For the first round, it took Zheng Xihe only ten minutes to reach a conclusion.

A Jadeite with a weight of 74 grams.

The staff immediately began cutting the rough stone and it was indeed a Jadeite with a weight of 62 grams. Zheng Xihe's margin of error was only 12 grams which was relatively better than his results in the match he had with Lu Chen in Chongqing.

Initially, such a result would've been considered great as it was the normal standard of the top three stone gambling masters in the country.

However, after witnessing Lu Chen miraculously controlling his margin of error within 10 grams for the whole night yesterday, everyone thought that Zheng Xihe would definitely lose this round if Lu Chen maintained his standards.

Even Zheng Xihe knew that he would most likely lose this round after seeing his results.

His only hope now was for Lu Chen to succumb to his exhaustion, thus losing his focus and making the wrong judgement.

At the same time, Yang Mu and the others were also having the same thoughts.

"Just you wait and see! He'll definitely lose this round. Any normal person would not be able to carry on after continuously competing for a whole night, especially when it's a Stone Gambling Competition which is extremely mentally draining," said Yang Mu confidently.

"I truly hope so. If not, we're all going to be very much humiliated." Zhu Bohong stared at Lu Chen's eyes as a bad feeling grew within him.

Although everyone seemed to think that Lu Chen was just putting up a strong front, based on his experience in studying people for many years, he somehow had a feeling that Lu Chen's mental strength had not drained too much.

He was indeed a little surprised. Logically speaking, Lu Chen should be mentally drained by now and this was definitely something that could not be explained by science.

"Oh! Is this the standard of the country's third-best? Well, it doesn't seem like

anything much and a 10-gram margin of error is just too weak!" sneered Lu Chen when he saw the result on the tray.

Lu Chen wasn't usually a harsh and sarcastic person, but the Middle Sea Rough Stone Association had really stirred him up this time.

"Hmph! What an arrogant lad! Why don't you compete first before talking big?" snorted Zheng Xihe.

"If I remembered correctly, you used up a total of ten minutes and twenty-one seconds in this round, right?" asked Lu Chen with raised eyebrows.

Zheng Xihe's face immediately changed. In terms of the time that he used to appraise the rough stones, Lu Chen was a complete nutcase. This morning, Zheng Xihe started fast forwarding the recordings of Lu Chen's matches from yesterday night and realized that Lu Chen had never taken more than a minute in each round; his speed in appraising the rough stones was shocking and unrivaled.

"So what? Stone gambling is all about the accuracy in appraising the rough stones;

nobody's comparing the time used in the process," said Zheng Xihe coldly.

Although that was a fact, if someone were to use less time to appraise a stone with the same accuracy, that person clearly was the stronger appraiser.

Everyone understood what Lu Chen meant, but they also knew that Lu Chen had had a long and arduous battle the night before and they weren't sure if he would be able to hang in there mentally any longer.

Hence, everyone decided to stay prudent and keep quiet.

Meanwhile, Lu Chen smiled and said nothing. Then, he randomly picked up a piece of rough stone. Likewise, he felt the stone on his palm and after about half a minute, he yawned and answered, "Lantian Nephrite, 28 grams."

Lu Chen was indeed a little tired. Even though he had practiced the Arts of Longevity since young, exhaustion was starting to creep up on him at this moment.

The young men around him were instantly

filled with confidence for him when they saw Lu Chen acting nonchalant during his match with Zheng Xihe. As for the older men, they all shook their heads as they thought that Lu Chen was fooling around.

In their opinion, Lu Chen was being irresponsible to himself looking down on his opponent like that.

"I guess we won't have to worry about bumping into him anymore today," Xiao Zhiyuan said as he shook his head.

"Yup! If only I knew this, I would not have let Mu Zong expose himself earlier." The middle-aged man nodded in agreement. He was staring at Lu Chen's eyes the whole time and though Lu Chen was trying hard to hide it, he failed to do so as the middle-aged man spotted the weariness in his eyes.

"He's going to lose. That guy is definitely losing!" Yang Mu exclaimed happily when he saw Lu Chen yawning.

The more Lu Chen looked down on Zheng Xihe, the higher the chance he would lose.

Zhu Bohong frowned as he also thought

that Zheng Xihe would probably win this round.

He too noticed the weariness that Lu Chen failed to hide when he focused on Lu Chen's eyes.

Moreover, the nonchalant appraisal that he just provided seemed to indicate that he was starting to lose focus a little.

Meanwhile, everyone else waited for the staff to start cutting the stone.

As the staff started cutting, the rough stone started revealing a yellowish-green color soon after.

The Lantian Nephrite's main component was a Diopside that was transformed from the Serpentine Jade. It was opaque and it came in a variety of colors such as emerald green, yellowish-green, cyan, dark green and many more.

When they saw the yellowish-green color on the stone, everyone thought that it could very likely be a Lantian Nephrite.

As expected, the staff confirmed that it was indeed a Lantian Nephrite when he

placed the stone on the appraisal equipment after he finished cutting it.

