

Life at the Top Chapter 996

Echo's breathing paused when he heard Jasper's demand.

He felt like Jasper had played him like a fool.

'Why the f*ck did you smile if you're not planning to compromise?!

The corner of Echo's eye twitched as he stared at Jasper intently.

He was extremely unwilling to do this.

Echo personally believed his status and power were beyond what Jasper could ever achieve. There was no way a slightly wealthy Somer businessman could compare to Softwin, an international investment bank.

Echo thought that he had the ability to crush Jasper at anytime.

Yet, here he was, still in Jasper's company as the man acted like a rascal and threatened his personal safety. Because of this, Echo felt the strength leave his body.

"You're testing my patience."

Jasper looked at Echo coldly. "If you're so reluctant, then you leave me no choice but to get justice in my own way."

"Jul, teach him how to be respectful. The ancestors of Sunrise Land learned how to self-sustain from their Somer ancestors, but it seems like they've forgotten the concept of humanity."

Julian acknowledged excitedly and moved to attack. He had been holding himself back for a very long time.

Echo reacted quickly. He knew that Jasper meant what he said, especially considering the man had already hurt Yona.

Seeing that there was no more room for negotiation, Echo clenched his jaw and squeezed his eyes shut as he shouted, "Okay! I'll apologize!"

"I'm sorry! I was disrespectful, I shouldn't have insulted or discriminated against Somerland. I'm sorry! I apologize for my behavior!"

The words seemed to have used up all of Echo's strength, for the man was panting and sweating once he finished speaking. He looked at Jasper cold and resentfully as he asked, "Are you happy now?"

Jasper glanced at Echo indifferently and turned his body sideways to reveal Wendy's figure.

"Now, apologize to my girlfriend."

Wendy was shocked as she looked at Jasper worriedly.

Wendy had come to know who these two Sunrisers in front of her were thanks to the conversation they had just shared. She did not know the full story, but at the very least, she knew that they were Softwin's senior executives.

Wendy was worried that the situation would be impossible to smooth over if Jasper offended these two too badly.

However, Jasper gave her a slight nod.

Thus, Wendy immediately stopped overthinking to support Jasper's decision.

Moreover... if anything, the lone fact that Jasper kept referring to Wendy as his girlfriend was enough to fill Wendy with elation amidst the current chaos.

Echo was going mad.

“Are you done, Jasper?! Do you find joy in humiliating me?”

Jasper spoke indifferently, “Intentionally humiliating you? You were the one who was impolite to my girlfriend first. How is me demanding that you apologize humiliating to you? What does that make your earlier actions, then?”

Echo clenched his jaw and he felt the suppressed infuriation about to explode within him.

Machismo culture was greatly prevalent in Sunrise Land, and men were generally regarded much higher than women there.

Hence, Echo could not accept the fact that he had to apologize to a woman, let alone one of Somer descent.

“You don’t want to? Julian!”

Jasper’s words had Echo pushing his bottom line even lower.

The truth remained that until people were forced to a specific point, they would never know where their limits lay.

Take for example Echo at that moment.

Before arriving in Nauritus City, Echo believed that speaking to a Somer descent harmoniously was already the best gift he could bestow them. Apologizing to them was absolutely out of the question.

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Yet, here he was, compromising.

“I’m sorry! It’s my fault! Please forgive me!”

Echo closed his eyes and bowed to Wendy with his head down. Jaw set, he forced out the apology.

Wendy and Jasper shared a look—the duo having already sharing perfectly synergized thoughts.

One glance was all it took and Wendy immediately understood what Jasper wanted to say.

Wendy replied curtly, “I don’t feel a shred of sincerity in your words.”

Gnarl gnarl...

This was the sound of Echo grounding his molars.

Wendy’s voice was melodious, but Echo thought it felt more like a steal scraper as it pierced into his ears.

“You might want to be quick before your colleague over there loses too much blood and goes into a coma,” Jasper spoke indifferently.

Echo clenched his jaw and further suppressed his fury. He had already been humiliated once before, so what was one more time?

Having decided on this, he bowed to Wendy again and spoke extremely sincerely, "I'm sorry. I made a mistake just now and I'd like to sincerely ask for your forgiveness."

