

Big Shot 371

Chapter 371: Little Ancestor Slaps Back, Second Wave!

"I've heard that the VIP in room 1 had great insight just now and secured the moonstone with medicinal properties. I wonder if the VIP in room 1 is interested in participating in the stone gambling event tonight? I sincerely invite you!"

There are two treasure appraisers on the stage.

One is not actually a professional treasure appraiser, but an expert in antiques, Professor Feng Tang, whom Di Ge managed to invite from the Imperial University with great difficulty;

The other is the nationally renowned top treasure appraiser "S" in the auction field.

It is said that the treasures appraised by "S" have a high chance of being extraordinarily valuable gemstones.

If it's waste material, she would, in good conscience, have the auction house throw it away first.

So for this stone gambling event, "S" is the leading role, with Professor Feng Tang, the old scholar from the ivory tower, merely dragged in as a foil.

At this moment, "S" unprecedentedly, with implicit meaning, took the initiative to invite the VIP in room 1 to participate in the stone gambling.

The whole venue was in an uproar.

Both envious and jealous!

"Ahhhh, why didn't my goddess S call my name? I've always been a loyal supporter of her!"

"Who is the VIP in room 1? Which big boss is it, that even goddess S shows special favor?"

"Damn, wait a minute, isn't room 1 usually empty? Only someone like Fourth Young Master Nangong would qualify to be received in room 1... Could it be Fourth Young Master Nangong in there?"

Amidst a chorus of speculation.

Zuzi surveyed the hustle and bustle around the auction stage from her elevated vantage point.

The treasure appraiser "S" on the stage wore a brown work cape that concealed her figure and most of her face.

And the remaining part of her face was covered by a carved mask.

Even her voice was processed through a voice changer.

It can be said that she was shrouded in an extremely mysterious aura, the only evidence of her identity was a shiny silver treasure appraiser's stamp in her hand, engraved with the "S" emblem of the Treasure Appraiser Association.

It was also her personal exclusive sign.

"This Ma Jia is really well-concealed!"

Xi Rubao managed to squeeze the little crow aside and sat beside Zuzi, exclaiming.

Sob sob, even Sister's pet has a necklace to wear, Baby is envious inside, but Baby is sensible, Baby is not greedy!

The little crow flew up, full of vigilance, and said in a voice only Zuzi and Fu Xiqin could hear: "Could it be that the person who was competing with us for the moonstone was this guy? A treasure appraiser competing with us for something, doesn't she have a bit of professional ethics?"

Fu Xiqin: "Exactly, exactly, now she's inviting us to gamble stones, why does it feel like she has ill intentions? Ancestor already said there's no good stones in there! We won't play."

Zuzi lazily blinked her phoenix eyes: "Come on, we're just sitting idle, since they've invited us, it wouldn't be polite not to play."

Kid, you've successfully stirred up Ancestor's playful spirit.

Fu Xiqin got excited: "Yeah, yeah, play with her, play her to death!"

The little crow: "... She's the treasure appraiser, she doesn't gamble stones herself, how are you gonna 'play her to death,' you chatterbox idiot."

Fu Xiqin: "Oh right, Ancestor, how are we gonna play?"

Zuzi squinted her eyes, swept her gaze over the stones on the stage again, and chose a number: "55."

Xi Rubao got nervous: "Sis, are you going to bet on that tiny stone number 55? It's so small, even my nearsighted eyes can't see it clearly, how can it open into a gemstone?"

Zuzi smiled slightly: "If it turns out to be a beautiful gemstone, and you don't want it, then I'll..."

Xi Rubao immediately stood up straight: "Want, want, want!"

If not, it'll end up on that pet again, sob sob!

Chapter 372: VIP No. 1, you big, bad, egg! I'm asking for your ancestor now, how could you do this to me!

At the moment everyone was curious about whether the guest in VIP Room No. 1 was Fourth Young Master Nangong, and whether they would accept the invitation from Treasure Appraiser "S".

