

Life at the Top Chapter 221

“Get out!”

Jasper’s voice was amplified by manyfold through the speakers.

Mack, who was already flustered with a guilty conscience, shuddered. He was so scared that he fell back into his seat under everyone’s watchful eyes.

“Pfft...”

A number of people at the scene sniggered when they saw Mack’s flustered appearance.

Joseph’s expression changed unsightly.

The mid-level managers and those artists were looking at his own son, Mack, but the higher-ups of the company kept their eyes on Joseph.

Seeing that his son had been humiliated till this point, Joseph knew that he had to speak up no matter what.

He stood up, wanting to go up the stage to Jasper’s side to speak.

However, Jasper swept his gaze over and said indifferently, “Who is the one standing up?”

Secretary Lee, who had been watching everything quietly on one side, immediately walked over and said into Jasper’s ear, “This is Joseph White, the company’s vice president... and Mack’s father.”

“Then, there’s no need for you to come over. Just stand there and speak,” Jasper said coolly.

Joseph’s expression sank. There was a hint of resentment in the depths of his eyes, but he stood at his place and said to Jasper, “Mr. Laine, he’s my son, Mack White. He actually came to apply for a job today. The company has already considered letting him take the position of a contract supervisor.”

“Who’s in charge of the Human Resources Department?” Jasper asked coolly.

Everyone present was silent. No one answered, but everyone’s gaze was on Joseph.

Joseph’s expression was extremely unsightly.

He said that Mack came here to apply for a job, but it was considered a lie. He had already planned to place his son in the company a long time ago.

It was just that in the past few years, he had run amok in the company and had made many enemies. His son had also followed his arrogance and became a spoiled brat. Many higher-ups headed by Ryder were opposed to this matter and he was still working on it.

“Vice President White is in charge of the Human Resources Department.” It was still Secretary Lee who explained matters to Jasper.

“So you, who are in charge of the Human Resources Department, plan to place your son into the company?” Jasper asked coldly.

“Although he’s my son, I appoint people based on their merit—”

Before Joseph was done speaking, he was interrupted by Jasper. “Since you intend to utilize him, has there been any public recruitment conducted in accordance with the company’s rules and regulations? Is there documentation of the recruitment process?”

“ ... ”

Joseph was speechless this time.

The formal personnel appointments in modern companies had a set of very formal procedures and processes. If the company had gone through with it, it would definitely leave evidence. However, Joseph only relied on being in charge of the Human Resources Department. How could he have gone through those procedures and processes?

Once such procedures were gone through, how could an idiot like Mack be selected?

“It seems that there isn’t any,” Jasper said coolly.

“Gladness Entertainment Movies used to be Mr. Lane’s, now it’s mine. But I don’t know when it has ever been Mr. White’s?”

Jasper’s words caused the hundreds of people present to tense their bodies.

When new officials took office, bold changes might be made on assuming office. The new boss of the entire company would inevitably alter the management.

It was just that nobody expected Jasper’s method to be so decisive and assertive.

He targeted the eldest senior, Joseph, as soon as he took over the company.

On one side, Michael looked at everything with a faint smile.

Everything about Gladness had nothing to do with him now. Therefore, from the perspective of a bystander, Michael could increasingly feel the depths and wisdom of Jasper’s actions.

Before this, Secretary Lee had told him everything that had happened downstairs.

Hence, Michael knew that Jasper seemed to want to make Mack eat a humble pie.

However, how could the truth be that simple?

Mack was but a minor character, not worthy of making a big fuss over. His aim was still Joseph, or in other words, to eradicate the higher-ups of Gladness Entertainment Movies.

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Joseph had been an executive in the company for many years and had secretly infringed on countless of the company's vested interests. His son, Mack, would not have the guts to paw at the company's artists otherwise.

It was not that Michael did not know of it, but Joseph was indeed a founding member who had followed him for many years. On the other hand, there was also the complexity of bureaucratic division within Gladness Entertainment Movies, and if he disturbed one division, the rest would also be affected. It would be big trouble for Michael to deal with it.

However, it was different now.

Jasper never had the intention to take things slow and steady. When he made a move, he would make it big. It was not only to establish his authority but also to sweep away every other background noise in the company. It would only be him who had the authority and power.

“My apologies, Mr. Laine, I...” Joseph said with a troubled expression. He had the intention of acknowledging his mistake.

