of prominent figures to the Southface River and began introducing the area to them, a young man glared coldly at Jasper’s silhouette from a short distance away.

“Damn f*cker! This jerk does not deserve any of this!”

Zane Lancaster, who had just arrived at the Southeast Province only two days before this, had been greatly shocked within the past forty-eight hours.

He initially thought that Somerland was a poor and undeveloped country, and had expected farms and wooden houses to litter the real estate. He did not even expect there to be a single six-story building in the entire country.

However, once he stepped out of the airport, he was faced with the sight of a bustling city as he traveled along the airport highway.

Although the excessively broad roads and tidy streets looked slightly aged, a vibrant energy surged through them!

None of this could be seen in Harbor City, which was small and cramped.

Harbor City was still much more developed than most cities within Somerland, and was filled with plenty of skyscrapers. The business district was extremely lively and happening as well.

However, anyone could tell that the development of Harbor City was now at a bottleneck, whereas Somerland had only just begun.

There was nothing wrong with this.

What Zane found the most unacceptable was Jasper Laine's prestigious reputation over here!

Almost everyone knew him!

Zane had just been here for two days, but he had heard the people around him shower Jasper with all sorts of praise.

The prince of business?

A young talent?

A business prodigy?

What an over-exaggeration.

They talked about Jasper like he was a deity.

Zane was filled with jealousy.

“F*ck this. Back in Harbor City, I’m always on the newspaper, and I’m also well-known by the public, but what do those newspapers say about me?”

“They either report on my recent purchases, my spending, or the women that I’ve slept with! Those reports make me seem like a useless jerk!”

Mitch Langdon stood beside Zane. His gaze flashed ambiguously as he replied in an even tone, “Aren’t you a useless jerk? Those newspapers are merely telling everyone the truth.”

“Is Jasper Laine any better than I am? Does he have less women around him than I do?” Zane huffed angrily.

“This has nothing to do with women. He’s different from you because he managed to get those women with his own abilities. What about you? Has any woman ever approached you after you left your father?” Mitch asked with a cold sneer.

Life at the Top Chapter 870

“.....”

Zane was rendered speechless. Nevertheless, the jealousy on his face grew much stronger and more obvious.

“Look at how glad Law is. As a young master from Harbor City, he’s truly an embarrassment. He’s so happy being someone else’s follower. He’s acting just like their assistant—he has nothing to be proud of,” Zane huffed in annoyance.

“At least he doesn’t rely on his family’s money and managed to buy himself a private jet. Do you think we have the ability to do so?” Mitch asked him.

Zane turned around to look at Mitch. “You always tell us that they are good, and we’re worthless, Mr. Langdon. Is it really that fun to do so?” He asked Mitch in distaste.

“Do you think that I want to do it?” Mitch sneered and replied, “However, it is the truth. Let’s wait it out for a few more days. Soon, he won’t have the chance to hop around freely like this anymore. What’s wrong with that?”

All of a sudden, Zane seemed to have thought of something. He lowered his voice and asked Mitch, “Mr. Langdon, how is the plan that you previously mentioned going on? If everything goes smoothly, Jasper Laine will be out of luck today, right?”

Mitch cast a wide-eyed glance at Zane and replied to him in a low voice, “This isn’t Harbor City. Jasper Laine may have eyes and ears everywhere, so you’d better be careful with your words. If Jasper hears about any of this, you and I will be in big trouble.”

Zane curled his lips in distaste. “Who does he think he is? Even if he hears about it, what can he do to me?” He said in an irritated tone.

While Zane and Mitch were talking to each other in hushed voices a short distance away, Henry patted Jasper’s arm.

“Look over there. Why are those two fools here?” Henry remarked with a curious expression on his face.

He looked like he had finally found something that piqued his interest and amused him amidst this sea of boredom.

Jasper glanced in the direction that Henry was pointing.

A slight frown formed across his face when he caught sight of Mitch Langdon and Zane Lancaster.

Neither Bob Lancaster nor Kennedy Langdon were his friends.

Although Jasper had sent them invitations out of courtesy, he did not know if they would be attending the event since they did not notify him beforehand.

Mitch and Zane were here at the event instead of Bob and Kennedy. What were they trying to do?

They were here without an invitation. What did that imply?

Hence, Jasper sensed that something odd was going on.

Just as Jasper was thinking about how to handle the situation, Henry walked over to them with a wide grin on his face.

“Don’t cause any trouble.”

Jasper only had time to give him a single reminder.

“I know, I know. It’s your big day today. I won’t cause any trouble,” Henry said, waving his hand nonchalantly. He did not even turn around to look at him.

“The Southface River project has been completed. This is the biggest urban reconstruction plan for our city since it opened up to the world!

“With this project, JW Real Estates broke the national construction time record due to their strong financial power, advanced design concepts, and the support of the municipal and provincial governments!

“The entire construction of the barren South Bank of the Southface River was completed within ten months.”

Meanwhile, Wendy, who was standing next to Jasper, began to give an overview of the Southface River project to the provincial and municipal officials. Naturally, she did not forget to shower them with praise every once in a while.

Jasper turned away from Mitch and Zane after hearing Wendy’s eloquent introduction. Then, he continued socializing with the two officials intently.

On the other hand, Mitch and Zane’s expressions instantly changed when they saw Henry walking over to them with a large grin on his face. Instinctively, they attempted to avoid him by walking away.

“Hey, why are you guys running away after seeing me? Am I that scary?”

Henry called out to the both of them, who had now turned away from him.

Zane and Mitch could not pretend not to have heard him in a situation like that. After all, they were all people of status. If they really did run away from Henry, it would be absolutely humiliating.

“Young Master Law, we didn’t do anything to provoke you,” Zane said in disdain as he looked at Henry.

He could not compare to any of these wealthy men from the four richest families of Harbor City. Although Bob Lancaster was a prominent figure in Harbor City, he was nothing compared to Zachary Law and Kennedy Langdon.

Henry tended to target Zane the most amongst the group of second generation youth, which led to Zane being overcome with frustration whenever he saw Henry.