## Life at the Top Chapter 361

Sebastian watched the entire incident unfold before his eyes. He silently mocked Hayes for being a sore loser. Nevertheless, he was now completely relieved about this round. All traces of doubt in his heart had completely disappeared.

The round continued till late into the evening. Throughout this period, the expression on Sebastian's face gradually darkened.

What goes around comes around. He was starting to lose money now.

It was as if a spell had been cast on him. All the cards he had were all low-ranking. He hardly had any high-ranking cards. His opponent could either have higher-ranking cards than him, or completely give up on the game.

Meanwhile, the money by his side continued to dwindle. He had more than 20 million dollars during his peak, and now there was only a measly 100000 dollars left.

"Oh, my good luck is here," Hayes chuckled. He spread out his cards. His cards were of the highest rank; He had won the round.

Sebastian lost all the remaining money that he had.

Hayes lit a cigarette in satisfaction. "Chairman Walker, are you out of money? What do you say, should we just end here?" He asked Sebastian.

Sebastian unbuttoned the buttons around his collar harshly and said in distaste, "I'm just having a spat of bad luck. What are you being so proud of? I won all this money from you guys a few days ago, don't you remember? I'm just returning some of it to you right now!"

Sebastian then pulled out a cheque book from his coat. He filled in a cheque and slammed it onto the table. "Here's a 20 million dollar check! I'll exchange it with someone that has cash!" He announced through gritted teeth.

Hector Combe responded cheerily, "This is my villa. Of course I have cash. Someone come over and give my uncle 20 million dollars in cash."

Hector proceeded to take the cheque after speaking.

After ensuring that the money by his side had been replenished, Sebastian hollered in determination, "Let's continue!"

He lost this 20 million dollars within 30 minutes.

Even Sebastian, who had experienced all sorts of situations, was a little short of breath.

He had lost 20 million dollars in 30 minutes. This was a humiliating loss.

"F\*ck, it's so hot in here. Why is the air conditioner set at such a high temperature? Can't bear to pay the electricity bill?" Sebastian turned around impatiently and cursed at a waiter.

Despite his aggravation, the waiter did not dare to utter a single word. Instead, he lowered the temperature of the air conditioner in a hurry.

"Chairman Walker, don't throw a tantrum even if you lose money. Don't be a sore loser if you can't bear to lose," Hayes remarked as he burst out into laughter.

"Shut up!" Sebastian yelled, eyeing him coldly. He filled in another 50-million-dollar check. "Let's continue!" He said through gritted teeth.

Sebastian, who was beyond humiliated by his loss, seemed to have gone mad. He persisted till the end regardless of the rank of his cards.

In a situation like this, he kept losing more and more.

By the time midnight arrived, he had already written cheques worth up to 500 million dollars.

Hector had cashed in all the cheque on the spot through a special channel and had transferred all the money to a secret account.

Once again, Sebastian filled in another 50-million-dollar check. Hector knew that it was time to stop when the portal indicated that the cheque could not be processed.

"Uncle, this cheque cannot be processed."

Hector's words caused a wave of shock to pass through Sebastian, who felt like he had just woken up from a trance.

"How is that possible? There is around 500 million dollars in the account!" Sebastian shouted out in a shrill voice.

"You've already transferred out more than 500 million dollars. The cheque can't be processed as the balance in your account is insufficient," Hector said with a shrug.

Sebastian, who had been grumpy due to the heat, felt an icy sensation wash over him from head to toe. He felt like he been struck by lightning.

"What?!"

Sebastian's voice trembled as he exclaimed, "I lost... 500 million dollars?!"

Right then, Jordan suddenly glanced at Hector and voiced out, "Since Chairman Walker has used up his money, shall we call it a night?"

Before anyone could reply, Sebastian got up in anger. "No! I lost such a f\*cking large sum of money! My company will be in trouble! You guys intend to leave after winning all the money? Don't even think about it!" He yelled in rage.

"I still have stocks! I will use the stocks for Kaymaroon registered under my name as collateral! I must turn this around!"

"Uncle, you're going overboard," Hector said with a chuckle.

Sebastian slammed his fist on the table and roared out maniacally, "What do you know? Without the 500 million dollars, I won't be able to pay for my goods or repay my loans! If that happens, I'll be doomed!

"I have extremely good luck! I'll surely win all the money back! I want to turn this around! Which one of you dares to kick me out?!"

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"Uncle, nobody has ever leveraged the company's shares. Furthermore, how do we estimate this valuation? This isn't appropriate. Owning the shares won't be of any use to us either."

Jordan and Hayes both agreed with Hector's words.

Sebastian turned around immediately and glared at Hector. "Hector Combe, have you gone mad? How can you speak for them at a time like this?!" He asked in infuriation.