When they saw the result, everyone who had doubted Lu Chen earlier looked at him once again. Although they had also noticed that Lu Chen appeared to be a little tired, to everyone's surprise, his rough stone appraisal was still extremely accurate.

The two chairmen, Yang Mu and Zhu Bohong, wore ugly expressions on their faces.

If Lu Chen had even managed to successfully determine the type of gemstone, would his judgement on the weight be any worse?

Both of them were starting to have a bad feeling about this inside.

"23 grams; the margin of error is 5 grams!" exclaimed the worker in shock after he weighed the stone.

This was the smallest margin of error that he had ever come across in a competition ever since he started this job.

It was only the first round and Lu Chen had already won against Zheng Xihe in an overwhelming manner.

His margin of error was 5 grams. Clearly, the accuracy of his appraisal was unmatched and it was almost more accurate than a weighing scale. Not taking Zheng Xihe into account, even if Yun Zhongqi—ranked number one in the country—were to compete, he would not be able to outperform Lu Chen.

There was instantly a loud round of applause from the audience at the seating area.

"You're amazing, Master Lu!"

"You're invincible, Master Lu!"

"What an overwhelming defeat for Zheng Xihe!"

"We want the organizers to come out and give us an explanation!"

Many of the young men were loudly cheering for Lu Chen as well as condemning the organizers for their injustice to Lu Chen.

Looking back, when the organizers first changed the rules of the competition and treated Lu Chen unfairly, there was not one person who stood up to fight for him.

If anything, there were many people who joined the opposing team to condemn Lu Chen under the influence of the paid supporters.

The situation right now was only possible because of Lu Chen's absolute capability and unique charisma.

The faces of Zheng Xihe and everyone else in the Middle Sea Rough Stone Association turned rather ugly when they heard everyone in the hall condemning and talking sarcastically about them.

However, they had no other choice but to put their hope on the next two rounds that Zheng Xihe would be able to fight against the odds and win against Lu Chen.

"You must win, Master Lu!" Lan Ling waved her fists. At this moment, she was behaving exactly like a little girl.

Huang Youjun heaved a sigh of relief and excitedly said, "I guess he must still have

some energy left. If so, he'll have no problem winning against Zheng Xihe!"

Wu Zhonghua nodded in agreement, his eyes filled with shock.

Lu Chen's performance was nothing short of a genius and he could not help but to be impressed.

"Are you still refusing to admit defeat?" mocked Lu Chen as he looked at Zheng Xihe.

Not only did he want to win against Zheng Xihe today, Lu Chen planned to stun him with an overwhelming result. He wanted Zheng Xihe to fear the name 'Lu Chen' for as long as he remained in the stone gambling community.

"Hmph! Don't be too full of yourself! I'd like to see how long you can last."

Zheng Xihe snorted coldly and there was a glimpse of ruthlessness in his eyes. Then, he lifted the second piece of rough stone and started the second round of the match.



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When Lu Chen heard what Zheng Xihe said, he immediately understood the latter's intention. He then sneered before sitting on the lounge chair, leaning back and closed his eyes to refresh himself.

Since Zheng Xihe wanted to delay some time, Lu Chen decided to play along; he would first take a short nap.

As long as he had entered the state of hibernation, it would be difficult to wake him up with any noise.

Zheng Xihe hadn't noticed Lu Chen at first. For the first ten minutes, he was completely focused on judging the results. At the end, he still hadn't announced it and continued fondling the stone.

After all, he had already made up his mind that he must detain Lu Chen for another several hours. Since Lu Chen had stayed up all night, no matter how capable he was, he would definitely make a mistake if Zheng Xihe managed to drag it for another few hours.

However...

Around half an hour later, he heard a loud

snore. When he turned around, he saw that Lu Chen was already asleep.

Zheng Xihe's blood boiled at the sight as he didn't expect Lu Chen to figure out his motives so easily.

In fact, Yang Mu and the others had wanted to inform Zheng Xihe that Lu Chen was sleeping, but seeing how Zheng Xihe kept fondling the stone, they were afraid of affecting his judgment.

After all, this was the most critical round, almost as though it was a matter of life and death to them.

If they won, there was still hope to regain their status; if they lost, all hell would break loose, which meant that they would be greeted with the insults by the rough stone enthusiasts of the National Rough Stone Association, and even the entire Middle Sea jewelry market would suffer a disaster that had been rare for decades.

After weighing the consequences over and over again, Zheng Xihe finally gave up on his motives. Besides, the risk was too great. By then, regardless of whether he had won or lost, he would probably

become the laughing stock in the stone gambling community for the rest of his life.

"Nephrite, 63 grams," Zheng Xihe said and handed the rough stone to the staff.

The staff dared not waste a second and hurriedly began to cut the stone. Soon, the stone was cut open and it was indeed Nephrite from the frontier. But, as the top ten stone gamblers, guessing the right category was already to be expected so there wasn't much to look forward to.

The staff then placed the jade on the tray and quickly weighed out the mass to be 70 grams.

It was only short by 7 grams.

Zheng Xihe sighed in relief with Yang Mu and others following suit.

