

Life at The Top – Chapter 1096

At the venue of the forum conference. Jasper and Henry walked out of the room to see Alban bringing Dudley around as he talked with a group of people.

The father-son duo was glowing and in a great mood.

Jasper's appearance immediately garnered the attention of a large crowd of people.

Dudley saw Jasper as well. He sneered and stepped up to say, "So, have you considered it yet, Jasper? My dad and I don't have that much patience for you to take your own sweet time and think. You better give me an answer now."

Dudley must have known all of Alban's plans.

The former felt extremely exhilarated now as he looked at Jasper.

"Haha, Jasper. You would never have predicted today, hmm? Let me tell you, this is only the beginning. There's only more fun in store for you from here on out!"

Dudley's expression grew even more wretched as he said sinisterly, "This is what you get for being prideful and showing off! I'd like to see how you're going to continue acting so prideful! I'll make you kneel in front of me once you've lost everything and have you lick my shoes!"

Jasper tilted his head at Dudley's arrogance and asked seriously, "Are you sick in the head?"

Dudley was taken aback when he heard Jasper say this.

"What did you say?!" Dudley growled in mortification.

"He asked if you're sick in the head, you stupid f*cker. Can you not understand human speech?" Henry raised his hand to push Dudley's head, an action akin to a dad lecturing his son. The push had Dudley staggering backward.

"All you do is yap all day. Ask adult as you a question and all you need to do is answer yes or no. But looking at your stupid face I'd say it's highly likely you're badly sick."

Dudley first took a verbal hit from Jasper before being pushed in the head by Henry; He had no idea what was going on. Dudley felt a rush of blood to his head as he shoved Henry's chest, roaring, "Motherf*cker!"

Henry's physique was sturdy and instead of making Henry move, Dudley's shove only caused himself to stagger a few steps backward.

"Hehe..."

Henry narrowed his eyes and sneered at Dudley.

He interlocked his fingers and stretched them, causing his knuckles to crack. With a wretched smile, Henry walked over to Dudley and said, "I was just frustrated about not having a reason to beat you up. What an attentive little sh*t you are, sending yourself over on a silver platter."

Dudley finally realized what he had done, and he watched Henry walk toward him with a twisted smile like the main Villain of a movie. He himself was akin to a weak and powerless Victim waiting to be destroyed by the villain.

Dudley did not have any desire to fight Henry when he recalled how terrifying the man was in a fight. Terrified, Dudley screamed, "What are you doing! Don't come closer!"

Dudley might have felt that his cries were useless, so he turned in Alban's general direction and shouted, "Dad! Save me!"

This shout attracted the attention of more than half the attendees present.

Henry almost chuckled joyfully out loud. "So f*cking useless. I haven't even started and you're already screaming for your dad?"

With that, Henry raised his hand and wrapped it around Dudley's neck. He sneered. "But your dad isn't powerful enough. You think I wouldn't dare to hit you just because you called for him?"

With that, he slapped Dudley across the face.

The loud and crisp slap sounded through the room, which was promptly followed by numerous gasps.

Alban had let someone hit his son?

Everyone was intrigued, so they came over to get a closer look.

Under countless pairs of eyes, Dudley felt extremely humiliated.

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Dudley struggled like mad. "Henry! F*cking let go of me!"

Yet, no matter how he struggled, Dudley could not fight out of Henry's grip. He was like a powerless chick.

Just then, Alban walked over with a dark look on his face.

He glared at his son first. Despite how Alban had reminded him not to offend Henry, his useless offspring had still angered the man anyway, which made him extremely upset.

This was the perfect time to force Jasper to surrender, yet here his son was, getting into trouble with Henry. He was causing unnecessary issues now.

"Mr. Law, this, isn't very appropriate, is it?"

While he did want to beat Dudley up, the latter was still his son, and many people were currently looking at them. Thus, Alban had no other choice but to suppress his anger and get his son out first.

"Hey, old man. How about you ask your son what he did first before you ask me to let him go, hmm?"

Henry patted Dudley's face as he said. "This little sh*t's been going on motherf*cking this and motherf*cker that, he just kept bringing my mom into the conversation. You see, my mom passed early on and she's a taboo topic between me and my dad. But who knows how many

times this son of yours has involved her? Is this how you educate your child?"

Alban's eyelid twitched and he looked at Dudley extremely darkly.

Dudley was currently bent at his waist while Henry kept his arms around his neck. He seemed like a stray dog that had been tied and hoisted up, making him look extremely embarrassing.

Dudley wanted to cry, but could not do so. He shouted, "It's a habit, I didn't mean it."