Suddenly.

The screen showed that VIP Room No. 1 had chosen rough stone No. 55!

"Damn, that's the definition of a quiet badass."

"Wait, isn't this guy being a bit too rash... Out of these fifty-odd rough stones, No. 55 is the least conspicuous and the smallest. Sitting in VIP Room No. 1, and bidding 6 million on the Moonstone, with his status and position, is he really only daring to gamble on this worthless stone?"

"Exactly, according to Goddess S's appraisal, the starting price for No. 55 is only 10,000, not even as big as my thumb. Who would buy it?"

"He's probably cleaned out after the 6 million bid earlier, and now penniless..."

"No way this is Fourth Young Master Nangong, must be some nobody pretending to be someone important..."

Amid all the discussions.

Gu Shiyin's eyes, hidden beneath the brown cloak and mask, lifted slightly.

She initially wanted to guide the VIP in Room No. 1 to buy an expensive rough stone and suffer a major loss.

Unexpectedly, the other party chose the cheapest one. It seems... the other party indeed has no substantial strength; the competition with Chu Qiaoen over the Moonstone earlier must have been their limit.

However.

Even if it's just 10,000, this business will still be a total loss.

She had already looked at Stone No. 55 long ago and believed nothing could be opened out of it; it's too small, with a thick shell, impossible to contain any valuable gemstones, not even a hint of oily green or cotton-like inclusions. It should be an edge waste material, commonly called "brick material."

So, 10,000 is money down the drain.

This is a world apart from the No. 6 and No. 16 she suggested to Chu Qiaoan and Yin Hu.

Gu Shiyin withdrew her gaze.

In fact, she didn't care about VIP Room No. 1. Since Bao Gucheng didn't come today, it would be nice to let Yin Hu and Chen Long have fun, and give her junior sister Chu Qiaoan a little benefit.

After all, having everyone in Bao Gucheng's circle speak well of her is truly acting silently.

People are social creatures.

She understands human nature well.

The selection of a 10,000-rough stone by VIP Room No. 1 led to ridicule from the whole venue.

And made Chu Qiaoan in VIP Room No. 6 finally feel proud for once:

"Hahaha, how shabby, even calling it VIP, isn't it just like a county girl's taste? I listened to Aunt Shiyin and chose No. 6. Hey, Brother Hu, No. 16, suggested by Aunt Shiyin, also contains a 6; what a coincidence."

Yin Hu shyly smiled: "Because Miss Gu is the sixth Miss of the Gu Family, 6 is her lucky number."

In the capital's aristocratic circle, everyone knows Gu Shiyin is the daughter born after Miss Gu, Gu Qiusha, was expelled from home, Mr. Gu fell severely ill, and later, a feng shui master advised him and his wife to have another daughter through in vitro technology. Thus, Miss Gu, Gu Shiyin, was born.

So although Gu Shiyin is young, she holds a high seniority in the circle and is a peer with Bao Gucheng, Bai Fei, and even Gu Yuzhi.

Plus, she has been talented from a young age, flourishing in countless fields, and is respected by juniors as "Auntie."

Chu Qiaoen was marveling with Yin Hu: "Auntie is amazing, the lucky number 6 chosen by Auntie will definitely make our dreams come true..."

Suddenly.

Two lines of information appeared abruptly on the screen——

"VIP Room No. 1 bids for rough stone No. 6, bidding 1 million."

"VIP Room No. 1 bids for rough stone No. 16, bidding 1 million."

What the hell!

Chu Qiaoen was almost furious.

The rough stone No. 6 she had chosen was originally priced at just 100,000, and this damn guy not only snatched her bid but also raised the price tenfold at once!

That big villain, definitely making her embarrassed on purpose, what does this person have against her, could it be she had ever cursed their ancestors?!

Chapter 373: Got the Wrong Script, So Tired at Heart!

"I definitely have to take him down!"

