

Yang He looked furious after getting humiliated publicly by Ye Fan like this.

"Humph, you brat! Fine! I admit to selling a fake as an authentic piece. I wasn't capable enough and made an error in judgment. I'll make up for Young Master Shen's loss later. But don't you dare think that I'll be impressed because you spotted a problem with ONE antique. It was just a coincidence and you just had a stroke of good luck," said Yang He with disdain as he continued looking contemptuous. The sight of Ye Fan looking nonchalant infuriated Yang He even more.

"Do you really think you are a master appraiser now? If you're that good, then pick out one more fake from my store. If you can't, then hurry up and get lost. This high-end location is no place for a pauper like you!" said Yang He coldly.

When Ye Fan heard this, he was delighted instantly. "Mr Yang, now that you mention it. Although I didn't spot any forgeries in your so-called genuine pieces, I did see a real prize among your random items."

Ye Fan walked up to a counter in the corner before stopping in front of a

painting.

“Hahaha! You stupid brat, it's more likely for a treasure to surface in the counters on my left. Those on my right are rented out and it's all rubbish sitting around doing nothing but take up space. And you think there's a treasure in there?” Yang He roared with laughter.

The two counters in front were filled with authentic items from Eight Treasure Hall itself, while the ones on the right were decent imitations along with things he found which were of unknown origin. The counter Ye Fan was looking at was rented out by Eight Treasure Hall to sell items on behalf of independent shop owners.

They merely sold a handful of things in years and were typically given out as freebies.

But Ye Fan actually said there was treasure among that heap of trash.

Ye Fan ignored all the jeering. He then reached his hand out to take the painting from the display cabinet.

It was a brush painting with very simple

content. There was a tree in the shape of a deer antler and a stone that was oddly shaped like a snail while some dwarf bamboo extended from behind the rock.

The entire composition of the painting was careless and rough. It looked pretty good from a distance, but several flaws were visible up close. It wasn't artistically pleasing at all.

"Don't tell me this is the prize you were talking about? Is this the 'Withered Wood and Stone Painting'?" When Yang He saw the painting in Ye Fan's hand, he instantly laughed.

"Hahaha! Don't tell me you think it's Su Dong-Po's work just because his signature is on it?" Yang He's smile grew brighter as he continued to ridicule him.

"You're too blind to see!" said Ye Fan coldly and he couldn't be bothered with him.

"You brat! Don't you know any better? In that case, how about we make a bet? If this work is worth over \$10,000, I'll compensate you ten times its value! But if it's worthless, then you'll pay me

\$1,000,000. What do you think? Do you dare take the gamble?" sneered Yang He.

Ye Fan glanced at him before smiling as he said, "Do you want to repay me ten times more? I'm just worried you can't afford to pay for it!"

"Stop prattling! Do you dare to accept the bet?" asked Yang He coldly.

"Since you insist, then I'll gamble with you!" replied Ye Fan.

When Qiu Mu-Cheng heard this, her face turned pale. She quickly said angrily, "Ye Fan, are you insane? Do you have \$1,000,000?"

Su Qian scolded Ye Fan for being an idiot in her heart too.

Wasn't this as good as giving the money away?

"He's just a poor peasant without any money or power. How dare he gamble! Isn't this as good as sabotaging Mu-Cheng? He's such a troublemaker!"

But Ye Fan already agreed to take the bet

up.

Even if Qiu Mu-Cheng tried to persuade him, it was too late.

“Okay! In that case, everyone here will be our witness, so that someone can't run away if he loses. Also, first things first. If you can't pay up after you lose, then don't blame for taking your house as collateral.” Yang He smiled sinisterly.

Yang He was just worrying about how to make amends to Young Master Shen. But now someone actually wanted to give him money. If he didn't accept it, he would be doing that stupid Ye Fan an injustice.

When Qiu Mu-Cheng heard they had to use their house as collateral, her face instantly went paler while her eyes turned red. She couldn't imagine what would happen to her family if Ye Fan lost the bet. Were they going to sleep out in the streets?

At the thought of that, Qiu Mu-Cheng was on the verge of crying.

She didn't expect Ye Fan to have the guts to gamble with their house.

“Mu-Cheng, why don't you divorce him? This country bumpkin is crazy! Now he wants to gamble with the house, next time he'll gamble you away. He knows nothing about appraisal, but he actually found the courage to gamble your house away! He must be an idiot!” Even Su Qian was so that she was clenching her teeth.

But Ye Fan failed to notice Qiu Mu-Cheng's reaction. He continued to stand inside Eight Treasure Hall with that imitation of 'Withered Wood and Stone Painting' in his hand.

After confirming his bet with Yang He, Ye Fan took out his purse and said, “Name your price. I want to buy this painting.”

“My god!”

“He's actually buying it first?”

“Looks like this stupid guy really thinks this painting is genuine.” Everyone burst out laughing upon hearing what Ye Fan said.

Yang He waved his hand generously and sneered, “It's free. Just take it.”

Yang He said this as he ridiculed Ye Fan in

his heart. He looked at Ye Fan like he was an idiot. Only an idiot would treat a freebie like a treasure.

"It's okay. Just give me a number. I'll pay for it in full to avoid any disputes in the future."

Since Ye Fan refused the gift and insisted on paying, Yang He had no choice but to say, "Fine. I'll sell it to you for \$250."

Haha!

Yang He's words made everyone burst out laughing again.

He was clearly insulting Ye Fan for being stupid.

But Ye Fan seemed completely oblivious and just bent down to take the money out. But sadly, he only had \$50 in his purse.

Ye Fan had no choice but to ask Qiu Mu-Cheng for money, "Mu-Cheng, give me \$200."

"No freaking way! Don't talk to me! I don't know you! You'll be the death of me!" Qiu Mu-Cheng almost exploded in anger

because of Ye Fan. How could he expect her to give him money? She couldn't wait for this bet to get called off to avoid losing her house in the process.

"Damn."

"After all that, this guy here isn't just an idiot but a pauper as well."

"He doesn't even have \$100?"

"He's probably a poor peasant, right?"

"If he is so poor, why does he have the cheek to come to a place like this?"

"What an embarrassment!"

"Hahaha!"

Piercing laughter came from all around.

Han Shao-Jie shook his head as he laughed and said, "Fei, are you sure he's a big shot and not some idiot?"

"I...I don't know him either," Shen Fei's eyes twitched as he decided to turn around and pretend he didn't know Ye Fan.

After all, at a time like this, it was a disgrace to be connected to Ye Fan.

“Haha! Aren't you dumb? I wanted to give it to you for free, but you insisted on paying. Yet now you can't afford it? You're just a pauper pretending to be rich! Hurry up and get lost! Stop disgracing yourself!” Yang He found Ye Fan so disgusting that he couldn't be bothered to waste his time and told him to just leave.

But Ye Fan didn't intend to give up. He went around trying to borrow money, but everyone ignored him. In the end, Su Yuan-Shan gave him \$200 out of pity.

“Young man, here's \$200. You don't have to return it,” said Su Yuan-Shan slowly.

Ye Fan thanked him, “Thank you, Mr Su. I will not forget this favor.”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

"Dad, what are you doing?! How could you give him money? Although \$200 isn't much, but giving him the money is as good as throwing it away," complained Su Qian.

Su Yuan-Shan replied, "It's not easy to survive in the city, especially someone with a poor background like him. He must have endured far more hardship and malice than we can imagine."

"It's not much to me anyway, so I'll help if I can. What's more, what if this youth really turns out to be a master appraiser? I'm just investing \$200 to support him. It's no loss."

Despite saying that, Su Yuan-Shan clearly didn't believe that this painting was the legendary work of Su Dong-Po.

After all, none of the people who could come here were fools. How could legendary work from a famous artist get displayed here for so long yet escape everyone's eyes?

Su Yuan-Shan had given Ye Fan the money purely out of sympathy.

Su Yuan-Shan's grandfather was from the

countryside too. Seeing Ye Fan's predicament reminded him of how terribly hard his ancestors had to work in the city before finally gaining independence.

So Su Yuan-Shan helped Ye Fan this once out of pity.

"Here's \$250. Can you give me a receipt?" Ye Fan handed the money to Yang He.

"Oh? Do you even want a receipt? You're just trying to delay things! Fine, I'll give you a receipt. Then there will be no way you can keep delaying things," Yang He assumed Ye Fan was afraid of the embarrassment and was trying to hold things up.

But he was clueless about Ye Fan's true intention.

"It's done. I've taken your money and issued you a receipt. The painting is yours. Now can we get President Gu to appraise it?" said Yang He impatiently.

Ye Fan nodded. "Of course we can."

Ye Fan and Yang He walked over and asked Gu Long-En to appraise the painting.

All eyes were glued on them.

The sight of Ye Fan's confidence made everyone lose faith, especially Yang He himself. After what happened moments ago, he couldn't help but feel worried.

Could this really be a painting by the great writer from the Song Dynasty, Su Dong-Po?

If it was true, then Yang He would swim in regret for selling it off at merely \$250!

Of course, everyone felt the likelihood of this happening was nearly zero.

After Old Master Gu studied it for a while, he shook his head somewhat disappointingly at Ye Fan, "Young man, I think you misjudged this painting this time."

"This painting is really a fake. In fact, it's a very badly done imitation and the strokes are poorly done. Its true value is probably about \$100 to \$200 and roughly the sum you paid for it. Of course, if you include the cost of its paper, that would set you back to almost \$0," said Gu Long-En slowly.

This time, the crowd did not come to a

conclusion as swiftly. They seemed to be waiting for Gu Long-En to confirm again.

And just as Ye Fan did previously, he smiled gently and said, "President Gu, please look carefully again."

"Hmm?"

Gu Long-En frowned. This time, he specially put his glasses on to look at it one more time.

This time, Yang He was the anxious one.

He was afraid that Gu Long-En might suddenly turn the tables on him again.

But fortunately, the same thing didn't happen twice.

"Young man, I'm afraid that you are going to be disappointed."

"This 'Withered Wood and Stone Painting' appeared in Christie's auction house in Hong Kong in 2018. It was sold for 410 million Hong Kong dollars and ended up in the hands of a Chinese rich man."

"The original is already in the hands of a

collector, so logically speaking, this piece here must be a fake! Moreover, the artwork is so unrefined, and the words don't look good at all, so it must be a forgery," Gu Long-En's words were like a death sentence on this painting as he confirmed it to be a counterfeit.

In an instant, there was a commotion as everyone burst out laughing.

"I knew it!"

"Like I said, if this painting was authentic, why would it have gone unnoticed hanging here for so long?"

"This brat must have made a wild guess about the blue and white porcelain!"

"It was pure luck. He should have stopped while he was winning. He was asking for it when he insisted on making a bet with Mr Yang."

"He's simply an idiot!" everyone jeered.

Su Yuan-Shan and the others shook their heads. Sure enough, no one could last long if they relied solely on luck when they were out in the world.

"HAHA! Stupid brat, what more do you have to say? You're a good-for-nothing pretending to be able to appraise when you're clueless. Look who's the fool now? Based on our agreement, you have to hand over \$1,000,000. How are you going to pay? By bank transfer, cash, or with the house?" Yang He's eyes were gleeful as he laughed and sneered at Ye Fan.

"Damn! You idiot! So you got it by fluke earlier after all! Why pretend if you are incapable? Are you happy now? You just lost a \$1,000,000 bet! If you lose Mu-Cheng's house, how are you going to answer to her? I knew all along that you would ruin Mu-Cheng one day!" Su Qian scolded Ye Fan angrily.

Qiu Mu-Cheng only stood there with her face blanched. She didn't say a word to Ye Fan, but she was deeply disappointed with him in her heart.

She wasn't frustrated that Ye Fan had lost, but upset that he gambled with the house instead. He ignored her feelings and risked their house for the sake of his own pride.

Tears welled up in her pretty eyes.

At this moment, she finally saw through Ye Fan.

Perhaps he didn't have her or her family in his heart at all.

After all, a responsible man wouldn't risk the security of their family by using it as a bet that he wasn't likely to win!

Qiu Mu-Cheng had enough of seeing this. Her heart was overflowing with loss and disappointment when she turned to leave.

Gu Long-En sighed too. He initially called Ye Fan 'Little Teacher', but switched to 'Young Man' just now.

He genuinely thought Ye Fan was a talent previously.

But from the looks of it now, Yang He was right. Ye Fan probably had a stroke of dumb luck and ended up making the right guess earlier.

Some of the people in the showroom sighed, while others felt emotional, furious, or disappointed. But most of all, they scorned Ye Fan.

In all their eyes, Ye Fan was simply a laughingstock.

Everyone looked at him with eyes filled with disdain, as if they were looking at a clown.

Yet Ye Fan remained calm in the face of everyone's ridicule.

The intense proudness on his lovely face and his cold smile hadn't dissipated all this time.

Ye Fan's gentle laughter even rang through the crowd, "How can you call yourselves members of high society? The way I see it, you're nothing but a bunch of blind dumbasses."

What the...

"What did you just say?!"

"Are you trying to insult us?"

"I think you must be tired of living!"

Even after things had come to this, Ye Fan actually insulted them like this. Everyone was so furious that even Su Yuan-Shan

and Gu Long-En seemed a little displeased.

But Ye Fan ignored them. Instead, he walked up to pick up the painting and laid it flat on the table.

At this very moment, Ye Fan's calm, cold laughter exploded in the room.

"Since none of you believe me, then let me show you what a treasure this so called piece of trash that you despise truly is!" said Ye Fan forcefully. His words sounded as resounding as gold falling to the ground as they reverberated through their ears!

It sounded like a frightful awakening!!



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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“Hmm?”

“What is he doing?”

“He must be crazy, right?”

“President Gu checked twice to confirm it’s a worthless fake. Hasn’t he given up yet?”

“He’s simply an idiot!”

Ye Fan’s actions attracted ridicule from everyone instead.

When Su Qian saw this, she went even crazier.

“Haven't you embarrassed us enough, you country bumpkin? How can you be so stubborn? You’re such a disgrace! Damn, how can there be pigs as stupid as you? You’ve completely embarrassed Mu-Cheng!” yelled Su Qian as she scolded Ye Fan. She felt he was being ludicrous now.

The original already belonged to someone. It was a clear sign that this one here was an imitation.

Did Ye Fan foolishly think Su Dong-Po painted this work twice back in the day?

Qiu Mu-Cheng glanced at Ye Fan and was immediately even more disappointed now.

Even until now, he persisted with his ways and unrepentant.

Was he never ever going to give up?

Was he never going to relent?

Did he have to insist?

Never in her life had Qiu Mu-Cheng felt as disappointed in Ye Fan as she did now.

Perhaps Su Qian was right. She and Ye Fan never suited each other before.

There was a moment when Qiu Mu-Cheng felt the ever-burning light in her heart was going to dissipate here.

Qiu Mu-Cheng was about to give up and leave on her own.

But the boisterous crowd behind her suddenly went quiet.

Very quickly, a shock swept through them. She heard the sound of them holding their breaths.

This peculiarity made Qiu Mu-Cheng halt in her steps.

“Perhaps there’s really something going on? Perhaps Ye Fan truly had a good reason to insist?”

Qiu Mu-Cheng decided to turn around and walked back.

Ye Fan was still standing in front of the ‘Withered Wood and Stone Painting’ by Su Dong-Po. He carefully laid it flat down on the mahogany table. Then he took the bottle of water from Su Yuan-Shan’s hand and took a sip.

He stepped back and sprayed the water on the brush painting.

PFFFT

Ye Fan sprayed water for a few times in a row. His actions surprised everyone.

Could there be some kind of secret hiding in the painting?

Maybe it was just like the legendary Wordless Heavenly Book from the gods, and words might appear when it came into

contact with water!

But no miracle occurred.

Even after Ye Fan sprayed out all the water in the bottle, the brush painting remained the same other than being wet.

“Haha!”

“So you’re just cooking up some mystery!”

“To think I thought that a brat like you might have some powerful ability.”

“You even pretentiously sprayed water on the painting.”

“From the looks of it now, you were just trying to bluff us.”

“You were just hoping to impress us!”

Once again, piercing laughter filled the air.

Yang He said impatiently, “Stop wasting my time, you brat!”

“No matter how much water you spray on it or burn it even, it’ll always be trash. Rocks won’t turn into diamonds, and toads

won't turn into swans! Trash will always be trash and destined to be trampled by others for life."

Yang He looked down at Ye Fan and chuckled. His tone made his contempt for Ye Fan particularly clear.

But everyone could discern that although Yang He sounded like he was talking about the painting, he was actually ridiculing Ye Fan.

"Just resign yourself to your destiny, you brat." Yang He laughed coldly.

Then a corner of the wet painting lifted in Ye Fan's hands.

"Hmm?" The people around Ye Fan were stunned.

Then under the crowd's shocked stares, Ye Fan used tweezers to hold the lifted corner before cautiously pulling it. Its entire thin surface was peeled off the painting.

As he peeled off its outer layer, a new painting was revealed beneath it. It finally reemerged in the world!

No, it wasn't considered a new painting.

Because this new painting had a similar makeup as the one Ye Fan peeled off. Other than its brushwork, it was completely identical in terms of composition and elements.

It contained the same withered tree in the shape of a deer antler and a strange snail-shaped rock while dwarf bamboo extended from behind. It was a depiction of the wilderness with bamboo spread across the painting behind the rocks.

Also other than the brush painting, there was calligraphy on the side by Mi Fu:

What is it like at forty? I haven't made new clothes in three years; we discover the perils of life when we're poor. We learn the wisdom of Daoism in old age; it's too late to dive into officialdom. Also, very few people truly understand me; I'm thrilled to come upon such refined company. I haven't spoken of going home in my twilight years.

The moment the painting was revealed by Ye Fan, everyone in the showroom lit up.

It was like a pearl that was previously concealed by dust. Now that all its dust was removed, it could see the light of day!

“This...this...”

“There...there’s another paining beneath it!”

Everyone went into a daze.

They instantly stopped laughing and mocking Ye Fan.

Yang He was so jolted that he stood there dumbstruck like he was struck by lightning. He stared at the painting in front of him with his eyes wide open.

Su Qian stood where she was in a daze. Qiu Mu-Cheng covered her red lips with her fair hands in shock.

Han Shao-Jie and Shen Fei were stunned. Their eyes were filled with disbelief!

Who would have expected that crudely drawn painting to hide such a secret?

Was this really...Su Dong-Po’s painting?

“But how is this possible?”

“Didn’t the original get auctioned off already?”

“Could Su Dong-Po have drawn two of the same paintings back then? Or maybe the one that was auctioned off was a...a fake?!”

The crowd blew up. Everyone was talking about the painting.

When Gu Long-En saw the painting appear, he could no longer remain calm.

His face trembled while his pupils constricted. He quickly brought his magnifying glass over for a look.

Li...Little Teacher, let me quickly take a look. If I could get to see Su Dong-Po’s legendary work with my own eyes in my life, I would die with no regret!”

Gu Long-En was going insane from excitement. He came running over before Ye Fan even invited him to.

Gu Long-En’s gleamed brightly, especially when he saw the painting before him. He looked like he had just seen a ravishing beauty lying bare naked in his bed.

To an old artist like Gu Long-En, nothing was more blissful than admiring legendary work of art with his own eyes.

If this 'Withered Wood and Stone Painting' was an original, it would undoubtedly cause a sweeping sensation that would shake the entire curio community in the country!

The entire showroom was silent. Everyone stood there and watched in a daze.

Old Master Gu then admired it as though he were looking at a stunning beauty. When he looked at the painting, he was so thrilled that his face turned red.

His hands shook as he looked at it. In the end, he was so moved that he sighed and almost broke into tears, "This withered tree is shaped like a deer antler while the rock is shaped like a snail. Although the brushwork looks careless and uneven, each stroke was well thought out and intricate. I, Gu Long-En, have never seen such excellent brushwork in my life. Also, the calligraphy on the side is free and easy and powerful. It must be by a calligraphy master. It is the good fortune of us Chinese for this masterpiece to surface. I,

Gu Long-En, have admired countless great works in my 50 years of dealing with art. I'm confident that the value of this painting ranks in the top three!"

"Little Teacher, as you mentioned, just based on its artistic qualities alone, it's definitely an original! I, Gu Long-En, was blind. I failed to recognize a treasure and made a fool of myself. My apologies, Little Teacher. If Little Teacher doesn't mind, I would like to dismiss our age gap and be your apprentice from now on!"

What?

Gu Long-En's words caused yet another explosion among them and caused a tidal wave to sweep across everyone's hearts!



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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What?

Did Gu Long-En want to be Ye Fan's apprentice?

When they heard Gu Long-En wanting to be his apprentice, the crowd was stunned.

Who was this Gu Long-En?

He was a visiting professor at a renowned local university and even the deputy president of Yunzhou's Antique Association. The curio community held him in high regard.

In terms of their prestige in society, Ye Fan was far behind Gu Long-En.

In terms of age, Gu Long-En was old enough to be Ye Fan's grandfather.

So no one could have expected such a respectable old man to humble himself and ask Ye Fan to be his teacher.

This was all too much for their tiny little brains to process.

Everyone stood where they were in a daze. They kept looking at the painting and Old

Master Gu while he waited for Ye Fan to take him in as his student.

It was undoubtedly a surprise for Su Qian and Qiu Mu-Cheng too. This was a completely unexpected ending.

Yang He was on the verge of crying. While he hung his head looking like a withering plant, he asked fearfully, "Pre...President Gu, is this really Su Dong-Po's work?"

Even though Yang He was still unable to accept this harsh reality, when he saw Ye Fan revealing the truth behind this painting, Yang He knew in his heart that all was lost.

After all, almost all the artwork that was kept in such a fashion became treasures in the antique circles.

What's more, Old Master Gu was around. He could serve as a witness to verify the truth that this work was indeed hidden behind another painting.

"Although I can't be 100% certain, based on my experience and judgment, it's an original for sure. After all, the forgers can't possibly have the same mastery in

brushwork and calligraphy writing." Gu Long-En verified once more that he was certain. Old Master Gu's words sounded like a death knell to Yang He and made him turn pale instantly.

But Ye Fan's gentle laughter sounded like rocks crashing into the sea and caused a tidal wave yet again.

"President Gu, I suggest you look more carefully again."

"Hmm? Little Teacher, what do you mean? Do you think this isn't authentic?" Gu Long-En didn't understand what Ye Fan meant.

When he said it wasn't an original, Ye Fan told him to look more closely.

When he said it was authentic, Ye Fan told him to look more thoroughly as well.

So now Old Master Gu was clueless about the situation and didn't get what Ye Fan was trying to say.

Ye Fan nodded in response to Gu Long-En's question, "That's right, I don't think this is authentic. Also, I never said it was from the start."

What?

“Do you mean this is a fake?” At first, Yang He lost all hope in his heart. But when he heard Ye Fan’s words, it rekindled in his heart, and he was delighted.

Yang He was on the brink of tears from this major turn of events.

The others shivered in surprise as well.