“There’s no need to apologize,” Jasper interrupted him once again.

“Having been with Gladness for so many years, you still made the effort even if you didn’t gain achievements. I’ll let you keep your reputation, so do hand me your resignation letter voluntarily tomorrow.”

Jasper’s words completely changed the expression on Joseph’s face.

Every one of the higher-level management including him had thought that Jasper only wanted to display some authority after taking office.

However, he had immediately gone to the depths by taking action, and his method was intense.

Shocked and in disbelief, Joseph opened his mouth in indignation. He said, “Jasper, what is the meaning of this?”

“Was my intention not clear enough?” Jasper asked indifferently.

“I’m a founding member of this company and I manage a large number of people under me. Aren’t you afraid that the company won’t be able to run smoothly if I leave?” threatened Joseph immediately.

His gaze was bitter with resentment, yet it still held confidence and assurance.

He did not believe that Jasper would really dare go against him till the end.

Jasper looked at Joseph coolly, his eyes only showing indifference. There was no trace of concession that Joseph was expecting on his face.

“Will the earth stop on its axis just because you’re no longer here?”

Jasper said coldly, "Get lost now and I'll see who are the few rotten apples who will follow you as you leave. I will sincerely thank you for saving my time in weeding and getting rid of a few more of them."

Joseph was so angry his body shook. At the same time, there was also a feeling of despair as if the end was approaching.

"Alright! Just wait, don't celebrate so soon! This film company is not one where you can so easily manage!"

After Joseph said this with a very bitter voice, he turned around and left in embarrassment.

Nobody dared take a breath. Joseph's playing of his vice president's card had proven that Jasper was not only all bark and no bite. Who would dare object at this time?

Jasper did not even spare a glance at Joseph. His eyes fell on Mack, who was unable to even stand. He was now sitting limply in the chair. Jasper said lightly, "Do you want me to get someone to escort you out?"

Mack stood up shivering and ran away without looking back.

In the meeting room, everyone looked at Jasper and waited for him to speak after Joseph and his son had left.

"I don't care how the company was before, but now that I have acquired it, all of you will do things according to my rules.

"If you're capable, you will rise.

"If you're not, you will fall.

“Troublemakers like Joseph will be caught and fired. There will definitely be no mercy.

“I announce Gladness Entertainment Movies to be officially renamed Advent Entertainment Group.

“It will be split into three larger business groups called Advent Films, Advent TV, and Advent Agency.

“The three business groups will be in charge of film and television dramas, singing and variety shows, and overseeing the contracts of artists of Advent Entertainment Group respectively.

“In the meantime, President Ryder Lawrence will continue serving the group in his position. Other personnel arrangements will remain unchanged. An official document will be issued to notify all employees of the company of the subsequent appointment of the board of directors.”

Michael sighed softly as he looked at Jasper speaking on stage.

It seemed that Jasper had long been prepared before buying Gladness Entertainment Movies. He had been eyeing the entertainment industry.

He suddenly regretted having sold Gladness Entertainment Movies to Jasper for a capital price of 1.5 billion. Maybe Jasper could really create a giant in the film and television entertainment industry.

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“Alright, these few points are all that we’ll be discussing today.

“If anyone has a better idea, please feel free to talk to me or Mr. Ryder Lawrence.

“That’s all for today.”

It took Jasper two hours to finish this meeting. He walked away in a breezy manner, but everyone in Gladness Entertainment Movies was unsettled and had mixed emotions.

Almost everyone thought that... change was coming to Gladness Entertainment Movies.

After the meeting, Jasper then talked to Michael.

Michael was full of praise for Jasper.

Michael, the cunning old fox, could tell that Jasper would inevitably make great achievements and have the last laugh in the future—provided that he did not get trampled to death while he was still an immature youth.

It was already hard enough for anyone to mess with Jasper now.

After a series of affairs, those who wanted to give Jasper trouble would have to think twice because they would have to deal with the Laws at the same time.

Those who were incapable of doing it should just give up.

Therefore, Michael was extremely friendly with Jasper because then he might have the chance to work with him in the future and make a fortune.

What was more, the five billion Somer Dollars that Jasper had earned for him was now lying in the stock market. When Harbor City's economy recovered a little, he would then withdraw it immediately.

He owed him a great favor.

As for Jasper, he accepted Michael's goodwill fully.

