

Life at The Top – Chapter 1301

Either act according to Lord Alvarado's reputation, or completely make an enemy out of him.

Jasper did not say anything nor did Lord Alvarado rush him. The man looked at Jasper patiently with a crescent eyed smile.

Slowly, Jasper took his cutleries and speared a piece of lamb. He dipped it in the spices and slowly put it in his mouth.

A moment later, Jasper frowned slightly.

"It's spicy."

Lord Alvarado's crescent eyed smile did not disappear as he replied, "You were the one who chose to dip the lamb in spices, there is no room for regrets."

Yet Jasper took the dish and poured it all into the hotpot.

This action had Lord Alvarado narrowing his eyes slightly.

Seeing Lord Alvarado narrow his eyes, the four men in the corners of the room turned to look at Jasper icily at the same time.

As if they were about to rip Jasper apart the next second. Behind Jasper, every muscle in Julian's body tensed up and he prepared himself to attack any time.

However, right in the eye of the storm, Jasper took a spoon and a direct sip of the hotpot soup base.

It was aromatic and refreshing. A superb hotpot soup.

"Look, isn't the problem solved now?" Jasper told Lord Alvarado with a crescent eyed smile.

Lord Alvarado stared at the hotpot with a layer of chili oil over it and said calmly, "You're the only one drinking this pot of soup, though."

Jasper shook his head and replied, "Marquis, the hotpot soup is right here. Everyone can drink it if they wish, I won't stop anyone."

“But I don’t like sharing with others,” Lord Alvarado said indifferently.

“Marquis, this spice dish was mine. I poured it into the soup, now everyone can take a share. If I didn’t pour it, then no one can take it from me,” Jasper said calmly.

Staring at Jasper, Lord Alvarado suddenly laughed out loud. “You’re very arrogant.”

“This isn’t arrogance.” Jasper shook his head as he refuted.

“I’m not you, Lord Alvarado, nor am I the little prince, let alone the crippled Brown. I’m just Jasper Laine, someone of insignificant birth. I don’t have powerful uncles to support me, nor capital to inherit from my wealthy parents. Everything I have is something I fought for myself.

“If I didn’t do this, I’d have died on the streets long ago.”

“Haha...”

Lord Alvarado gave a fake chuckle but looked at Jasper indifferently.

“Looks like there’s not much to talk about then. I said I was busy, so with the end of this dinner, comes the end of our conversation as well.”

Lord Alvarado then got up.

Jasper sat in his seat and watched as Lord Alvarado walked toward the door.

He waited until Lord Alvarado was just about to leave before he spoke up.

“Marquis, this is a spice dish worth at least 5 billion. Are you sure you don’t want to try?”

Lord Alvarado suddenly turned around when he heard this and looked at Jasper expressionlessly.

While there was no expression on the man’s face, his utter beauty and attractiveness had Jasper immediately averting his gaze and apologizing for his sins internally at one glance.

“This was still a matter of my reputation until this point. But if you lie to me, it’ll involve my capabilities and this won’t be resolved so easily,” Lord Alvarado said calmly.

Jasper gave a small smile and replied, "In 1 month, there will be a huge ripple throughout the west's economy. With at least 2 times the return."

Seeing Lord Alvarado stand motionlessly in place, Jasper smiled and stood with a spoon of slightly red soup and said, "The soup's right here. Whether you choose to drink it or not depends on you, Marquis."

Lord Alvarado smiled, one as ethereal as delicate flowers blooming. He waved his hand and said, "Pour the wine."

The man returned to his seat as he spoke.

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An alluring lady strutted over to Jasper's side and bent forward to pour him wine.

With both glasses poured, Lord Alvarado looked at Jasper in interest as if he was admiring a new toy.

"How sure are you?" Lord Alvarado narrowed his eyes and asked.

“Ninety percent,” Jasper replied.

Delicately defined brows arched and Lord Alvarado smiled. “This isn’t a funny joke.”

“I don’t have the habit of throwing my entire fortune and life out like a joke,” Jasper said.

As if satisfied with this response, Lord Alvarado said with a crescent eyed smile, “Good. This is an offering that suits my reputation. If this succeeds, then you and I can be friends.”

Jasper gave a small smile. “It’s an honor.”