"Uncle, that was basic reasoning. I'm not taking sides here," Hector said calmly.

Sebastian gritted his teeth and tried his best to suppress his anger. "In that case, lend me a few million dollars for this emergency," he said.

Hector's expression remained calm and collected. "Uncle, I don't have that much money. I can't withdraw a few million dollars for you to lose it all. You should think about how to handle your upcoming problems," he said.

No matter how incoherent Sebastian's thoughts were, there was no way that he would not finally realize that something was not right.

The three people seated at the gambling table, and Hector in particular, were acting exceptionally odd right now.

Taking in a deep breath, Sebastian suppressed the uneasiness in his heart. "What do you mean?" He asked in a low voice.

He could not believe that Hector was bold enough to team up with an outsider just to go against him.

He was going against his father, Hendrik, by doing so.

"What do I mean?" Hector laughed. He took out a small black box from the portable air conditioner in the room and turned off a switch on it.

"I have blocked everyone's mobile phone signal in order to allow us to play cards in silence. Excuse me for pulling this small trick.

"Uncle, take a look at your phone at once. A lot of people should be looking for you right now."

The uneasiness in Sebastian's heart continued to grow. Just as he was about to say something, his phone rang loudly, as if on cue.

The caller was a close associate of his from the company. Without thinking much, Sebastian picked up the call.

"Chairman Walker, where did you go? The company is in a total mess. I have been calling you for four hours straight, but you didn't pick up your phone!"

Sebastian spoke in a low, authoritative tone after listening to the anxious voice on the other end of the phone. "What is all the panic about? Tell me what happened immediately!"

"We're done for, Chairman. All the private loan companies that we borrowed money from suddenly came over to ask for their payment. However, the company's account doesn't have your signature, so we couldn't withdraw the money. Moreover, the finance department told us that the funds in the account kept declining. There are only a few hundred thousand dollars left in the account."

Sebastian felt like he had been struck by lightning. He had turned all of the funds in the company account into cheques and had gambled it all away. The money was gone now.

However, the oddest thing was that the debts he owed the private loan companies had not yet expired. Why were they collecting the debts now?

"Aren't the debts due in a few months' time?" Sebastian asked, his throat dry. It felt like dark clouds were looming above his head, coming together to form a net that he could not escape from. The net was about to fall on him and consume him whole in the very next moment.

"I don't know. They are disregarding the interest and demanding us to repay the principal right now. Since we couldn't find you, they went to the supermarket to spread the news."

"A dozen of employees are in charge of each supermarket. There are still dozens of people at the company headquarters. The incoming calls are about to blow up my phone!"

Cold sweat beaded Sebastian's forehead as he listened to the news.

While his palms heated up, a chilling sensation washed over his head.

Sebastian hung up on the call while ignoring his close associate's dire pleas for help.

He fixed a stony gaze upon Hector. "Hector Combe, what is going on right now?!"

Hector ignored Sebastian, who was on the verge of exploding from rage, and walked toward the door. He opened it straight away.

Sebastian's gaze veered past the door and landed on the sofa in the villa. Jacob Combe, who was seated on the sofa, was having a cup of tea with a young man in a courteous manner.

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"Jasper Laine?!"

Sebastian's heart lurched in shock. He felt like all the blood in his body was running cold.

He had never once expected Jasper Laine to appear here.

Hector walked out of the room immediately. He stood sturdily in front of Jasper and bowed to him courteously. "Mr. Laine, everything is completed," he said.

Jasper took a sip of his tea and chuckled. "Not bad,"

A look of satisfaction and happiness appeared on Hector's face after being praised by his master. These were the values of a treacherous b\*stard like him.

Sebastian's temple throbbed at the sight of it all.

Jasper raised his head to look at Sebastian, who was overcome with mixed emotions. "Long time no see, Chairman Walker. Are you that surprised to see me here?" he asked indifferently.

Sebastian ground his teeth as he tried to suppress the overwhelming uneasiness in his heart. "Jasper Laine, how dare you appear before me when I haven't even bothered to look for you. Aren't you afraid that I'll kill you?" he asked in a voice that was totally devoid of warmth.

Jasper put down his cup with a chuckle. "With your IQ, I really wonder how you managed to operate a large-scale business like Kaymaroon. As to why I'm bold enough to show up here, don't you understand by now?"

Hector sighed as well. "Uncle, out of everyone in the world, you just had to get on Mr. Laine's nerves. I had no choice. I'll give you a piece of advice, hurry up and beg Mr. Laine for mercy. Maybe he'd let you off alive," he said.

Sebastian burst out in anger. "What f\*cking bullsh\*it are you going on about?!" He yelled while pointing at Hector and Jasper. "What on earth are the two of you up to?! What do you mean?!"