“Damn, what’s this brat up to?”

“Wasn’t he so confident it was a real treasure that he made a bet with the shop owner?”

“Why is he saying it’s a fake now?”

“It’s sheer nonsense. Is this guy an idiot?”

Everyone started murmuring among themselves and had no idea what Ye Fan was thinking.

While Gu Long-En repeatedly shook his head as well and kept saying, “That can’t be right. That can’t be.”

“Little Teacher, you must be joking, right? If

it were a lousy forgery, how could I have missed it? This painting was meticulously composed and consisted of solid brushwork. If this was considered a low-quality imitation, then there would be no originals left in the world," said Gu Long-En deeply. He felt a little displeased as Ye Fan seemed to be making fun of him.

"Ye Fan, are you an idiot? If President Gu says it's an original, then you should just accept it. Why go on spouting this nonsense? Are you only going to stop after Mu-Cheng loses her house?"

At first, Su Qian was impressed by Ye Fan for exposing the secret behind the painting.

But she didn't think that Ye Fan would be idiotic enough to insist that it was a fake again.

Why would anyone do that?

Everyone usually resorted to all means to say their paintings were authentic, but here he was saying his was a forgery.

That idiotic Ye Fan almost drove Su Qian mad!

Ye Fan ignored Su Qian's exasperation. Instead, he stood there with his hands in his pant pockets and said indifferently, "President Gu, I merely said it was an imitation, but I didn't say it was of low quality."

"Do...do you mean...?" asked Gu Long-En when a thought suddenly struck him and made him shiver.

Ye Fan nodded, "Yes, that's right. The artistic value of this imitation can rival its original."

What?

It was an imitation.

But its value matched the original?

Ye Fan's words sent everyone into shock again.

Yang He chuckled instead and cursed right away, "That's nonsense! A fake is a fake. It's common knowledge that a counterfeit is worth next to nothing compared to its original. But you're actually saying that a fake is worth more? That's the joke of the year!"

“Enough of this crap! Since you admitted that this is a forgery, then pay up the \$1,000,000. Are you paying by bank transfer or with your title deed? Plenty of people witnessed us making a bet, so don't even think about defaulting payment!” smirked Yang He as he asked Ye Fan for payment again.”

But Ye Fan laughed instead. However, the smile on his face seemed somewhat cold.

“Mr Yang, I didn't take that bet seriously and merely treated it as a joke between us. But since Mr Yang is so forceful about it now, I suddenly had a change of heart,” sneered Ye Fan. He then went up to point at four tiny words appearing in a corner on the painting and said, “Does everyone recognize these five words?”

Hmm?

Gu Long-En was too eager to see the painting earlier on and failed to notice the words hidden in the corner.

When Old Master Gu came over right away for a look, he was stunned, and his face twitched instantly, “Imitation by Zha...Zha... Zhang Da-Qian?”

What?

When the crowd heard that name, they all shivered.

Even Yang He felt so jolted that he was dumbstruck.

“That’s right. This painting was done by the King of Imitations, Zhang Da-Qian! In the history of Chinese calligraphy and painting, the only person whose imitation can surpass its original is undoubtedly Zhang Da-Qian, also known as the Oriental Brush!” said Ye Fan coldly. His words sounded weighty and sonorous as it reverberated through the showroom.

Then Ye Fan turned and looked sharply at Yang He before continuing to say coldly, “In 1946, the Chinese painting master, Zhang Da-Qian, imitated the ‘Sunny Peak Painting’ by Ju Ran from the Bei-Song era. 55 years later, it was sold for \$70 million! Then in 2016, the ‘Imitation of Sunny Peak Painting by Ju Ran’ was sold for \$103.5 million at the Guardian’s fall auction. In 1946, Zhang Da-Qian forged the Southern Tang era ‘River Embankment Evening Scene’ by Dong Yuan. 70 years later, this painting was sold for \$130 million! And

now this imitation of Su Dong-Po's 'Withered Wood and Stone Painting' has unparalleled brushwork and calligraphy. Its artistic value vastly surpasses his other two works. Just the lowest auction price Zhang Da-Qian's work went for was \$70 million.

Mr Yang, you just bragged that if this painting fetched over \$10,000, you would compensate me ten times its worth..." said Ye Fan eloquently. Although they were just words, they struck everyone like a thunderclap and exploded everywhere. As Ye Fan advanced with each line, his aura intensified.

His entire being seemed like a sword that was slowly coming out of its scabbard!

Ye Fan finally paused before shouting earth-shatteringly in a cold voice!

He seemed like a razor-sharp prized sword that was getting unsheathed!

"I told you, you really wouldn't be able to afford this bet!!!"

BOOOM!

Chapter 209 You Really Can't Afford to Pay for It!

Ye Fan's words made everyone feel as though they were attacked by violent winds.

Yang He fell to the ground with a thud in terror right away.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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\$70...\$70 million?!

Even though that was the lowest anyone had auctioned off Zhang Da-Qian's work, ten times more meant \$700 million!

\$700 million!!

Yang He was so terrified that he pissed his pants. His face turned ghastly pale as he sat limply on the ground and looked like he had lost all hope.

Even if he sold Eight Treasure Hall, it wasn't worth \$700 million.

Now he understood why Ye Fan kept saying he couldn't afford it.

It was true. Despite running an antique business for many years, he only profited a little. He only had perhaps \$20 or \$30 million worth of savings, so even if he sold the shop, all he could cough up was \$100 million at the very best.

Even if he sold everything he owned, it was impossible to compensate Ye Fan with \$700 million.

When Yang He turned pale, Ye Fan

immediately laughed. He looked down at him and said, "Mr Yang, what happened? You were so cocky just moments ago. Why are you sitting on the floor now? Are you trying to delay things? That won't do because I'm in a hurry. You lost a bet, so you just have to suck it up. Hurry up and settle your \$700 million debt. Have you decided how you want to pay? I accept Alipay, WeChat Pay, and cash. Of course, if you can't come up with the money, you can always give me your title deed."

As Ye Fan mimicked Yang He, he smiled indifferently. He threw all the ridicule that Yang He gave him right back at him instead.

"I...I..." When he heard Ye Fan's words, he sat on the ground and looked like he just ate a mouthful of shit.

His face was crimson, and he was too ashamed to even show his face. After he clucked and stuttered like a chicken for a long time with his lips trembling, no words came out.

He intended to make a quick buck from Ye Fan earlier on to make up for his loss today. But he didn't foresee this ending at

all.

Instead of making money, he had to pay him \$700 million. It was a complete embarrassment for him!

This fall was simply too great.

He disgraced himself and probably made Eight Treasure Hall a laughing stock within the curio community.

But just as he was wallowing in embarrassment and wondering what he should do, his son, Yang Wei, came walking over. He went straight up to Ye Fan and shouted, "That's \$700 million! How dare you ask for so much money! That's blackmail! Eight Treasure Hall doesn't owe you a dime! What gives you the right to ask us for money? You say that my father owes you \$700 million, but what proof do you have? Do you have an IOU? How can you just demand \$700 million from us out of the blue? It's just wishful thinking! And this painting is from my father's collection. It belongs to Eight Treasure Hall and has nothing to do with you."

For the sake of money, Yang Wei

disregarded all dignity and started acting shamelessly.

He reached his hand out to snatch the 'Withered Wood and Stone Painting'. But of course, Ye Fan wasn't going to let him have his way.

First, he pulled the painting against his chest.

Then Ye Fan ignored Yang Wei and turned to look at Yang He. "Mr Yang, what is the meaning of this? Do you want to go back on your word and refuse to acknowledge the debt? When we made a bet, everyone here witnessed it. President Gu was a witness too. Didn't Mr Yang keep going on about what an honest business you run? Do you want to ruin the Eight Treasure Hall's 100-year-old reputation with your own hands?" Ye Fan's teasing and laughter continued to fill the place.

All the rich men in the room also started speaking up for Ye Fan.

"That's right, Mr Yang. Be a man and suck it up. It's despicable for you to go back on your word."

“If word gets out, how can you go on running Eight Treasure Hall?”

.....

“Mr Yang, are you going to wreck Eight Treasure Hall’s 100-year-old reputation?”

“How are you going to answer to your ancestors?”

.....

“Mr Yang, honesty is everything.”

“Otherwise, everyone will look down on your from now on.”

The people chimed in one after another and just kept fanning the flames. They spoke and waited for him to make a fool of himself.

Gu Long-En looked at Ye Fan and said deeply, “Yang He, you have to admit defeat. Since you lost to Little Teacher, you ought to pay up like you agreed.”

“What’s more, Little Teacher was kind about it by pricing this painting at \$70 million. Do you know that Su Dong-Po’s

'Withered Wood and Stone Painting' can get auctioned off for at least \$100 million? Based on its real price, you would be losing over \$1 billion and not \$700 million."

"I..." Gu Long-En's words terrified Yang He so badly that his face turned distinctly paler. He sat sprawling on the ground like a dog while he trembled and was on the verge of breaking down.

Yang He was overwhelmed with remorse. He didn't expect a priceless treasure to be hidden behind this lousy painting. Also, worse yet, Yang He thought there was no way the winnings could go beyond \$1 million. But the bet soared astronomically to over \$100 million and he lost.

If he knew this would happen, he would rather die than talk big!

Now that Yang He lost everything, he felt like killing himself!

But Yang He had no choice but to relent. He looked at Ye Fan sadly as he said regretfully, "Sir, I, Yang He, acted like a snob. I admit that I lost. But I really don't have \$700 million. Even if I sell Eight Treasure Hall, I can't come up with that

much money. But don't worry, I will certainly acknowledge the debt. I just hope Little Teacher can give me some time to come up with the money slowly! If I can't pay in ten years, then I'll do it in 20 years or 30. If I die, I'll let my son and my grandson pay! So long as Eight Treasure Hall stays standing, we will honor the debt."

"There's \$3 million on this card. That's all the money I can come up with now. Please treat it as my first installment to you. Once I have the money, I will pay!" said Yang He deeply. Even though it hurt, he gritted his teeth and handed his card to Ye Fan.

After all, he truly lost the bet. What's more, if Yang He wanted to continue making a living in the antique trade, he couldn't deny the debt or go back on his word!

Yang He's reaction surprised Ye Fan.

He thought that Yang He would act like his son.

"I didn't expect you to be such a brave man. Forget it. Get up. I was only joking with you. You don't have to pay me \$700 million. If you feel bad, then make more money and donate it to charity."

Ye Fan had no intention of making Yang He cough up the \$700 million like they agreed. He was merely scaring him to teach him a lesson.

Yang He was unlucky enough as it was since he spent tens of millions buying a lousy piece of porcelain and now he had sold a painting worth billions for \$250. Just these two events alone were probably enough to make him collapse. If he were to shoulder millions in debt, he might just jump off a building tomorrow.

“Thank you, Little Teacher. Thank you, Sir! From now on, Little Teacher is my benefactor!”

Yang He even started crying. He was deeply grateful to Ye Fan.

He was going to resign himself to this debt, but in an unforeseen turn of events, Ye Fan decided to call it off.

Of course, Yang He was thrilled by the sudden surprise.

Ye Fan didn't say much. He only advised him to be a calm and kind person in the future.

That he should be less snobbish and more peaceful.

Then Ye Fan picked up the painting and turned to leave.

When the rich men around them saw him leave, they hurried over to stop him. The spoke flatteringly to him, "Little Teacher, are you interested in selling the painting? I'll pay \$70 million for it. I can pay by bank transfer, cash, or even with my title deed!"

"Mr Wang, do you think Little Teacher is a fool? President Gu said this painting is worth at least \$100 million, but you want to pay only \$70 million for it? How insincere. Little Teacher, I will offer you \$100 million for it."

"\$100 million? Just three years ago, this painting was valued at more than \$100 million."

Little Teacher, I'll pay \$130 million! Please sell it to me!"

.....

"I'll pay \$140 million plus a villa in the provincial capital, Jianghai!"

....

“Please sell it to me. I will offer \$150 million.”

In a matter of minutes, there was an uproar among the rich men. They kept increasing their offers while they shouted at the top of their lungs. A fight almost broke out.

As Yang He listened to them make offers that easily went over a few hundred million, he felt bitter in his heart.

How could he have sold something that worth over \$100 million for \$250?

He made fun of Ye Fan by calling him dumb earlier on, but he was the real fool now!

Yang He was wallowing in regret.

But he had no choice since the rules were the rules. Ye Fan already purchased the painting and even had a receipt. It was simply too late to regret.

Yang He finally understood why Ye Fan insisted on paying for it and asked for a

Chapter 210 The Real Fool

receipt even.

He was protecting himself, in case, he got envious and wanted to go back on his word!



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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At first, Yang He didn't quite understand why Ye Fan insisted on paying and asked for a receipt.

After he understood why, Yang He's heart couldn't help but tremble in fear.

He was so meticulous that he probably rivaled those experienced businessmen.

Ye Fan was surrounded by dozens of wealthy men. Each of them pitted their offers against each other and wanted to buy Ye Fan's painting.

After all, the people that made it here tonight were no ordinary folk. All of them had over a billion in assets, some even tens of billions or hundreds of billions. They consisted of wealthy men from all over the country.

When the average man made money, he would put it in the bank. But for rich men, the bank was the worst option. It was always wiser to invest.

It worked the same way for Ye Fan's painting. If they could buy it now and sell it in a few years, the price was bound to climb drastically.

What's more, even if they didn't consider it for investment, this painting was high in artistic value and particularly rare.

If he didn't lack the funds, Gu Long-En would definitely attempt to buy the painting, so he could take it home and admire it. Then all the master collectors and artists would fight to come over to his place to study it. He would be even more highly respected in the circle.

"Mu...Mu-Cheng, you...you're going to strike gold! No, it's that country bumpkin. He's going to make a windfall! He spent \$250 on that painting. Once he sells it, he'll make billions. That's hundreds of thousands times more!"

When Ye Fan was surrounded by wealthy men, Su Qian was completely stunned.

She clearly didn't think Ye Fan would manage to pick up on this and pay \$250 for a prized painting worth billions.

Even Su Qian could not help feeling jealous.

Although the Su family already had over a billion dollars' worth of assets, everything

belonged to Su Qian's father. Su Qian wholly relied on her family for financial support. All she could get assigned to was merely a few million a year.

But the country bumpkin whom she despised suddenly became worth a few hundred million!

This vast disparity felt surreal to Su Qian.

Did...did he strike it rich overnight?

If even Su Qian felt this way, Qiu Mu-Cheng would feel far worse.

Even the target Qiu Mu-Cheng set for herself to work towards was only to have an annual income of \$500,000. She didn't even dare consider the possibility of making \$1 million or \$10 million.

But her husband suddenly bought something worth over a hundred million. Qiu Mu-Cheng was completely dumbstruck.

Her mind went blank, and she couldn't think anymore.

Didn't that mean there would be a

millionaire in their family?

Was she, Qiu Mu-Cheng, no longer the wife of a good-for-nothing live-in husband?

Could they now buy a big house of their own and not squeeze with her parents in their tiny home?

Would her grandfather, uncle, Qiu Mu-Ying, and all the Qius stop despising her?

As Qiu Mu-Cheng felt emotional, her body trembled gently too.

Qiu Mu-Cheng clearly found it hard to come to terms with striking it rich overnight.

She found it even more unbelievable that Ye Fan really bought such a treasure at only \$250.

“Qianqian, do you think that painting was really by the Chinese painting master, Zhang Da-Qian? Or what if Ye Fan genuinely knew how to appraise antiques?” Qiu Mu-Cheng’s trembling voice turned hoarse.

After quivering for a long time, Su Qian

finally calmed down.

Till now, Su Qian was still unable to believe that a poor country bumpkin could suddenly turn into a millionaire.

These things only happened on television. How could they happen in reality?

How could there be such a good deal in this world?

"I simply think that the painting isn't authentic. Otherwise, it's too unbelievable. How could a pauper become a millionaire in a matter of minutes? How is it possible? Just thinking about it makes me feel that it's absurd," said Su Qian as she shook her head. She found it unimaginable.

"Qianqian, that's not true. If an incompetent person's wealth rose abruptly, then you can say that he came into wealth overnight. But if a talented person is worth billions, then it's only natural for this to happen. So when the time comes, he will soar to great heights! Sometimes all it takes is an opportunity to make you rich or poor, lowly or noble. None of us should belittle that youth before the time comes for him."

When he overheard his daughter still talking about Ye Fan condescendingly, Su Yuan-Shan shook his head repeatedly and sighed deeply.

The way Su Yuan-Shan looked at Ye Fan now had completely changed.

Su Yuan-Shan used to look at Ye Fan like he was a successful man looking at the poor with sympathy and pity. Now he looked at Ye Fan like an emperor seeing his illustrious general. There was great appreciation and adoration for Ye Fan in his eyes.

While he admired him, Su Yuan-Shan stepped into the crowd. His lips parted and his voice rang through the showroom, "I, Su Yuan-Shan, wants to offer \$200 million for the painting!"

What?

"\$2...\$200 million?!"

Yang He twitched his lips. This \$200 million seemed like a knife that was stabbing his heart.

\$200 million! My goodness! \$200

MILLION!

He sold a \$200 million painting for \$250.

Yang He really felt like dying now.

He felt so awful that he slapped himself hard a couple of times.

When Su Yuan-Shan made an offer, the world suddenly went quiet.

All the other rich men that were countering their offers fell silent.

Han Shao-Jie and Shen Fei were shocked.

Su Qian opened her eyes wide too.

She didn't think her own father was willing to pay Ye Fan \$200 million for a painting that cost him \$250.

"Dad, what are you doing? He spent \$250 on it, how can you pay \$200 million for it? Why let him take advantage of you?"

Su Qian's pretty face went crimson red.

She didn't care how much money the others were willing to buy Ye Fan's painting

for. It wasn't like she could control them anyway.

But when her father wanted to shell out \$200 million for it, Su Qian couldn't help feeling annoyed.

She kept feeling as though Ye Fan was stepping all over her.

Su Qian never liked Ye Fan. Now if her father were to spend \$200 million buying his painting, Ye Fan would probably feel exceptionally smug about it. He might just use it against her to humiliate her in the future while he swaggered around in front of her.

So of course Su Qian wanted to stop him.

She couldn't let that country bumpkin earn a dime from her family.

"Qianqian, be quiet now! Dad is talking business, so how can you butt in?" Su Nan reproached Su Qian even though Su Yuan-Shan ignored her.

It was the first time Su Qian got reprimanded by her older brother so fiercely. Her eyes instantly turned red, and

Chapter 211 Su Qian's Misery

she said miserably, "Nan, I don't care what you buy, but you can't buy something from him!"

"He is just a country bumpkin and I simply can't stand the sight of him! I don't want him to make a dime off our family!"



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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“That’s ridiculous! Stop it now. We’re talking business here, so how could we go along with your emotions? Dad and I pamper you too much and that’s why you end up shooting your mouth off so willfully.”

Su Qian spoke very loudly, so a lot of people heard what she said earlier.

It was a crucial time for their father now while he tried to buy the painting from Ye Fan and Su Qian’s words would likely jeopardize their father’s deal. So Su Nan was annoyed and reprimanded her yet again.

While Su Yuan-Shan was striking a deal with Ye Fan for the painting up ahead, He undoubtedly heard his daughter's willful words and couldn't help frowning.

“Mr Su, it seems your daughter doesn’t want this deal to happen,” said Ye Fan calmly as he smiled.

Su Yuan-Shan looked even angrier. There was frustration surging from his face. Su Qian’s willfulness now clearly displeased him immensely.

But Su Yuan-Shan was a savvy businessman and mature after all, so he quickly composed himself. He continued to smile at Ye Fan amicably as he said, "Mr Ye, sorry about that."

She is so willful because I've pampered her too much. But I'm the head of the Su family, so her words mean nothing at all. Please don't take her words to heart. I will offer \$200 million for this painting. What do you think? If you are open to it, I can pay you a deposit for it right away."

Su Yuan-Shan sounded courteous. He didn't have any arrogant airs at all and was very easy going. It was no wonder he could run such a big company.

Little Teacher, \$200 million is a reasonable price. Even if we placed it in an auction, it would fetch about \$200 million too," said Gu Long-En as he nodded when he heard Su Yuan-Shan's offer.

"Oho, thank you, Old Master Gu." Su Yuan-Shan was delighted by Gu Long-En's support and thanked Gu Long-En quickly.

But Ye Fan merely calmly smiled when he heard Su Yuan-Shan's offer and shook his

head.

Su Yuan-Shan felt a little awkward when he saw that Ye Fan shook his head.

In Su Yuan-Shan's opinion, \$200 million was a fair price. He didn't expect Ye Fan to refuse him.

Gu Long-En immediately felt a little surprised too.

Although Ye Fan was the one who spotted the painting and bought it, Su Yuan-Shan helped Ye Fan after all. If Su Yuan-Shan didn't give him the \$200 at the right time, Ye Fan wouldn't have been able to buy this painting in the first place.

So on account of this, if he was a real friend, he should sell the painting to Su Yuan-Shan even if it were below market price. Furthermore, Su Yuan-Shan had made a reasonable offer.

But Ye Fan had actually rejected him. Gu Long-En couldn't help but have a bad impression of Ye Fan.

The others were abuzz with chatter. They felt Ye Fan should have returned the favor

and was disloyal. All he cared about was money.

“Mr Ye, if you think \$200 million is too little, I can increase it a little more.

“I genuinely love the painting and would really love to have it,” said Su Yuan-Shan again. But he sounded a little less friendly this time and was slightly more polite and distant.

Ye Fan smiled again, “Mr Su, I think you’re mistaken. If you like it, I’ll just give it to you. How can I take your money?”

“Wha-what? You want to gi-give me this painting?”

Clearly, nobody expected Ye Fan to do this.

Even Su Yuan-Shan was completely dumbstruck and his eyes were filled with shock.

Gu Long-En looked up and frowned as he looked at the youth in front of him.

The others found this equally mind-boggling.

The entire showroom went silent.

Was he going to give away something worth \$200 million just like that?

Did he treat money like dirt? Or was this idiot just stupid?

“That’s right, I’ll give it to you! If Mr Su didn’t help me when I needed it most and lent me \$200, this painting wouldn’t be in my hands. I said I would remember this favor. Besides, I’m not interested in Chinese paintings, so that would be a complete waste to leave it in my hands. Since Mr Su likes it, then please take it,” said Ye Fan calmly as he appeared nonchalant.

It seemed as though he was not giving away \$200 million but \$2 instead.

There was probably not a single rich man here who could do as Ye Fan did and give away \$200 million without batting an eyelid.

That...that won’t do, Mr Ye. Those are two completely separate matters. What’s more, I gave you that \$200. What you buy with it is naturally yours. This painting is worth

too much, so. I...I can't accept it. I just can't.

Perhaps because he was too excited, or perhaps he was too surprised and shocked, this shrewd and mature businessman suddenly lost his cool. He was so excited that he started stammering over his words.