“Interesting.” Lord Alvarado was in a great mood.

He knew that Jasper did not dare to lie to him. Otherwise, instead of being treated to a good round of hotpot, Jasper would be facing the possibility of being cooked in the hotpot

The Northwest Alvarado family had the power to make that happen.

Jasper was a smart man and he knew what choices to make.

So Lord Alvarado did not ask Jasper where his confidence and guarantee came from.

All he wanted was to see was results when the time came.

If it meant Jasper had to manifest it with magic then so be it.

“I’m in a good mood, so here’s a gift from me.”

Lord Alvarado waved his hand. “Bring him in...”

One of the suited men in the corner of the room left courteously.

A moment later, the private room doors were opened and a terrified Scott walked in.

Once he saw Jasper, Scott’s gaze immediately exploded with resentment.

“Jasper, you’re f*cking dead this time!”

Scott shouted arrogantly.

All prior worries he had disappeared once he knew that his family was acquainted with Lord Alvarado.

‘This was Lord Alvarado we’re talking about!’

‘An extremely formidable man!’

‘No matter how low a profile the Alvarado family kept, they were still called the Duke of the Northwest for a reason!’

‘All it’d take is the twitch of a finger for him to get rid of someone like Jasper!’

Thinking that Lord Alvarado had his back, Scott walked over to Jasper with his back straight.

“F*ck you! You probably never expected the Covington family to be Lord Alvarado’s men, huh? Don’t you regret your actions now?”

“Haha! I’m telling you, it’s too late to regret anything now! ”

Jasper looked at an extremely prideful Scott and said calmly, “Why didn’t you tell me you were Lord Alvarado’s man before? We wouldn’t have to get to this point if that were the case.”

Scott took Jasper’s meaningful words as fright.

So he became even more gleeful.

“Who the Hell do you think you are? Who are you to know of Lord Alvarado?”

Scott had a wretched expression on his face. “I’m going to make a fool out of you and kill you! Weren’t you acting prideful just now? Weren’t you arrogant?”

Scott then pointed at Julian behind Jasper and laughed out loud. “Hahaha! I thought your dog was a good fighter? How about you try and bare your teeth in front of Lord Alvarado, huh?”

Scott chuckled pridefully before he ran to Lord Alvarado's side flatteringly and said in a sycophant manner.

"Marquis, this man is a moron. Not only did he steal the company you wanted, but he even said he wants to destroy the Covington family! If I were you, I'd just drag this f*cker out to feed the dogs."

Lord Alvarado turned his head to smile at Scott with crescent eyes.

"Do you know what I hate the most?"

Scott was instinctively stunned when he heard Lord Alvarado.

However, seeing how Lord Alvarado was still smiling at him, Scott did not think the situation could be too bad.

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He shook his head dumbly.

Lord Alvarado reached out and waved over the woman behind him.

She immediately handed the bottle of red wine to the Marquis.

It could be seen how familiar she was with what the Marquis was about to do next.

Lord Alvarado took the bottle of wine and suddenly smashed it against Scott's head.

Bang!

The thick bottle shattered and the wine within it splashed, accompanied by Scott's tragic yelp and fresh blood.

Scott cupped a hand over his head as Lord Alvarado took the hot towel from another woman to wipe his hand. The alluring smile on his face did not disappear as he said gently, "I hate it when people swear in front of me."

"Ah! Lord Alvarado, I, I'm sorry! I won't do it again!"

Scott almost got a concussion from the smash and he wailed and begged for mercy, ignoring the splitting pain in his head.

Lord Alvarado then scooped out a bowl of hotpot soup before slowly pouring it over Scott's head.

As the wound met the boiling hot hotpot soup, Scott immediately began to struggle violently like a fish out of water.

“What I hate second most, is when people interrupt me!”

Lord Alvarado did not look at Scott who was wailing in agony after he was done. Instead, he turned to look at Jasper mirthfully. “I've already brought him to you. You decide what to do with him.”

Jasper glanced at how pitiful Scott looked before sighing internally.

Scott was an example Lord Alvarado was using to warn others.

As to who he was trying to warn, who else but Jasper? Lord Alvarado was warning and telling him that he would only meet a more tragic end if he lied.

