

After Prison 1371

[Chapter 1371](#)

“Fine. But don’t make any ridiculous sky-high bids. Make sure you bid just a little higher than the previous bidder,” Severin. agreed in the end.

“Five million and sixty thousand!” a woman stood up in the hall below and raised the bid by en thousand high-grade spiritual stones.

It was Megan’s first time participating in an auction, so she was understandably a little excited. She was very much looking forward to stealing the show, especially in a place where the bidding price would attract the attention of many people.

She smiled and then shouted, “Five million and seventy thousand dollars!”

Sure enough, many people looked at her as soon as she placed her bid.

“The bid came from VIP Room One! They’re finally making a move.

“They did not seem that interested even though the first two items were very valuable. I suppose this third-grade low-rank spiritual herb has attracted their attention.”

“Tsk, tsk. Those women up there are super-hot. Do they all belong to that man? Well, maybe that older one isn’t, but the rest should be his.”

A discussion

soon ensued because VIP Room One was the most famous room in the auction house. The attention would almost certainly shift to them oner they made their bids. Megan had a proud little smirk when she

was praised for her beauty.

“They’ve finally started bidding, I see. Aren’t the previous two items more valuable than this spiritual herb? Why would they choose to bid for this instead of the previous items?”

Jeremy, who was in VIP Room Two, frowned slightly and said with a sneer, “Tch. Do they think they’re so great just because they’re in VIP Room One? I’m going to bid for this so they can’t get what they want. If you can’t win a bidding war against me, then you’ll only show that you’re too incompetent to even deserve that room!” He smiled and then announced loudly, “I bid five million and two hundred thousand high-grade spiritual stones!”

“Five million and two hundred thousand from VIP Room Two’s Mister Jeremy! Do we have any higher bids?” Caroline was slightly taken aback, but she soon continued to carry out her duties as usual

“That fatso is trying to outbid us! It pisses me off!” Megan gritted her teeth angrily when Jeremy bid higher than hers.

“Five million and twenty–one thousand dollars!” Megan remembered Severin’s advice to avoid increasing the price too much, so she reminded herself to bid only 10,000 more than Jeremy’s bid.

Jeremy was a little stunned. He grimaced at Megan and said loudly so everyone could hear him, “Oh, I guess the people in VIP Room One don’t have that much money. They seem to be bidding in increments of ten thousand because they have a limited budget! Hahaha!”

Megan immediately glared at Jeremy. “What’s it to you, anyway? The rule was to bid in increments of at least ten thousand, and I’m abiding by those rules perfectly! You don’t need to be such a busybody!”

“Hehe, just admit that you’re poor. I won’t waste my time with you, I’m bidding six million spiritual stones!” Jeremy raised the bid by several hundred thousand to show his dominance.

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Megan frowned, looked at Severin, and said, “He’s raised the bid by a lot, Brother–in–Law, Shall we increase the price?”

Megan did not know the exact value of the spiritual herb, and she was afraid that she might be on the losing end if she made indiscriminate bids..

Severin smiled and said, “Relax. When it comes to spiritual herbs, we can increase the price until our opponent caves in and stops the bidding war. This third–grade low–rank spiritual herb is not very useful for him because he can’t turn it into a pill. He can only offer a price that is commensurate with the price of the herb. It’s different for me because I can refine the herb with more than a ninety–percent success rate. I’m sure you understand how much the value of that herb would rise after I make a pill out of it. Don’t worry. We have nothing to be afraid of!”

“Okay then! I’ll keep going” Megan’s eyes lit up instantly and she was buzzing with excitement.

She yelled at Jeremy, “You think you’re rich, don’t you, fatso? Well, you won’t be able to beat us in this game! Emph! You’ve raised the bid to six million, right? Then I’ll raise it to six million and one hundred thousand! How do you like that? I’ve bid one hundred thousand more now!” She even made a face at him after her bid.

Jeremy was so infuriated that he immediately said, “Now this is interesting. Are you sure you want to enter a bidding war with me? We’ll see how much money you love.”

Then, he shouted, “Seven million! I’m raising the bid to seven million dollars!”