"You're asking me to apologize to this idiot? Have you lost it, Hector Combe?!"

"You're the one who's lost it!" Hector retorted matter-of-factly. "Uncle, you've offended someone that you shouldn't have offended. You're bringing about your

own destruction. Stop yelling now. Come over and admit your mistakes to Mr. Laine at once," he said.

"Don't call me your uncle! You f\*cking teamed with outsiders to go against me! Do you still have the audacity to call me your uncle?!" Sebastian roared angrily.

Hector sneered. "Well, you've still offended Mr. Laine, Sebastian Walker. Why don't you come over to apologize?" he asked.

Sebastian pinned a scorching glare upon Jasper. He gritted his teeth and exclaimed, "What is going on right now? Jasper Laine, give me an explanation at once!"

"Explanation? What explanation?" Jasper asked coldly.

"Kaymaroon has long been facing a major financial crisis. I just triggered it in advance. It would have happened sooner or later anyways. The sooner it happens, the sooner it'll be resolved. I'm offering you a helping hand.

"As for all the gambling, you were a willing victim to my whims. You were the one who lost all your money through gambling. How can you blame that on me?"

Sebastian's head buzzed as he pieced together everything that had happened over these past few days. Eventually, he realized that everything came together to form an elaborate scheme.

Feeling suffocated, Sebastian's vision grew dark as his head spun. He widened his eyes and stared at Jasper. "Everything was part of your scheme?!" He asked in a shrill voice.

Jasper chuckled and said, "How can you call it a scheme? It was just a few of my business tricks. When it comes to schemes, you're the true master here, Sebastian Walker."

He had lost all of the company's liquid funds, and the private loan companies that the company had borrowed hundreds of million dollars from were all forcing them to repay their debts. After the news about this breaks out, the suppliers would surely go against them. Eventually, the bank would terminate their loans and request them to repay their debts after noticing the terrible situation that they were in.

This series of incidents would occur one after another...

Kaymaroon was on the brink of death!

Sebastian felt his scalp grow numb.

He had been coming up with an intricate plan to bring Schuler Corporation down. However, his own company had been stolen in the blink of an eye!

"Jasper Laine! You should f\*cking die!"

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Overcome by immense shock, Sebastian was on the verge of collapsing.

He rushed forward in an attempt to pounce onto Jasper; He wanted to bite off a piece of his flesh so badly.

Jasper watched Sebastian rush toward him with a cold gaze.

However, Julian appeared in front of him before Sebastian could even reach him. Julian held his throat in a vice-like grip and raised him into the air single-handedly as if he were holding onto a dead dog.

Hector and the others gulped as they watched the scene unfold. They all stared at Jasper in fear without daring to utter a single word.

Sebastian was being choked, while Julian bore the weight of his entire body with just the arm that he was using to choke him. Sebastian suddenly felt breathless, his face flushing red at once.

"Let go of him," Jasper said calmly.

Julian released his grip and Sebastian fell to the ground like a worthless, dead dog. Clutching at his throat, he took in large gulps of air.

Fortunately, Sebastian managed to calm down after going through such a ruckus.

He knew that there was no use in throwing a meaningless tantrum right now. Thus, he tried his best to raise his head and looked at Jasper. "Aren't you just Dawson Schuler's son-in-law? What gives you the right to order the Combes around?" He asked angrily.

Jacob shook his head and sighed. "You've really lost it. Don't you understand by now? Shouldn't you take a look at your opponent before going against them? Uncle, the amount of power that Mr. Laine holds is beyond your imagination," he said.

"Forget the Combes. You heard of what happened to Brad and Erik Turner some time ago, right? They offended Mr. Laine and look what happened to them. They had to pay a compensation of a billion dollars. In the end, Erik Turner had to resign from his position as the chairman of Motley Media.

"Even the Turners have conceded. What can you do?"

Sebastian's face instantly turned pale.

He stared at Jasper in disbelief. His gaze filled with shock. He looked like he had just seen a ghost.

"Who...who are you?! Why didn't you tell me that you had such a powerful background?!"

"Actually, you know everything about my identity. As for my background, I'm different from everyone else. I am my own strongest background," Jasper said calmly.

Sebastian's expression changed at once. Finally, he seemed to have lost all of his energy. He lowered his head before Jasper and asmed, "What do I need to do for you to let go of me?"

"Let you go? The thought never even occurred to me," Jasper said, feigning a look of surprise.

Sebastian was stupefied. "Do you really want to have a battle of life and death?" He asked in infuriation.

"You don't seem to understand your current circumstances. What do you mean by 'battle of life and death'? You're already a dead man. There's no way you can come out of this alive," Jasper said with a suppressed laugh.