With a soft harrumph, Wendy did not refute it and silently accepted the apology.

"Leave," Jasper spoke coldly.

Having been taught a lesson once before, Echo did not dare to leave any harsh comments in case Jasper sized the opportunity to continue humiliating him.

Ignoring the burning hatred within him, Echo did not look back as he left the office with Yano in tow, the latter's whimpers softening as they left the area.

With a murderous expression on his face, Echo dragged Yano to Southface River Tower's exit.

He looked up to the floor of Jasper's office.

Only to see what seemed to be Jasper's blurry figure looking back at him.

"Idiot! Just you wait! I swear I'll take revenge for this humiliation as long as I'm still alive! Damn you, f*cking Somer descents!"

Echo shouted at Jasper upstairs and finally vented some of the anger he had been bottling up.

However, Jasper was too high above to hear what he was saying.

Instead, this sentence reached Henry's ears, who was looking for Jasper to kill time.

Henry had just gotten out of the car and was looking around the Tower in search of any pretty ladies. With an amused chuckle, Henry strode over and slapped the back of Echo's head.

"Motherf*cker, what kind of sh*t are you spouting out here? What's wrong with Somer descents? Your dad's of Somer descent!"

Echo had not expected the sudden attack from behind and he almost staggered and fell forward.

He cupped the stinging back of his head and roared at Henry, "Do you know who I am? How dare you hit me?"

Rattled, Echo had spoken in Sunrish.

"A Sunriser?" Henry was stunned.

"Holy sh*t, no wonder you're so short. I have no f*cking idea what you're talking about but I'm pretty sure you're scolding me."

Young Master Law never needed a reason to hit people, all he had to do was convince himself. Therefore, when Henry felt that this Sunriser was insulting him, he followed up on his previous slap with three more to Echo's cheeks. The man's face was bloated and bruised by the time Henry was done.

Henry then spat on Echo's colorless face harshly before he pointed at him and spoke, "You better respect Somer descents when you're outside next time. You Sunrisers were still f*cking apes on your island when we were becoming kings and conquering lands."

With that, Young Master Law walked away casually.

He left Echo utterly vexed.

“All of you, just you wait!”

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Jasper and Wendy were locked in conversation when Henry arrived upstairs coolly.

“Were we too rash just now, Jasp?” Now that they were alone, Wendy could not help but voice her concerns.

“They are part of Softwin, after all.”

Jasper smiled. “It’s alright. Our true conflict with Softwin is over Abbylon’s shares. Either we give up, they relent, or we become enemies. Those two only got what they deserved, it’s the consequences of their actions.

“Not to mention that the fundamental conflict between us and Softwin wouldn’t have been solved even if we treated those two well and sent them off politely.”

Wendy sighed and replied, “Everyone’s just trying to do business. Why can’t we all get along?”

“Sure, small businesses can still be nice to each other, but it’s not the same when your business reaches a certain size. There are only so many resources and everyone wants a bigger piece of the pie for themselves. How are we supposed to get along?” Jasper consoled.

At that moment, Henry walked into the room proudly.

“F*cking Hell, I met a Sunriser on crack downstairs. He kept spouting sh*t, so I beat him up,” Henry immediately boasted once he walked through the door.

“I saw,” Jasper told him, “Quite the slaps you gave him.”

Henry's eyes widened and he asked, "Those two can't possibly have come from here, could they?"

"Relax, they're enemies, not friends."

Jasper recounted the situation briefly.

Henry's eyes shone as he looked at Jasper and said, "Not bad. Your opponents are getting more and more formidable. You're even involved with Softwin's higher ranks.

"That Echo Welch or something, I've never met the man but I've heard of him."

"How do you know him?" Jasper gasped.

"Hey, I just told you I've never met him. I've only heard of his name... Do you have anything to drink? I want something cold, I'm thirsty... Wait, what's with that shocked face! You don't think I'm qualified to know people like that, right?" Henry barked out in an upset tone..

Jasper laughed out loud as he pulled out a bottle of Coca-cola from the fridge in the office for Henry. "Tell me what you know about him."