It was important to exalt each other, especially in business. It was better to make more friends than enemies.

Lone wolves who walked around with their noses in the air definitely would not make it too far in the business field.

They talked and laughed and had a great time. Michael kept talking, and it was not until Secretary Lee came to make reports that he sought permission to leave.

As soon as Michael left, Ryder entered through the door.

"Hello, Mr. Laine," Ryder greeted politely.

Standing behind the desk, Jasper looked at Ryder. He was a middle-aged man in his early 40s, the type that young girls in later generations would be greatly obsessed with. He said with a smile, "Please have a seat."

When Ryder took his seat, he pondered for a moment and said, "Mr. Laine, to be honest with you, the changes happened too quickly at today's meeting. Many people, myself included, are at a loss at what to do next."

"Just act according to the company's articles of association," Jasper replied.

“Mr. Lane told me that you’re a professional manager from Hallavu, and that he had paid handsomely to hire you. You have a wealth of experience and know how to manage an entertainment company, so I can trust you.”

Ryder waved his hands and said, “With all due respect, I can’t make bricks without straw...”

“What do you need?” Jasper asked.

Ryder was startled by how straightforward Jasper was and felt so awkward that he did not know how to start.

“If you lack money, then I’ll continue to inject 300 million Somer Dollars into Advent Entertainment Group. Spend the money first and then assess the effect after spending.

“If you lack manpower, go to a headhunting company and hire talents from there.

“If you lack power, you’re the company’s president. I’m going back to Mainland soon, so I can delegate a lot of power to you. I can give you full authority.”

Jasper leaned on the executive chair and looked at Ryder with a smile.

Ryder looked at the unruffled-looking Jasper as he made those bold claims. For more than 20 years he had been in the industry, he had never met a boss like him who did things so differently.

Who would fool around like that immediately after acquiring a company?

Advent Entertainment Group seemed like nothing but a toy to him.

“Advent Entertainment Group is a crucial piece in my business landscape. I will not tolerate any mistakes, and therefore I’m eager to succeed. We don’t have

much time left. I can give you what you want, but I want to see a powerful Advent Entertainment Group in the shortest time frame possible!”

Ryder looked intently at Jasper. He knew that Jasper was serious about this.

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However, the more he received, the heavier his burden would be.

Ryder knew that Jasper would not give so much power for no reason.

“What’s your condition?” Ryder asked.

“I want Advent Entertainment Group to produce five movies with box office of more than one billion Somer Dollars within two years, bring at least three phenomenon-level celebrities to fame, and double the scale of assets.”

Jasper stated his request and said with a smile, “In addition to the rights I mentioned above, you can also get 10% of the company’s stock.

“If you can accomplish it, then your net worth will grow over 100 million. If you can’t, then I can only find someone else.”

Ryder took a deep breath, stood up, and said, “I’m willing to try.”

Jasper laughed, then stood up and shook Ryder’s hand while saying, “I’m an easy-going man. I won’t interfere with the company’s day-to-day affairs.

“I focus on the results, not the process. I don’t treat my subordinates as workers, and I prefer to use cooperation to define superior-subordinate relationships. If

everyone performs well, then we'll make a fortune together. If not, then I'll work with someone else."

Ryder laughed as well, saying, "To be honest with you, Mr. Lane, I did plan to resign and join a new company. I've also talked to several headhunters. But now, I think it'll be a whole new experience working with you."

Jasper laughed and said, "Let's shine together."

"Mm. Let's shine together." Ryder nodded.

After Ryder left, Jasper pondered for a very long time in the office.

Jasper did not have a candidate that was better than Ryder right now, hence he could only give it a try and employ him.

Jasper was not lying earlier either. If Ryder did a good job, then he would give him all the benefits he stated earlier. If not, then Ryder would have to pack up and leave.

Jasper was not running a charity. He acquired Gladness Entertainment Movies for 1.5 billion and injected another 300 million after that. That was 1.8 billion altogether. He must see results.

He would be able to tell whether Ryder was performing well or not in just a few months' time.

In Jasper's opinion, it would not be difficult to establish a phenomenal entertainment company when he recalled the songs, TV series, and even variety shows that would go viral in the future.

However, Jasper could not just sit around doing nothing and stay in the entertainment company doing one thing only. His goal was to be a true modern consortium, not to have a successful business.

That would be too boring and not grand enough.