"Mr Ye, listen to me and sell me the painting for \$200 million. If you are willing to sell this precious painting to me, I will deem the favor returned."

Ye Fan wanted to give it to him, but Su Yuan-Shan refused to accept it.

This favor was too great after all. \$200 million was a huge sum of money even to him, let alone someone from the countryside like Ye Fan.

When Su Yuan-Shan turned him down, Ye Fan shook his head and sighed, "I won't sell it to you because I won't take your money. If Mr Su insists on not taking it, I can only bring it home and stick it under my bed. After all, I'm just a driver from the countryside, so I'm clueless about the maintenance of ancient paintings. If it

ends up rotting in my hands, then that's too bad."

Then Ye Fan picked up the painting and turned to leave.

"Little Teacher, you can't...That's..."

"That's a gem of the Chinese art world!" When Gu Long-En heard Ye Fan, he got angry. He quickly urged Su Yuan-Shan, "Mr Su, if Little Teacher wants to give it to you, why don't you accept it? Just treat it like you are safekeeping it for him!"

"Alright then." Su Yuan-Shan finally nodded. He accepted the painting without paying anything and said, "Mr Ye, I will always remember this favor of yours. In the future, if you need any help in Yunzhou, you can tell me anytime, and I'll be there for you."

"Haha."

Su Yuan-Shan still accepted the painting in the end. As Ye Fan promised, he didn't take a cent from him. Even though Su Yuan-Shan offered to pay \$200 million, Ye Fan refused to accept it.

If he accepted money for a gift, then the nature of the gesture would be altered.

Moreover, it was just \$200 million. Ye Fan didn't really care about that tiny bit of money.

Everyone else were deeply envious and full of regret.

They regretted treating Ye Fan snobbishly. When Ye Fan wanted to borrow money from them, they completely ignored him.

If they had just loaned him \$200 earlier on, Ye Fan would probably have given this \$200 million painting to them and not Su Yuan-Shan!

As they witnessed this golden opportunity slip past them, those rich men couldn't help but feel remorse in their hearts.

They regretted it deeply!

Ye Fan's actions made them feel sorry, but it also impressed Old Master Gu Long-En immensely.

Even though Ye Fan and the others wanted to leave, Gu Long-En kept chasing after

him. He insisted on being his apprentice, but Ye Fan refused to accept him.

“Little Teacher, please accept me as your pupil. Regardless of your appraisal skills and character, I, Gu Long-En, have a lot to learn from you. In the curio community, masters are called teachers. I deeply lack skills, so I hope Little Teacher can be my master and enlighten me!”

.....

Su Yuan-Shan and the others couldn't stand watching Gu Long-En plead with Ye Fan, so they tried persuading him too. “Mr Ye, why don't you accept Master Gu on account of his sincerity?”

But Ye Fan was helpless, “Mr Su, you're making things difficult for me.”

“I really know nothing about appraising antiques.”

Both Gu Long-En and Su Yuan-Shan didn't know what to say to that. Everyone in the hall also fell completely silent.

Chapter 212 I Know Nothing About Appraisal!



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Many of them were secretly cursing,
“Hello, my friend, can you stop
pretending?”

Ye Fan was the one who noticed that the
blue and white porcelain piece was a fake
with one look.

After that he bought this \$200 million
painting for \$250!

How could he claim to know nothing about
antique appraisal?

Was he saying that the crowd was just a
bunch of idiots?!

Many of them were completely
speechless. Su Yuan-Shan kept smiling
bitterly while Old Master Gu Long-En was
completely disbelieving of every word he
said.

Were Ye Fan’s words any different from
Penguin Group’s CEO Ma when he said he
had a normal family? Or when CEO Liu
Qiangdong said that his wife wasn’t pretty
when she’s gorgeous?!

They all felt Ye Fan was either showing off
or pretending to be modest.

But Ye Fan was too lazy to explain any further. They probably wouldn't believe him even if he tried anyway.

Besides, the Book of Celestial Cloud was considered classified to Ye Fan, so there was no way he would share any information about it.

It was almost noon. Ye Fan was no longer in the mood to keep looking around. Since he was just a driver from the countryside, it made no difference whether or not he stayed, so he prepared to bid Su Yuan-Shan and the others farewell.

"Mr Su, let's call it a day. I have to go home."

"What? It's still early and barely 11:00 am. Why don't we look around a bit more?" said Su Yuan-Shan as he tried to make him stay.

Ye Fan shook his head and sighed sadly, "I have no choice. Mr Su is married, so you have someone who loves and cares about you and will cook lunch for you. But I am but an unknown lowly driver. I'm all alone, so there's no one to cook for me, and I have to go back early to do it myself," said

Ye Fan in self-ridicule. But it was clear that he sounded a little resentful.

Qiu Mu-Cheng felt guilty when she heard Ye Fan's words. She didn't dare to look him in the eye and looked down quietly instead.

When Su Yuan-Shan and Su Nan heard what he said, they felt slightly surprised.

"Are you unmarried? Do you mean you haven't found a wife yet?" asked Su Yuan-Shan in a low voice.

Ye Fan shook his head and scoffed, "I'm just Miss Qiu's driver. I'm from the countryside and don't have power or money. Which girl would fancy me? Women only hate me," said Ye Fan calmly as Qiu Mu-Cheng's face turned even paler. She felt intensely guilty in her heart and hung her head even lower.

Qiu Mu-Cheng bit her red lips hard. For a second, she couldn't suppress the urge to apologize to Ye Fan and tell everyone the truth.

Qiu Mu-Cheng guessed that she must have hurt his feelings when she said Ye

Fan was her driver.

But when Su Qian caught sight of this, she furtively held Qiu Mu-Cheng's hand and shook her head. She didn't want her to blow their covers.

She didn't want her father to find out that her best friend had married a country bumpkin.

"How can you say that? Your background only marks the beginning and doesn't define your ending. What's more, you're so talented even without relying on your family or background. You are such a talented appraiser, I'm certain you'll have a bright future! Zhu Yuan-Zhang was a farmer, but he became the emperor anyway. Zhuge Liang farmed in Nanyang, and ended up making a name in history too, didn't he? Mr Ye, I have faith that you will do well in the future!" said Su Yuan-Shan. He spoke freely and boldly as he looked at Ye Fan with a look of admiration and joy.

After learning that Ye Fan was still single, he liked him even more. He continued asking, "Mr Ye, how do you think my daughter's looks?"

Ye Fan nodded, "Although Miss Su has a bad temper, I have to admit she is a rare beauty. If she were in school, she would definitely be the class or even the school belle," replied Ye Fan honestly without giving it much thought.

But when Ye Fan finished saying this, he realized something was amiss. He frowned as he looked at Su Yuan-Shan, "Mr Su, why did you ask? Don't tell me you want to..."

"Hahaha," Su Yuan-Shan instantly laughed. Then he nodded and said, "That's right, Mr Ye. I liked you from the moment I saw you. Since you are unmarried and my daughter isn't either, I would like to take the liberty of playing matchmaker for my daughter. If Mr Ye doesn't mind, why don't you try going out with my daughter? Perhaps it will all work out and you might end up married? Then when Qianqian and Mr Ye bear some children, I can have grandchildren."

"That's right, Mr Ye. Although my little sister has a bad temper, she is kind at heart. She just isn't much of a sweet talker. I think you are a match made in heaven."

Su Yuan-Shan and Su Nan beamed brightly. They were trying to pair Ye Fan with Su Qian enthusiastically and looked rather serious about making Ye Fan the Su family's son-in-law by marrying her to him.

"Well...this..." Ye Fan was stunned when he heard Su Yuan-Shan's words.

Su Qian was equally rooted to the floor. Qiu Mu-Cheng opened her eyes in shock too.

Ye Fan, Su Qian, and Qiu Mu-Cheng kept looking at each other in the end.

Su Qian and Qiu Mu-Cheng were especially caught by surprise that things would turn out this way.

When Su Qian previously claimed Ye Fan was Qiu Mu-Cheng's driver, she was worried that her father would despise Qiu Mu-Cheng because of her husband.

But now her old man wanted her to marry Ye Fan and make him her husband.

How...how could this be?

She didn't even fancy Ye Fan to begin with.

Even if she did, she couldn't marry him.
How could she steal her BFF's husband?
What would Mu-Cheng think of her?

Sure enough, Qiu Mu-Cheng glanced over
and stared at Su Qian coldly.

It was as if she were saying: *Su Qian, look
at what you've done! Your father can't wait
for you and Ye Fan to have children!*

There was a bitterness in Su Qian's heart.
She looked at her BFF apologetically
before quickly telling her father, "Dad, no
way. I won't agree. There's no way I'll marry
a country bumpkin!"

"Shut up!" bellowed Su Yuan-Shan
instantly. He said to Su Qian coldly, "Mr Ye
is so young and talented that Old Master
Gu calls him his teacher. But what about
you? Other than your family background,
how else can you compare with Mr Ye? He
doesn't even mind, yet here you are
despising him? What right do you have to
do that?"

Su Yuan-Shan spoke so furiously that Su
Qian went pale. She lowered her head and
didn't dare say another word under her
father's forceful aura.

The one person in the Su family that terrified Su Qian the most was her own father, so of course she didn't dare to oppose him.

After reprimanding Su Qian, Su Yuan-Shan turned towards Ye Fan and said apologetically, "Mr Ye, I'm so sorry about that. This daughter of mine is too prideful. But I think you definitely have the ability to make her relent. Don't worry, if this girl throws a temper at your wedding, feel free to hit and scold her. I won't grumble about it at all. But that's provided you only hit her on the butt because she might get hurt if you hit her elsewhere." Su Yuan-Shan was going all out to have Ye Fan as a son-in-law and even said such things so bluntly.

When Old Master Gu heard this, the corners of his eyes twitched.

While Su Qian almost wanted to cry.

Was this man her real father?

How could he try to marry her off to a country bumpkin and allow him to hit and scold her even?

"Dad," whined Su Qian instantly.

Chapter 213 Was This Really Her Father?

“You be quiet. It isn’t your place to speak here!” Su Yuan-Shan glared at her right away and made Su Qian shut up immediately.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Su Qian didn't dare to oppose her father when he chided her, so she only suppressed all the resentment in her heart. At the same time, she also looked at Qiu Mu-Cheng apologetically. Her guilt-stricken eyes seemed to be telling Qiu Mu-Cheng: *Mu-Cheng, Don't take it seriously!! definitely won't marry Ye Fan. I won't snatch your husband from you, and I'll never bear children with him.*

But regardless of Su Qian's guilt, or how sorry she looked, it didn't diminish the anger seething in Qiu Mu-Cheng's heart.

After all, he was her husband, but he was getting dragged off to go on blind dates with some other woman. Worse still, this woman was her best friend too. Anyone would feel resentful if it happened to them.

Fortunately, Qiu Mu-Cheng was good-natured. If it were any other woman, they would have started to suspect Su Qian intentions a long time ago.

She could no longer count on Su Qian. This stupid woman always bragged about how fearless she was. But in front of her father, she was such a wimp that she lowered her head and didn't dare say a

word.

So Qiu Mu-Cheng could only pin her hopes on Ye Fan.

Qiu Mu-Cheng was staring coldly at Ye Fan as though she had a knife on his neck. If Ye Fan said anything disloyal to her, she wouldn't let him off easy!

Ye Fan sensed the chill on his back and shivered immediately.

Although Ye Fan was still upset with Qiu Mu-Cheng, they both knew that regardless of their disharmony or displeasure with each other, they couldn't go overboard.

They absolutely couldn't engage in any disloyal behavior.

Just like when Sun Yu-Hao tried to go after Qiu Mu-Cheng and her parents tried to pair them off, she made sure she didn't cross the line.

Now it was Ye Fan's turn, and of course he wouldn't agree to the marriage.

So Ye Fan only shook his head repeatedly and turned Su Yuan-Shan down, "Mr Su,

you see, this...I don't think this is appropriate."

"What?" When Ye Fan turned Su Yuan-Shan down, the smile on his face disappeared and he frowned a little. Anyone would be angry if someone disliked their daughter. Su Yuan-Shan glared at Ye Fan. "Mr Ye, what do you mean by that. Is my daughter unworthy of you?"

"No no... Of course not." Su Yuan-Shan was clearly annoyed with Ye Fan, so Ye Fan quickly explained, "Mr Su, you're mistaken. Like I said, I'm just a farmer from the countryside and I come from a poor family. I would be lucky if there were any woman who was willing to marry me, so I'm not picky."

"But Miss Su is your precious little girl and comes from a rich family. I am honored that Mr Su thinks I'm good enough for her and willing to let us get married. But I really can't bring myself to do it. I'm not good enough for Miss Su. Also, even if I were willing, Miss Su certainly won't agree. There's no point forcing us together," Ye Fan said a bunch of random things, but they all meant the same thing. He was unworthy of Su Qian and Su Qian didn't like

him either, so forcing them together would make things worse.

When he heard Ye Fan's words, Qiu Mu-Cheng expression calmed down a little. The bite in her eyes dissipated a little.

At least this asshole had a conscience.

Su Qian heaved a sigh of relief. But she grew even prouder in her heart, so she crossed her arms and raised her chin as she laughed and said, "At least you have enough self-awareness that a country bumpkin like you isn't good enough for me."

But Su Yuan-Shan burst out laughing instead. "Haha! Mr Ye is too modest. You are young and talented and you can even make 200-300 million in a day, so your future is certainly bright. I would count myself lucky if you didn't dislike my daughter. How can my daughter dislike you? Since Mr Ye isn't fussy about your wife and you think my daughter looks presentable, I think we can decide on this marriage now. Bring your parents over soon so we can pick the wedding date. You need to get engaged before you marry. Hahaha! Then you will be my son-in-

law. Let's go, son-in-law. Your father-in-law will buy you lunch today, so you don't have to go back and cook."

Su Yuan-Shan ignored what Ye Fan was saying and pulled him into a restaurant nearby. He was so pleased when he looked at Ye Fan.

Don't people always admire talented folks?

When he saw Ye Fan's amazing appraisal skills, Su Yuan-Shan wanted to acknowledge him as his godson. Then he could stop fretting about getting conned when he bought curios.

Now that Ye Fan was going to be his son-in-law, it was even better.

As the saying goes, a son-in-law is half a son. He was confident that he could put Ye Fan in his place if he were his father-in-law.

"Hahaha!"

Su Yuan-Shan was undoubtedly delighted. Not only did he managed to obtain a \$200 million treasure, but he even found a good son-in-law out of nowhere. Of course, he was happy.

What a good deal!

Qiu Mu-Cheng's watched as her own husband was about to become someone else's son-in-law. She was going almost going hysterical.

Su Qian knew that she ruined it and kept apologizing to Qiu Mu-Cheng profusely, "Chengcheng, don't be mad. Let me explain!"

"Shut up! Su Qian, look at what you did! You took the \$200 million painting and now you want my husband for yourself too? I'm so pissed off! I'm telling you, if you don't clear the air with your father, then...then we're not friends anymore!" said Qiu Mu-Cheng to Su Qian angrily as she stomped her feet on the ground.

Su Qian looked at Qiu Mu-Cheng with bitterness brimming from her eyes. She knew it was her fault for making her angry, so she kept apologizing nonstop. Su Qian kept promising that she would explain things to her father.

Then the two of them ran after Su Qian's father to the restaurant.

"Hurry up and explain to him!" Qiu Mu-Cheng pushed Su Qian from behind and urged her to explain to her father.

"Mu-Cheng, I...I don't dare to do it," Su Qian was afraid her father would beat her up in a fit of anger when he found out that they were lying to him all along. Of course, she was frightened.

"If you won't say it, then I will!" Qiu Mu-Cheng walked over furiously.

"No, Mu-Cheng! Please don't! I'll go, alright?" Su Qian quickly pulled Qiu Mu-Cheng back and walked out against her will.

"Dad, Ye Fan is actually...he's..." stuttered Su Qian as she lowered her head in terror.

Su Yuan-Shan thought his daughter was shy and immediately smiled, "Qianqian, I know. If you find it difficult to say it, then don't."

"Huh? Do you know about it already?" Su Qian was shocked.

"Of course, didn't you want to tell me that Ye Fan is very outstanding? And that you

fancy him and want to marry him? Of course, I know. I know my daughter well. Hurry up and go inside. Go sit next to Ye Fan. By hook or by crook, I'll make sure he becomes my son-in-law."

"Dad, I..." Su Qian was on the verge of tears. When did she say Ye Fan was outstanding? And when did she say she liked him and wanted to marry him?

"Stop stammering. Hurry up and go in. Why are you so emotional? Nan, bring your little sister over quickly. Get her to sit next to my son-in-law," said Su Yuan-Shan as he smiled to Ye Fan, "Mr Ye, my daughter gets embarrassed easily. She's just shy. But she told me she thinks you're outstanding. She likes you and wants to marry you. See? I was right to say that opposites attract. My daughter is usually so willful, but after she met you, she surrendered in no time," laughed Su Yuan-Shan.

But Ye Fan was dumbstruck, "Wh-wh-what?"

"What are you talking about? Does sh-she like me and wa-wants to marry me? Did... did she really say that?"

Ye Fan was stunned and in a complete daze. Didn't Su Qian usually despise him? Why did she say nice things about him to her father?

Did his identity get exposed?

Or did Su Qian secretly admire him all this time and was now undermining Mu-Cheng?

This didn't feel right to Ye Fan instantly. He raised his head and glanced at Qiu Mu-Cheng.

Sure enough, Qiu Mu-Cheng was so angry that her face turned crimson. She was staring daggers at her Su Qian.

Qiu Mu-Cheng couldn't understand why her BFF didn't explain things to her father and praised Ye Fan and even said she liked him and was willing to marry him!

Chapter 214 It's Decided Then!



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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The lunch tasted bland to Ye Fan, Qiu Mu-Cheng and even Su Qian.

Ye Fan was worried that he might get a scolding from his wife tonight. Su Qian was worried that Qiu Mu-Cheng might misunderstand. But now that things have progressed to this stage, it was natural that Qiu Mu-Cheng would misunderstand.

Qiu Mu-Cheng was boiling mad as she gave Su Qian a stare so frosty that it almost shot icicles at her.

Qiu Mu-Cheng finally realized why Su Qian kept belittling Ye Fan in front of her and even persuaded her to get a divorce.

Now she got it. She understood everything now.

So Su Qian had been eyeing Ye Fan all this time.

She wanted to sow discord between her and Ye Fan so that she could marry Ye Fan and become his wife.

Qiu Mu-Cheng had seen so many girls steal their best friend's husbands on TV, but she didn't think that it would happen to

her one day.

She didn't think that her BFF would be so scheming.

Qiu Mu-Cheng felt terribly upset and her eyes were red.

It wasn't Qiu Mu-Cheng's fault for imagining things. After all, Su Yuan-Shan even started calling him his son-in-law. Also, her husband was sitting next to some other woman while Qiu Mu-Cheng became an outsider. No woman could stay calm if it happened to her.

Qiu Mu-Cheng was frustrated, so she picked up the red wine and downed it in one gulp and her eyes turned red.

"Miss Qiu, what's gotten into you? Why are you drinking so quickly? Why are your eyes red? You must be happy that Qianqian found a husband, right? Now that you mention it, we have you to thank for finding such an outstanding driver. Otherwise, Qianqian wouldn't have ever met Ye Fan."

Su Yuan-Shan noticed something amiss with Qiu Mu-Cheng.

Su Yuan-Shan didn't take it to heart and only thought Qiu Mu-Cheng was drinking more because she was happy for his daughter.

But when Su Qian caught sight of this, she felt even guiltier inside.

Then she gritted her teeth and bit her lip hard before standing up to look at Su Yuan-Shan and said, "Dad, I'm sorry. I lied to you. Actually, Ye Fan is Mu-Cheng's husband. Mu-Cheng and Ye Fan got married a long time ago, so stop trying to put us together."

What?

"Is Mr Ye is Miss Su's husband?" Su Qian's words certainly gave Su Yuan-Shan and Su Nan a shock. They were instantly stunned.

Old Master Gu sat there and had no idea what was going on.

The entire room suddenly fell silent.

After Su Qian said her piece, she lowered her head like a kid that got into trouble. She waited apprehensively for her father to blow up.

Ye Fan didn't say a word.

Since the two girls were the ones who caused this trouble, there was no way Qiu Mu-Cheng could push the blame on Ye Fan now that it had gotten to this stage.

He simply sat on the sidelines, waiting to see how Su Qian would clean up this mess.

After a long silence, Su Yuan-Shan looked at Su Qian. She had lowered her head and was too afraid to look at him. Then he glanced at Qiu Mu-Cheng, whose eyes were slightly red. And finally, he looked at Ye Fan as he sat there unmoved. Then he let out a bitter laugh.

"Qianqian, I know you girls are close friends. But this isn't what loyalty is. There are many things that you can give up for her, but not your marriage. Did you give Mr Ye up because Miss Su admired him? Did you say all that because you are trying to bring them together? But my silly daughter, you can't give up your hubby just like that. How can you give him up to your girlfriend? You don't have to worry about Miss Su's marriage. She's very talented and charismatic, so it'll be easy for her to

find the perfect partner. What's is there to worry about? Am I right, Miss Su?"

Su Yuan-Shan chuckled, and the atmosphere in the room eased up.

Qiu Mu-Cheng didn't bother making any explanation. If she said anything now, it would make it sound like she was stealing Su Qian's husband.

Qiu Mu-Cheng decided that at the very worst, she would bring her marriage license over. It was always better to present facts than to argue!

"Dad, why won't you believe me?" Su Qian felt bitter and anxious in her heart. She wanted to explain more, but Su Yuan-Shan wouldn't have it.

My dear, are you purposely making me angry? Doesn't Miss Qiu know best whether Mr Ye is her husband? She was the one who said he was only her driver and bodyguard. If he was Miss Qiu's husband, wouldn't Miss Qiu tell us? Or was she worried that he wasn't good enough?"

In a few words, Su Yuan-Shan stumped Su Qian so completely that she went

speechless.

When Qiu Mu-Cheng heard him, she lowered her head as guilt towards Ye Fan surged in her heart.

Although she said Ye Fan was her driver solely to help Su Qian out with her act, her actions also made it clear that Qiu Mu-Cheng did think her husband wasn't good enough.

Qiu Mu-Cheng couldn't blame Ye Fan for things turning out like this. It was between Su Qian and her because they asked for it.

They ate lunch for roughly an hour.

At the dining table, Su Yuan-Shan kept commending Ye Fan and was particularly friendly.

When Qiu Mu-Cheng watched from the side, it felt exceptionally ironic.

Ye Fan's true father-in-law and mother-in-law couldn't be bothered with him, but this fake one was so very enthusiastic and concerned down to every detail.

Qiu Mu-Cheng even felt for a moment that

she ought to let go and let them be together.

If she left her and their home, Ye Fan would undoubtedly have a better life.

After lunch ended, Su Yuan-Shan went to the office to attend to work and brought his son with him.

