

Life at the Top Chapter 201

When it was time, the market commenced.

In the split second after, not only the investors in Harbor City were watching Harbor Stocks, but numerous capitalists from all over the world also had their eyes on it.

Although the burst of the dot-com bubble was global, anyone with a discerning eye would be able to tell that the situation in Harbor City was more than extraordinary.

It was because someone was trying to collapse the economy in Harbor City using the crisis.

This was already a financial battle, and it was not as simple as a normal crisis after the burst of a bubble.

The moment the market commenced, numerous funds were being injected frantically into the transaction of the stock market index. The Hansel Index was fluctuating intensely in just a split second.

“Mr. Laine, the Hansel Index dropped by 11 points after the commencement of the market. Currently, the short sale of the funds that have reached a deal has reached five billion and it’s increasing continuously.

“Mr. Laine, the party that’s short-selling is offensive and violent. Now, the Hansel Index has dropped another seven points.

“Mr. Laine, two stocks in Harbor Stocks have reached their price limits.”

The atmosphere in the living room became more intense after Zack reported the situation at an extremely fast speed.

Spencer, from the four rich families, had a horrible look on his face because the two stocks that had reached their limits were the listed companies under his name.

The other party was having a demonstration!

They were attacking the stocks of the rich families!

Everyone looked at Jasper, waiting for him to give out an order.

However, Jasper was only drinking his tea. The lingering dense vapor was hanging in the air, obscuring his expression.

Spencer could not keep his cool anymore because his listed companies had been attacked to their price limits. He said, "Mr. Laine, aren't we going to do anything?"

At this moment, Jake smirked and said, "I think he's stumped from the attacks. It's just been three minutes since the commencement. The funds of the short-selling parties who are waiting for the put have been increased to seven billion. Have you never seen this kind of battle, country bumpkin?"

"Let me teach you, the market needs confidence now. Everyone knows that the government of Harbor City has a market rescue plan. You should go in immediately and clear the market of the sellers!"

While he said that, Jake chuckled coldly. "Country bumpkin, you can't handle this kind of battle. You should hand over the power to conduct and do as I say obediently."

Jake's words started to sway the opinions of everyone in the room.

Indeed, according to the normal rhythm, what Jake said would be the best way to handle this.

However, if Zachary and Clark did not speak, then nobody would dare to say anything.

Zack looked at the attacks by the sellers that were getting denser and more intense on the market. At this moment, the Hansel Index was falling continuously.

Zack did not know when the sweat started to form on his forehead. He asked carefully, "Mr. Laine, what should we do?"

At this moment, Jasper said, "Don't worry. Let's bide our time."

When Jake heard this, he chortled. "Bide our time? Is this the ability of the country bumpkin you found? He's all battered and bruised and he wants to bide the time? I'm going to die from laughter.

"Spencer, you're the head of the four rich families. You're going to lose the market value of your company because he wants to bide his time."

Jake kept smirking. His words were like venomous snakes as he frantically ridiculed Jasper.

"Get lost if you don't have the skills. Why are you inflicting suffering on other people here?"

"You're pretending to be so calm, but in reality, you've already pissed your pants from fear, right?"

"Country bumpkins are so stupid. I told you you should fight back now. Do you think you'll lose your reputation by listening to me? What a joke. Anyone knows the ability of a Mainland hillbilly like you. Stop acting like a poser here, okay?"

“Enough.”

Zachary interrupted Jake’s taunts coldly. “Can you shut your mouth? You’re so noisy!”

When Jake saw Zachary’s hostile expression, he swallowed his saliva and suppressed his anger and hatred. He scoffed with a disdainful look on his face, but he did not dare to talk back to Zachary.

Jasper had been staring fixedly at the digital monitor the entire time.

Lines and lines of information kept being refreshed. Jasper was arranging and analyzing every move of the other party in his head.

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With a woosh, the Hansel Index fell to 7,802 points. The short-selling party was vigorously attacking the defense line of 7,800 points.

At this moment, no matter the heads of the four rich families at the scene, the higher-ups who were following the changes of the stock market in the government of Harbor City, or the ordinary investors at home and at the exchange watching the market, a lot of them were curious. Why was Jasper not doing anything?

If the Hansel Index fell and broke 7,800 points by the short-selling party, it would be too late to do anything when everything tumbled down vigorously.

“Make an opening!”

Under everyone’s anticipating gazes, Jasper finally said something.

Everyone shifted their gazes over to him.

Jake chuckled coldly and looked at Jasper. He was waiting for him to make a decision.

“Make an opening at 7,800 points. Buy all of the short-selling orders in the list that’s under 100 million.”

After Zack heard that, he turned around to yell at the stock traders under him, “Did you guys hear that? Do it according to Mr. Laine’s orders!”