"You already know his occupation, but he's also the heir of Trider Financial Group's extended family in Sunrise Land," Henry explained after twisting the Coca-cola bottle open and taking a large gulp.

"I thought his surname was Welch?" Jasper asked with a frown.

He had not expected Echo to be related to one of Sunrise Land's four major conglomerates, the Trider Financial Group. This was hardly good news.

"Okay, so the families of Sunrise Land's four major conglomerates, Trider, Triton, Sumotomo, and Mizuha, have been around for centuries. Their familial

relationships are weird and complicated, so there's nothing weird with the extended members of the family having different surnames.

"Kayden has more partnerships with Sunrise Land, so he knows them better than I do. However, I've heard him talk about how the Trider family's support played a part in Echo assuming Softwin Investment's Presidency at such a young age."

Henry held the bottle of Coca-cola in his hands and crossed his legs. Smiling crescent-eyed, he asked Jasper, who had a grim look on his face, "What happened? Worst come to worst, I can always have my dad come out and put in a word for you."

"Even if it's someone from Trider's extended family, so what if you hit him? They still respect my dad."

"Now that I think about it, Grandpa and Trider's Foster used to know each other. Then something happened and their relationship turned sour. But that was decades ago, so no one cares about it anymore."

Jasper glared at Henry and spoke, "Do I look like that kind of person? I'm just thinking about how Echo will be planning to take revenge later."

"Who cares? Didn't you say you two were fighting over some company? If that's the case, then anything they do will either be to attack you or to try to win that company over. Stop thinking so much and just act," Henry replied excitedly.

Jasper frowned slightly as he thought about it. While Henry was unreliable most of the time, Jasper realized that the man's suggestion was the best course of action right now.

No matter what Softwin or Echo did, it would not stray from the main goal attacking JW and trying to get Abbylon to choose them. If that was the case, then there was no point in overthinking.

“Help me contact Wayne and Jose. I’ll treat them to a meal in the afternoon,” Jasper turned to tell Wendy.

Wendy nodded and left the room.

“Why’d you come to see me today?” Jasper asked.

Henry sighed but remained silent.

“What’s up?” Jasper looked up in confusion. He was intrigued the moment he saw an embarrassed expression on Henry’s pinkish cheeks.

“I didn’t know there were things Young Master Law was shy about.”

Henry gasped back in horror when he heard Jasper tease him, “Can you be a bit more serious here? I’ve been thinking about it and you’re the only one who can help me.”

Jasper’s curiosity piqued as looked at Henry and asked, “Go on, then. What is it?”

Henry scratched his head. Then, as if he had suddenly decided on something, he told Jasper fiercely, “You have to promise me first that you won’t mock me for this. And you can’t hold this over me or tell anyone. Including my dad and Anna.”

Jasper replied lightheadedly, “Okay, okay, I got it. Now are you going to tell me or not?”

Jasper then twisted open a bottle of Coca-cola for himself and took a few gulps.

Henry scratched his cheek bashfully and explained, letting go of all his inhibitions, “It’s just, f*ck, if nothing goes wrong, I’m dating someone!”

Pfft!

Jasper sprayed Coca-cola all over Henry's face.

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Henry's wife would one day be the famous Queen of Diving.

This was something everyone in the country knew about.

However, Jasper was uncertain if this girl Henry seemed so reluctant and bashful to talk about now was the same Queen of Diving in his past life.

After all, even if Jasper was going off the memory from his past life, Jasper and Henry's statuses were miles apart, and he only knew what gossip articles wrote about. Jasper had no idea if Henry had any girlfriends before the Queen of Diving.

By 'girlfriends', Jasper was referring to serious relationships. As far as Jasper and Henry were concerned, women Henry had been with before this were nothing other than sex-buddies.

Still, from the way Henry was acting now, Jasper realized that Henry had truly fallen for this girl.

Jasper immediately felt a headache coming.

Zachary had made it clear that children from rich families like Henry were destined to inherit the family business, meaning the Law family would play a huge part in Henry's marriage. The man in question did not have any particular opinions of this back then.

However, this was mainly because he had not found anyone yet.

It was a different story now.