"So what if it's a habit? Who taught you the habit of involving mothers into your curses, hmm?" Henry sneered.

Alban took a deep breath. He knew that there was no point being reasonable with trust-fund rascals like Henry, so he could only turn to Jasper.

"Mr. Laine, isn't this trick of yours a little too lowly?" Alban asked grimly.

Jasper replied curiously, "Your son's lack of respect is the issue here. He was the one who offended Henry first. I don't see anything wrong with Henry teaching him a lesson in your place, so how am I the one acting lowly?"

Alban clenched his jaw in infuriation.

Now, it was not just Henry-Jasper was being unreasonable as well.

Despite this, there was nothing Alban could do.

After all, he son was exactly the kind of person to have insulted Henry.

If they were in any other setting, Alban might not have cared too much. However, to have Henry stubbornly exploit this issue in their important event would only leave to Alban and his son being embarrassed.

Hence, Alban could only grit his teeth and say, "Jasper, Mr. Law, let's leave this matter for now. Let's talk about this slowly, as we still have something to settle, don't we?"

"There's nothing to settle."

Jasper chuckled and said calmly, "Publicize and release that report as you wish, Mr. Ball!"

"I wouldn't dare to claim that all my properties are flawless, but I'm sure it can survive an investigation on the issue of its quality. If a mere evaluative report is enough to cause the downfall of my World Financial Center, then I might as well not construct it at all."

Alban's pupils contracted instantly at the words.

Jasper had actually spoken about this incident in front of so many pairs of eyes and ears.

It had been no more than twenty minutes and a phone call in the adjacent room between Jasper's current stance and his sour expression from when he first received the report.

Just who had Jasper contacted, and what had been said, for this man to grow so fearless in the space of around a dozen minutes?

Alban suddenly felt lost.

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Suddenly, the crowd surrounding them in hopes of overhearing some gossip was in an uproar upon hearing Jasper's words.

It had long been public knowledge that the tallest building in the world would be constructed in Waterhoof City.

Many people also knew that the primary backer behind this tower was Jasper.

This was especially true for the people present at this forum conference. Most attendees were from the Teo Chamber of Commerce, excluding the few small fry from the Haddock Chamber of Commerce and the rest of the so-called experts like Perry.

Regardless of identity or stance, none of them were normal civilians.

So many things immediately came to their minds when they heard the news of Waterhoof City's World Financial Center.

"Mr. Laine, I believe I heard you say something about an issue with the World Financial Tower that's currently under construction? Would you mind elaborating on that?" A reporter mustered the courage to ask.

Jasper looked over to find that, coincidentally, it was again the reporter from South Somer Commercial Post.

"There's nothing wrong with the World Financial Center, of course. The construction of the building and its design was approved by the Waterhoof City Design Institute, and was also reviewed in-depth by a team of national experts from Swallow Capital!"

"This is a large project, after all, and while it does mean the world to me, it's also greatly valued by the government. There's no way anything could go wrong with it."

Jasper smiled and glanced at Alban, who had a dark look on his face. Then, Jasper continued, "But Mr. Ball had suddenly pulled out a so-called evaluative report just now and exaggeratedly claimed that there's an issue with the World Financial Center's design. This, I don't understand. So perhaps we should let Mr. Ablan explain it in detail."

After Jasper was done, everyone, regardless of background, turned to look at Alban intently.

Even a majority of businesspeople from Teo were not informed of this in advance, so they were greatly displeased to hear it from Jasper first.

Meanwhile, the reporters were in an uproar.

"Mr. Alban, could you respond to Mr. Laine's claim?"

"Mr. Alban, all of the World Financial Center's procedures are legal and rule-abiding. This is something recognized by the Waterhoof City City Government and Swallow Capital's Design Institute. Could I ask

why you would commission someone else to write up an evaluation on a Tower that has nothing to do with you?”

The question from the South Somer Commercial Post’s reporter caused Alban’s expression to sour immediately.

However, Alban was still a commercial hero who had experienced huge issues before, so after his initial shock, the man immediately recomposed himself.

After clearing his throat, Alban faced countless pairs of eyes and answered calmly.

“No matter what Mr. Laine claims, there is indeed a problem with the World Financial Center. To prove this, I have a professional evaluative report from Harbor City’s best GenAll Architectural Office on hand.”

“Just ask around and you will know of GenAll Architectural Office’s power. Harbor City’s Conference Center and the Amethyst Gold Square were both designed by their team. This office is ranked seven in the world’s top ten architectural and design offices.”

“A professional report from such an office surely has some value.”

“As for the question you asked about why I would commission an evaluation on the World Financial Center even though I’m an outsider... Simple, because it’s going to be one of the many faces of our country in the future!”