Therefore, although Jasper had high demands for Ryder, he did not mind pulling up certain things from memory to let Ryder apply them in the business if he was a genuine talent.

If Ryder was not, then he would just leave him be.

Now that matters related to Advent Entertainment Group were settled, it would not be long before it was time for him to leave Harbor City.

At the thought of this, Jasper summoned Jake Cullen.

After rushing over to Gladness Entertainment Movies, Jake was stunned for a very long time after hearing the news that Jasper had acquired the company.

“Why are you daydreaming? Here’s an investment list containing the stock names and the pre-authorized amount that I want you to purchase next month.”

Jasper gave him a list that totaled up to a two-billion investment.

Some stocks in the list could already be purchased, but some had not reached the lowest price yet, hence it was necessary to wait it out.

Jasper did not have the time to wait it out, and at the same time, he did not want to purchase at a higher price and be taken advantage of. Therefore, this was where Jake came in.

“Two billion! You’re giving it to me straight away for investment? Didn’t you ask me to manage only? Aren’t you afraid that I’ll run away with the money?” Jake asked in shock, looking at the list in his hand.

“What are you thinking about? The funds will be in the Laws’ trusteeship. You can’t take a single dime away without the Laws’ authorization. They also have a copy of this list,” Jasper said.

“...” Jake gritted his teeth, wanting to slap himself in the mouth.

Did he have nothing better to do? Why did he bring contempt upon himself?

At this moment, Jasper’s phone rang.

It was a call from Zachary.

“Jasp, Old Master Law is back and wants to see you. Can you come over?”

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Jake heard the contents of the call.

His heart skipped a beat.

He knew that Jasper shared a close relationship with the Laws.

However, from the viewpoint of an ordinary person, Jake thought that Jasper was at most close to Henry and Anna. They were of the same generation, after all.

Then it was from there that he used his own ability to gain recognition from Zachary.

This was a standard procedure that was very easy to grasp.

However, Zachary was personally giving Jasper a call and told him that Old Master Law had returned.

Where Old Master Law went was not important, but the first thing he wanted to do when he came home was to meet Jasper!

This meant a lot of things.

This showed that Jasper was not only a popular figure in the Law family, but he also played a pivotal role in front of Old Master Law.

How many people in Harbor City today could meet Old Master Law as they liked?

To put it negatively, even the head of Harbor City's government needed to seek Old Master Law's approval before meeting him.

The noble and prestigious Old Master Law had an intimidating identity. He was renowned and distinguished even in Mainland.

Although he only had a nominal post, the prestige he had accumulated over the decades was enough to prove many things.

"I'll be there soon."

Now that Old Master Law had asked to see him, Jasper dared not keep him waiting.

After hanging up the call, Jasper instructed Jake on a few things.

The latter's thoughts were fully occupied by the relationship between Jasper and Old Master Law, hence he only nodded absent-mindedly.

"Why didn't you tell me that you share such a good relationship with Old Master Law?" Jake asked suddenly.

“Had you told me earlier, do you think I’d be so crazy as to act so brazenly in front of you?”

Jasper was taken aback, then said sternly, “Do I look like an ostentatious person to you?”

“...”

Jake turned around, ignoring Jasper.

He could not stand the pretentious look on his face.

It was already afternoon when Jasper arrived at the Laws’.

Zachary had gone out, while Anna and Henry were chatting with Old Master Law.

“You’re here, Jasp.”

Old Master Law raised his head and said to Jasper with a smile.

“You’re in good spirits as always,” Jasper said while walking over, making himself at home and sitting down.

Old Master Law chuckled. “A person becomes more afraid of death as they grow older. I have to take good care of my body and live a few more years.”

“You’re sure to live to a ripe old age, Old Master Law,” Jasper said cleverly.

Old Master Law laughed, took a magazine from Anna’s hand, and said, “I see you were interviewed. Good job.”

Jasper took the magazine and said in surprise, “It’s published already? That’s fast.”

It was the latest issue of Terra's Financial Weekly.

On the cover of the magazine, Jasper was seen sitting on a couch, smiling. He was clasping his hands with his chin resting on them. He was radiating with health and vigor, looking both outstanding and elegant.

The title was even more eye-catching: 'The stock market genius made every effort to save a desperate situation!'

Apart from everything else, Jasper could tell that Terra's Financial Weekly was pretty sophisticated judging from the cover photo and title alone.