Jasper did not really know how Henry had ended up with the Queen of Diving his past life, but she was well known in the sports industry, which the Law family had coincidentally shifted their focus to and began investing more in. Therefore, their getting-together was not totally unprompted.

Even so, Jasper was intrigued by this girl that had captured Henry's heart.

"What's her name? Where is she? Do you have pictures?"

Jasper's three consecutive questions had Young Master Law feeling embarrassed.

"Can you not gossip as much as the paparazzi?" Henry asked irritably.

"Sure, I won't ask then. You deal with this yourself, I promise I won't ask at all," Jasper spoke uncaringly.

Henry suppressed his embarrassment and ignored the Coca-cola on his face when he heard Jasper. He quickly leaned over and said, "No, I can't decide on my own. I still need your help."

Jasper chuckled and replied, "Then why are you complaining about me asking these question? I've got to at least know the specifics of this girl if I'm to advise you, right? How else am I supposed to help you?"

"Help me plan. You know how difficult dating is for me, right? Considering my identity and status, I've got to at least confirm that she's not just with me because of my family," Henry stated genuinely.

"Not bad, you've actually thought this through," Jasper praised.

"Her name's Jill Cobb. She's on the National Diving Team."

Jasper's eyes widened when he heard Henry. He could not help but marvel at the habits of fate.

After everything that had happened, Henry still met the Queen of Diving in this lifetime.

This was a good thing. Their successful relationship in Jasper's past life meant that Henry was less likely have his heart broken now.

"What's with that expression? She's a first-grade diver, not some prostitute, okay?" Henry defended in displeasure.

Jasper smiled. "It's not that, I'm just very curious. How'd you even fall for someone in the Diving Team... I thought you've been Nauritus City all this while? The National Diving Team should be far away in Swallow Capital, no?"

"She just got back from a competition in Australia, and she happens to be instructing for Southeast Province Diving Team right now."

Henry looked rather embarrassed. "It was by pure chance that we met, and we've only seen each other a few times. I can't really tell why, but I like her a lot."

"Let's go look for her, then," Jasper urged.

"Should we? She might be busy..." Henry's desire to do this was written all over his face, but the man also looked hesitant.

Jasper felt emotional at Henry's behavior. 'Even the fearless Young Master Law can be sensitive.'

"Well, we won't know unless we look for her. Come on, let's go together. I'll help you take a look and see whether she's right for you or not."

Jasper got up and dragged Henry out of the office.

However, he went to look for Wendy before they left.

“I’m going out for a bit. Postpone the meeting with Wayne and Jose to later tonight—I’ll buy them dinner instead.”

Jasper then left a confused Wendy standing there while he dragged a blushing Henry out like an overgrown child.

“What the hell are those two doing?” Wendy was confused.

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The Southeast Province Diving Team was training at the Provincial Sports Center. It was a short distance from Southface River, and took less than twenty minutes by car.

Henry was suddenly terrified when Jasper dragged him to the entrance of the Diving Center.

“F*ck maybe we shouldn’t just go in there. We’ve only just met, so this is really inappropriate,” Henry said as he fought back against Jasper and refused to let him go inside.

“Don’t tell me you haven’t confirmed your relationship with her,” Jasper gasped.

“Confirm what?” Henry tried to mask his guilt and embarrassment by acting tough. “We’ve only met twice and exchanged less than ten sentences. What the hell am I supposed to confirm?”

“Didn’t you tell me all you had to do was use money and luxury items to get women in bed?” Jasper joked.

“F*ck you, how’s that the same?” Henry glared at Jasper harshly and spoke, “You better not blow my cover. I told her I’m a high school teacher.”

“What bullsh*t teacher? With the way you act, she’s got to be crazy to believe that you’re a teacher,” Jasper was filled with joy.

“F*ck you. I’m not going to talk to you anymore if you keep laughing at me!” Henry growled angrily.

“Okay, okay, I’ll stop. Come on, we’re just going to look. It doesn’t have to mean anything,” Jasper replied, ignoring how Henry was still hesitant and unwilling as he pushed the doors open and entered the facility.

“Hi, could I ask where Jill is?” Jasper stopped a female diver who was about to go to practice and asked.