Before they left, Su Yuan-Shan held Ye Fan's hand and was terribly reluctant to leave. He said, "My good son-in-law, remember to tell your parents about the wedding. Get them to call me when you do. We can pick a day and location for all the parents to meet. Qianqian has my number, so just get her to give it to you."

After reminding them about a few things, Su Yuan-Shan and his son left.

Then Old Master Gu left too. Before he left, he held Ye Fan's hand and said stubbornly, "Little Teacher, I won't give up. I'm determined for you to be my teacher. I have something to deal with, so I have to head off. But Little Teacher, if you don't fancy Mr Su's daughter, you can consider my granddaughter. Although she's still an undergrad, she's very pretty and can rival

Miss Su. Also, she has a better temper and figure than her. More importantly, she's younger and was born after the year 2000. Since she's still in school, you can teach her everything yourself. Perhaps you can give it some thought?"

When Old Master Gu winked at Ye Fan, he looked very frivolous. If his son saw it, it would be the death of him.

How could his old man sell his granddaughter like that?

Ye Fan only felt a sense of bitterness in his mouth and could only smile along. There was little else left for him to say. "O...Okay, I'll call you if I'm interested. You'd better go and attend to your matters."

When the flippant old man finally left for good, Ye Fan instantly wiped the cold sweat on his forehead. But before he managed to have a sigh of relief, Qiu Mu-Cheng and Su Qian staggered icy daggers at him.

"Do you think I'm not good enough? I'm the one who isn't interested in you! You country bumpkin, what gives you the right to pick and choose from an entire crop of

Chapter 215 Why Not Consider My Granddaughter?

women?” Gu Long-En’s words drove Su Qian mad. Although she didn’t like Ye Fan, she couldn’t stand it when someone compared her with other women. And it was even a much younger undergrad who was born after the year 2000!



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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In reality, Su Qian was more annoyed that everyone was fawning Ye Fan just because he could spot some antiques.

In order to strengthen their relationship, her old man was even giving her away just to get close to Ye Fan.

Even Old Master Gu, the respectable president of the Antique Association, was willing to lower himself and be Ye Fan's apprentice. And he even planned on introducing his granddaughter to Ye Fan.

The poor country bumpkin that she used to despise was now receiving such good treatment and Su Qian couldn't stand the sight of it.

Even she never enjoyed such treatment before

Ye Fan completely ignored Su Qian's displeasure. The only person he cared about was his wife.

"Mu-Cheng..." Ye Fan looked at Qiu Mu-Cheng and chuckled.

But Qiu Mu-Cheng stared at him before angrily saying, "Don't look for me, go look

for that undergrad. She's born after 2000 and she can still be taught to be nice to you."

Qiu Mu-Cheng's voice was filled with jealousy. She was so angry today.

At first, the whole thing about Su Qian was enough to give her a headache. But yet another person had her eye on Ye Fan. And this second girl was a bigger threat as she was young and could still be easily influenced.

Ye Fan hurriedly explained, "Mu-Cheng, don't be angry. I was just patronizing him. If I didn't, the old man would keep harassing me to take him in as an apprentice."

When Qiu Mu-Cheng heard Ye Fan's explanation, the resentment in her heart diminished a little. Then she looked at Su Qian and said, "Su Qian, look at what you have done. What are you going to do about it now?"

Su Qian looked upset, "Mu-Cheng, stop blaming me. I already know it's my fault. Don't worry, I will explain it to my dad. I will definitely not snatch your good-for-nothing

husband from you.”

“You know that I want to marry Mr Chu. Country bumpkins like Ye Fan aren’t my type at all.”

“I swear that I will never marry someone like him even if I have to live alone for the rest of my life,” promised Su Qian repeatedly. After apologizing and explaining to Qiu Mu-Cheng further, they finally moved on from this incident.

“Mr Ye, Mr Ye. I finally found you,” said a breathless voice from behind.

Ye Fan and the others looked up to see Shen Fei and Han Shao-Jie all drenched in sweat as they had run over in a hurry. When they saw Ye Fan, they were delighted.

From the looks of it, these two lads had been going around looking for Ye Fan.

“Yes? What's the matter?” asked Ye Fan quizzically as he frowned.

Shen Fei chuckled, “Mr Ye, it's no big deal. We just want to bring you to the jade showcase happening on the ninth floor. It'll

be filled with high-quality Burmese jade, and the chances of finding jade will be high. Also, it's very large-scale this time round and hard to come by."

"Since we're all around today, we should definitely go. So we came over to invite Mr Ye to join us for some fun," said Shen Fei flatteringly. He was eager when he told Ye Fan about it.

Ye Fan laughed gently instead, "You guys are up to something. You must have come looking for me so I can help you take a look and choose some jade, right?"

Ye Fan was no fool. Why would Shen Fei be so eager if he didn't need his help?

After Ye Fan saw through their act, Shen Fei didn't feel awkward either. He continued to smile and said, "Nothing escapes your eyes!"

"I lost more than ten million of company money when I went rock gambling the last time, so I'm counting on this exhibition to recoup those losses. Otherwise, if my dad finds out, he's going to kill me. Can't you help me out this once on account of all our years of friendship, Mr Ye?" implored Shen

Fei with a pitiful look on his face.

Ye Fan shrugged his shoulders and smiled calmly, "Young Master Shen, don't you already have an expert with you? Isn't it pointless to look for me? When you were at Eight Treasure Hall buying that blue and white porcelain piece, I recall your friend was extremely confident and he knows his stuff. After all, only the truly capable dare to be bold, isn't it?"

Ye Fan remembered Han Shao-Jie ridiculing him at Eight Treasure Hall.

Ye Fan wasn't going to play nice now that tables had turned. He hurled all the mockery that Han Shao-Jie unleashed on him earlier on right back at him.

Ye Fan's words made Han Shao-Jie's face blush.

But Han Shao-Jie wasn't the petty sort, so he stepped forward and apologized sincerely to Ye Fan, "Mr Ye, it was wrong of me to do that earlier on. I was incapable and made a fool of myself and offended Mr Ye in the process. I hope you can forgive me. Mr Ye can appraise with your eyes without using your hands at all, and

that was enough to make the Eight Treasure Hall owner beg for mercy. I can't compare to the keen eye you have. It was such an eye-opener.”

“Mr Ye, with you around, how could I possibly consider myself an expert?” rambled Han Shao-Jie nonstop. He was overflowing with shame. It was clear that after the incident this morning had, Ye Fan had won him over.

Ye Fan was actually quite impressed that Han Shao-Jie admitted his mistake so readily.

“Forget it, it's nothing, so let's move on. I won't be bothered by it. But I'm honestly clueless about rock gambling. So if you want me to help you take a look, you've found the wrong person. You'd better find someone else quickly,” said Ye Fan as he waved his hand and turned down Shen Fei's invitation with this reason.

But when Ye Fan said this, Qiu Mu-Cheng suddenly asked, “So does that mean you really know how to appraise antique brush paintings and calligraphy?”

Ye Fan shook his head again, “I told you. I

know nothing about appraising treasures.”

沈飞：“.....”

Qiu Mu-Cheng and Shen Fei didn't know what to say.

Ye Fan's words had undoubtedly made everyone speechless again. Shen Fei's eyes just kept twitching away.

Was this guy pretending again?

At first, Shen Fei really thought Ye Fan knew nothing about rock gambling. But now that he heard what Ye Fan said, his opinion changed.

Earlier on, Ye Fan said he knew nothing about antiques, but in the end, he was able to recognize Zhang Da-Qian's work with one look.

Now he was saying he was completely unacquainted with rock gambling. Did that mean he could spot the rocks with emperor green jade inside too?

So Shen Fei became even more relentless. No matter what it took, he had to get Ye Fan to help him with this. He was counting

on Ye Fan to make a comeback.

But Ye Fan simply refused to go.

“I told you I don’t know anything about rock gambling and I’m not interested. Why don’t you go and find someone else? I need to go shopping with my wife.”

As Ye Fan felt rather harassed by Shen Fei, he started chasing him out.

“Young Master Shen, I think I should return this diamond ring to you. It’s simply too expensive, so I can’t accept it.” Qiu Mu-Cheng suddenly remembered the diamond ring and took it off her finger to return it to Shen Fei.

Shen Fei’s opened his eyes wide, “Miss Qiu, why are you doing this? Are you looking down on me? It was a present from me, so how can I take it back?”

“It’s not that, Young Master Shen. I don’t look down on you at all. It’s just that this ring is the property of your company after all. I’m worried you can’t answer to your company if you just give it to us like that. From what I know, there are other shareholders in Shen Jewelry, right?” said

Qiu Mu-Cheng softly.

Shen Fei waved his hand candidly. "It's okay. That's just a small matter and I can settle it. It's just a few million right? You can treat it like I bought it to give it to you. You don't have to worry about causing trouble at the company."

"I...I don't think that's a good idea." Qiu Mu-Cheng still didn't want to accept it.

Ye Fan walked over from behind her and said slowly, "Mu-Cheng, why don't you just keep it since Young Master Shen says it's for you?"

"That's right, Miss Qiu. Even Mr Ye said so. Just keep it," persuaded Shen Fei.

Ye Fan glanced at Shen Fei and continued to say, "What floor did you say the rock gambling was held? Why don't you take us there? Since we can shop anywhere we like, why don't we just go over for a look? Mu-Cheng, what do you think?"

"Hoho, Mr Ye, did you just agree to come along?" Shen Fei was so thrilled. He was so excited that he opened his arms and wanted to embrace Ye Fan.

Ye Fan stepped to the right and avoided him quickly instead, “What are you trying to do?!”

“Don’t touch me! No one except my wife can get handsy with me. No one else is allowed to do it, understand?” shouted Ye Fan coldly. Shen Fei and Han Shao-Jie instantly laughed cheekily. They now looked at Ye Fan and Qiu Mu-Cheng in a more vulgar sort of way.

Qiu Mu-Cheng’s pretty little face turned crimson.

This shameless jerk!



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

Ye Fan was going to send Qiu Mu-Cheng to her grave soon.

This fellow was shameless. How could he have the cheek to say such things?

And in front of so many people too!

Besides, when did she touch him anyway?!

In a fit of anger, Qiu Mu-Cheng glared hard at Ye Fan as though she was warning him to watch his words.

But Ye Fan overlooked Qiu Mu-Cheng's embarrassment completely. Then he followed Shen Fei and the others to the jade showroom on the ninth floor.

Ye Fan changed his mind about helping Shen Fei purely because of that ring. After all, although Shen Fei was a little uninhibited, he was capable. Since he kind of helped him out many times earlier on, Ye Fan decided to return the favor.

But Su Qian seemed to be busy and left halfway to answer her father's phone call.

So Su Qian didn't go to the jade showroom with them.

Ye Fan and the others took the elevator to the ninth floor.

A few men dressed in suits stood by the lift door on the seventh floor and chatted while they waited for the lift.

“Yu-Hao, I heard this jade stone exhibition is very big and I guess a lot of rich customers will be here today. It’s probably going to be a fierce fight to bid for the rocks that you like successfully,” said Han Hai softly as he worried for him.

Sun Yu-Hao smiled coldly instead. “A fierce fight? In terms of finances, Sun Corporation from Jianghai can rival them. But in terms of that keen eye, we can count on Li. With everything in place, who can steal my limelight now?”

Sun Yu-Hao sounded bold and arrogant and had a confident smile on his face.

““Haha! Yu-Hao is awesome!” cheered Han Fei-Fei instantly when she heard Sun Yu-Hao talking proudly.

Han Hai nodded and said, “You’re right. Sun Corporation built its empire with jade, so rock gambling must be your strong suit.

It's probably going to be a field day for Yu-Hao at the jade exhibition. If you make a name for yourself at this jade exhibition, you'll be famous among the high society in Jiangdong."

Han Hai and Han Fei-Fei kept flattering Sun Yu-Hao. They managed to enter this place solely because of him, so they fawned over him a lot.

But despite his proudness, slight regret emanated from Sun Yu-Hao's face. He sighed gently, "So what if I make a name for myself? Mu-Cheng won't be here to see it. Without her by my side, even if own the world, it will be so meaningless."

At first, Sun Yu-Hao planned on bringing Qiu Mu-Cheng here as well, so that she could witness his moment of glory. He wanted her to see how generous he could be as a wealthy man.

Then he would be able to win Qiu Mu-Cheng over.

But it was too bad, Sun Yu-Hao didn't count on Qiu Mu-Cheng having a meeting today. Since she couldn't make it today, she wouldn't be able to see his moment of

glory. Just thinking about that made Sun Yu-Hao feel rather dejected.

Han Hai noticed how downcast Sun Yu-Hao was and said angrily, "Mu-Cheng's company is too much. She doesn't even get a day off for the Mid-Autumn Festival. Yu-Hao, if you really want her to come, I can call her now. I'll tell her if she doesn't come, then she can stop calling me her uncle!"

But Sun Yu-Hao waved his hand and said quietly, "Uncle Hai, forget it. Mu-Cheng is a career-minded woman. If you force her to drop her work and come over, she'll probably have a bad impression of me. That would work against my original intentions. We have plenty of time in the future. We can do it some other time, even if we miss this opportunity. I can tell that Mu-Cheng still likes me a little. She just needs some time to accept me, but I have the patience to wait.

"Wait for the spring breeze to caress the willows and green, wait for the sunset to tint the sky, wait for the plums to ripen in the summer rain," recited Sun Yu-Hao unknowingly as a poem suddenly surfaced in his mind perhaps because he was in the

mood.

An inexplicable emotion exuded from his voice as it echoed through the space.

Han Fei-Fei was instantly mesmerized as she listened to him recite the poem.

“Yu-Hao, you are such a literary talent! If Yu-Hao didn’t like Mu-Cheng, I’ll definitely woo you.” Han Fei-Fei looked at Sun Yu-Hao with admiration.

Sun Yu-Hao didn’t reply her and continued reciting it slowly in an affectionate manner. It was as though he was a great lover, and the poem was filled with his desire for love. At the end, he parted his lips and said softly again, “I’ll wait for her to knock off so that...we can have an encounter.”

DING!

The lift door in front of them opened.

“Yu-Hao, we’re here. Let’s go,” Han Fei-Fei turned her head and called out to Sun Yu-Hao when the lift door opened.

But when Sun Yu-Hao raised his head and

looked into the lift, his calm face was instantly stunned. It was as though he got struck by lightning and his eyes were wide.

“Mu...Mu-Cheng, what are you doing here? Aren't you...aren't you supposed to be in the office having a meeting?!” shouted Sun Yu-Hao instantly in shock.

He didn't expect the poem he recited on a whim would truly bring them an encounter.

That's right – Ye Fan, Qiu Mu-Cheng, and the others were in the lift too. They wanted to take the lift to the ninth floor for the jade exhibition, but someone had pressed the lift and it stopped on the seventh floor as a result.

Qiu Mu-Cheng never imagined that the people waiting on the seventh floor would be her uncle and Sun Yu-Hao.

The world could be so small sometimes.

“Unc...Uncle Hai.” When Qiu Mu-Cheng saw Han Hai and the others, her pretty face instantly turned red from embarrassment. She howled in her heart.

She was doomed this time!

Sure enough, when Han Hai and the others caught sight of Qiu Mu-Cheng, their faces sank. “Mu-Cheng, what’s going on? Didn’t you say you weren’t free at all today? Didn’t you have meetings all day? What are you doing here? And with that country bumpkin too! You owe us an explanation!”

After the initial shock, Han Hai instantly grew angrier. His face was livid as he questioned her nonstop angrily.

At first, he thought Qiu Mu-Cheng was caught up in a meeting and didn’t have the time to hang out with Sun Yu-Hao. Han Hai didn’t expect this girl to lie.

She wasn’t at the office or in a meeting at all. It was all an excuse so that she could come out and have some fun with this stupid country bumpkin.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Sun Yu-Hao undoubtedly looked upset, and his face was livid. When he saw Qiu Mu-Cheng standing next to Ye Fan, his heart especially burned in fury.

The moment Sun Yu-Hao saw Qiu Mu-Cheng, he understood everything.

He didn't expect the woman he fancied to lie to him, her parents, her uncle, and everyone except Ye Fan.

No one else could empathize with Sun Yu-Hao. He felt so awful, it was as if he had swallowed a fly.

Sun Yu-Hao's eyes turned red out of rage.

"Mu-Cheng, when I invited you to hang out today, you turned me down and said you had a meeting. I believed you, but look what happened now? Is this your idea of having a meeting in the office? Didn't you say you weren't free today? Don't tell me the meeting is held here? Don't tell me that this country bumpkin has to attend a meeting as well,?!" said Sun Yu-Hao coldly as his eyes became filled with self-ridicule while he looked Qiu Mu-Cheng in front of him.

No one else knew how much anger he was suppressing when he said those words.

Anyone would lose their cool if this happened to them, especially a man as proud as Sun Yu-Hao.

Qiu Mu-Cheng didn't hang out with him and chose to be with Ye Fan instead.

What did this mean?

It undoubtedly meant that Sun Yu-Hao was no better than that poor country bumpkin.

He couldn't figure out how a country bumpkin could be deserving of this.

Qiu Mu-Cheng would rather lie to everyone just to go out and have fun with him.

Now that her lie had been seen through, Qiu Mu-Cheng undoubtedly felt embarrassed.

She didn't expect such a coincidence. It was the first time she lied, and her uncle ended up catching her red-handed.

Qiu Mu-Cheng wasn't the thick-skinned sort. She lowered her head, and her face

flushed red from embarrassment while being questioned like this. She didn't know how to explain herself.

When Ye Fan saw this, he only laughed gently, "Young Master Sun, you're so funny. Mu-Cheng is the company's CEO. Is it any of your business where she has a meeting and who she has it with? What right do you have to say all this?"

"You..." But Sun Yu-Hao couldn't find a way to rebut Ye Fan.

"Shut up you country bumpkin! Yu-Hao is talking to Mu-Cheng. Why are you interrupting?" yelled Han Fei-Fei at Ye Fan.

Han Fei-Fei's shouting made Shen Fei lose patience. He immediately turned to look at Sun Yu-Hao and the others, "I say, what's all that noise over there for? Are you coming in or not? You're holding me up."

An old man standing next to Sun Yu-Hao silently persuaded him softly, "Young Master, business is more important. The jadestone auction is about to begin."

When he heard the old man's suggestion, Sun Yu-Hao then gradually calmed himself

down and suppressed his fury. He entered the lift with his face livid and looking very angry.

But what surprised Sun Yu-Hao was that everyone else in the lift were going to the jade showroom on the ninth floor just like them.

But clearly, these two groups of people didn't come together. They parted ways once they entered the showroom. Shen Fei, Han Shao-Jie and Ye Fan went to the left while Sun Yu-Hao, Li, Han Hai and Han Fei-Fei turned to the right.

Qiu Mu-Cheng stood in the middle but was unsure which way to go.

“Mu-Cheng, why are you standing around? Aren't you going to come with us? You are becoming more and more ridiculous. How dare you lie to us? This man is a bad influence! I'm going to tell your mother about it! I will tell your mother to force you to divorce this country bumpkin as soon as you can!” yelled Han Hai furiously when he noticed that Qiu Mu-Cheng didn't move.

“That's right, Mu-Cheng. Yu-Hao is waiting for you,” cried Han Fei-Fei too.

Ye Fan didn't say a word and just stood silently on the side as he waited.

Qiu Mu-Cheng stood there in a dilemma. On one side was an elder, while on the other side stood her husband, and Qiu Mu-Cheng could only bite her lips as she thought about what to do. After a while, she eventually looked up at Han Hai and told them apologetically, "Uncle and Young Master Sun, I'm really sorry. I have plans, so I won't be going with you. I'm so sorry."

"You..." Qiu Mu-Cheng's words made Han Hai so angry that it felt as though his liver had ruptured. He glared hard at her and wanted to give her a scolding, but she ran toward Ye Fan instead.

"This lass is becoming more and more ridiculous. She'll be the death of me." Han Hai trembled.

Sun Yu-Hao was livid and his face had gone completely dark while his eyes were icy cold.

He raised his head and looked towards Qiu Mu-Cheng and said deeply, "Mu-Cheng, today I will let you see the vast difference between me, Sun Yu-Hao, and that country

bumpkin.

“I will let you know that the lowly live-in son-in-law is worse than an ant when compared to me!”

His malicious sounding words sounded like a cold wind was lashing through the place.

Sun Yu-Hao's cold stare at Ye Fan was now filled with hate. He didn't linger and turned to leave.

“Mr Ye, that guy just doesn't get the hint. How dare he covet Miss Qiu? I think he must be tired of living. Shall I get some men to teach him a lesson?” asked Shen Fei quietly when he saw Sun Yu-Hao walk away.

Ye Fan waved his hand, “He's just small fry so just ignore him. Let's go see the rocks.”

Ye Fan and the others then started walking around the jade stone showroom.

Many unpolished rocks were placed at the center of the showroom with a number next to them.

Many people stood around each rock to touch and see them. They harbored vain hopes that they would be able to detect which ones among them had a higher chance of containing jade.

When Shen Fei and Han Shao-Jie were itching to touch the rocks too, so they quickly went over to take a look.

“Mr Ye, let’s go and pick a few rocks you like after touching and examining them under the light. The auction is about to begin, so we have very little time left,” rushed Shen Fei from the side and walked to the display area in the middle.

The rocks there fetched the highest price but were also of the best quality. In the center was the rock intended for the finale. They were counting on premium glassy jadeite or jadeite to appear in that rock.

“That won’t be necessary. I just need to take a look,” said Ye Fan casually.

“Just take a look? These aren’t brush paintings, Mr Ye, so you can’t just look. You need to touch them, listen to them, and shine a light on them. Their hardness, quality, translucency, and all kinds of

factors need to be considered at the same time. You won't be able to tell if there's jade just by looking from a distance." Shen Fei's heart turned a little cold now.

He thought Ye Fan was merely trying to be modest previously, but it seemed like he honestly knew nothing about rock gambling.

He couldn't count on Ye Fan this time. They will have to rely on themselves.

"Okay, Mr Ye. Then just look around. I will go over with Shao-Jie first." Shen Fei no longer placed any hope on Ye Fan. After saying this, he and Han Shao-Jie went to the display at the center together.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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"Ye Fan, do you really not know anything about rock gambling?" Qiu Mu-Cheng asked Ye Fan quizzically after Shen Fei and Han Shao-Jie left.

She couldn't understand Ye Fan anymore, especially after what happened at the Eight Treasure Hall this morning. Ye Fan had appraised two antiques one after another. One of them was even an antique painting bought by him at \$250 and it turned out to be worth \$200 million. This really shocked Qiu Mu-Cheng completely.

After being married to Ye Fan for so long, she had no idea he had such talent.

Ye Fan nodded, "That's right. Do you think I'm lying to you?"

"Then what about that appraisal you did this morning? Was that luck too?" Qiu Mu-Cheng continued to ask.