Chu Qiaoen gritted his teeth, "That guy just spent six million, he's probably running low on cash now. I want to go all out against him! Brother Hu, are you with me or not?"

Yin Hu was also a bit stunned.

His year-end bonus was only five hundred thousand.

He originally planned to buy a nice-looking stone as a gift for Miss Gu to make up for the times he failed to get Mr. Bo to have dinner with her.

But now the No. 1 VIP had raised the price directly to one million...

Yin Hu silently calculated the numbers in his bank account...

Thankfully, he's single, and having traveled all over with Bao Gucheng these years, there wasn't much he needed to spend money on.

Besides, his salary, year-end bonus, and rewards from multiple merits were all saved nicely by Mr. Bo for him to use to get married in the future.

Altogether, he had saved nearly three million.

In a couple of years, he could make a down payment on a small apartment in the capital and slowly pay it off with his future wife.

But...

Chu Qiaoen's displeased voice echoed in his ear: "Brother Hu, what are you thinking about? Don't you believe in the guidance Aunt gave us? Aunt has studied treasure appraisal, she's really impressive. I once saw her appraise an antique for my dad and she was spot on. If you don't trust her, you might as well quit stone gambling, if you can't play it, don't play..."

Chen Long, eager for excitement, chimed in from the side: "Then just quit. My Brother Hu's money is hard-earned, from braving the elements and scraping by with blood, unlike you wealthy second-generation socialites who speak with no pressure..."

Yin Hu swallowed his saliva.

With a solemn face, he said, "I'm not quitting. I believe in Miss Gu."

With that, he decisively followed the bidding for the No. 16 raw stone: "One million one hundred thousand."

Chu Qiaoen was very satisfied: "Kudos to you. With the two of us teaming up, I refuse to believe we can't bring down that No. 1 big shot pretending to be rich!"

She casually followed by bidding on the No. 6 raw stone with generosity: "One million five hundred thousand."

Chen Long slammed his teacup on the table and stood up in a huff, "Damn, Hu Zi, do you really believe this? Are you out of your mind?"

Yin Hu: "You don't understand. This trust is precious."

If Miss Gu returned later and asked why he didn't bid on No. 16, he'd have no face to answer.

What good were his words about Miss Gu being a good person if he couldn't act on them? What kind of man would he be then?

Chen Long was so angry he couldn't breathe.

To be honest, Yin Hu was usually a decent and honest guy.

Although not as straightforward as Wei Yang, he didn't smoke, drink, or gamble, had saved a lot for a future wife, and was a good man who lived a steady life.

What the hell happened today making him want to gamble stones with rich people?

If he's going to play, why play so big?

All this just because he believes in what Miss Gu said?

"Damn it, if you lose badly, can Gu Shiyin help you pay off your debt?" Chen Long tried to knock some sense into him, frustrated at his hopelessness.

Yet, his goodwill only received the ignorant backs of Yin Hu and Chu Qiaoen—

"Don't mind my business. You really don't understand stone gambling."

"Brother Long, don't make noise! Aunt said No. 6 and No. 16 are fine, there's no way to lose. As long as Brother Hu gets that stone today, just wait for the day he hits the jackpot and laughs his head off!"

Chen Long: "..."

Damn, damn, damn.

He came here today with the plan of "preventing brothers from revealing secrets to Miss Gu they shouldn't," who knew the plot would turn into "trying to persuade a brother to turn back only to be despised"?

Damn, it's exhausting!

Chapter 374: Sky-High Transaction Volume! Ancestor So Cute!

VIP Room 1.

Xi Rubao watched the numbers on the screen rise continuously and was quite anxious: "Sis, maybe we should stop. Let's just play with that 10,000 yuan small stone, that's fine."

A stone worth over a million, she couldn't help but feel sorry for her sis's money.

Zuzi blinked her phoenix eyes and smiled softly: "Mmm. Let me play a bit longer, okay."