No one in the audience dared to join the bidding war involving VIP Room One and VIP Room Two. Anyone else would probably end up losing to either of them anyway, so there was no point in that exertion. Furthermore, the bid had reached a relatively high number of seven million high–grade spiritual stones.

“Seven million and one hundred thousand dollars!” Although Megan knew that she could bid higher than Jeremy, she did not dare to raise it by much and continued to increase her bid by another a hundred thousand spiritual stones

“To hell with you. I’m bidding eight million dollars!” Jeremy shouted ruthlessly again

The purple-clad girl who was standing on the balcony of VIP Room Three had a faint smile. "This is getting interesting. No one else is joining this bidding war except for VIP Room One and VIP Room Two."

The old man beside her chuckled. "Those who are inside the VIP Rooms are all possible competitors. We'll be in prime position if their stock of spiritual stones runs out quicker."

The girl in the purple dress smiled and said, "It doesn't have to be like that though. There aren't a lot of people who would want to get what we came here for. After all, I don't think anyone would have any use for a triple-chamber cauldron."

The old man laughed. "As unlikely as it is that there would be people who seek the same thing as we do, we need to make sure that everything falls perfectly into plan. After all, those in the VIP Rooms would certainly have a big supply of spiritual stones. We, on the other hand, did not bring that much when we came."

At that moment, Megan raised her bid again. "Eight million and one hundred thousand! Hehe!"

She then took a sip of the red wine in her hand and had a confident smile on her face.

"You're doing this on purpose, aren't you?" Jeremy was red with anger. He gritted his teeth and said, "Nine million!"

"I can do whatever I want. We have plenty of spiritual stones, so I can bid any number as long as it's higher than yours!" Megan shrugged indifferently.

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Caroline, the auctioneer, had a puzzled look on her face. She did not expect that a mere spiritual herb had received bids in excess of nine million high-grade spiritual stones!

"What can you say? They're rich, hehe. Let's see who ends up winning this auction." The people in the hall below were lost for words and could only wait to watch the show.

"Nine million and one hundred thousand dollars!" Megan smiled and called out.

Much to her surprise, Severin came to her as soon as she finished making that bid and whispered, "Let him have it if he raises the bid to ten million spiritual stones."

Megan was a little taken aback when she heard that. She frowned and asked, "Why? we have the upper hand here. Won't we lose out if we let him win?"

Severin smiled and explained, "That spiritual herb is at most only worth eight to nine million high-grade spiritual stones. We'd only be on the losing end if we fork out more than that."

Megan was still a little confused. "But, didn't you say that you can turn it into a third-grade low-rank pill? Isn't that worth two or three billion spiritual stones? We'd still make a profit, plus our dignity is at stake here!"

Severin smiled and said, "You're right about that, but we didn't just come here for that one single spiritual herb. We came for far more than that. It's clear that Jeremy is targeting us, and if we try to wrestle every spiritual herb from him, he'll know that our purpose is to get spiritual herbs. He can then

try to raise the price of each spiritual herb before finally ‘conceding to us, and we’ll end up wasting a large portion of our funds.’”

After an emphatic pause, Severin continued, “If we don’t let him have it this time, then he’ll realize that he has suffered a considerable loss. This will teach him not to bid too high anymore. After all, if he wins the bid at an outrageous price the first time, then the second, and the third... He’ll eventually feel that we’ve tricked him! My strategy right now is to think ahead.”

Once Megan understood Severin’s thought process, she nodded and gave Severin her approval, “Awesome! Your plan is the best! Let’s wipe that smug smile off his face!”

Jeremy did not immediately make another bid because a bodyguard stepped forward and persuaded him against it. “You can’t go any higher, sir. You’ll only be making a loss. This is already the maximum price for a third–grade low–rank spiritual herb. If we increase the price, then-

“Screw you! Look at how irritating that b*tch is! I won’t lose to that woman! Especially not at this juncture!”

Jeremy did not listen to the advice at all. After some thought, he said directly, “I’ll bid ten million dollars! If you’ve got what it takes, then keep them bids coming, woman!”