Ye Fan smiled gently, "I can't say it was entirely by chance. I only discovered small details that others overlooked, so there was some degree of luck to it. I am really clueless about appraising antiques."

It wasn't a lie. Ye Fan was only slightly

acquainted with antique appraisal. He could detect those details entirely because of the Book of Celestial Cloud. Practicing it had improved his sight.

This family heirloom of the Chu family had enabled Ye Fan to see things that others couldn't.

"Was...was it really luck?"

Qiu Mu-Cheng found Ye Fan's words slightly suspicious and then said, "But since you know nothing about rock gambling, then don't spout nonsense later. These stones can go from millions to more than ten million. If you sabotage Young Master Shen by saying nonsense, our family can't afford to pay for it," reminded Qiu Mu-Cheng. She was clearly worried that Ye Fan might pretend that he knew about rock gambling. If he made Shen Fei lose a lot of money, it would cause trouble for herself.

"But Ye Fan, I'm surprised. Although you're poor, you are very generous with your money. You gave away \$200 million just like that." When Ye Fan gave away that \$200 million painting to Su Yuan-Shan, it undoubtedly shocked Qiu Mu-Cheng.

“What is it, honey? Can't bear to give it away? It's okay, if you can't stand it, I can always take it back from him,” said Ye Fan and laughed.

Qiu Mu-Cheng shook her head and said, “You bought it, so it's your freedom to do what you want with it. I was only surprised, so don't worry. Besides, you did the right thing. If not for Mr Su, there was no way you could've gotten such a priceless painting, it's only right that you should be grateful to Mr Su. By giving him the painting, you returned the favor and got a big one from Mr Su as well. If you use his favor wisely, it will probably fetch more than \$200 million,” said Qiu Mu-Cheng softly. But honestly speaking, she was rather impressed that Ye Fan gave the painting away so generously.

Even if she didn't consider whether Ye Fan had the ability to spot the brush painting, Qiu Mu-Cheng at least discovered he was a sentimental and loyal person.

While the two chatted, a commotion suddenly rose in front.

It seemed like the rock auction was starting.

Ye Fan and Qiu Mu-Cheng went over.

“Young Master Shen, are you done choosing? Did you find anything you liked?” asked Qiu Mu-Cheng randomly.

Shen Fei immediately smiled excitedly, “Mr Ye, Miss Su, just you wait and see. I’m going to strike it rich this time. The jade stone quality this year is good, especially numbers 2, 6, 8, and 9. Shao-Jie took a look too and is certain they contain jade. Now a lot of people are eyeing those rocks. Whoever manages to get them will make a killing,” said Shen Fei enthusiastically. As he looked at the four rocks in the center of the showroom, his eyes glinted and looked determined to have them.

“Haha. Mr Ye, after I get my hands on the four rocks and make up for the shortfall in cash, I will give the rest to you and Miss Qiu as a gift,” said Shen Fei. Ye Fan looked at the rocks he was talking about and shook his head as he laughed instead.

“Hmm? Mr Ye, what’s wrong?” Shen Fei was puzzled by Ye Fan’s reaction.

Ye Fan replied, “Those rocks look like

they're intended for the finale, so they will get pushed to a higher price. So even if you get them, the profit is low. Worse still, there might not be any jade in them. Rather than getting those, why don't you pay more attention to number 11? I have a good feeling about it."

"Number 11?" Shen Fei looked quickly and shook his head as he said, "Mr Ye, Shao-Jie, and I looked at that rock too. Even though some green stone is peeking through on top, it's just a businessman's ruse. There's probably only that little bit of jade in it and the rest is just plain rock. Otherwise, why would they place it in section B? The really good ones are all placed in the center in section A and S."

Han Shao-Jie chimed in and agreed, "That's right, Mr Ye. Rock gambling is a complicated thing. You can't consider just its appearance, or else you'll end up getting conned badly. Since you are a newbie, it's natural for you to get distracted by the seller's ploys. In the future, just listen and learn and buy less. After you have enough experience, you can avoid getting scammed."

It was clear that Shen Fei and Han Shao-

Jie didn't take Ye Fan's recommendation to heart. They thought he was a newbie and was getting influenced by the seller's ploy.

Qiu Mu-Cheng poked Ye Fan from behind too, telling him to shut up.

But Ye Fan had no intention of giving up, "It's okay if you don't believe me and don't want to bid for number 11. Help me bid for it later and pay for the stone first. Once we extract jade from it, I'll return you the money."

"Mr Ye, it's not that I don't trust you. But if there's a trap, we shouldn't dive in and buy it no matter how rich we are!" Shen Fei didn't know what to do. Ye Fan was persistent, so he had no choice but to agree and bid for rock number 11 like Ye Fan suggested.

Since the rock wasn't expensive and only slightly over \$1 million, he could take it as just throwing it away.

But Shen Fei and Han Shao-Jie's respect for Ye Fan diminished a little.

They felt that Ye Fan was too impulsive and childish when he insisted on buying it.

But once he found out it was nothing but a hunk of scrap, he would learn that they were right to persuade him not to buy it.

Very quickly, the jade stone auction commenced.

Each jadeite stone started going on auction according to their numbers.

When they got to stone number 2, a lot of people auctioned for it as expected.

Stone number 2 was one of the stones intended for the finale for the auction after all. It was high quality, so it garnered a lot of attention. Just its starting price alone was \$6 million.

“\$6.5 million!”

“\$7 million!”

“I’ll pay \$7.1 million!”

.....

Very quickly, its price shot up and was about to go past \$8 million soon.

Shen Fei suddenly stepped forward and

said arrogantly, "\$10 million! I, Shen Fei, will offer \$10 million!"

In an instant, its bid increased by \$2 million. The showroom fell silent.

Many people glanced over immediately.

This included Sun Yu-Hao.

"Yu-Hao, this Shen Fei seems to be the one who was with the country bumpkin! Mu-Cheng is with them too," said Han Fei-Fei immediately when she saw Qiu Mu-Cheng and Shen Fei as they stood next to Shen Fei.

Sun Yu-Hao didn't say a word. He bid with an overcast expression on his face, "\$15 million!"

What?

"Damn, he's good!"

"He increased the bid by \$5 million right away?!"

"Which rich man's son is this?"

Sun Yu-Hao's bid set off an uproar and

Chapter 219 Shen Fei's Helplessness

debate in the showroom.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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“Young Master, what are you doing? Don’t you remember what I said about number 2? Although there a lot of snake bands running around it, which usually indicates jade in the rock gambling circles, it takes a lot of other factors to tell whether the stone is good. But for this rock, other than the bands and its green hue, the rest of the rock is brown. When you look at it from far, it looks like the color of wood. Anyone with experience can tell you that stones with this wood tone are definitely goners and it’s too risky to buy it. If it was merely \$1,000,000, you could still gamble. But it has now gone over \$10,000,000, so it’s not worth it!”

“Also Young Master, I even suspect someone added the snake bands manually. There’s a high chance its scrap stone. Even if it's only \$3,000,000, it’s pure loss. How can you increase the bid to \$15,000,000? It’s always better to be cautious in this industry. Young Master, please think twice!”

When he heard Sun Yu-Hao unexpectedly bidding for it, Li was shocked and quickly persuaded him against it.

When they were looking at the stones, they

had already decided not to bid for this rock at all. But now Sun Yu-Hao was suddenly bidding for it.

After Sun Yu-Hao heard Li persuade him, he smiled coldly and replied quietly, "Don't worry Li. I know what I'm doing."

Sun Yu-Hao smiled coldly with a hint of craftiness.

When Shen Fei heard someone else vying for the rock with him, his face turned dark.

Shen Fei cursed angrily, "Fuck! Which blind idiot is bidding against me? How dare he!" Shen Fei scoured the place wishfully thinking he could find the blind fellow. Sun Yu-Hao's gentle laughter came as he said, "Young Master Shen, that can't be right. This is an auction. The highest bidder wins."

"It's such a precious stone, so of course, it belongs to the one with the most money. If Young Master Shen can't afford it, then just say the word. At most I could let you have it and even make a friend in the process."

Sun Yu-Hao had one hand in his pant

pocket as he stood there proudly. His mocking tone made Shen Fei very upset indeed.

“Let me have it? You must be joking. Do I need you to go easy on me? The Shen family of Yunzhou has plenty of money! That stone is mine!”

Shen Fei was completely triggered by Sun Yu-Hao. He coldly laughed and yelled, “\$20 million!”

What?

“\$20 million? Did Young Master Shen offer \$20 million?”

“He’s the heir of Shen Group! No wonder he can afford to pay that much!” said the auctioneer excitedly.

She didn’t expect the bids to go over ten million just shortly after they started.

“\$21 million,” said Sun Yu-Hao as he continued to outbid him. By now, he was clearly starting to be careful and only increased the bid by \$1 million.

“Fei, that guy only increased the bid a little.

It's clear he lost stamina because he got frightened by our momentum. This time, up the bid by \$5 million. I promise you he will get so scared that he won't outbid you! I've been to plenty of auctions. Other than wealth, it takes some ferocity. This time, we will go all out and completely shock the blind asshole. That will teach him a lesson about trying to outbid us again," suggested Han Shao-Jie to Shen Fei as he sneered when he saw Sun Yu-Hao's determination dwindling.

"Okay, Shao-Jie. Just watch me bring him down with my ferocity! Since he wants to compete with me financially, I'll let him see how rich I am!" sneered Shen Fei too. Then he raised his paddle and shouted domineeringly, "Two..."

But just as Shen Fei was about to increase the bid, Ye Fan pulled him from behind. He said quietly, "Listen, don't do it. That stone is scrap and it's not even worth \$2,000. Sun Yu-Hao is only bidding against you to screw you over."

What?

Scrap stone?

That's not even worth \$2,000?

Shen Fei was instantly stunned, "Mr Ye, are you joking? That stone is one of the main attractions at the auction. It was displayed in the display right at the center of the exhibition. Shao-Jie and many others all said it was good. If it's only scrap, why did the auctioneer use it as one of their star attractions? Why did so many people bid for it? Why did Sun Yu-Hao bid \$20 million for it? So many people agree that it's a good stone, but you're is saying that it's bad?" said Shen Fei replied Ye Fan while getting anxious. He could hear the auctioneer counting down.

"That's right. Mr Ye, rock number 2 has good translucency and snake bands appearing randomly on it. The bands are a clear indication that there is jade inside. If it's scrap, I'll write my name backwards from now on! Mr Ye, I told you earlier that rock gambling isn't like appraising brush painting. It requires a good foundation and years of experience. Since you just got yourself acquainted, you don't know much about it yet, so it's better to listen up quietly and learn more."

Han Shao-Jie thought highly of the rock

too. If Ye Fan was saying it was scrap, it was equal to a slap on his face, so of course, he sounded slightly critical of Ye Fan.

But Ye Fan continued to say, "I'm not joking with you. If you keep bidding for it. You're going to lose every single dime."

Before Ye Fan finished, Shen Fei interrupted, "Mr Ye, let me ask you. Did you even see, touch, listen to it, or shine a light on rock number 2? If you have done any of this, I will buy what you said," said Shen Fei grimly as he looked Ye Fan.

Ye Fan remained quiet. He could only shake his head at Shen Fei's questions.

"Mr Ye, how can you speak so calmly about it? If you didn't check, then you have no right to speak! Since you don't know anything about it, then just open your eyes wide and learn." Shen Fei sounded resentful.

Ye Fan was about to say more. But Qiu Mu-Cheng reached her lovely hand out to pinch Ye Fan on the waist when she saw this.

“Ye Fan, shut up! You don’t know anything about rock gambling, so stop babbling nonsense. Young Master Shen has been at it for years. Can’t he tell whether a stone was good or scrap? He doesn’t need any help from the likes of you. Stop bluffing. Stop crying wolf! You’re going to be the death of me!” Ye Fan was driving Qiu Mu-Cheng mad.

She just reminded Ye Fan to keep his mouth shut if he didn’t know better. If he held Shen Fei back from making money, their family couldn’t bear the consequences of that!

How dare this fellow go around acting smarter than he was?

“Young Master Shen, just buy whatever you want and ignore him. Ye Fan was just spouting nonsense. Don’t let him affect your judgment,” said Qiu Mu-Cheng as she smiled at Shen Fei and Han Shao-Jie apologetically.

Shen Fei smiled too, “Don’t worry, Miss Qiu. We know Mr Ye was only joking. We will just treat like it was a gust of wind and not listen to him.”

“You...” Ye Fan went livid when he heard Shen Fei’s words.

Were they treating him like air after he persuaded them tirelessly for so long?

“Shut up! No one’s interested in what you have to say, so be quiet! It’s none of your business. If you don’t know any better, then just look. Quit bragging!” Qiu Mu-Cheng looked angrily at Ye Fan. She wanted to beat this scumbag of a husband up. Her retort left Ye Fan completely speechless.

Fine!

Not like he could be bothered with them anyway.

He had reminded them purely out of goodwill and now he had to be scolded for it?

Chapter 220 Are You Joking, Mr Ye?



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Ye Fan didn't speak any further. It was no use since no one believed him.

He simply stood by the side to watch with his hands in his pant pockets. He looked like he was waiting for some drama.

Shen Fei had just trampled on his goodwill.

"You're going to end up crying later!" Ye Fan muttered coldly to himself.

The auctioneer asked several times, "\$21 million. Mr Sun made a \$21 million bid. Any takers? Otherwise, this high-quality stone will go to Mr Sun."

When she asked, all eyes fell on Shen Fei.

Shen Fei was probably the only person with the courage to bid for a stone at a premium of many times more.

"Fei, why the daze? Just do as I said and increase it by \$5 million. We will frighten Sun Yu-Hao off with our unrivaled momentum!"

"Okay!" agreed Shen Fei on the spot. He stepped forward and raised the paddle to bid domineeringly, "Hold on! My bid is \$26

million. Is there anyone else who wants to outbid me?”

What was heroism?

This was heroism!

What did being domineering mean?

This was domineering!

After Shen Fei made the bid, his determination shook the entire crowd. The whole showroom went silent. Even the auctioneer’s red lips trembled slightly. No one else would bid against Shen Fei!

The auctioneer’s gavel fell. Rock number 2, which started at \$6 million, was now Shen Fei’s at a hammer price of \$20 million more.

Everyone was in awe of the Shens’ financial strength again. Many people looked over at Shen Fei enviously.

“Hahaha! Shao-Jie, what do you think? Was my aura okay?”

On top of making a profit, Shen Fei made a name for himself at the auction too, so

that made him happy.

Sun Yu-Hao looked at Shen Fei and smiled gently, “Young Master Shen has quite the spirit! I, Sun Yu-Hao, am happy to concede defeat. Congratulations, Young Master Shen for getting rock number 2. Why don’t you share the joy with us? Since you’ve already obtained the rock, why don’t you cut it on the spot so that we can have a look too? Let’s see what kind of jadeite is hidden in the rock Young Master Shen likes so much.” Sun Yu-Hao’s false flattery made the crowd urge Shen Fei to cut the rock too.

Shen Fei detected a coldness in Sun Yu-Hao’s words. “You dumbass. I know what you’re up to! You can’t stand it that you couldn’t outdo me financially. Now you’re hoping that this rock is scrap so that you can see me make a fool of myself, right? Okay then, since I’m in the mood, I’ll do as you wish. I will cut this rock here so that everyone can widen their horizons. Keep your eyes open!”

Shen Fei smiled confidently before bringing the stone to the rock cutting table where a professional would do it.

“Young Master Shen, do you want it polished or cut?” the employee looked at Shen Fei.

“That’s a dumb question! Of course, I want it polished! It’s a \$20 million stone! What if you ruin it with your cut?” Shen Fei kicked the employee angrily.

But after trying to polish it for half an hour, the employee’s hand was almost torn from abrasion. But other than the bit of jade near the snake band, there was no other jade in it.

“Hahaha, Young Master Shen, do you still want to polish it? I think no jade will appear even we keep this up till sundown!” said Sun Yu-Hao mockingly as he watched.

But no one else said a word and just watched on anxiously.

After all, only a small section had been polished off. There was still a high chance for jade to surface.

But Shen Fei was too anxious. He let Han Shao-Jie go over and draw a white line somewhere on the rock.

“Cut along that line! I’m going to use the truth to slap you in the face!” said Shen Fei boldly.

Han Shao-Jie was confident too. He said smugly, “Miss Qiu and Mr Ye, take a good look. This is the moment when rock becomes gold!”

The cutting machine started whirring.

The employee used the precision device to cut along the white line.

ZIZIZI...

There was a deafening sound and a white fog immediately shot out from the stone where it was being cut.

As the saw cut all the way through the line, the rock split open like into two pieces like tofu to reveal two wizened light grey surfaces.

What?

Everyone was in shock instantly.

“It’s a bad one!”

“It’s a bad one!”

“It’s just scrap.”

“There was no jade at all!”

Many people shouted in surprise, while many also gloated over Shen Fei’s misfortune.

“How...how can this be?” Han Shao-Jie was instantly stunned.

Shen Fei’s face turned pale instantly.

As pale as a sheet of paper!

“What...what happened? It was a \$20 million stone, but...but it turned out to be a bad one? That’s impossible. Keep cutting!” Shen Fei refused to accept this and told the employee to keep going.

He watched as the stone got cut into pieces. But other than that little bit of jade on its surface near the snake bands, there was no jade at all. It was entirely scrap.

In other words, Shen Fei spent \$26 million on a hunk of rock!

Shen Fei's mind went blank. He staggered for a few steps and nearly fell.

Han Shao-Jie fell on the ground limply with a thud.

They clearly didn't expect rock number 2 to be really scrap!

Ye Fan was right about it being scrap!

"Haha! Young Master Shen, what happened? Why do you look so pale? Where has your arrogance gone? But honestly, I'm really impressed by Young Master Shen. You actually spent \$26 million on a stone. If you liked rocks so much, you could have told me. I can ship you a ton tomorrow. I knew it was merely stone the minute I saw it. Only Young Master Shen would treat scrap like treasure!"

Sun Yu-Hao laughed uninhibitedly while he looked at Shen Fei as though he were an idiot. Many people started smirking in the showroom. Shen Fei was now a laughingstock.

"You asshole! You tricked me! You fucking set me up!" Shen Fei instantly understood

what happened. His eyes turned red immediately and he stared at Sun Yu-Hao furiously.

But Sun Yu-Hao sneered back, “Young Master Shen, you were stupid and incapable. Don’t blame it on others. I suggest you take your useless friends and go home soon. Not everyone is made for rock gambling. Just treat this \$26 million as payment for this lesson learnt.” Sun Yu-Hao laughed coldly as he looked at Shen Fei frostily.

Shen Fei could only blame himself for walking too closely with that good-for-nothing!

Actually Sun Yu-Hao didn’t know Shen Fei at all before this, so he didn’t bear any grudges against him either.

But it was too bad that he was too close to Ye Fan.

Sun Yu-Hao was just wondering how to deal with Ye Fan when this happened, so Sun Yu-Hao decided vent all his frustration for Ye Fan on Shen Fei instead.

Chapter 221 It Was Really Scrap Stone!



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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“Wow!! Yu-Hao, you’re amazing! Even the heir to the Shen family couldn’t escape the palm of your hand. HA! Look at how miserable he looks! He asked for it. It’s his fault for getting too close to that good-for-nothing. He totally deserved to be tricked by Yu-Hao today!” smiled Han Fei-Fei uninhibitedly as she looked at them from afar and gloated over their misfortune.

Sun Yu-Hao made Shen Fei suffer such a huge loss, and this undoubtedly shook the crowd.

The crowd instantly placed their attention on the handsome youth.

His name, Sun Yu-Hao, finally started spreading through high society.

“Sun Yu-Hao?”

“Whose kid is he?”

“He’s so young but managed to run circles round Young Master Shen. He’s bound to make it big one day with tricks like his.”

The people around started guessing who Sun Yu-Hao was.

“Mu-Cheng, this only the beginning. Just you wait. After tonight, I, Sun Yu-Hao will be famous in Yunzhou!” muttered Sun Yu-Hao. He looked even smugger as he soaked in all the attention, and even threw Qiu Mu-Cheng a glance.

Nobody knew who he was when he stepped into Yunzhou.

Now everybody would know his name when he left!

Sun Yu-Hao ignored Shen Fei with a look of pride on his face.

Shen Fei probably wouldn't have the courage to wrestle him after being taught a lesson.

After this episode, the auction continued and the crowd continued to compete for the other rocks.

But Shen Fei and Han Shao-Jie felt dejected as they looked at the countless broken pieces of scrap stone in front of them. There was no sign of that previous arrogance and confidence in them.

“Fei, I'm sorry. I...I don't understand how

this could happen. In theory, it was good stone. The books say that there is a 90% chance of finding jade if there are snake bands. How could that rock be scrap since it was covered with snake bands?" said Han Shao-Jie bitterly to Shen Fei as he hung his head low like a defeated soldier.

Shen Fei didn't respond. He stiffened his face as he stared at the stone debris and looked equally miserable. When Han Shao-Jie saw Shen Fei like this, he felt guilty, "Fei, say something. You're scaring me. What's on your mind?"

"What's on my mind? I want to kick you to death!" shouted Shen Fei as he turned and wanted to swing his leg at Han Shao-Jie. But he suppressed himself.

Han Shao-Jie and Shen Fei were childhood friends to begin with. Also, Shen Fei couldn't kick him, given his background.

But Shen Fei was so furious that he almost wanted to cry. He cursed angrily nonstop, "Fuck."

"Shao-Jie, Shao-Jie, I don't know what to bloody say about you. It was a stupid rock, but you called it a treasure. Now look at

what you've done! I lost \$26 million! Including the sum I need to pay back the company, I've taken \$50 million. If I don't put it back before Dad finds out, he's going to kill me!" Shen Fei almost wanted to die.

He used company funds to gamble on rocks and lost tens of millions. He wanted to recoup his losses today and pay it back, but he ended up losing money again!

.....

"Use your flash. Use your flash! Damn, these stupid teammates. Luna is coming over and you still can't bear to use your flash?! Are you waiting for next year or something?! You're such dumb teammates that even if I'm the king, I couldn't keep you alive!"

.....

"Hou-Yi, use your big move, use your big move. Yes yes yes. Triple kill. Just glorious!"

While Shen Fei and Han Shao-Jie were being miserable, Ye Fan was playing a video game with so much exhilaration that he even shouted from time to time.

Ye Fan's leisurely manner was now a stark contrast compared to Shen Fei and Han Shao-Jie's.

But Ye Fan's loud voice attracted Shen Fei and Han Shao-Jie's attention.

The two froze for a while and looked at each other. Then they quickly walked towards Ye Fan without saying a word with flattering smiles on their face.

"Er...er...Mr Ye? We're...really sorry about what happened just now."

"We were wrong to ignore your suggestion. We deserve to lose money."

"But Mr Ye, why did you say you're clueless since you're so good?"

"You lied to us big time and got us into trouble."

Shen Fei and Han Shao-Jie kept apologizing and fawning over him.