“Take him away.”

Jasper shook his head.

“He’s already harmless.”

These words had sealed Scott’s fate.

A suited man proceeded to drag Scott who only had the strength to whimper away. The private room was still permeated with the scent of hotpot, but it was no longer as harmonious as it used to be.

Lord Alvarado stood up and said, “I’m very busy, so I’ll be returning once I pay respects to my ancestors tomorrow morning. Someone will pass you my contact information later, understood?”

“I’ll contact you once the time is right, Marquis.” Jasper nodded.

Lord Alvarado smiled in satisfaction, his extraordinary beauty looking utterly alluring.

Without saying more, Lord Alvarado turned and left. An intrigued look flashed through both women's eyes and one of them gave Jasper a name card.

"Mr. Laine, this is the Marquis' personal contact information."

Jasper took the name card and nodded. "Thank you."

With a chuckle, the woman said, "It's the first time I've seen the Marquis so willing to negotiate. You must be very capable, Mr. Laine."

Then she reached out to touch Jasper's chest before she left with the smile of someone who had gotten away with something bad.

The private room immediately was left empty. The corner of Jasper's lips twitched.

Not only did this Lord Alvarado act unusually, but even his maids were uncommon.

"Jasper."

Julian called out and arrived by Jasper's side.

"If we were to fight, I have faith in getting you out unscathed."

Jasper was stunned before he asked with a smile, "Do you think that I've been mistreated because I had no other choice but to bend to Lord Alvarado's will?"

Julian's gaze was murderous as he replied, "Worse come to worst, I'll kill him at the cost of my own life. No matter how powerful he is, there's nothing he can do if he's dead, right?"

Jasper shook his head with a smile, though he was moved by Julian's desire to protect him. He patted Julian's shoulder and said, "Nothing's ever so simple in this world."

"We aren't part of a fairytale where we can do things without consequences. With a company as huge as JW, so what if we manage to flee? The company will still suffer."

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"You think that he's too powerful and I have no other choice but to surrender to him."

Jasper had a playful smile on his face.

“It might seem like that, indeed.”

“But what I’m about to do might result in a very severe outcome, and I alone can’t affect the entire market.”

“If not him, I thought about asking the little prince instead. I just didn’t have an opportunity before.”

“But now that we have Lord Alvarado willing to join in, someone just as powerful as the little prince. It might seem like I’m surrendering to him, but aren’t we also using his strengths at the same time?”

Jasper patted Julian’s shoulder again and said intently, “Things are rarely as simple as they seem.”

“Think about it. Sometimes taking a step back and enduring it doesn’t mean I’ve surrendered and admitted defeat. Maybe I’m just leaving more room to run up so I can jump even higher heights.”

Julian fell into thought when he heard Jasper. After a long while, he suddenly realized something.

“I don’t understand these things, but if you say it’s good then it’s good.”

Jasper felt helpless.

...

Since Jasper’s and Lord Alvarado’s dinner, the situation in Tefa City had immediately changed drastically.

The Covington family continued to lose in every fight against JW, and they did not seem to have any ability to defend themselves.

Unlike what passer-by expected, the Covington family’s resistance was not effective, and no one even tried to help them.

The Covington family that once dominated and controlled Tefa City was now facing grave danger with no one to support them.

People more attentive on the matter realized that Scott, the fuse leading to this conflict, had disappeared.

Some said that Jasper had employed hitmen to kill Scott, while some others said that the Covington family had decided to send Scott away to safety. After all, even if the Covington family was defeated, they still needed Scott to continue the bloodline.

Outsiders continued to guess and create rumors of what happened, but no one knew the true specifics.

This conflict lasted for an entire half month.

The Covington family was still fighting with everything they had, but everyone could see that they were doomed to fail. It was only a matter of how soon.

This day, Downstream Investment Company resumed business. More accurately, it should be JW Financial Investment Co., Ltd.

This company was established with JW Capital as its parent company and would take on all investment businesses from JW Capital. Thus leaving JW Capital to be in charge of fundamental businesses like angel funds and risk investment.

“With the establishment of the financial investment company, you’ll be responsible for all JW’s investments in the financial industry, including stocks, securities, funds, bonds, futures, and more.”