The female diver looked at Jasper weirdly before she pointed at another building and spoke, “Drinking coffee in the lounge with Mr. Kain.”

“Thank you.”

Jasper thank her and then dragged Henry over.

They arrived at the other building and realized that these secondary buildings were all offices. Most of them were occupied by proper businesses except for the ones occupied by the Sports Center and Sports Team, with just a few exceptions.

There was an office for the manager of a training team, which was an externally-sourced private company. The manager oversaw the sourcing investors to sponsor the sports team.

They arrived at the lounge and Jasper was about to knock on the door when he heard a man shouting inside.

“Jill Cobb! Don’t you dare think you’re some sh*t now just because you’ve gotten into the national team and you’ve won a few medals! Do not forget that I was the one who brought you to where you are today. So what if you’ve got a few good records? You’d still be nothing without me!

“All I did was request something small and you can’t even fulfill it. You’re getting brave now, are you? Think you can disrespect me now, huh?”

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Henry's expression darkened when he heard the harsh scolding and he raised his arm to barge into the room.

"What are you doing?" Jasper immediately pulled Henry back.

"What else? I'm going in to punch the f*cker that scolded Jill," Henry replied.

"You won't be able to help her if you go in now. If anything, you'll end up causing her more trouble. You want her to like you, right? Then calm down so we can understand what's going on," Jasper told Henry.

Henry had no other choice but to push aside the distaste he felt as he stood by the door and listened with Jasper in silence.

Just then, a young woman's voice was heard from inside the lounge.

"Mr. Kain, you're asking too much of me. Where am I supposed to help you find a 2 million Somer Dollar sponsor?"

Jill sounded exasperated and indignant.

Mr. Kain harrumphed and said, "There are tons of methods, it just depends on whether you're sincerely willing to help me or not."

"Go on, then, Mr. Kain. How can we get our hands on a sponsor for 2 million Somer Dollars?" Jill asked.

"Haha. Oh, Jill," Mr. Kain's tone shifted into something more amorous and frivolous.

“When it comes to international diving, you’re the youngest athlete and the one with the best results. What’s even better, is that you’re also the prettiest one out of them all.

“There are many large enterprise owners who are interested in you. Say the owner of Nauritus City’s Byron Group, Byron Woolery, for example. He’s very interested in you.

“He promised that as long as you’re willing to eat dinner with him and spend the night, then he’d sponsor us for 500 thousand right away. Isn’t that simple?”

“With your fame, all we have to do is find three more owners like Byron and we’ll have 2 million. There can’t possibly be anything easier in the world.”

Henry was close to combusting from his anger outside the lounge after he heard Mr. Kain’s suggestion.

‘As if the woman I fell for is only worth 500 thousand!

‘And she has to sleep with four men for a sponsor of 2 million?!’

At that moment, Jill’s voice sounded from inside the room.

“Mr. Kain! I can’t believe how abominable you are!”

Jill’s tone was filled with shock, fury, and disappointment.

“Yes, you were the one who brought me to where I am today. But who are you to request such things from me just for sponsors? You know what kind of person I am. I might as well kill myself if I have to do these things!”

Jill’s words angered Mr. Kain, and the man fired back angrily, “So die, then!”

“Have you no understanding of the industry? There’s nothing uncommon about this—you’re the only one acting like a snowflake here! Who’re you acting so pure and innocent for? How am I supposed to take care of you athletes without sponsors, huh?”

On the other side of the door, Jasper saw how Henry was brimming with the urge to barge in and quickly held him back.

“F*cking hell, the woman I like is about to change occupations to work in public relations if I don’t go in!” Henry growled.

“You told her you’re a high school teacher. Say you go in now and beat her manager up, then what? You’re telling me a high school teacher has the guts to do that? Or are you going to tell her you lied and you’re actually the Law family’s only son?”

Jasper said to Henry sternly.

The agitated expression on Henry’s face froze, and a moment later, he asked, “So what do you have in mind?”

“Leave this to me, and try not to show yourself for now.”

Jasper continued sternly, “Since you created an alias at the very beginning, don’t expose yourself until the correct moment or you’ll end up making a stupid mistake. If that happens, then she’ll stop talking to you completely and you’ll lose everything.”