But Ye Fan ignored them. He finally replied them with two words, "Get lost!"

"No, please don't do this, Mr Ye. We know

we were in the wrong for looking down on you. We deserved to lose money. But your friend here is in trouble, so please lend a hand, Mr Ye, please...”

“Get lost!”

“Mr Ye, we are really very sorry...”

“Get lost!”

“Mr Ye...”

“Get lost!”

Shen Fei apologized profusely and almost knelt on the ground, but Ye Fan ignored his plight completely. Regardless of what Shen Fei said, all Ye Fan said was ‘get lost’.

Shen Fei almost wanted to cry. He regretted badly in his heart.

He wanted to slap himself to death. What was he thinking just now? Why did he ignore Ye Fan’s advice?

If he had listened, they wouldn’t have lost so much money. Perhaps Ye Fan would have helped them buy a few stones that really had jade in them.

But look at what happened now. He lost every dime and even offended Ye Fan.

Since Ye Fan was persistent, Shen Fei had no choice but to count on Qiu Mu-Cheng.

“Miss Qiu, please help us persuade Mr Ye. Please get him to help me. I'm in big trouble. If I don't recoup that money, my Dad will throw me in jail for embezzlement!”

“But...but...” Qiu Mu-Cheng was in a spot too. On one hand, Shen Fei had helped her and Ye Fan a lot. On the other hand, she was worried that Ye Fan was clueless about rock gambling. If he got it wrong, he might ruin Shen Fei and get her family into trouble.

“Miss Qiu, please help us persuade him. Doesn't he listen to you all the time? Miss Qiu, if he helps me, I'll deal with it even if he gets it wrong,” Shen Fei implored Qiu Mu-Cheng nonstop as he was really anxious.

Qiu Mu-Cheng had no choice but to put on a bold front and help Shen Fei to convince Ye Fan.

“Young Master Shen, I will try. But don’t be too hopeful, Ye Fan might not do as I say,” said Qiu Mu-Cheng.

Shen Fei was instantly delighted. He was so touched that he almost cried, “Miss Qiu, I’m sure he will listen to you! He is famous for being afraid of...I mean, for pampering you! He’ll definitely listen to you!”

Although Qiu Mu-Cheng shook her head repeatedly to deny this, there was a strange sense of warmth and pride in her heart.

Qiu Mu-Cheng went over and quietly said to Ye Fan, “Ye Fan, since Young Master Shen is so sincere, why don’t...”

But before Qiu Mu-Cheng finished speaking, Ye Fan instinctively shouted back at her probably because he was too engrossed with the video game, “Get lost!”

The world instantly went silent.

Chapter 222 Get Lost!



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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“Get lost!” Ye Fan’s shout reverberated through the air. After he shouted, Ye Fan could feel everything turn silent. Even the air before him seemed frozen still.

Shen Fei was stunned. When did Mr Ye become brave enough to shout at his wife?

But Shen Fei’s admiration for Ye Fan died quickly. A look of horror appeared instantly on Ye Fan’s face. He quickly put down his phone and apologized to Qiu Mu-Cheng, “Mu-Cheng, I...I wasn’t saying it to you. I was saying to Shen Fei and Han Shao-Jie. Please understand...”

Qiu Mu-Cheng was clearly upset. Her pretty face was expressionless as she turned to leave, “Fine. I’ll get lost.”

“No, don’t, Mu-Cheng,” begged Ye Fan quickly. Shen Fei hurried over to help put in a good word for Ye Fan and managed to stop Qiu Mu-Cheng from walking away.

Since Qiu Mu-Cheng asked Ye Fan to help Shen Fei, he agreed to it. It was only on account of his wife.

“\$18 million for rock number 6. Young Master Sun placed an \$18 million bid. Is

there anyone else that wants to go higher?" said the auctioneer's voice excitedly.

It looked like the auction had progressed up to rock number 6. Sun Yu-Hao made the highest bid and stole the limelight again.

Sun Yu-Hao looked proud and energetic.

"Mr Ye, what should I do? Should I bid? I just can't stand that cocky look on his face!" Rock number 6 was one of the highlights of the auction. It was also one the rocks Shen Fei shortlisted. Now that it was being auctioned, Shen Fei eager to try.

Ye Fan nodded, "Ignore me and just bid as you wish. I will advise you when necessary. But let me remind you, I don't know anything about jade stones. Don't blame me if you lose money."

"Of course. As long as Mr Ye is willing to help me, there's nothing we can't overcome in the world with our powers combined," laughed Shen Fei loudly. He regained his confidence.

After all, Shen Fei felt more at ease with Ye

Fan here to help him.

Since Ye Fan didn't stop him from bidding for rock number 6, it meant this rock was good to him.

"\$20 million!" Shen Fei went ahead and made a bid without a saying a word.

"Young Master Shen! I see that Young Master Shen has recovered from his failure and has come back to the auction. You must be here to compete with Young Master Sun. I wonder how much money you can fork out to beat Young Master Sun this time..."

The auctioneer deliberately provoked the two verbally and played things up. Now it became a battle of their financial powers.

Since Shen Fei still dared to bid, Sun Yu-Hao frowned at this at first, then broke into a smile. "Young Master Shen, why, haven't you lost enough? It happened just moments ago, but you've already forgotten the pain? If you're not capable enough, you should go back and practice for a few more years. Otherwise, Young Master Shen might go bankrupt," said Sun Yu-Hao coldly.

Shen Fei ignored him instead. After starting at \$20 million, he increased his bid, "\$21 million!"

What?

"Heavens! \$21 million! Young Master Shen certainly has the airs that are befitting of the heir to the Shen family. He's even bidding against himself! He has money to burn and looks determined to get the stone!"

Sun Yu-Hao furrowed his brows coldly.

He liked rock number 6 a lot. Of course, he couldn't let Shen Fei have it.

So Sun Yu-Hao raised the bid, "\$25 million!"

"\$27 million!" Shen Fei was fearless.

"\$30 million! Does Young Master Shen have the guts to beat that? If you do, I will let you have this rock," smiled Sun Yu-Hao calmly.

"As you wish then!" yelled Shen Fei. Just as he was about to bid, Ye Fan pulled him back.

“That’s enough. Don’t increase the bid anymore.”

What?

“Mr Ye, Sun Yu-Hao likes this rock a lot, so there must be jade inside. More importantly, how can I give up? If I don’t see this through, I’ll stand to lose both the prize and my repute here. What will happen if everyone in Yunzhou thinks I can’t outdo him?” said Shen Fei anxiously.

There was a calm expression on Ye Fan’s face. He said gently, “Trust me.”

“If you buy it for \$30 million, you’ll make a loss. Rock number 6 only has a little jade on the right and is worth \$10 million at best. If you pay \$30 million for it, you will lose \$20 million. Of course, if you only want to look good and not care about money, then go ahead,” laughed Ye Fan as he spoke while Shen Fei got a shock.

“Lose \$20 million? Mr Ye, are you for real? This is one of their main attractions. If I miss it, all that’s left are rocks number 8 and 9.” Shen Fei was clearly reluctant to give up and remained suspicious.

"I told you what I know. It's up to you to believe it or not," said Ye Fan nonchalantly.

Shen Fei hesitated for a moment then gritted his teeth, "Okay, Mr Ye. I'll do as you say."

Shen Fei eventually decided to stop. "Sun Yu-Hao, I'll let you have the rock. I won't fight with you for this cheap stone."

When Sun Yu-Hao heard this, he burst out laughing. "Young Master Shen, if you don't have enough money, then say so. Why make excuses? Hahaha!!"

Sun Yu-Hao's unbridled laughter made Shen Fei's face turned livid. He gritted his teeth and said in his heart, "Sun Yu-Hao, just you wait. I will definitely get rocks numbers 8 and 9."

But Shen Fei was surprised that Ye Fan told him to give up rock number 8 and not to bid for it.

"Mr Ye, is rock number 8 lousy? Why ask me to give up?" Shen Fei was perplexed.

Ye Fan said, "It was good, but there is something better. Don't be anxious."

When Shen Fei heard this, he nodded, "That's true. Sun Yu-Hao isn't bidding for rock number 8 either. He's clearly saving his money for rock number 9. In that case, I will fight it out with you over rock number 9." Shen Fei secretly clenched his fists tightly.

On the other end, Li was telling Sun Yu-Hao, "Young Master, you must do your best to get rock number 9. It's from Myanmar and originated from an old mine in Pagan. The mine is renowned for producing the best jade stone. Also, this stone itself looks extremely good. It's densely covered with snake bands. There are wrinkles on its exterior that resemble elephant skin. So it's likely to contain ice jade or maybe even rare glass jade or jadeite."

Sun Yu-Hao nodded, "Okay, Li. Don't worry."

Rock number 8 finally got auctioned off for a high price of \$40 million. Then the bidding for rock number 9 officially started.

It was massive in size and approximately 50 kilograms in weight. Even in the showroom, it was hard to find another

which matched its proportions.

“I’m sure everyone checked rock number 9 carefully. Without further ado, let the bidding begin! Bidding starts at \$40 million.”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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“\$50 million!” said Sun Yu-Hao domineeringly the moment the auctioneer reported the starting bid.

The bid instantly increased by \$10 million. His tremendous domineering aura shook the crowd.

All the rich men who were keen on bidding swallowed their offers.

“\$60 million!”

When the crowd became quiet, Shen Fei stepped forward as expected.

Everyone laughed bitterly and killed their thoughts of bidding for it.

When these spectacularly rich people decided to fight, the less wealthy ones quickly decided not to participate in case they ended up becoming collateral damage.

Sun Yu-Hao was undaunted by Shen Fei competing. He upped the bid again by \$20 million at one go, “\$80 million!”

When Sun Yu-Hao made his bid, the crowd went quiet.

Even Shen Fei paled slightly. He was a little nervous as he asked, "Mr Ye, should I keep going?"

"Don't be a wuss. Keep going," said Ye Fan calmly while he smiled.

"Okay!" When he heard Ye Fan's words, Shen Fei upped the bid, "\$90 million!"

"Heavens! \$90 million!"

"Young Master Shen made a \$90 million bid."

"Does anyone want to go any higher?" the auctioneer was thrilled.

Sun Yu-Hao was starting to feel stressed by its rising price. But he gritted his teeth and yelled, "\$100 million! I must have this stone. Does anyone else want to vie with me?"

The crowd was uproarious. The \$100 million bid was a new record in the history of this jade stone auction. Sun Yu-Hao became the center of attraction once again.

Shen Fei then got up to up the bid, but Ye

Fan pulled him and said, "It's okay. You don't have to go further."

"Damn, Mr Ye, what are you doing? This is the last stone among all the star attractions. If I give this one up, there will be none left. We already gave up all the other ones, so why can't I buy this? Then how can I recoup my losses? I would have come to the jade exhibition for nothing!" Shen Fei was so anxious he almost wanted to cry.

Ye Fan was the one that told him to bid for it, but now Ye Fan was also the one telling him to stop. So naturally, Shen Fei was perplexed.

Ye Fan shook his head and smiled, "It's just some stupid stone. If you successfully bid for it, you might just jump off the building. I'll be honest with you. Stone number 9 is worse than stone number 2 because it contains nothing but rock. There isn't a scrap of jade in it. I told you to compete with him so that you could push the price up."

What?

"Stone?"

Ye Fan's words gave both Shen Fei and Han Shao-Jie a shock instantly.

"Are you certain, Mr Ye? That \$100 million jade stone nothing but rock?" Shen Fei was in disbelief.

Han Shao-Jie asked as well, "Exactly. Mr Ye. How do you know it's just rock?"

Ye Fan said calmly, "It was a guess."

Shen Fei and Han Shao-Jie really didn't know what to say.

Ye Fan made Shen Fei so angry that he wanted to slap him.

"Mr Ye, stop kidding. It's giving me a panic attack," Shen Fei was so anxious he wanted to cry.

Qiu Mu-Cheng said angrily to Ye Fan, "Ye Fan, what nonsense are you saying? Are you prepared to face the consequences if you make Young Master Shen lose money? If you don't understand what's going on, then just shut up."

After Shen Fei questioned him, Ye Fan remained calm, "I will say it again. I'm

merely making a suggestion. You can decide whether you want to take it.”

“Okay, Mr Ye. I’ll go with your suggestion one more time.” After learning from his mistake earlier, Shen Fei decided to heed Ye Fan’s advice one more time. He stopped bidding for the rock altogether, and it fell into Sun Yu-Hao’s hands just as they hoped.

“Haha! Young Master Shen, it looks like in terms of finances, the Shens are only so-so.” After outbidding Shen Fei twice, Sun Yu-Hao felt undoubtedly arrogant. He looked at Shen Fei from a distance with the smug look of a winner on his face as his words overflowed with contempt.

“Mu-Cheng, did you see how impressive and awesome Yu-Hao was? He completely crushed Shen Fei,” bragged Han Fei-Fei to Qiu Mu-Cheng about Sun Yu-Hao.

Shen Fei was furious inside, “There’s nothing for you to be proud of. All you did was spend a bomb buying a stupid stone. Only fools would be happy! To tell you the truth, the stone you bought doesn’t contain any jade at all. You can go fuck yourself!”

In the rock gambling trade, it was taboo to curse like this. After all, they relied a lot on luck to win. So Shen Fei's swearing infuriated Sun Yu-Hao. But Sun Yu-Hao composed himself very quickly and laughed, "Young Master Shen, all you can do now is talk. You're an idiot. But do you think I'm an idiot like you?"

"You..." Shen Fei gritted his teeth but didn't argue. It was the truth after all, so he couldn't refute the fact that he had just spent \$26 million on scrap.

The auction continued. Sun Yu-Hao didn't continue bidding, perhaps because he was low on funds. Shen Fei spent \$500,000 on rock number 11 instead.

"Trash is trash. Even the stone he picked was a leftover. I bet there's no jade in it since it only cost \$500, 000," Sun Yu-Hao and the others laughed.

Very quickly, the auction came to an end.

But Sun Yu-Hao still wanted to make fun of Shen Fei, so he went over and said, "Young Master Shen, I see you spent another \$500, 000 to buy a lovely stone. I happen to have two myself, so why don't we get

them cut together. Then we can enlighten everyone here.”

“Mu-Cheng, you should stay and watch with us. After I extract the jadeite, I will make a bangle for you right away,” said Sun Yu-Hao to Qiu Mu-Cheng affectionately.

The purpose of his visit was to show off to Qiu Mu-Cheng. Also, he wanted to shame Shen Fei and the others.

“Humph, I’m busy and I don’t have time to hang around and play with you.” Shen Fei could tell Sun Yu-Hao was trying to take the chance to humiliate him. Since he didn’t have any good stones and the only one he had was a leftover which no one else wanted, he didn’t want to take the risk with Sun Yu-Hao.

If Shen Fei ended up with a second piece of scrap stone today, it would be a major embarrassment. What would people say about him if he did?

“Let’s stay, Young Master Shen. Since Young Master Sun personally invited us, we should do him the honor,” said Ye Fan.

When Shen Fei heard him, he almost wanted to cry. He pulled Ye Fan over and asked him softly, "Mr Ye, are you crazy? It's a \$500,000 leftover stone. Can we compete? His jade is far better than mine. If we compete with him, we will end up embarrassing ourselves!"

Shen Fei looked miserable. Ye Fan insisted that he buy rock number 11 earlier. As no one else wanted it, Shen Fei got it at its starting price. Then he later found out it was a leftover stone cut from rock number 9. How could something like that contain jade? No wonder no one wanted it.

But Ye Fan didn't seem to care at all and said, "It's okay. It's not your first time disgracing yourself anyway, so there's no harm doing it again."

Since Ye Fan was persistent, Shen Fei got forced to cut his rock along with Sun Yu-Hao.

Qiu Mu-Cheng complained instead, "Ye Fan, why are you making trouble? Are you trying to embarrass Young Master Shen? Sun Yu-Hao deliberately invited him to humiliate him. How can there be jade in some leftover stone? I don't know what

Chapter 224 Mr Ye, Are You Crazy?

you're thinking," said Qiu Mu-Cheng as she sighed in annoyance. She couldn't tell what Ye Fan was thinking about at all.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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"Haha! Ye Fan is a real idiot. Why would Young Master Shen befriend someone like him? He has the worst luck in the world!" Han Fei-Fei thought he was a joke. Shen Fei bought a leftover stone for \$500,000 but Ye Fan pushed Shen Fei to cut his rock in public like an idiot. Did he want Shen Fei to embarrass himself again?

Han Shao-Jie looked at Ye Fan perplexedly too. He wondered in his heart if Ye Fan was actually on Sun Yu-Hao's side and sent to sabotage Shen Fei.

Out of concern, Han Shao-Jie persuaded Shen Fei, "Fei, I think you better not get it cut here since it's only a leftover material. It's too embarrassing to get it done here."

"It'll be fine. Just go with him. Don't be afraid," said Ye Fan very calmly as he hurried Shen Fei to cut the stone.

When Sun Yu-Hao saw this, he smiled as he shook his head and said, "Young Master Shen, you have such wonderful friends. Haha!"

At this moment, Sun Yu-Hao almost felt like thanking Ye Fan for his recklessness. He felt that Ye Fan's actions came at the

right time.

He was initially worried that Shen Fei might not agree to his request out of fear of embarrassment. But Ye Fan was unexpectedly a big help to him.

“Mu-Cheng, just stay around to look later. I said I would show you the vast difference between the country bumpkin and I. This will be the best proof there is.” Sun Yu-Hao looked at her affectionately and proudly as he stood with his hands behind him and looked at this gorgeous woman.

For so many years, there was no other girl that could make him feel as moved as Qiu Mu-Cheng did.

When he first saw Qiu Mu-Cheng in Jianghai, he felt like he could fully appreciate this line from a poem.

May we spend the rest of our lives together affectionately without expecting time to turn back!

“Just you wait, Mu-Cheng. I will let you and everyone here see how brilliant and magnificent, I am.”

Sun Yu-Hao seemed loft, grand and energetic while radiance exuded from his face.

He seemed like an emperor rising to the throne. He staunchly believed that he could use his glory to make this stunning woman surrender completely.

Sun Yu-Hao was filled with pride as he walked confidently up to the stone cutting table.

Shen Fei was a stark contrast to him as he was sent over forcibly. He looked miserable as he lowered his head and went over.

Very quickly, the staff brought the cutting tools over. They asked Sun Yu-Hao respectfully, "Young Master Sun, which one shall we cut first? Number 6 or number 9?"

He had bought two out of the four main attractions jadeite rocks.

Since Sun Yu-Hao wanted to cut it here, the staff had to ask which one he wanted to cut.

“Let’s start with number 6. We should leave the most expensive one for later for suspense,” said Sun Yu-Hao deeply.

Then Sun Yu-Hao stepped forward and drew a line with chalk on the stone.

“Don’t bother with the rubbing. It will take too long. Just go ahead and cut it. Cut along this line entirely,” said Sun Yu-Hao simply. Although the rock was worth tens of millions, he wasn’t as cautious as Shen Fei was previously. He was decisive and told the staff to split it in half straightaway instead.

ZIZIZI...

There was a loud cutting sound as a white mist sprayed from the rock nonstop.

“It’s a bad one, it’s a bad one...”

“It’s a bad one...”

Shen Fei keep muttering while he watched. He looked so anxious it was as though those rocks were his.

When Sun Yu-Hao heard Shen Fei’s muttering, he wanted to give him a kick.

He must be black-hearted to curse him like that!

Everyone else watched nervously too.

A hint of green finally appeared moments later as it shone through the white smoke.

"It's green."

"It's green!"

"Young Master Sun, you're awesome."

"I told you it would be green."

"Judging from its shade, it must be good ice or glass jade."

"Congratulations, Young Master Sun."

After they saw the green hue, the crowd flew into a commotion. Many people turned to congratulate Sun Yu-Hao.

"Hoho, Young Master Shen, I'm sorry to disappoint you. This stone contains jade. I told you that you need a keen eye for rock gambling. Just because you made the wrong call doesn't mean I will. I suggest that you leave the gambling circles and

practice for a few more years before competing with me again.”

Sun Yu-Hao was very happy that there was jade. He beamed with joy as he looked Shen Fei contemptuously.

After being humiliated by Sun Yu-Hao, Shen Fei felt unbearably embarrassed, and he turned livid. He secretly griped about being sabotaged by Ye Fan.

“Mr Ye, didn't you say there was nothing in rock number 6? You told Fei not to bid for it. Why is there jade in it now? We missed a chance for nothing,” complained Han Shao-Jie in an annoyed voice at Ye Fan.

When he and Shen Fei wanted to bid for that rock, Ye Han told them halfway not to do it. That's how the rock landed in Sun Yu-Hao's hands.

At that time, if Ye Fan hadn't interfered, this fantastic stone would have become Shen Fei's. It wouldn't have ended up in Sun Yu-Hao's hands, and he wouldn't be bragging about it now.

Qiu Mu-Cheng shook her head and sighed too. She figured that Ye Fan was truly

clueless about rock gambling and bluffing all this time. It must have been a wild guess earlier.

“Don't be anxious. The show has just started,” said Ye Fan with his hands in his pant pockets. He looked on leisurely and calmly.

“That's enough. Shut up, will you? There is jade inside, but you are still in denial. Hurry up and apologize to Young Master Shen and bring him back, don't let him embarrass himself,” shouted Qiu Mu-Cheng at Ye Fan. She sounded annoyed.

To think this fellow acted so confidently when he said rock number 6 wasn't worth it and that number 9 was scrap. Qiu Mu-Cheng half-doubted Ye Fan since he didn't examine those stones closely. All he did was take a quick look at them. How could he tell whether there was jade in them?

But just as Qiu Mu-Cheng reprimanded Ye Fan and asked him to apologize to Shen Fei, she heard a clang. Rock number 6 had split into half to reveal two smooth cut surfaces.

“What?”

"Is that all the jade there is?"

"Sigh, that's a pity."

"No matter how good its color is, it's simply too small."

"It's only the size of an egg and not even enough for a bangle."

"It's worth \$10 million at best."

"He paid for \$30 million, so that means Young Master Sun will lose \$20 million."

"That's such a pity, such a pity."

When the rock was cut, the rich men that previously treated Sun Yu-Hao with respect shut up instantly. In the blink of an eye, they looked at him with pity.

"Fuck? Mr Ye was actually right?!" swore Shen Fei. He was so miserable just moments ago, but in an instant, he beamed from ear to ear.

Now he felt that Mr Ye was truly amazing!

It was a loss just like he said.

And Sun Yu-Hao's face turned overcast immediately. His initial cockiness all dissipated.

"Young Master Sun, shall we continue cutting?" asked the staff.

"Cut my ass! Just that little bit of jade? Just throw it away and stop embarrassing me! Bring that \$100 million stone over. I must show you a real eye-opener today," cursed Sun Yu-Hao coldly as he kicked the cut rock number 6 away.

He thought rock number 6 would turn a profit even if it didn't contain glass jade or jadeite.