To his surprise, Megan made a face at him. Ten million dollars! Whoa, you’re so rich, Mister Jeremy! That’s too expensive for us! I won’t be party to this stupidity You have the herb. I concede!

“You’ve been tricked, sir. They intentionally drove up the bid to make you pay more, and we’ve made a loss on this spiritual herb. Your father would not be pleased if he finds out.” The bodyguard gritted his teeth when he saw Megan’s smug face and realized that they had been strung along.

Jeremy’s mouth twitched a few times and he finally realized that he had been fooled. Since there was nothing else that he could do about it, he had no choice but to double down and say to Megan, “Dele, I’m rich enough to get it without needing you to concede to it. You just can’t afford to keep up this

bidding war because you don’t have any money! Hehe! Saying that you concede’ is just a shameless way of saying that you can’t afford to bid mate.”

“Guess the Smallings are so wealthy that even the people in VIP inom One can’t win a bid against him,” someone in the audience quipped when they saw Megan give up

However, someone else retorted, “You don’t know jack. The people in VIP Room One are smart. That herb isn’t worth ten million. Mister Jeremy is the one who suffered a big loss.”

“Mister Jeremy has bid ten million high–grade spiritual stones! Anyone else with a higher bid?” Caroline announced with a smile. When there were no other bids, she said, “Going once... Going twice... suht for ten million dollars to Mister Jeremy from VIP Room Two!”

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After Caroline struck the gavel, the spiritual herb was given to Jeremy.

“Did you see that? These people from VIP Room One can’t even match my bid!” Although Jeremy was unhappy that he made a loss, he could only suck it up and put on an indifferent facade. With his hands behind his back, he made a point to mock Severin’s group.

“Disgusting!” Despite knowing that Jeremy was saying that out of pure spite, Megan was still a little upset at his remark. She went to pour herself another glass of red wine and continued to drink.

Diane looked at them and said to Megan, “Let Severin make the bids after this. You’re not very familiar with the value of these items anyway

“Okay. I’ll let him do it.” Megan wanted to goad that fatso again, but she decided not to continue anymore after she lost her pride from her earlier attempt.

“Let’s continue with the fourth item!” Caroline smiled and took out another spiritual herb. “This is a third-grade medium- rank spiritual herb known as... The starting bid is eight million high-grade spiritual stones, and every subsequent bid must be in increments of at least ten thousand high-grade spiritual stones. Let the bidding begin!”

After hearing the introduction to the herb, Severin smiled and whispered to everyone in the room, “Third-grade medium- rank? Sounds good. I have one recipe that just so happens to require this particular ingredient.”

“Eight million and two hundred thousand dollars!” The starting price of eight million was on the low end for a third-grade medium-rank spiritual herb, so someone in the audience immediately made the first bid of eight million dollars.

“Eight million and three hundred thousand dollars!” another person stood up and bid slightly higher.

“Eight million three hundred and fifty thousand dollars!

“Eight hundred and eighty thousand dollars!”

There was fierce competition among the members of the audience.

When Megan saw that Severin was not in a rush to make a bid, she feared that someone might win the bid and immediately asked anxiously, “Didn’t you want the herb? Why haven’t you made a bid yet?”

Severin smiled and said, “There’s no need to rush. Let them have their fun for now!”

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Jeremy was frowning too. “What with the people from VIP Room One? They just engaged in a bidding war with me for that third-grade low-rank spiritual herb, but now they’re keeping quiet over this third-grade medium-rank spiritual herb? Is it possible that they were never here for the spiritual herb in the first place?

“Nine million dollars!”

The price had soared to nine million dollars after an intense bidding war among the people downstairs. The price was not expensive for most people, and one could say that it was far lower than the supposed market price.

Finally, Severin stood up with a smile and said, “Ten million dollars!” It was a jaw–dropping bid that was one million spiritual stones more than the previous bidder. Everyone was dumbfounded when they heard that huge increase in bidding.

“The person in VIP Room One has finally spoken, and he raised the bid to ten million! Shall we raise any further, sir?” One of the people who had participated in the bidding earlier immediately turned to seek his employer’s advice after hearing Severin’s bid.