“This is the tallest building in the world. It’s going to be closely related to the glory and dignity of all us Somer descents. Mr. Laine won’t be the only one embarrassed if anything goes wrong with this construction, but rather all us Somer descents. We would be made into the laughing stock of the international audience.”

After saying that, Alban sneered and glanced at Jasper. “Mr. Laine, I wonder if you’re satisfied with this reply.”

“Whether it’s a satisfactory reply or not doesn’t matter to me. No matter how you want to explain yourself, the truth will always remain,” Jasper replied calmly.

Alban harrumphed and glared at Jasper sinisterly, “Mr. Laine, it looks like you’re planning to stay stubbornly wrong until the very end.”

“I don’t need others trying to direct my path, regardless of how right or wrong it is.”

At that, Alban laughed out loud and replied, “Good, you’re courageous. But when it comes to doing business, young man, there are times where you have to take a step back and give in. Stubbornly walking forward will only result in a greater loss.”

With that, Alban turned his head to announce to everyone, “As a man of Somer descent, I have a duty to hand my report over to the Waterhoof City City Government when I realize that something is wrong with our prospective tallest building in the world.

“I believe that the City Government will sincerely consider it and treat the matter seriously. Or at least, pause the construction of the World Financial Center before they reach a clear conclusion.”

“Whether this project can continue will be at the government’s discretion. However, if there’s something wrong with Mr. Laine’s design of JW Real Estates’ most important project, then it poses the question, could there be any other problems with products from his other companies?”

“For example... the MP4 and MP5 product that’s currently a hot topic within the country as well as JW Real Estates other projects.”

When he mentioned this, everyone’s expressions changed.

Alban seemed like he was launching a comprehensive attack on Jasper.

The man had managed to involve Jasper’s companies involved in the real estate and electronics industries with just one sentence.

His intentions were malicious!

How was Jasper going to react to that?

Everyone looked at Jasper.

Under the immense pressure, Jasper was unaffected while his expression remained unfazed.

“All of JW’s subsidiaries’ businesses is conducted with a conscience.”

“There will not be an issue with the World Financial Center, nor will its construction be halted. All work will follow its predetermined schedule.”

“As for the other products, everyone here is welcome to supervise. Should there be anything wrong with its quality, please do seek JW Company for compensation as per the relevant regulations. This is something JW promised and something that will certainly be adhered to!”

Jasper’s words were powerful and his voice resounded throughout the conference venue. He had not raised his voice, yet it seemed to have the strange ability to shake people’s hearts.

The people around could not help but feel that Jasper’s words were reliable. It was as if he would never lie about the quality of his products.

Just then, Alban laughed out loud.

“Hahaha. Jasper, you must’ve gone mad. Or perhaps you’re just so baselessly arrogant. “You must be delusional if you think your World Financial Center can continue its construction once I release this report! At the very least, you’ll need to reinvestigate the issue, which will take half or an entire year! Your real estate company will have gone bankrupt by then!”

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With that, it became clear how this incident would play out.

None of the people present were stupid and they were well versed in such tricks.

Thus, they also knew that Alban was going to act on his words.

“Hey, Jasper. Perhaps you shouldn’t be so stubborn. It won’t benefit you in the long run.”

A man said, shaking his head slightly. His expression was filled with impartial rationality.

Another lightly chubby man chuckled with him and said,

“I told you long ago, Jasper. You’re still going to have to respect your seniors when it comes to doing business. Being so young and vigorous will only result in a huge loss! Our Mr. Ball’s known for being generous and forgiving, so be humble and apologize. Perhaps then

this tense situation might cool down.”

“That’s right. We’re all doing this for you. Or are you really trying to halt the construction process? You’re going to be the only loser here!”

At that, Henry who had been holding Dudley in a deadlock silently all this while was elated.

“Motherf*cker. Shut your stupid trap, I get it if everyone else is brainless, but I hate f*ckers who love to claim that everything they do is for the other’s sake.”

“F*ckers like you make me want to distance myself. What if I get affected by your bad luck when a god strikes you with lightning, hmm?”

Henry’s words caused the chubby man’s expression to change. He turned to Henry and said unkindly, “Who are you? Your vocabulary is full of profanities. How can uneducated people like you come in here?”

Henry snickered and tossed Dudley away. Then, he walked over to the chubby man bossily and asked in an arrogant tone, “Did you just call me uneducated?”

The chubby man was just one of Alban’s lackeys. When he saw a tall and broad Henry walk over to interrogate him, the man suddenly felt a little guilty.

“Oi...”