The stock traders had been suppressing themselves since the beginning. After they got the order, they immediately started firing away on their keyboards frantically.

In the next second, all of the short-selling orders under 100 million in Harbor Stocks were swept clean by Jasper.

The other party sold their orders and Jasper would buy them. With one in and one out, he managed to stabilize the number of transactions.

On the other hand, the Hansel Index was forcibly stopped at 7,801 points, unable to budge.

The stock price of another listed company of Spencer’s that was being attacked seemed stable now. This allowed Spencer to let out a sigh of relief.

He was feeling miserable. He did not know why the other party would target him.

At this moment, they could hear Jake’s cold laugh floating over.

“You idiot. The orders below 100 million are all just useless troops and minor characters. The true pressure comes from the main force of the other party.

You're not attacking the main force and instead, you're attacking these useless troops. I'd be insulting a pig if I say you're as stupid as a pig!"

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At this moment inside the secluded villa.

Rogers was staring at the market.

"Oh? He's finally doing something because he can't bear this anymore, huh?"

Rogers said with a scoff after he saw the orders under 100 million being cleared out in the market.

"What should we do next?" one of his subordinates asked.

Rogers shrugged and poured himself a glass of red wine. He said, "Our opponent is just observing our tactics. Now, he has cleared out the tiny investors who wanted to make some money while hopping onto the trend. Is he trying to fight with us on 7,800 points?"

"We'll continue to wait for it to drop and short sell. Open more small orders under 100 million. If he wants to clean up the battlefield, then I'll just create more messes for him.

"What an interesting young man from Mainland. Your calmness surprises me, but..."

"Can you still find where my main force is?"

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"I can almost tell the composition of the main force from the seller, but now, there are a lot of vermins trying to use this opportunity to make some money while

Harbor Stocks is plummeting. These vermins will obscure our vision, so if we want to find the main force that's short-selling, we have to clear the battlefield," Jasper said.

Then, more than ten transactions from the seller that were under 100 billion dominated the digital screen all of a sudden.

Jake chortled. "Are you dumbfounded? Do you think you're the only one who knows how to make something unnecessarily complicated? You're so great at talking big, so find it for me now. Where's the main force hiding among these dozens of orders? Hmm?"

"These are just confusions created by the main force. Why should I find them?" Jasper said insipidly while ordering.

"Make openings. Buy and clear out all of the short-selling transactions on the market. I want them to be unable to create more confusion!"

"Then, make more openings, list out, and buy in the order of ten billion. Our target point on the Hansel Index is 7,850 points!"

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A large order of ten billion!

It was a rare sight to see no matter which stock exchange market in the world one was at.

This afternoon, investors from all around the world had their eyes on Harbor Stocks when a large order of ten billion with genuine significance appeared.

When this ten billion was injected into the market, this was undoubtedly a cardiac stimulant to the buyers who were almost exhausted of all resources.

Everyone knew that the market rescue from the government and four rich families had started to take place.

The fund of hundreds of billions was finally here!

However, the investors were not able to stay happy for long. This huge order of 10 billion was devoured in the next second like it was a provocation.

At the same time, numerous selling orders appeared at the side of the short-selling party.

The Hansel Index that just had signs of recovery dropped down to about 7,800 points again and it was fluctuating around that figure.

The main forces of the seller and buyer started an intense massacre surrounding 7,800 points without any warning.

“Buy all of the top ten stocks of Infrastructure Bank, energy and technology, and the four major sectors.

“There are 40 stocks and it’ll be a total of 40 billion if each of them is one billion. After you’re done so, I’ll authorize it.”

Jasper kept giving out orders in the living room. At this moment, the atmosphere and situation in the living room were extremely intense.

Jasper was hosting the main force of the buying side. He had already come to grips with the mysterious main force of the selling side that was hiding in the dark in close-range fighting. Transactions worth hundreds of millions were made in every minute and every second.

On the market, the retail investor had all been cleared out of the game. The ones remaining were the institutions who would ride roughshod over people normally, but now, they were shaking like leaves in the wind and did not dare to make any noise as they watched the two big shots going head to head with each other.

The stock market worked much like fantasy novels with distinct power levels.

Usually, retailers would just follow the direction of those higher up on the food chain in hopes of making a buck or two off the wisdom of the rich. Meanwhile, a collective of retail investors combined was strong enough to take down any force. There were simply too many retail investors. With such a big spread of resources, it was hard to stay united.

Those with a higher level of capital were usually called 'whales'. These large-scale retail investors were characterized by their large amounts of capital and they had the ability to influence the price of companies with small to medium market capitalizations.