Sun Yu-Hao didn't expect to lose \$20 million instead. He was furious, and it felt worse than swallowing a fly.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Sun Yu-Hao wanted to swagger around with the jade, but he failed and lost \$20 million instead. He was made a fool of there and then.

Fortunately, he still had one more chance.

"Yu-Hao, don't be disappointed. Even if you lose money on that first rock, you will definitely recoup it with the \$100 million stone. Li said rock number 9 is 50 kilograms, so if there's jadeite in it, it'll be huge. Then I'm sure you'll reap \$200 million even and that \$20 million loss will mean nothing," consoled Han Fei-Fei.

Sun Yu-Hao laughed instead, "Why should I be disappointed? It was just a few million and means nothing to me. I'll treat it as a donation to help promote the trade. If it's gone, it's gone. I don't care about it," said Sun Yu-Hao nonchalantly. He seemed completely unconcerned as he spoke.

"You're so cool, Hao!"

"That's what I call a rich man!"

Sun Yu-Hao's words attracted a lot of flattery.

But Sun Yu-Hao couldn't be bothered with the fawning and got the crowd to watch while the \$100 million rock was cut.

"Be careful when you do it. This rock costs \$100 million, so if you ruin the cut, I'll hold you responsible," reminded Sun Yu-Hao. Then he walked over and drew a line before letting the staff proceed.

ZIZIZI.

The low humming sound started.

Everyone stared wide-eyed. They all stared anxiously at this \$100 million rock as it was cut slowly.

There was complete silence in the large showroom.

Only the sound of a metal blade whirring as it sliced through rock could be heard. White fog shot out from the rock.

As they got getting deeper and deeper, Sun Yu-Hao's heart was in his mouth. He was so anxious that he almost held his breath.

Then finally, with a clang, the 50 kilogram rock split open. Two light grey cut

surfaces were revealed.

“What?”

“No jade?”

“It’s a bad one!!”

“He cut it, but there wasn’t any jade at all.”

“It’s a bad one. It’s definitely a bad one!”

After a moment of silence, the crowd was in an uproar.

Many of them shook their head and even laughed out loud as they gloated over Sun Yu-Hao’s misfortune.

“How...how can this be? Cut it! Keep cutting it!” Sun Yu-Hao was livid. His face turned crimson in a fury.

It was inconceivable that there wasn’t a shred of jade in a \$100 million rock!

“Cut it! Cut it right at the center! I simply don’t believe that there’s no jade at all!” roared Sun Yu-Hao.

But even after cutting the rock into many

pieces, there wasn't any ice jade or any jade at all for that matter. It was even worse than Shen Fei's rock.

It was complete scrap!

"How...how can this be? That's impossible! That's absolutely impossible!!" Sun Yu-Hao was in complete shock and almost went hysterical. He panicked as he ran up the stage and pushed the jade cutter aside. Then he continued cutting the rock indignantly.

"Hahaha! He has no reason to be cocky anymore. It was just scrap, right? He spent \$100 million on a mere rock. I'm so glad I heeded Mr Ye's advice, otherwise, I would have really jumped off the ledge!" While Sun Yu-Hao was going crazy, Shen Fei was delighted. His grin was so large that it could almost fit an apple and he was very impressed with Ye Fan.

"Mr Ye, I think we were lovers in our past lives. But now in this lifetime, you're my savior! I love you so much! If it weren't for Mr Ye, I would have been so badly tricked! When we were at the antique showroom on the fifth floor, you had the keen eye to see through a forgery. Today, you were

genius enough to remind me and stop me before it was too late. Mr Ye, I'm in your debt. I don't know how else to repay you other than to marry you. From now on, we're a team. I will do everything you tell me to without a moment of doubt!"

Shen Fei was very impressed by Ye Fan now.

It was scrap just like he said.

When he said Sun Yu-Hao would lose \$20 million, he really did.

His eyes were sharper than that of a god's!

In retrospect, Shen Fei was terrified.

If it wasn't for Ye Fan, he would probably have upped the bid and spent over \$100 million on scrap stone.

Then his father would really send him to jail.

On the other side, after the \$100 million stone turned out to be a bad pick, Li started feeling guilty. So he stepped forward and apologized, "Young Master, I'm sorry for misjudging the rocks and

causing you such a huge loss!”

“Fuck you! Do you still have the cheek to talk about it?” bellowed Sun Yu-Hao with his eyes all red.

That was \$100 million gone! He spent it all on a stupid stone.

No one knew how broken Sun Yu-Hao was. It felt as though his heart was bleeding.

He was so angry that he wanted to kick the old man to death.

But he suppressed the urge nonetheless. After all, there were many people watching, and Mu-Cheng was around. The angrier he seemed, the more unbecoming it was.

So he suppressed it all in the end and did his best to calm himself.

“Young Master Sun, what's wrong? Why do you look so pale? Did you just get fucked over? Where has all your arrogance gone? Weren't you very domineering just now? Where has it all gone now? Hahaha! \$100 million worth of stones? If Young Master Sun wants stones, you can always tell me.

I can ship a truck's worth over tonight. I'll even give you a discount and sell it to you for just \$10 million!"

Shen Fei smugly smiled as he ridiculed Sun Yu-Hao. He threw all the insults that Sun Yu-Hao used on him right back at him.

Sun Yu-Hao's face looked awful and was completely overcast. He even clenched his fists tightly because he was furious in his heart. His fingernails were almost cutting into his flesh.

"But no matter how much it hurt in his heart, he had to act calm. He sneered, "It's just \$100 million and I don't care about that tiny bit of money. What's more, even if my rock is bad, at least I dared to cut it on the spot. Do you dare to cut yours here? Let's see if you have the guts to cut the rock here. I want to see what kind of treasure there is in that leftover rock."

"Well..." Shen Fei didn't dare to reply him.

"Fine! As you wish!" Gentle laughter came from the crowd.

SWISH SWISH SWISH.

Everyone turned together and glanced towards the voice.

They only saw Ye Fan with a calm smile on his face as he walked over.

"It's you? You brat, this is no place for you to speak," yelled Sun Yu-Hao instantly when he saw Ye Fan and got even angrier.

But Ye Fan ignored him and looked at Shen Fei, "Shen Fei, just go ahead and cut it. Don't worry. If I say there's jade, there will be!"

Shen Fei nodded and simply said okay to Ye Fan.

When Sun Yu-Hao, Han Fei-Fei, and the others saw them, they sneered immediately. Their eyes filled with contempt.

"Hahaha!"

"He's so idiotic."

"Are you so certain there's jade? If you're that great, why don't you get lucky all the time?"

"Only an idiot like Shen Fei would believe

Chapter 226 That's \$100 Million Gone

his nonsense!!”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

“Young Master Shen, even if your family thinks you’re unimportant, there’s no need to cheapen yourself like this. How can you do everything this country bumpkin asks? As a rich man's son, this is very unbecoming of you!” smiled Han Fei-Fei coldly.

Han Fei-Fei honestly couldn’t understand what was wrong with Shen Fei. Why would he want to be so close to a good-for-nothing?

Shen Fei ignored their sneering and went up to get his rock cut.

“Young Master Shen, do you want it rubbed or cut?”

“Let’s cut it. We can learn the truth more quickly. It’s better than dragging it out,” said Shen Fei as he gritted his teeth.

He honestly didn’t think there was any jade in this leftover rock.

But it was fine if there was nothing. It would just be a slight embarrassment.

Then Sun Yu-Hao could have some company.

Besides, since Sun Yu-Hao's \$100 million rock was scrap, it was no big deal if his \$500,000 rock didn't work out.

The machine started whirring into motion in no time. Shen Fei saw a cloud of white mist hovering over his rock immediately.

But the white mist didn't last for long before it turned it a bright and brilliant green.

"Fuck! It's green! It's green! Hahaha! Mr Ye, it's green! That's amazing!"

When the fog turned green, Shen Fei went mad with joy. He was so excited that he almost leaped up. Then he kept yelling at Ye Fan as if he was the one turning green and made Ye Fan almost wanted to kick him to death.

Ye Fan was felt that Shen Fei was the one turning green for crying out loud.

After the rock was cut into two, a dazzling green hue radiated from the cut edge.

It was a dazzling and unsullied green!

"This...this is..."

“It’s glass...glass...Yang...Yang green jade!”

“Oh my God!”

“It’s glass Yang green jade. In terms of value, it ranks right beneath imperial green jade!”

“You’re rich! You’re rich!”

“Young Master Shen, you’re rich!”

“Also, it’s such a huge piece. This type of jadeite is very rare in the Yunzhou jadeite market, I haven’t seen it in three years.”

“This jadeite starts at \$30 million, no, \$40 million!”

When they saw the green hue in the stone, the crowd went into an uproar. Many jadeite businessmen squeezed over to admire it and sighed.

“In the jadeite industry, imperial green jade is the best!”

It’s pure Yang jade and only slightly lower than the imperial green jade.

“What’s more, this jadeite is glassy!”

“It’s really top class in the jadeite family.”

“I’ve been in the jadeite industry for decades. I’ve only seen jade like this with my own eyes three times.”

“Young Master Shen, thank you for the eye-opener!”

“Young Master Shen, I’d like to buy it for \$50 million. I hope you can sell it to me.”

....

“I’ll pay \$60 million!”

....

“I’ll pay \$65 million!”

The crowd exploded. All the jewelry businessmen fought clamorously over it. Shen Fei grinned so hard that he couldn’t close his mouth.

Sun Yu-Hao and the others were stunned from the sight.

“How...how can this be? How can a \$500,000 leftover rock contain Yang green jade? That’s impossible! How could a

leftover that no one wanted contain Yang green jade?" Sun Yu-Hao was going hysterical, and his eyes were bloodshot. In his heart, he was furious, so he clenched his fists tightly.

It was inconceivable that his \$100 million was scrap, but this leftover rock profited a hundred times over by containing Yang green jade!

"How did this even happen?!" In a fit of anger, Sun Yu-Hao kicked the stone by his feet. He yelped and hugged his foot in pain as a result.

Han Fei-Fei and her father were petrified. They lowered their head without saying a word. All their arrogance had withered away like a dying fruit.

Of course, no one was interested in Sun Yu-Hao's fury now.

Winner takes it all. Who would care about Sun Yu-Hao now?

Almost all eyes were on Shen Fei in the showroom.

Shen Fei was the winner in this jade stone

auction. He made his name with this rock and stole the limelight. People were vying over the Yang green jade and offering tens of millions for it.

Shen Fei could now make up the \$50 million shortfall he embezzled with \$20 million in change. He was beside himself with joy.

Of course, if Shen Fei didn't decide to cut the rock directly and damaged it to a degree, it would have fetched even more.

The auction was organized by the Yunzhou Rough Jade Association. The president of the association even invited Shen Fei to say a few words so that the auction could end on a high note.

"Young Master Shen, you made quite a name for yourself at the jade stone auction! First, you escaped rock number 9, then against all the odds you picked rock number 11 and paid \$500,000 for it. In the end, it contained a rare Yang green jade. You left quite a mark in the Yunzhou jade stone history. I know you must be very excited and have a lot to say. Would you like to chat with our other jade enthusiasts?" The host's sweet voice

reverberated through the air.

Shen Fei was dressed in a suit as he stood on the stage and smiled gently.

He was so excited that his hands trembled. Shen Fei was overwhelmed with joy when he picked up the microphone and said to the crowd, "I know right now, you have a lot of questions for me. You might want to ask me how I managed to fight the odds and strike it rich. Or perhaps how I managed to spot and chose such an unimpressive rock among all the other stones. I have many things that I want to say, but of the many things I want to say, I will say just this," Shen Fei suddenly paused.

It seemed as though time came to a stop.

In the large and quiet showroom where a pin drop could be heard, Shen Fei looked lovingly at the crowd and scoured the place until his eyes fell on a handsome youth.

"Mr Ye, thank you! You were the one with the Midas touch. You were the one who gave me a second chance at life! Yes, that's right. Mr Ye was the one behind

everything we did at the auction! He was the one with the keen eye! He was the one with the Midas touch! He was the one who fought against all the odds! Mr Ye is the amazing and brilliant one! He's the real star of this event tonight. Now, let's invite Mr Ye to the stage to say a few words."

Shen Fei was so funny. After his nonsensical speech, he pushed Ye Fan into the limelight and made him the center of everyone's attention.

Although Shen Fei said all this with the intention of flattering Ye Fan, he meant everything he said.

After all, he had a second chance solely because Ye Fan turned the tides.

He was truly impressed by Ye Fan!

Not only was he extraordinarily powerful, he was also remarkably talented.

Ye Fan strangely became the center of attention just like that. He even got oddly pulled onto the stage to stand on the most glorious spot in the showroom.

"It was him? Why is it him?"

“What?”

But among the commotion, Sun Yu-Hao’s eyes were so bloodshot they seemed like they were about to bleed.

That limelight belonged to Sun Yu-Hao, or so he thought.

He wanted to stand there and let Qiu Mu-Cheng witness him in all his glory and make her surrender to him.

But that good-for-nothing unexpectedly stole his limelight.



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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Sun Yu-Hao prepared a long time for this moment. He spent a lot of money so that he could dazzle everyone at the jade stone auction. Then he could stand on the stage in the limelight and express his love for Qiu Mu-Cheng.

But he didn't expect his glory to be stolen by the good-for-nothing that he hated the most.

Sun Yu-Hao thought he had lost to Shen Fei. Only now did he know that the person he lost to was Ye Fan.

But he was just a poor country bumpkin and a live-in husband. What gave him the right to stand there and enjoy everyone's respect?

Sun Yu-Hao's eyes were bloodshot, and he was deeply resentful.

At first, he wanted to use the jade stone auction to prove himself. But his plans blew in his face, and he made a mockery of himself. Instead, he handed the chance to Ye Fan. Of course, Sun Yu-Hao was breaking down in his heart.

In reality, Sun Yu-Hao wasn't alone as Han

Fei-Fei, and the others were equally shocked.

“It was him! Was it really him?! How could a country bumpkin know anything about rock gambling? How...how is this possible?” Han Hai and Han Fei-Fei were in complete disbelief. Ye Fan was useless in their eyes all along and was equal to trash. But today he managed to surprise everyone and was now standing on the stage to look down on everyone. The father and daughter were shocked.

But regardless of their shock, the truth was the truth no matter how incredible it was.

The man that they looked down on the most was now standing at centerstage and receiving everyone's admiration. It was quite the glory.

“It was unexpected that the Mr Ye that Young Master Shen was talking about is so young. As they say, the most outstanding people come from the youth. Sir, Young Master Shen, was saying that the reason he managed to shine at the auction was all because of you. At the most critical time, you turned the tides and stopped Young Master Shen from making

major losses. You had a keen eye. Then you fought against the odds. It was you with the Midas touch that found him the Yang green glass jade.”

“I’m certain that one day, Little Teacher will be highly respected in the rough jade industry! In the future, there will be a lot of people who will want to befriend Little Teacher and want to marry you! Before Little Teacher shares your experience of looking at stones, I hope you can introduce yourself to everyone,” said the host sweetly after Ye Fan went on stage and everyone’s attention turned to Ye Fan.

And just like what the host said earlier, many people here wanted to befriend this capable young man. There were even some who were determined to hire Ye Fan as their companies’ consultants with a million dollar annual income.

After all, given his keen eye for rock gambling, it was a matter of time before he created huge profits.

Other than that, many of the single rich ladies present were batting their eyes at him Ye Fan. Some of the more extroverted girls even professed their interest to court

him, marry him, and be his wife.

Qiu Mu-Cheng stood in the crowd silently as he listened and watched. When she heard people saying they wanted to marry Ye Fan and be his wife, she felt very smug in her heart.

After all, probably any wife would feel equally proud and smug if they heard your husband was so popular.

Of course, the people here were most curious about Ye Fan's identity.

As they waited for Ye Fan to introduce his family so that they could find out which rich family he came from, Ye Fan laughed softly and shook his head as he said, "I, Ye Fan, am a nobody, so there's nothing worth introducing. The reason I can stand here is pure luck."

"Mr Ye, don't be so modest, why don't you introduce yourself to us? Let us know which wonderful wealthy family you're from and how they managed to groom such a talented young man like you to be the next rising star at rock gambling?" continued the host in a sweet voice as he continued to try making Ye Fan say which

family he was from.

“Mr Ye, you’re too modest. Everyone who attended this event are all rich and powerful. Mr Ye is so talented with rock gambling and such close friends with Young Master Shen. How could you be a nobody?”

But before Ye Fan could reply, someone in the crowd laughed coldly.

“How can he be from a rich and powerful family? He’s just a good-for-nothing! So of course, he doesn’t dare to say a thing! You won’t get any answers from him.”

A voice rang out suddenly from somewhere in the showroom and reached across the crowd.

“It’s you!” When Ye Fan caught sight of the woman, he frowned.

The moment the woman appeared, the smile on even Qiu Mu-Cheng’s happy face swiftly disappeared, and her expression turned cold.

The woman that suddenly appeared was none other than Qiu Mu-Cheng’s cousin,

Qiu Mu-Ying.

When Qiu Mu-Ying was buying a diamond ring previously, Ye Fan and Qiu Mu-Cheng made her embarrass herself completely. So Qiu Mu-Ying was in a foul mood all morning. The more she thought about it, the angrier she became. She even lost all the mood to have fun.

Qiu Mu-Ying was still worried about how to save the situation. But when she got to the ninth floor and saw Ye Fan bluffing, she found her golden opportunity. How could Qiu Mu-Ying let this opportunity slip by?

Today, she had to use this chance to make Ye Fan expose his true self.

“Qiu Mu-Ying, what do you want?” questioned Qiu Mu-Cheng angrily. She knew that her cousin was up to no good when she appeared at this time.

“Hey, Mu-Cheng! Why so anxious? It’s not like I’m a tiger that will eat you. No one knows about your good for nothing husband’s real identity yet. Since both of you are too shy to say it, then I must jump in to help,” sneered Qiu Mu-Ying. She disregarded Qiu Mu-Cheng’s pale and

furious face and stepped onto the stage while everyone stared at her. After she walked to the center of the stage, she took the microphone and told everyone, “Did every one of you think that Mr Ye is a rich man’s son?”

All I want to say is that you were deceived! He, Ye Fan, is a good-for-nothing. He has a lowly background and is just a poor country bumpkin without money or power and his mother is just a farmer. Three years ago, he shamelessly laid down his male pride to marry into the Qius to become a useless live-in husband. Then he went in cahoots with his wife to ruin the Qiu family’s honor. He and his wife were chased out from the Qius and are now nothing but homeless strays! What rich and powerful family were you thinking about? Ye Fan is just a poor country bumpkin that’s living off his wife! Neither is he the rising star in the rock gambling circles. That’s a pure joke! Think about it. How can a desperately poor country bumpkin that can’t even feed himself have the idle cash to gamble rocks? He has probably never even heard of jadeite rough stones!

“So he conned all of us!!!”

Chapter 228 Everyone Has Been Deceived by Him!

“Does that mean he doesn’t know about rock gambling at all? How can he be the rising star of the rock gambling circles?”

“I bet he got vain and begged his master, Young Master Shen, to lie for him and give him a chance to pretend like he knew how to do this.”



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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What?

Was he just a live-in son-in-law?

And a poor country bumpkin no less?

Qiu Mu-Ying's words fell on everyone like huge rocks crashing into the ocean. Almost instantly, it created a tidal wave among the crowd.

There was a commotion for a while as people chattered about it.

The look of admiration the crowd had for Ye Fan completely disappeared.

"No wonder he refused to tell us about his family!"

"So he's a good-for-nothing?"

"It's one thing to be poor, but it's another to have no ambition. How can he be a live-in husband?"

"He's embarrassing us men!"

.....

"What would a useless man like him

know? How could he be talented?”

“From the looks of it now, this beauty must be right. He’s probably just a poor country bumpkin who begged Young Master Shen to lie for him. He probably just wants a chance to go on stage and act cool, right?”

“To think I wanted to recommend him to my grandfather. I wanted to hire him as a rough jade consultant for our company.”

“It’s all thanks to that girl on stage that we know the truth!”

“Otherwise, we would really get duped!”

.....

The crowd was riotous.

Everyone berated him one after another. They were furious for getting duped.

Of course, it was a one-sided account on Qiu Mu-Ying’s part, but everyone believed her.

“I was just wondering how a rich young master would dress so poorly. He’s even bloody wearing some random sports

shoes.”

“After all that, he was just a country bumpkin.”

“He even lives off his wife. How could someone like that have any talent?”

“If he had any talent, he wouldn’t have married into the family!”

“We were all conned!”

Everyone beneath the stage was gossiping wildly. They even berated Ye Fan for being a liar and boo-ed him off the stage.

Qiu Mu-Cheng’s face turned pale as she stood there. She glanced at Ye Fan while he got verbally condemned. Even though she wanted to help Ye Fan explain matters, how should she do it?

Although Qiu Mu-Ying was harsh, she basically spoke the truth.

Ye Fan did indeed hail from a poor family and married into the Qius to be live-in husband.

In the end, Qiu Mu-Cheng lowered her face

and bit her lip. Her eyes had unknowingly turned red.

“Fei, didn’t you say Mr Ye was a big shot? After all that, he turned to be only a live-in husband and a country bumpkin?” Han Shao-Jie looked at Shen Fei perplexedly.

Shen Fei had always told Han Shao-Jie that Ye Fan was extraordinary and that he was the most influential person in Jiangdong. After he heard Qiu Mu-Ying exposing Ye Fan’s identity, Han Shao-Jie was also filled with questions for his friend.

But Shen Fei replied in a low voice, “That woman is a stupid bitch and you believe everything she says?”

The host looked rather awkward on stage now and asked Qiu Mu-Ying, “Miss, did you make a mistake? This young man here is...”

“How could I have made a mistake? I’d recognize this fellow even if you crush him to pieces! If you don’t believe me, just ask him and make him say it!” Qiu Mu-Ying rudely cut the host off and laughed gleefully.

The host looked doubtful but asked Ye Fan anyway.

Ye Fan didn't hide anything and just said, "She's right.

"I do come from a lowly family and I'm just the child of a farmer."

"I married into the Qiu family and I'm just a live-in son-in-law."

...

"What the hell?!"

"It's actually true?!"

"Damn it, we've really been conned by him!"

"And I wanted to marry him too! He's turned out to be a scam!"

"What does a country bumpkin know about gambling rocks?"

"Get off the stage now!"

"How dare you stand there!"

“Get off the stage!”

.....

The crowd went mad after they heard Ye Fan admit to these facts. They all became angry and started hurling insults at him and wanted him to get off the stage.

“Haha, this country bumpkin was simply asking for it. He shouldn’t pretend if he isn’t capable. It’s not truly your glory if someone else gave it to you. Now that it has come to this, you deserve it.”

“I wonder how this country bumpkin can survive now.”

Ye Fan was so well-loved just moments ago, but now he had become a public enemy. Sun Yu-Hao was so pleased with this turn of events and just smiled gleefully by the side.