The man next to him smiled bitterly. “Forget about it. He bid one million more than us, so he’s clearly determined to win. We wouldn’t want to cause any trouble by making those in VIP Room One unhappy. Let them have it.”

Many people shared the same view as that man, and no one else continued to make higher bids.

“Mister Severin Feuillet from VIP Room One has made a bid of ten million dollars. Would anyone else like to bid higher? Caroline smiled and announced to everyone.

“Even Miss Caroline knows that guy from VIP Room One. There must be more to him than meets the eye. We should know better than to try and outbid him,” someone whispered.

Another person said, “You’re right, I can’t help but wonder who this person is, though. I’ve never heard of anyone like him before. There aren’t a lot of people who share the same surname as him, and most of them are well–known in Oolong City. Why haven’t we heard of it at all?”

Everyone was curious about Severin’s identity, but no one continued to engage in a bidding war with him.

“Ten and a half million dollars!” To everyone’s surprise, Jeremy from VIP Room Two made a bid.

Severin looked at Jeremy and smiled at him. “Eleven million dollars!TM

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“Don’t be impulsive, sir! You fell for his trick once already, and we can’t continue to let ourselves be played like a fiddle again. You sure you’re willing to suffer another bigger loss if he decides to concede to you after you make another outrageously high bid?” a bodyguard next to him reminded him immediately.

Jeremy’s lips twitched a few times before he said to the bodyguard, “But this is a third–grade medium–rank spiritual herb! Its value is at least fifteen million to twenty million. He’ll be getting a steal if I let him have it for eleven million. I’m not about to let him get it so easily!”

“So...” Severin smiled cheekily and looked tauntingly at the other party. “Shall we continue?”

“You think I’m scared of you?” Jeremy had never been that angry in his life. He gritted his teeth and said, “Twelve million dollars! This is a third–grade medium–rank spiritual herb, and I’m not making a loss here because it’s worth that price.”

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Severin smirked as if he did not take Jeremy's words seriously. He smiled and raised the bid by three million. "Then I'll bid fifteen million dollars! The ball is in your court now! Don't let me down."

"This is no time to be impulsive, sir. He's obviously setting you up! It will no longer be worth the price if you raise the bid beyond fifteen million dollars," the bodyguard had to remind Jeremy again.

Although Jeremy was very upset, he could only grit his teeth in anger. He eventually smiled at Severin and said, "Hehe, did you think you could set me up? You just want me to keep raising the price so you can cop out at the last minute. I'm not an idiot. I won't enter a bidding war with you. You can take that herb for fifteen million dollars. I don't need that many spiritual herbs. I am from a first-class family anyway."

"You're right! We can't let him fool us again!" the bodyguards echoed Jeremy's sentiment and buttered him up.

"That's fifteen million from Mister Severin! Does anyone else want to make a bid?" Caroline announced. When she confirmed that no one else was interested in making any further bids, she said, "Fifteen million! Going once going twice... and sold for fifteen million dollars to Mister Severin from VIP Room one!"

She then struck her gavel and declared that Severin won the bid for that spiritual herb.

"You're amazing, Brother-in-Law! Jeremy gave up because he was afraid of overpaying, while other people probably didn't. want to enter a bidding war with you because you're from VIP Room One! It went so much smoother this time!" Megan remarked to Severin after the herb was sent up to them.

Severin smiled and said, "I'm quite confident it will continue to proceed smoothly in the future."

The items that were put up on auction were mainly spiritual herbs, since they were much easier to obtain than training techniques or combat techniques. Unless a person was short of money, hardly anyone would be willing to put those up for auction. Of course, some people did put up for auction certain things that they did not need but that they took from others by

force.

Severin managed to win the bid for ten spiritual herbs in just under an hour. The majority that he managed to get were third- grade low-rank herbs, while a few were third-grade high-rank herbs. He was very pleased with the result.

Jeremy no longer dared to enter a bidding war with Severin after being humiliated like that. He acted as if he was above their trickery and decided not to participate in any of the bidding. When those in the audience below saw that Severin had made a bid, they gave up as well and avoided trying to outbid Severin.