In the meeting room, Jasper looked at the group of confident senior executives of the new company in front of him intently.

A majority of these senior executives were capable employees transferred from the investment department in Nauritus City. The others were talents brought over from hunting companies.

After a short pause, Jasper continued, “You all should know how much money the company spent for this, so I have high expectations for all of you.”

“I hope that under Mr. Willis’ lead, you are all able to truly make this company into something great in the future. As I said before, everyone present will benefit from having good business. But if the company makes a loss, there’s not much of a point making do with basic salaries, correct?”

The meeting seemed to affect the people positively on the first day this new company was established.

After a few simple sentences, Jasper handed the stage to Baz.

He was the newly employed person in charge of this new company. Logically and emotionally speaking, Jasper had to give the man enough respect and power. How the company would actually develop depended on Baz now.

Jasper walked out of the meeting room and planned to return to rest when Julian reported something to him. The Covington father-son duo had asked to see him.

Jasper chuckled before he had Julian bring them to the receptionist room.

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In the receptionist room, Jasper had not sat down for too long when the Covington father-son duo arrived. This duo was made up of Gerald and Emmett.

As for Scott, he should not have too many chances to appear before Jasper if nothing went wrong.

It had only been half a month, but both Emmett and Gerald looked much older.

This father-son duo that once controlled and dominated the entire Tefa City looked more like old men in their twilight years.

Gerald lost the condescending aura and sharpness he had when drinking tea with Jasper that day. While Emmett's entire back was already hunched forward.

"Mr. Laine."

Gerald greeted him first when the two entered the room. Gone was the elder and youth of that day, replaced now with a respectful 'Mr. Laine.'

"Please sit."

Jasper did not humiliate them as the victor but rather talked to them respectfully and gently.

Gerald and Emmett sat opposite Jasper.

Jasper had someone make a pot of tea. After the hot tea was brought over did Jasper tell Gerald with a smile, "The facilities here are simpler, Mr. Covington, nor do we have tea as good as the ones you serve. I hope you don't mind."

Gerald chuckled wryly and replied humbly, "It's an honor for homeless people like us to drink tea with you, Mr. Laine."

Jasper leaned against the sofa and said calmly, "There's no need to insult me like this, Mr. Covington. Everything that happens today is the result of a prior cause."

Gerald sighed and replied, "I didn't mean to insult you, Mr. Laine. My words are genuine."

"Mr. Laine, I bring my son Emmett over shamelessly today to beg for mercy and our lives."

Emmett then continued, "Yes, Mr. Laine. There was never any deep hatred between us, to begin with, and Scott's already gone crazy. We've suffered our losses, so please let us go. I promise I'll immediately arrange for him to leave Tefa City and never appear again."

Jasper sipped his tea and replied calmly, "Did Lord Alvarado give up on you?"

Both Emmett and Gerald's expressions darkened at what they heard.

They would not have met such an end if Lord Alvarado stepped in to help them.

"We're sorry, Mr. Laine."

Gerald suddenly stood up and bowed to Jasper deeply. The man had tears down his face when he looked up again.

“I’m already old and I have no regrets. But I hope that you could let my son and grandson live, Mr. Laine. I have no qualms against losing all my fortune, I only wish that the two of them can live peacefully for the rest of their lives.

No matter how innately crafty Gerald was, he meant everything he said now.

Jasper looked at Gerald and felt pity for the man with a head full of white hair.

“Dad!”

Emmett stood up regretfully.

Jasper remained silent.

Gerald and his son did not dare to say anything when Jasper did not, so they waited for his verdict.

After a long moment, Jasper finally said calmly, “Today marks the end of JW’s attack on the Covington family. I’ll allow the Covington family to keep their properties in the food and beverage and hotel industries within Tefa City.”

“Sell everything else. You’ve worked your whole life, Mr. Covington, it’s time you took some of the money and lived the rest of your life in retirement.”

Both Gerald and his son deflated when they heard Jasper, feeling extremely pathetic. They knew that doing so would remove them from the list of wealthy families in Tefa City. They would be nothing more than a slightly rich family in the future.

While they would not be living in grandeur anymore, they would definitely be able to live comfortably. At least, their bloodline was saved.

“Thank you, Mr. Laine.”