Moving up another level would be the institutions. Institutions were usually led by investment banks or large investment companies. These folks controlled capitals starting from billions at the entry level, and quite a few operated in the realm of tens of billions.

All in all, institutions were considered the giant crocodiles in the stock market. Usually, they were the ones calling the shots and making the deals in the market

However, at this moment, the power of the institutions was insignificant.

It was because the true main forces of the two parties had funds reaching hundreds of billions, and they could easily affect the fluctuation of Harbor Stocks.

After the authorization, the 40 stocks Jasper chose started rising in response.

The stocks would spur the market. While the Hansel Index rose, the pressure on the short-selling party would skyrocket.

It was evident that the short-selling party had not expected Jasper to take action at this moment.

Plus, the 40 stocks Jasper chose belonged to large-scale listed companies with huge dimensions. They would need to pay a large price if they wanted to lower the prices for these.

The main force of the short-selling party hesitated for a few seconds. In the next second, a fund of 100 billion entered the market.

It was as if they were opposing each other with equal harshness. The fund of 100 billion entered those 40 stocks and was frantically crashing the market.

“Got them!”

Jasper’s eyes were lighting up like never before.

Even if they were virtually fighting this war with their opponent and they could not smell any inferno or smoke, Jasper could feel the pressure from the other party every second of the way.

They were experts.

Plus, they were top-notch experts who were skilled in stock trading with large amounts of funds.

The reason Jasper did that move back then was to force out the fund of the main force of the other party.

At this moment, with an injection of a fund of 100 billion, it seemed that the other party had seen through Jasper’s decision and was taking up the challenge.

“This tactic...” Jake exclaimed.

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“It’s the capitalists from the west! It’s definitely one of the financial big shots from the west. No ordinary person would have skills and courage like that! It’s going to be a decisive battle!”

Jake’s face had turned red from either excitement or fear. He roared at Jasper, “Hurry! The opponent’s main force has shown up. They’re going to fight a decisive battle with you in the next second. Put down your composition and make an opening right now! You have to protect the 40 stocks from just now with your life!”

Jasper did not pay attention to Jake who was screaming frantically. On the other hand, he asked Zack, “How much is the purchase price of the 40 stocks earlier?”

Zack immediately answered, “Volume’s at 40%.”

“Cancel all the remaining orders that have not reached a deal.”

When he said that, everyone in the room was shocked.

That was right. In a stock transaction, when you bought a stock with a price, you needed someone who was selling with the same price to get a successful transaction. If not, it could be canceled at any time.

However, would Jasper not be giving a helping hand to the enemy if he canceled the transactions at this crucial moment?

“Are you f*cking insane?”

After feeling shocked, Jake looked at Jasper with disdain on his face. “Do you even know the stock market? How can you cancel at this moment?”

“Is this part of your own plans and arrangements? Are you the f*cking spy that was sent here by the opponent?”

“Get lost if you don’t know anything. Stop harming yourself and the others over here. Don’t consign yourself to eternal damnation because you want to be a poser!”

At this moment, an officer from the government of Harbor City said solemnly, “Mr. Laine, I’m not doubting your decision, but I think you can give everyone a reason why you’re doing this.”

“Do you know about traps?”

Jasper said insipidly. “If we fight with them for real, even if we win, Harbor Stocks will be in ruins. So, we have to set a trap, and in this trap, we need some bait. My bait is over here.”

While he said that, Jasper lifted his hand to point at the 40 stocks on the digital screen that were plummeting frantically because of his cancellation.

When everyone was pondering about what Jasper had said, Zack raised his voice.

“The Hansel Index has fallen under 7,800 points!”

Everyone looked over with ghastly expressions. The Hansel Index on the digital screen showed 7,620 points.

A fund of 100 billion that crashed the market combined with Jasper’s cancellation was one disaster on top of another. The Hansel Index eventually fell below 7,800 points.

It was the lowest in history!

“This is my bait. Do you dare come at me at 7,600 points?” Jasper muttered.

“You’re gambling with the economy of Harbor City!” Jake yelled.

“If you do this and fail, Harbor Stocks will be in ruins. You’re insane!”

While he said that, Jake walked to the heads of the four rich families who had been silent this entire time. He pointed at Jasper and said, “He’s a lunatic. I suggest that we strip him of his authority to conduct. Let me do it! He’s from Mainland, and it’s in his bones that he won’t care about the economy of Harbor City. He’s just messing around without a plan!

“Tell him to get lost now! I’m the only one who can save the economy of Harbor City!” Jake yelled loudly.

Clark’s face was as calm as a pool of water. He turned to look at Zachary and did not say anything.

Zachary said in a deep voice, “However, if he succeeds, he’ll be able to take care of this crisis instantly. I think it’s worth it!”