Caroline felt a little speechless as she presided over the auction. After all, the prices of these spiritual herbs were beyond their expected target—it was rare for such herbs to be auctioned off at relatively low prices. It was a rather unprecedented situation, and one that she could do nothing about.

"I believe the person in VIP Room one is an alchemist. He's not interested in any of the second-grade spiritual herbs, and he never bids for combat techniques or weapons. He seems to be aiming for third-

grade spiritual herbs, or spiritual herbs that can be used for alchemy.” The old man in VIP Room Three had a bad feeling after making those observations.

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The woman in the purple dress noticed the same pattern too. She frowned as soon as she saw the old man frown, and she immediately said to him, “Are you saying that he might want to outbid us for the furnace that we came here for?”

The old man nodded. “If he is an alchemist as we suspected, then yes, I believe he’ll be interested in that furnace too.”

After thinking for a while, the girl smiled and said, “Sigh, we don’t need to be afraid of him right, Mister Musa? He might be interested in that furnace, but he probably won’t have as many spiritual stones as we do. I mean, he already spent about a hundred million spiritual stones, so he probably won’t have the funds to outbid us later. Ordinary alchemists won’t be able to use that furnace either. The minimum proficiency to utilize it to its fullest is at least second–grade high–rank. Otherwise, it’ll be a waste of its potential.”

Musa could only smile bitterly. “Haven’t you noticed? He only bids for spiritual herbs that are at least third–grade low–rank, and even then, he tends to focus on those that can be used for alchemy. I’m starting to suspect that he’s a third–rank

alchemist.”

The girl gasped in shock when she heard that because she knew how terrifying it would be if that was the case.

The sect that they belonged to was relatively good, but that was mainly because of the three second–grade high–rank alchemists and two second grade medium–rank alchemists within their ranks. It was the very reason that their sect could achieve good progress within the past two years, even to the extent of surpassing many other sects.

However, they did not have any third–rank alchemists, and they were constantly hoping that one of the three second–grade high–rank alchemists could make a breakthrough to third–grade low–rank alchemist as soon as possible. The future of their sect would be even brighter if that were successful.

“That’s ridiculous! He’s so young! It can’t be possible! You sure know how to crack a joke, Mister Musa!” The girl in the purple dress shook her head after considering that possibility. She felt that it was something that could never happen.

Mister Musa smiled wryly and said, “Let’s hope my guess is wrong. But if he does turn out to be a third–rank alchemist, he would definitely want what we came here for. I’m afraid we’d have no choice but to enter a bidding war with him.”

Caroline took out the next item and explained what it was to everyone. “Next up, we have a fourth–grade spiritual herb up for auction. The starting price is fifteen million, and every subsequent bid must be done in increments of at least ten thousand high–grade spiritual stones. Now let the bidding begin!”

A fourth-grade spiritual herb, even a low-rank one, was naturally very valuable. After all, it was very beneficial for those who have reached the attainment of a warrior king. Everyone looked at Severin at that moment, and started to wonder if he would start bidding again.

After all, none of them would dare to bid higher than him if he did make a bid, not that they would ever be able to outbid him

anyway.

Severin smiled and said, "I'll bid twenty million spiritual stones. It would be disgraceful to bid any lower than that because this is a fourth-grade low-rank spiritual herb.

Everyone was speechless. Severin was so bold that he increased the starting bid by five million! No one would dare to name a higher price than he did! However, everyone knew that such an herb was estimated to be worth at least thirty million high-grade spiritual stones.

"Mister Severin has bid twenty million high-grade spiritual stones! Does anyone wish to make a higher bid?" Even though Severin had raised the price significantly, Caroline was a little dumbfounded at the time because she realized that no one from the audience had raised their hands.

She glanced up at Jeremy in VIP Room Two and saw him turn his head away. It was as if he was telling her, "This has nothing to do with me."

"No further bids? In that case, going once... going twice... and sold for twenty million dollars to Mister Severin from VIP Room One!" Caroline smiled and continued.