“You motherf*cking trash, who’re you calling ‘Oi’?”

Henry then raised his hand to slap the man across his face.

No one had expected Henry to hit someone so casually in front of everyone else.

The slap rang out loud and clear, causing everyone else to shiver.

The chubby man who had been slapped roared in mortification, “Oi, motherf*cker...”

Slap!

He was slapped again.

“I said no ‘Oi’s. Didn’t you hear me? And you complained about my profanities? What’s with that last word you just said then, hmm?” Henry sneered.

The slightly chubby man was going crazy after he had been slapped twice. He looked over at Alban only to see the latter with a sinister expression, but showing no indication that he was about to step in.

Alban wanted to step in. After all, this was his lackey that was getting beat up so he was the one getting humiliated here.

However, he was powerless. He could not step in when Henry had beat his son up either.

“The f*ck are you looking at, huh? You want that old man to save you?” Henry said with a sneer.

Henry was the devil incarnate right now as he oozed with utter arrogance. People felt terrified when they looked at him.

Unfortunately, there was nothing anyone could do. Even Alban kept his mouth shut, so who else would dare to step up and put themselves in the line of fire?

Poking the chubby man’s face, Henry said haughtily, “There’s nothing wrong with being someone’s lackey, but it is your fault for choosing the wrong owner to follow. All you know is to talk shit and claim that you’re doing things for other people’s sake. The f*ck do you think you are, huh? Who’re you acting so derisive for?”

The venue fell silent after the two slaps and the harsh scolding. The chubby man’s heavy panting was the only thing that could be heard.

Henry pouted when he saw the man look down silently and scolded, “Useless. You don’t even know how to fight back. What use is a lackey like you?”

After this, Henry turned to look at Dudley.

Dudley shivered after he had been released from Henry’s devilish hold and he instinctively went to hide behind Alban.

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Dudley, a serious young man in his twenties, was terrified.

Meanwhile, Alban’s expression was extremely sour.

He felt even more ashamed when Henry gave him a meaningful chuckle.

“Why’re you hiding behind me? It’s not like he can eat you alive!” Alban scolded disappointedly.

He was afraid that news of Alban’s useless son would spread across the country after tonight.

Dudley shuddered but did not dare to talk back, though he did bottle some resentment within him.

After all, he did not see his dad stopping Henry when the other beat him up silly.

With a harrumph, Alban lost his patience. He knew that the situation would end up looking like a circus if Henry was allowed to continue wreaking havoc.

“I know that this is a play you and Henry came up with, Jasper. But for what? You think I’ll be afraid just because of such an insignificant trick? You think I won’t dare to hand this report in?”

“You’re too naive if that’s the case!”

Alban then pulled out his phone and sneered at Jasper as he said, "If you're going to remain stubborn until you die, then I'll send you to your grave myself!"

With that, he dialed a number.

Jasper looked at him calmly the entire time, but he did not make any move to stop the man. In fact, Jasper seemed to be looking forward to Alban making this call.

The call connected and Alban spoke solemnly, "Immediately hand the report to the Waterhoof City Government! Inform me once there's an update!"

With that, Alban hung up the phone.

He looked at Jasper with sinister glee and sneered. "You said that construction of the World Financial Center won't be halted, right, Jasper? Just you wait. In a short while, someone will contact you and Waterhoof City will put an emergency stop to your construction!"

After saying this, the people who were deterred and startled by Henry's anger were immediately energized again.

"Haha. I wonder how this stupid Laine f*cker will look later!"

"Yeah. This is what he gets for acting cool!"

"These tricks of him are nothing to Mr. Alban!"

Dudley had also gotten excited with them.

He glared at Jasper resentfully and opened his mouth to say something. The words stopped on the top of his tongue when he sensed Henry's dark gaze on him.

Dudley shivered and turned to Henry, saying aggrieved and angrily, "Why're you always targeting me?"

Henry shrugged and replied, "Because you're stupid."

"You- !"

Dudley was enraged but the previous lesson Henry gave him made him too terrified to throw a tantrum now.

He knew that Henry had no qualms about rushing over and throwing him to the floor before beating him up. "Just you wait! You two won't get to act so pridefully any longer!"

After a long moment of thought, Dudley finally managed to come up with a useless retort.

"Moron!"

Henry snorted.

After the conversation played out, Alban's phone rang.

Everyone stopped mocking Jasper to look at Alban expectantly; Even the man himself was smiling widely.

Alban waved his phone display which showed the caller information in front of Jasper and laughed out loud. "It's too late for you to regret it now! "

With that, Alban accepted the call. To highlight his capabilities, Alban had also put the call on loudspeaker mode.