Han Hai and his daughter were filled with disdain as they scoffed, “A useless bum is a useless bum. How could a simple snake turn into a dragon?”

“Yu-Hao, let’s go. The show’s over and it’s getting late. Let’s go settle our business.”

Han Hai had guessed this was how things were going to end and didn't want to watch this show anymore.

After all, business was more important. They didn't want to waste any time on someone like Ye Fan.

Sun Yu-Hao checked the time and nodded, "Okay, it's almost time. The Mid-Autumn Festival auction is finally about to start."

Sun Yu-Hao smiled slowly. The three of them slipped away while the jade showroom was still in a mess and went to the top floor of the hall.

This was where the truly big shots would gather tonight!

Ye Fan was still on stage and just sighed to himself as he heard the angry crowd.

"Why are you still standing there? Get off! Aren't you worried about embarrassing yourself?" The host was no longer respectful to Ye Fan and was even a little disgusted.

Ye Fan took the microphone instead and said to the crowd again, "Please be quiet,

everyone. I'd like to say a few words."

"What's there to say? Please leave!" The host chased Ye Fan away.

Qiu Mu-Ying folded her arms and waited to watch a good show. "It's alright, just let this useless bum say one more thing. Let's see what else he has to say."

The entire showroom quietened down again as everyone looked coldly at Ye Fan with a snort and much disdain on their faces.

They too, wanted to see what this country bumpkin had to say about himself at this point.

Ye Fan faced the crowd and remained calm. He cleared his throat and spoke calmly into the mic, "I won't hide this from you. It's true that I know nothing about rock gambling."

"But before leaving, I'd like to say that I've got my eye on that rock over there. How much will it cost?"

What the...

“This fellow still wants to buy a rock?”

He was even choosing one in front of everyone! Didn't he find himself embarrassing enough as it was?

Everyone looked surprised and turned to see the rock Ye Fan was talking about.

When they saw this, everyone in the showroom laughed instantly.

“He actually wants to buy a masked jade stone that no one wants?”

“Before this, I thought perhaps this young man does know how to do this. But it looks like he clearly knows nothing about these unpolished rocks.”

“Don't embarrass yourself anymore and just get off the stage, will you?”

Everyone was chortling.

The host looked even more disdainfully at Ye Fan now. He ignored Ye Fan's request to buy the rock and just chased him away.

“Don't do that! Since he wants this rock to prove himself, then let him do just that!

Chapter 229 I Want to Buy a Stone

Nobody wants that rock anyway, so since this country bumpkin wants it, he can have it," Qiu Mu-Ying egged the host on since she wanted to make a scene here.



Rate the Translation to Get 2 Pearls.



Wait! I Have Something to Say!



Send a Gift to the Writer!

Qiu Mu-Ying laughed coldly in her heart as she spoke.

She thought he was truly an idiot for still choosing a rock now. Wasn't he asking for humiliation?

In a while, after they found that it was scrap, it would undoubtedly cement the fact that Ye Fan being a good-for-nothing.

After Qiu Mu-Ying said these words, the host felt that she made sense too. The host asked the ones in charge of the auction about it and agreed to sell the rock to Ye Fan for \$1,000 per kilogram.

The reason why it was going so cheaply was because it was just a piece of masked jade.

Masked jade meant that it had no snake bands nor color nor pattern on it, and it was just grey and white, and looked like any other rock. From the outside, one couldn't even consider it rough jade because it didn't look like it might be green on the inside at all.

And that was also why these rocks were never part of the auction and were left in a

corner like trash.

Ye Fan had only noticed the rock after he went onstage too.

But this rock was a few kilograms and would cost quite a few thousand. Ye Fan didn't have that much money, so he had to borrow from Shen Fei.

"Mr Ye, are you sure? That's a masked jade stone. The chances of it containing jade are zero. It's fine to lose money, but it will be embarrassing," persuaded Ye Fan nonstop when he wanted to borrow money from Shen Fei.

Shen Fei could believe that something with a tiny corner of green would contain jade, and he could also believe that a rock that was worth millions would produce Yang jade. But Shen Fei wasn't going to believe that a rock that was sold by weight would produce anything inside.

"Mr Ye, why don't you buy something else? This will affect your reputation, you know. If the rock you've chosen is a bad one, then you won't just look bad here, but you'd also become a laughingstock in the jade world and I'd be embarrassed along with

you.” Shen Fei wasn’t dumb. Many people were hoping that Ye Fan would embarrass himself, so Shen Fei was worried for him.

But Ye Fan remained calm and insisted on buying that rock. And he even wanted to cut it in front of everyone.

“He even has to borrow a few thousand?”

“He must be really poor!”

“How did a country bumpkin like him get in here?”

“And he actually wants to cut this in front of everyone?!”

“This sort of rock has no color, no snake bands and no pattern and looks just like any ordinary piece of rock. If someone put this up for an auction, I wouldn’t even look at it. Only a piece of trash would like a piece of trash too, right?”

“Fei, you’re really too kind. But let me advise you – don’t go too close to people like that, it’s really unbecoming of you and you’d embarrass your father,” a middle aged man pretended to remind Shen Fei kindly as he shook his head and snorted.

He was the director of Hongyuan Jewelry Company, and his name was Li Hong-Yuan. He was friends with Shen Fei's father, Shen Jiu-Yi.

Shen Fei smiled coldly instead, "Uncle Li, thanks for the reminder. But you don't have to worry about me."

"Why you..." Li Hong-yuan glared angrily at Shen Fei. "How stubborn! Wait and see then! This country bumpkin will cut this useless piece of rock open and I'll see what you have to say then!"

Everyone was looking on coldly with disdain in their hearts. They were watching Ye Fan's 'performance' like they were watching a clown.

Ye Fan had already carried the rock over to the stone cutting table.

"Do you want to polish or cut it?" asked the staff out of habit.

Ye Fan thought about it for a while. "Polish it."

Everyone burst out laughing immediately.

“Polish? Seriously?”

“Even if you polish it till tomorrow, it won’t turn green!”

“What an idiot!” Li Hong-Yuan sneered.

Qiu Mu-Ying and Chu Wen-Fei were waiting for a good show.

Only Qiu Mu-Cheng Shen Fei watched on nervously.

ZIZIZI...

Under Ye Fan’s insistence, the staff started polishing the rock.

A white fog appeared as the sandpaper rubbed against the rock.

But this white fog didn’t last long. After a short time of polishing, a thick green fog started gushing out.

Eventually, a green color appeared on the rock and there were no cracks at all.

“This...this...”

“Oh my god, it’s actually green?!”

“And it’s completely green!”

There was a deathly silence in the showroom.

After the green jade appeared, all the snorting and chortling immediately stopped.

All the mocking and disdain towards Ye Fan disappeared.

The entire hall was silent. The incredibly shocked crowd was just gasping wildly.

When that brilliant green color was placed before everyone, nobody could remain calm anymore.

There were even some who dashed forward to look at that full and pure jade color and started shouting.

“This...this is...Imperial jade! That’s right! It’s glass type Imperial jade! Oh my god! It’s actually glass type Imperial jade?! I can’t believe I would actually get to see glass type Imperial jade in my life! He...he must be god...”

What?

After Li Hong-Yuan exclaimed like this, it was as if a gigantic rock had fallen into the ocean. The entire crowd was in an uproar.

A king was the one who stood above everyone else.

And Imperial jade was the king of all jade!

Imperial jade was the most valuable and rarest of all jade!

The Yang jade earlier was rare too, but at least Yunzhou had seen it about three times over the past few decades.

But this type of glass Imperial jade was never seen before!

“Mr Ye! You’ve made history! You’ve made history!”

“Finding a piece of glass type Imperial jade isn’t just shocking in Yunzhou, it’s shocking in all of Jiangdong!”

“Mr Ye truly has the Midas touch!”

“Imperial jade, and it’s the glass type too! This rock is going to cost millions now!”

“Mr Ye, you’ve made a killing this time!”

“Not just that! This rock alone is going to catapult you to the top spot in Yunzhou’s jade circles!”

“There’s nobody better than you!”

The moment the green jade appeared, the entire showroom went into a frenzy.

Many people got excited as they trembled uncontrollably. Some of them were even beginning to cry because they had seen Imperial jade for themselves.

“\$100 million! I will pay \$100 million.”

“Mr Ye, I will pay \$100 million to buy this imperial green jade.”

.....

“Li, you offered only \$100 million for this glass imperial green jade. How could you?”

“Mr Ye, I will offer \$150 million for this imperial green jade. Please sell it to me!”

.....

“I’ll pay \$160 million!”

.....

“\$170 million!”

.....

The crowd was suddenly in an uproar as countless jewelers started fighting for the jade. Even Li Hong-Yuan, the one who had been filled with so much disdain for Ye Fan earlier, was now one of the loudest and most passionate voices in the crowd.

As for Qiu Mu-Ying, she had hoped to see Ye Fan embarrass himself, but this scene was like lightning striking her and she was completely floored as her head spun.

“\$1...\$100 million?”

“How could this good-for-nothing manage to obtain a \$100 million jadeite? How...how can this be?” Qiu Mu-Ying’s eyes were already bloodshot.

Her pretty little face was pale as she stared hard at Ye Fan. She couldn’t remain calm anymore and her body trembled hard.

“That’s impossible, that’s impossible! Even if you put all the Qius’ assets together, it would only add up to \$200 million at best. He’s just a lowly country bumpkin! So how could he have made more than \$100 million in an instant and become a millionaire? This is impossible!” Qiu Mu-Ying was going mad. She started yelling away with bloodshot eyes. She was filled with tremendous jealousy and rage inside.

She couldn’t accept it at all. This was the useless bum that she always looked down on and he was the relative she hated the most. Now he was going to become a millionaire and become richer than her? She couldn’t stand it at all. She had always trampled on Qiu Mu-Cheng’s family and now they were going to do better than her?



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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The worst thing that could ever happen to Qiu Mu-Ying was to see someone she used to look down on actually live better than herself and become richer than her own family.

And that was what Ye Fan was doing right now.

Glass imperial green jade!

That was worth hundreds of millions.

Even if Qiu Mu-Ying married Chu Wen-Fei and became a rich housewife, no matter how rich the Chus were, the money belonged to his father.

At least for now, they didn't belong to Chu Wen-Fei at all.

In other words, the only money Qiu Mu-Ying's family could access was a few million.

But Qiu Mu-Cheng and Ye Fan had become millionaires suddenly and were now far richer than their families. They were so rich that even the Qius couldn't compare to them. Of course, Qiu Mu-Ying was particularly green with envy!

Nobody could understand how angry and jealous Qiu Mu-Ying was right now. She was on the brink of madness.

Especially now that the crowd was still trying to bid for the imperial jade and the bidding price had shot up to \$200 million. Qiu Mu-Ying's eyes were going to bleed from her jealousy.

But even though the price had skyrocketed, Ye Fan didn't intend to sell it at all. He just looked like he was still waiting for the perfect price and said he didn't intend to sell it yet.

"Don't be like this...Mr Ye, are you upset that the price is too low? If you're willing to sell, we can negotiate further." Li Hong-Yuan started getting anxious. If he missed this chance, then someone else would get this imperial jade.

After all, this sort of imperial jade was really hard to come by and it had a very high collector's value. Even if one didn't just keep it in a collection and sold them as bangles, one bangle alone would fetch several million too. Besides, Ye Fan's jade piece was quite large and it was more than enough to make two or three bangles.

Even if he used \$200 million to buy this piece, he would still profit!

This item was extremely rare, so the seller called the shots on how much he wanted the customer to pay.

So to these rich merchants, as long as they could get this piece of jade from Ye Fan, they would definitely profit!

But Ye Fan continued to refuse and didn't intend to sell it at all. Li Hong-Yuan had no choice but to use a different tactic to move Ye Fan's heart.

So Li Hong-Yuan went to look for Shen Fei and put on a friendly smile. "Fei, Mr Ye is your friend right? Since I'm such old buddies with your father, why don't you help to put in a good word for me and persuade your friend to sell me that piece of imperial jade? Even half of it will do."

"I really, really like this piece...Fei, won't you help your Uncle Li out?" Li Hong-Yuan really humbled himself and sounded like he was begging Shen Fei. He didn't have any of that arrogance earlier.

Shen Fei immediately burst out laughing

and teasingly shook his head. "No no, Uncle Li, I shouldn't be walking too closely with him. He's just a lowly country bumpkin, so if I go too near him, it would be unbecoming of me and I would even embarrass my dad."

"So Uncle Li, I'm sorry but I can't help you. I have to listen to you and stop being friends with Mr Ye. A penniless country bumpkin like him doesn't even have the right to talk to us, so why should we beg him?" said Shen Fei in the same way Li Hong-Yuan had despised Ye Fan earlier.

Li Hong-Yuan knew that Shen Fei was spiting him and his face turned red in embarrassment. He hung his head and said bitterly, "Fei, don't tease me anymore. I know I was wrong."

"I had looked down on him and didn't realize that he was such a master in this trade. But Fei, don't tell Mr Ye anything that you said earlier, otherwise I wouldn't stand a chance anymore. I'm begging you!" Li Hong-Yuan's heart was filled with bitterness and knew that he had made a mistake earlier. He was pleading so desperately with Shen Fei.

Shen Fei just shook his head and laughed. "Alright now, Uncle Li, you don't have to look so scared. I won't tell Mr Ye about this. But I really can't help you about that jade, so you think of something yourself, ok?"

Shen Fei wasn't on close terms with Li Hong-Yuan at all, and he was just a business partner of his father's. He wasn't related to him and even spoke so sarcastically earlier, so Shen Fei wasn't going to help him.

Besides, he wanted that jade for himself. But Shen Fei felt a bit awkward since they were friends.

If Ye Fan really didn't intend to sell it, then he would be putting Ye Fan in a spot.

"Shao-Jie, what do you think? I told you Mr Ye wasn't an ordinary person and you didn't believe me before this. Now you get it? He wasn't just choosing a rock. This rock he chose practically shattered the earth! He's chosen two rocks today and one had Yang jade while the other had the even more valuable imperial jade..."

"Mr Ye is simply the most amazing! I don't

care whether you admit it or not, but I'm definitely admitting defeat," exclaimed Shen Fei to Han Shao-Fei and ignored Li Hong-Yuan.

Han Shao-Jie looked at Ye Fan and nodded vigorously too. "Fei, seriously, I don't admit defeat to many, but Mr Ye is definitely one of them!"

"Miss Qiu, I'm so envious of you. You've married a really good man. You have to thank your lucky stars that I'm a man. If I were a woman, I'd definitely try to snatch Mr Ye away from you. I'd even rather be a mistress," said Han Shao-Jie as he looked admiringly at the man in the middle of the adoring crowd.

Qiu Mu-Cheng just stood there and looked at that same man without saying anything. There was a strange gleam in her pretty eyes.

Lucky? Was she lucky to have married Ye Fan?

Or was she proud? Proud to have such an impressive husband?

Perhaps even Qiu Mu-Cheng wasn't sure

herself.

At this point, Ye Fan went onstage once more to complete what he wanted to say to the crowd earlier. "Ladies and gentlemen, I'm just an ordinary person, just another face in the crowd."

"Just like what Miss Qiu Mu-Ying over there has said, I was born in the countryside and married into my wife's family, so I'm not like everyone here who is from an impressive background and with a lot of money and assets. I am just an ordinary person, and as Miss Qiu Mu-Ying said, I'm just a lowly country bumpkin."

"And so I would like to apologize to everyone here and apologize to Miss Qiu Mu-Ying."

"I come from a lowly background and I don't have the right to be here. I don't have the right to appear in front of the highly dignified Miss Qiu or be part of this jade auction along with her."

"I've dampened Miss Qiu Mu-Ying's spirits and cheapened her status as well as affected everyone's mood. I am really sorry."

“As Miss Qiu Mu-Ying said earlier, I had fooled everyone and I really don’t know anything about rock gambling!”

“I am so sorry!” Ye Fan’s apologetic voice rang through the hall.

If Ye Fan had said these words just ten minutes ago, the crowd would have thought he was really apologizing.

But now that he had discovered imperial jade, saying these words were really just him showing off.

He had found a rock with imperial jade inside by just looking at it and made history in the world of Yunzhou’s jade trade.

If he considered himself clueless about rock gambling, then what were they considered?

Idiots?

Chapter 231 Sorry



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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But Ye Fan was too good with his words. He sounded sincere and modest, yet each word he used was filled with self-ridicule and sadness. It undoubtedly struck a chord in many of their hearts.

A lot of their eyes turned red as they chimed in to support Ye Fan. They found Qiu Mu-Ying and her husband outrageous.

“Mr Ye is too modest.”

“With just one word, you extracted Yang green jade and imperial green jade.”

“If someone as remarkable as you is deemed ordinary, then doesn't that make us worse than ordinary people?”

“So what if your family is poor?”

“As the saying goes, we shouldn't judge a hero by his background. Your humble beginnings bring out how amazing you are.”

“Everyone is born equal in this world. We are only judged by our talents or lack of it.”

“Mr Ye, has such a keen eye and is so talented. You are a rare talent of our rough

jadeite industry.”

“You are more than welcome to come to this jade stone showroom! How can you be too lowly to come? How it be considered lowering our status?”

“But there is someone without the right to be here. It’s that woman over there.”

“She’s so malicious for accusing Mr Ye. She accused Mr Ye of being too lowly because she was jealous. What a stupid woman. Does she have the right to despise Mr Ye?”

“Hurry up and get lost!”

“She’s a wicked woman!”

“Women like her are disgusting.”

“I want nothing to do with that vile woman! I tell you, whoever marries her will suffer eight lifetimes of bad luck!”

“Get lost!”

The crowd was riled up now.

Those who wanted to verbally condemn Ye

Fan earlier now turned and targeted Qiu Mu-Ying and her husband instead.

Public opinion could be manipulated to begin with.

The people felt that Ye Fan had deceived them by pretending he was a capable rock gambler when he wasn't in reality. But when Ye Fan extracted imperial green jade right before their eyes, it was a tight slap on Qiu Mu-Ying's face and the crowd was thoroughly impressed.

Also, Ye Fan's self-ridicule undoubtedly spurred the crowd completely and triggered their loathing for Qiu Mu-Ying.

"How can a person as ugly as you have the cheek to look down on Mr Ye?"

"Only ugly people make trouble in order to attract attention!"

"Hurry up and get lost!"

"You're not welcome here!"

The outraged crowd scolded her one after another. Some of them even yanked Qiu Mu-Ying right off the stage.

Everyone detested them, so Qiu Mu-Ying and her husband were booed and chased out of the jade stone showroom.

“Scumbags! How dare they humiliate me! I tell you, you’re all done for! How dare you call me ugly! You’re the one who is ugly! Your whole family is ugly!” Qiu Mu-Ying kept cursing at the crowd viciously even at this point in time. It only served to make them more agitated and infuriated.

Chu Wen-Fei was going crazy from how stupid Qiu Mu-Ying was. He slapped her and shouted at her, “Fucking shut up! Isn’t it embarrassing enough? Hurry up and leave!” Qiu Mu-Ying finally shut up and ran out with Chu Wen-Fei even as the crowd continued to jeer and hurl abuse at them.

After Qiu Mu-Ying and her husband left, the comedy was finally over.

But just as Ye Fan was turning down the jewelers keen on purchasing the jade and preparing to leave, one of the pretty auctioneers came running over.

The auctioneer was wearing a long strapless dress which clung to her waist tightly. Its design showed off her seductive

figure perfectly.

Her lovely and graceful form was so intoxicating that it evoked fleshly fantasies from every man.

After all, her charming good looks and stunning figure were fatally attractive to almost every single man.

The organizers had ulterior motives when they selected this woman to be the auctioneer.

All men wanted to prove themselves in front of pretty women.

“Mr Ye, please wait,” shouted the auctioneer, Li Mei-Er, as she trotted over. Her sweet and melodious voice sounded absolutely refreshing.

“Yes?” Ye Fan stopped when he heard her calling. When he turned, Li Mei-Er was running too quickly and didn’t stop in time. So she staggered a few steps and cried softly before falling right into Ye Fan’s arms.

While she was in his arms, Ye Fan sensed her soft breasts on his chest. They were

pressing against him so hard that he was almost breathless.

Without a doubt, these weapons belonged to Li Mei-Er.

But the instant the beauty fell into his embrace, Ye Fan sensed a cold stare from behind him. It made him feel as though there was a chilly sword pointed to his neck.

It seemed to be saying that if Ye Fan were to do anything inappropriate, it would pierce right through his body.

Ye Fan shuddered. He quickly retreated and pulled Li Mei-Er out of his arms.

"I'm sorry. I'm sorry. I'm so sorry, Mr Ye. I was running too quickly," apologized Li Mei-Er as she blushed.

Ye Fan smiled calmly and asked indifferently, "The auction is over. What else do you need from me? Didn't I pay for the rocks?"

"No no. You're mistaken, Mr Ye. To Diyang Jewelry, it's a wonderful thing for you to extract the imperial green jade at our

auction. You just did some free marketing for us. Even if we gave you the stone for free, it's well-deserved." The auction was organized by Diyang Jewelry and the Yunzhou Rough Jade Association, and most of the jade stones were provided by Diyang Jewelry.

"In order to show our gratitude, my manager would like to meet Mr Ye over there. Also, my manager is interested in buying the imperial green jade at a high price from you. Please don't refuse us," said Lin Mei-Er gently. She was tactful yet particularly lovely. As she spoke, she gazed at Ye Fan with an infatuated look in her eyes.

She appeared like a young girl having a crush and was very attractive.

"Oh. Go and tell your manager there's no need to thank me. We all got what we wanted, so no one owes anyone anything. But I don't plan on selling the jadeite yet. When I do, I'll get in touch with you. We made plans, so we're heading off now," replied Ye Fan indifferently. But it was clear he was uninterested and left right after he finished talking.

Ye Fan's reaction undoubtedly made Lin Mei-Er slightly surprised.

She was keenly aware of how smitten men were with her appearance.

At first, she thought her charm was irresistible to straight men like Ye Fan.

But Ye Fan unexpectedly turned down Lin Mei-Er. Other than her deliberate physical contact with Ye Fan, he didn't look at her at all.

"I'm sure I can convince a country bumpkin in no time with charisma like mine!"

Lin Mei-Er refused to give up. Once again, she gave chase and used her pretty hands to hug Ye Fan's arm. She rubbed her soft breasts against it as she spoke, "Mr Ye, can do me a favor and just go over to meet my manager? Or else he will blame me. At most, I can spend tonight appreciating the moon with you to return the favor."

Lin Mei-Er used a soft voice and batted her eyes at Ye Fan. She wriggled her body while she whined and looked like a seductive snake enchantress.

Chapter 232 Enjoy a Beautiful Night Together!

It was so powerful that Shen Fei and Han Shao-Jie couldn't stop gaping and drooling at her.

Damn! This woman was really an enchantress!



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Wait! I Have Something to Say!



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