[Chapter 1378](#)

The spiritual herb was soon delivered to Severin.

"That's amazing, Brother-in-Law! We got this on the cheap, didn't we?" Megan asked with a smile.

Severin answered, "We did. There are a lot of valuable items here, and it's almost like we're building up our own stock from the auction."

"The next item to be put up for auction is very valuable, though some people might not find it valuable at all," Caroline began.

Caroline's introduction left Sheila scratching her head. "How can something be valuable to some and have no value to others? It's really weird."

"This here is an cauldron. It's a third-grade spiritual tool that can increase the success rate of one's pill refinement by fifteen percent. More importantly, it is a triple-chamber cauldron. This means that there are three inner furnaces of which one batch of the same material can be placed in each respective chamber. This comes to a total of three batches, thus allowing the alchemist to refine three pills simultaneously. Though it is very demanding to control with one's mental power, an alchemist can achieve triple the result with half the effort," Caroline explained.

"There it is. That's what we came here for!" The girl in VIP Room Three looked at the small cauldron excitedly.

“Wonderful. So, they are auctioning off a treasure like this. The sect’s disciples have done an excellent job relaying this information to our sect,” Musa was getting a little excited too.

“A third–grade spiritual tool that increases the success rate of alchemy by fifteen percent! A triple–chamber cauldron!” Severin’s eyes lit up and he was startled by what he heard. All he wanted was to get some spiritual herbs, so he was not prepared to get such a treasure.

The cauldron seems to have an edge over his double–chambered Werchester Furnace in every aspect! There was no logical reason for him not to bid for that!

“This cauldron is called the Dragonstand Furnace!” Caroline then smiled and said, “The starting price is three hundred million high–grade spiritual stones! Each subsequent bid must be made in increments of at least ten million high–grade spiritual stones!”

“That’s ridiculously expensive! Even the starting bid itself is high enough already!”

Someone in the audience exclaimed in surprise.

“Perhaps the person who put it up for auction believes that it is a genuine treasure, and they’re not wrong for thinking that way. An alchemist would find it exceptionally useful, but ordinary people like us won’t have any use for it,” an old man said with a chuckle.

Another old man beside him smiled wryly, “I am a first–grade medium–rank alchemist, but I can’t afford to bid for it because it requires at least a second–grade alchemist to achieve proper control. Low–level alchemists aren’t worthy of such a good. cauldron, and they cannot use it either.”

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Severin had an excited look on his face because he believed that no one aside from him would want to bid for that. It would subsequently allow him to get the furnace with ease. Unfortunately, he was taken by surprise when the purple–clad girl in VIP Room Three took a step forward and said loudly, “Three hundred and thirty million!”

Everyone gasped when they heard that. The girl had raised the starting bid by thirty million dollars right from the get–go.

“This is the first time that the people from VIP Room Three joined the auction. Boy are we in for a treat!” Someone exclaimed in surprise when they heard that the person from VIP Room Three had made a bid.

“Whoa! That pretty lady in VIP Room Three has her eye on the cauldron! Is she still an alchemist?” Jeremy’s eyes widened in surprise as he looked at the beautiful woman standing on the next–door balcony.

“Three hundred and thirty million dollars! Anyone higher bids from the floor? This young lady seems to be very knowledgeable! She knows that this item is a treasure!” Caroline smiled jubilantly. As long as there were bidders who wanted it, then she could avoid having to sell it at the initial reserve price. At the very least, she would have something to show for to the person to put it up for auction. Those who were willing to put their valuable items for auction were undoubtedly hoping to get a good price. If the

items did not fetch a decent sum, then the reputation of their auction house would surely take a minor hit.

“Three hundred and fifty million dollars!” Severin’s face soured, but he bit the bullet and bid higher anyway. Although he was a little surprised that someone would be bidding for it, he had set his mind on getting that cauldron. Besides, he had already prepared enough spiritual stones, and he might just have to spend more in a worst–case scenario.

“He’s really trying to outbid us! Now we can say for certain that he’s an alchemist!” The girl pulled a long face as she remarked to Musa

Musa frowned and said, “Take it easy. We just have to spend more spiritual stones. Only our sect’s alchemists can use it to its fullest potential. That in itself is priceless.”