Spencer shook his head and said, “I’ll listen to you guys.”

At this moment, Kennedy secretly wrote a text message on his phone without batting an eyelid and sent it out. Then, he said flatly, “Why don’t we continue observing?”

Clark nodded and said, “Since we’ve chosen him, we have to believe him.”

While he said that, Clark peered at Jake. “Please be quiet.”

Jake was extremely disappointed and furious. He pointed at Jasper and said, “You son of a b*tch, I want to watch how you’re going to die with my own eyes!

“If Harbor Stocks collapse, the economy of Harbor City will fall back a few years.

“You’re being so pretentious now but soon, you’ll become the target of scorn!

“When that time comes, you’ll only have yourself to blame because you were too arrogant and conceited!

“You’re just a country bumpkin, so you should know your place and stay in the poor valley in Mainland. Why did you come to Harbor City asking for death?”

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Inside the secluded villa, Rogers’ eyes were staring fixedly at the phone in his hand.

After he deleted the message, he lifted his head to look at the digital screen. A cold smile appeared on the corners of his lips.

“You’re Jasper, right? You’re too sly. I almost fell into your trap.”

While he said that, Rogers calmly gave his order, “Watch for a bearish and sell short. Don’t hold back.”

...

“It’s here! The short-selling party is attacking!”

Zack’s excited voice broke the contemplations of everyone in the living room.

At this moment, they could only see the 40 stocks plummeting wildly in the blink of an eye. In less than three minutes, they were almost at their price limits.

With the fund of 100 billion, not only the 40 stocks, but almost all of the remaining and surviving stocks in Harbor Stocks were plummeting wildly.

On the other hand, the Hansel Index was plunging like it had fallen down a precipice.

Oh no!

Almost everyone in Harbor City was howling in grief.

Jasper had never been so focused before.

“Make more openings!

“Build a defensive line at 7,610 points on the Hansel Index! Let them know this is our defensive line.

“Aside from the internet sector, buy all of the top ten stocks of all of the other sectors. Buy all of them with huge amounts of money!

“The authorized fund for this execution is 150 billion!”

After Jasper said that, Clark stood up suddenly. He exclaimed, “The total market rescue fund amounts to just 100 billion, so where is this 150 billion coming from?”

“I have them!” Jasper said insipidly, “Don’t worry about the funds.”

When he said that, he did not look at the conflicted expressions on Clark and the others’ faces. He continued to give out his orders.

The main forces of both sides had been fighting at close range.

This time, there was no probing. It was a direct grapple of fund injections between the two main forces.

Jasper stared straight at the Hansel Index. He watched as it got nearer to 7,600 points gradually.

At this moment, Jasper was a little nervous as well.

When the other party forced the Hansel Index down to 7,600 points, he would be able to use this trap and lure the other party here.

This trap was like a lasso. Once it got hold of the funds of the main force of the other party, they would be a pig in an impossible situation waiting to be slaughtered by Jasper.

The current situation was indeed developing according to Jasper's prediction.

7,610 points!

Jasper had deliberately put down a defensive line. After a series of tough resistance, it was still broken through.

However, the following points would be more and more challenging for the short-selling party who was waiting for a bearish to break.

It was as if Jasper's final defensive line was at 7,600 points. Once it was broken, Jasper would lose all control.

The fruit of victory was right in front of their eyes.

7,608 points!

Jasper was still resisting. He kept giving out orders based on the decisions he made. Zack and everyone in the team wanted so badly to grow four more pairs of hands to be able to operate in time.

7,605 points!

The smell of smoke in Harbor City was now extremely thick.

This trade war in the stock market was destined to be written into the textbooks of business schools, and it had already reached its true climax.

7,602 points!

The pressure had been forced to the max.

At this moment, both Jasper and the short-selling party had already thrown their whole weights behind this.

Even the heads of the four rich families could not sit still now, let alone the investors out there. They were all standing up now, and their eyes were glued on the market.

Aside from Kennedy, of course.

He was pretending to look nervous, but there was a sneer and a hint of ridicule hiding deep in his features.

He felt that this was interesting. While looking at the reactions of these people, he suddenly wanted to know what his comrades' expressions would be if they knew he was a spy and he had already leaked all of their information out.

When he thought about this, Kennedy could not help but wanted to burst out laughing.

Jasper stared heatedly at the digital screen.

Numerous pieces of information of the transactions kept refreshing on the screen.

An unprecedented and intense close-quarter fight was happening on the battlefield between the two main forces.

Everything looked normal.

He was protecting his defensive line and the opponent was inching closer to him.

However, it was as if the short-selling party did not have enough follow-up power. When the index was at 7,602 points, it would not fall no matter what.