The margin error of 7 grams was definitely Zheng Xihe's best result in these few decades.

Even Xiao Zhiyuan, who was in the hotel room, had a dark expression.

He himself could count on one hand the number of times he accomplished a margin error of within 10 grams. If he was up against Zheng Xihe, he wouldn't have any confidence in winning at all.

"That guy must be really tired, it seems like he may not be able to beat Zheng Xihe this round," the middle-aged man next to Xiao Zhiyuan said.

Xiao Zhiyuan didn't say anything but secretly agreed with what the middle-aged said.

Seeing how Lu Chen was sleeping so soundly, the host turned to look at Zheng Xihe.

"Wake him up. Don't delay everybody's time." Zheng Xihe ordered coldly.

The host nodded before walking over and patted the sleeping Lu Chen.

"Has it already been a few hours?" Lu Chen rubbed his eyes and asked.

Earlier when he saw Zheng Xihe's guileful gaze, he had guessed that Zheng Xihe would shamelessly drag him on for a few

more hours. Thus, that was the reason why he boldly went to sleep.

"Only half an hour has passed. Since Master Zheng already came up with the results, it's your turn now." The host smiled bitterly.

"Ah, it has only been half an hour? That's so not his style." Lu Chen stood up and flexed his muscles.

When the audience below heard Lu Chen's sarcastic comment, there was a roar of laughter.

Instantly, Zheng Xihe's expression turned extremely ugly.

"How many grams of error did he get?" Lu Chen stretched his body and asked the staff.

As for the category, he believed that Zheng Xihe would be able to guess it right, so it wasn't important. At this level, it was the margin errors of the grams that would determine the outcome.

"7 grams," the staff member said.

Chapter 261 Zheng Xihe's Crushing Defeat

"Damn! Are you serious? Since when did Zheng Xihe become so skilled?" Lu Chen leaned forward to check in disbelief.

"You!" Zheng Xi was so angry he could vomit blood right now. He was sure that Lu Chen must have said it on purpose.

I am one of the top three masters in the country after all, so how dare Lu Chen doubt me! Isn't he just publicly humiliating me?

"Was the conclusion that he gave 56 grams? Or was it 70 grams?" Lu Chen asked the staff seriously.

"70 grams," the staff member said dubiously.

"Master Lu, it's really 70 grams," someone in the audience said.

Lu Chen raised his head and looked toward the person who was talking from below the stage. He then smiled and said, "Okay, then count him as 7 grams of error."

"Lu Chen, what do you mean by that? By doing this, you're humiliating your elderly!" Zheng Xihe was furious and he shouted in

a deep voice.

Lu Chen looked at Zheng Xihe lazily and joked, "Unbelievable, Master Zheng, you're actually aware that you're old!"

"You!" Zheng Xihe's whole body trembled with rage. He didn't expect Lu Chen to have such a nasty mouth; his every sentence was like a needle that pierced into him.

The host really couldn't stand it anymore and reminded Lu Chen, "Master Lu, it's your turn now. Please, don't let the other masters wait too long."

Lu Chen nodded and said sarcastically, "Yes, since the other masters have been delayed all night. I'll start now."

As he said that, he picked up a rough stone. Seeing how it was still in his hand after a while, it was obvious that he fondled it slightly longer this time.

Zheng Xihe had an error of only 7 grams, so he didn't dare to be careless during this round.

Seeing Lu Chen's serious expression,

everyone knew that he was conscientious.

This was the first time he had this look on his face since he participated in the competition.

It seemed that Zheng Xihe's results had put some pressure on him for this round.

"Agate, 37 grams."

After weighing it for the tenth time, he finally spoke.

The staff then took it over and started cutting, with everyone staring intently at the scene.

This round was very important, and it was crucial especially to Zheng Xihe. Everyone wanted to see if Lu Chen could create another miracle and prevent Zheng Xihe, the third-ranking master in the country, from entering the semifinals.

As the cutting deepened, everyone soon saw something red appearing.

There are three natural colors of agate red, amber and white—in which red agate was the best.

Chapter 261 Zheng Xihe's Crushing Defeat

When they thought of Lu Chen's skills as well as spotting the red color, everyone knew it must be an agate.

After the staff had cut and placed it on the instrument, it was indeed a piece of red agate with the best color.

The staff then placed the agate on the tray after announcing the category result to everyone.

"33 grams, it's short by 4 grams!"

When the scale stabilized, the staff reported in shock.

The error that Lu Chen made in the last round was 5 grams, which had already broken countless records in the stone gambling community.

Unexpectedly, during this round, Lu Chen came out to the top with a more terrifying result—a margin error of only 4 grams!

Looking at this accuracy, who would dare to challenge him?

Zheng Xihe, too, noticed the number on the scale. When he saw that it was indeed 33

grams, he felt lightheaded, and that the world was spinning around.

He had lost again. In just a few months, he lost three consecutive games to the same person, and to think that person was just a nobody that he had looked down on before.

At this moment, the audience in the venue stood up, all of them shocked and speechless.



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