The girl, whose name was Stephanie Chillwall, nodded in agreement after hearing that.

Stephanie stood up and smiled. “Now this is interesting. We never tried to outbid you when you placed your bids for so many spiritual herbs, and yet you’re trying to outbid us for the one single thing that we wanted to bid for. In that case, let’s see who has more spiritual stones!”

She then raised her head and said haughtily, “Eight hundred million dollars! I’m bidding eight hundred million high–grade spiritual stones!”

Stephanie had a good plan up her sleeve. She first expressed her determination to get the treasure, and she made it clear to Severin that he should show some courtesy to them. After all, they did refrain from outbidding him earlier, and the least he could do in return was not outbid them too. More importantly, the price she bid was astronomical. That way, she believed that Severin would back down and avoid entering into a bidding war with her. It could be construed as doing a favor for them, and receiving a favor in return.

“Eight hundred million? Just how rich is she to bid eight hundred million high–grade spiritual stones?”

“Who’s the woman in VIP Room Three? That is a huge bid that escalated pretty quickly!”

“Tsk, tsk! I wonder if those in VIP Room One will try and outbid her?”

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The audience engaged in a lively discussion after she made her bid.

“Haha, now we’re talking! I can’t wait to see the look on Mister Severin’s face after he loses out on this!” Jeremy felt as though he had an outlet to vent his anger even though he did not participate in the bidding. After all, Severin had cut him off several times already.

“Eight hundred million! The young woman from VIP Room Three has made a bid of eight hundred million high–grade spiritual stones! Do we have nine hundred million?” Caroline could not hide the excitement in her voice. She believed that the person who put it up for auction would be very happy after knowing that the cauldron was appreciated by those who knew its value and ended up being auctioned for a high price.

Severin, on the other hand, smiled indifferently and said calmly, "I'll offer one and a half billion!"

"Did I hear that correctly?! Mister Severin has made a massive bid of one and a half billion!" Caroline became increasingly excited. Severin's price would have been a big blow to the girl in the purple dress. At long last, Caroline understood why Severin had asked to meet the senior director—the number of spiritual stones that he wanted to exchange would certainly be tremendous.

"You're amazing, Brother-in-Law! Everyone's looking at you with envy!" Megan was overwhelmed with excitement because VIP Room One became the focal point of attention.

Diane felt that he had used a lot of spiritual stones, so she made a point to remind him, "Don't you think you've made too big a bid? Couldn't you have increased your bids by one hundred million? What if the maximum amount of spiritual stones they have is eight hundred million or nine hundred million? You'll only be wasting the spiritual stones if that's the case!"

Severin smiled and said softly to Diane, "Relax. This cauldron might not be that valuable to most people, but it is something extremely precious to an alchemist. I must get it at all costs, and I'm hoping I can use this to try and become a fourth-rank

alchemist sooner."

"Yes, yes! We need to get it! The auctioneer just said that it'll increase the success rate of alchemy by fifteen percent! It's a very valuable item, that's for sure! We might not get another opportunity to encounter this sort of thing in the future!" Felicia gulped, and her eyes lit up as she looked at the cauldron.

She was always drawn to anything valuable.

"It looks like he's determined to outbid us for that furnace, Mister Musa!" Stephanie gritted her teeth angrily. She did not expect Severin to have that many spiritual stones in store.

Musa nodded. "My observations were correct then. He must be a second-grade alchemist, otherwise he wouldn't have tried so desperately to outbid us." Following a brief pause, he added, "This is quite unexpected. You told him that you were going to secure that furnace at all costs, and he has demonstrated a similar determination when he made his bid! We have no choice but to keep bidding. May the richest person win!"

Stephanie nodded, and said to Severin, "How exciting. I'll bid two billion then!"

"Two billion? You seem to have prepared a lot of spiritual stones when you came!" Severin was a little surprised too. Although he knew that upping the bid might offend the two of them, the cauldron was simply too precious for him to just give in to them. He smiled and said, "I'll raise you two and a half billion!"