Sebastian tried his best to control his rage and unwillingness. "How would you benefit from defeating me? Why are you being so unrelenting and cruel?" He asked, seething with anger.

"To be honest, defeating you doesn't bring me any benefits."

Jasper said matter-of-factly while staring at him.

"However, since the grievances between us are many, I should seek the vengeance that I deserve, don't you think?"

Sebastian trembled upon hearing what he said. "Do you intend to take revenge for Dawson Schuler?" He asked stiffly.

"You killed the wife of my future father-in-law. Do you think that I'll let you go?" Jasper asked.

Sebastian clenched his hands into fists. His body trembled slightly due to all his pent-up rage and overwhelming emotions. "What do you intend to do?"

"I want to see you lose everything that you have. That is the price that you should pay!"

Jasper stood up and slowly walked before Sebastian. Although his voice was calm and collected, his gaze was as frigid as an iceberg.

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"People like you think that they can do anything you want just because they're rich. Your wealth is the source of everything you possess. Therefore, to you, money is even more important than your own life.

"That's why the best way to deal with people like you is to have you watch yourself become a poor beggar. The pain and torture of something like that is a much more horrifying thought than death to you."

Jasper then chuckled softly in front of Sebastian, who was quivering uncontrollably.

"You lost all of your liquidity, so you can't pay off the debts that you owe the private loan companies. Those people will try to get back their money from Kaymaroon as soon as possible.

"Running out of money isn't a problem. You can sell your goods as there are plenty of goods in the supermarket anyway. Hence, you'll surely be able to recover some of your loss.

"After that, the bank will take note of Kaymaroon's debt crisis. I'm sure they will immediately sue you and bring you to court.

"All of this will take place one by one after the sun rises tomorrow. In other words, your life is over."

Sebastian stared at Jasper with a terrified gaze. He trembled in fear. "No, you can't do this! This is impossible!" He shouted out.

All of a sudden, Sebastian got on his knees and kneeled on the ground. He grabbed the hem of Jasper's shirt with both hands. "Jasper Laine, no, Brother Laine, Mr. Laine. You can't do this to me, Mr. Laine. I know what I did was wrong. I deserve to die. I'm an idiot. I shouldn't have gone against you!" He pleaded.

"I beg of you. Please let me go this once. I really can't lose Kaymaroon! My competitors won't let me go so easily, Mr. Laine. I beg of you, please spare me!"

Jasper fixed an icy gaze on Sebastian, who had started sobbing pitifully. "Ten years ago, there was a woman who had begged piteously in front of you as well. However, did you spare her life?" He asked stonily.

Sebastian's voice quivered as he pleaded with Jasper. "I was blinded by my lust and greed back then. I really didn't know that things would turn out this way. To be honest, I had no intentions of killing her at all back then. I just wanted to scare her," he said.

"Who would have thought that she would suddenly get killed? Even if I was bolder, I wouldn't have dared to kill somebody.

"I'm willing to take out half of Kaymaroon's assets. No, make it two-thirds. I'll give you two-thirds of Kaymaroon's assets in exchange for my life. At least let me keep some of my assets. Mr. Laine, I was wrong. I was really wrong!"

Overcome by extreme terror and threat, Sebastian kneeled down on the ground and pressed his forehead to the ground repeatedly.

The sound of the forehead continuously banging against the ground echoed through the room. After a while, Sebastian's forehead was matted with blood.

Jasper continued looking upon his actions coldly. He did not encourage him to keep going on nor reach out to stop him.

Sebastian's fate had already been sealed. Even if he jumped and cursed, or knelt down to beg for mercy, nothing would change Jasper's mind.

"Julian," Jasper called out.

"Brother Laine," Julian responded as he came forward.

"Take him outside. I don't want to see him."

Julian grunted a noise of affirmation before turning around to drag Sebastian, who was wailing in fear, to his feet. He then pulled Sebastian toward the door.

Initially, Sebastian pleaded with Jasper desperately. However, since begging had no effect whatsoever, he simply let go of all his restraints.

"Jasper Laine, you deserve a painful death! Remember what I said! I will never let you go even after I turn into a wandering ghost! This is a reminder of what will happen to you in the future! Don't be satisfied just yet. Eventually, there will come a day when you'll be trampled upon by someone else!

"You deserve a painful death!"

Julian threw him out of the villa with a loud crash. He then closed the door tightly.

"I can finally have some peace," Jasper let out a soft sigh. He then turned around to look at Hector and Jacob Combe.

Fear and respect flashed across the two brothers' gazes. They immediately stood up straight and displayed an obedient demeanor when they noticed Jasper looking their way.

"You guys did pretty well!"