That look of playful excitement made Xi Rubao dazzle for a moment.

Ah, my sis is so cute.

"Damn, the bastards in VIP Room 6, what, did they eat leopard's heart? How could they raise the bid so much!" Immersed in Zuzi's stunning beauty, Xi Rubao suddenly snapped back to attention.

The latest auction data on the screen had actually risen to 3 million!

The starting price of the unprocessed stone was 100,000, and now it had a 30 times premium... This terrifying increase was unprecedented in any auction, and the scene was boiling once again.

The auctioneer took the opportunity to invite the two treasure appraisers on stage to comment.

Feng Tang: "Sorry, I have no interest in jade, I'm here for the antiques."

Damn, he just wanted to go home to study the treasures of the Fu Xi Palace, if it weren't for his brother owing someone a favor and he had to repay the debt, he wouldn't have wanted to come.

"S" gently adjusted their cloak, displaying elegance, and spoke softly: "I think everyone has a good eye. Indeed, numbers 6 and 16 are the most worth investing in unprocessed stones on the floor."

The auctioneer continued to hype up the atmosphere: "May I ask, what gems do you expect these two unprocessed stones could yield?"

"S" smiled reservedly: "It's an industry rule that treasure appraisers can't reveal results before the auction's conclusion. But I can responsibly say, these two unprocessed stones are really excellent. The skin is very thin, and the yield will be absolutely astonishing."

Indeed, both number 6 and number 16 are unprocessed stones the size of a basin.

If it turns out as appraiser "S" judged, with a very thin skin, then opening up a bowl-sized jade of any kind, whether ruby, sapphire, or jadeite, would be a tremendous profit.

The folks in the auction hall were tempted, all wanting to place their bets.

However.

During the time spent interviewing the treasure appraisers.

The bidding price on the screen had once again risen by another notch.

million!

"Wow!"

Everyone could only marvel.

If it were facing a visible unprocessed stone, these wealthy people might spend millions without hesitation, but when it comes to a stone of which the contents are invisible, something that has risks split evenly, spending a fortune is truly unbelievable.

Yet seeing the top dogs in VIP Room 1 and VIP Room 6 disregarding costs to compete.

Recalling the top treasure appraiser "S"'s earlier comments, everyone felt itchy, tempted to join the bidding and grab a piece of the pie.

So conflicted!

No time to hesitate, during everyone's struggle, the bidding price updated once again.

"VIP Room 1 bids for the No. 6 unprocessed stone at 6 million!"

"VIP Room 6 bids for the No. 6 unprocessed stone at 9 million!"

"VIP Room 1 bids for the No. 6 unprocessed stone at 9.9 million!"

"VIP Room 6 bids for the No. 6 unprocessed stone at 10 million!"

Holy shit, it jumped to tens of millions in no time.

Completely broke the record of all the auction items tonight.

VIP Room 6.

Chu Qiaoen is already red-eyed from shouting.

Every time Zuzi doubled the bid, Qiaoen immediately followed with another raise.

Finally.

When it reached 10 million.

"10 million, once."

"10 million, twice."

"10 million, three times! Sold!"

Chapter 375: The Face of Boss of Ma Jia, Swollen from a Slap! **【1】**

Chu Qiaoen was momentarily stunned. Sold?

The ten million she bid was sold?

Initially, she couldn't quite believe it, then she was overjoyed, jumping up to high-five Yin Hu: "Brother Hu, I snagged it, aaah!"

After she was excited for a while, she remembered the number 16 raw gemstone Yin Hu wanted to get.

"Brother Hu, how did yours go?"

"Also... also got it."

Yin Hu grinned foolishly.

He didn't have much money, couldn't dare bid too high, so his final price was also lower than Chu Qiaoen's.

5.5 million, the other party stopped bidding when he gave 5.5 million.

"I told you, that fool in Room No. 1 couldn't seriously compete with us. See? When the price went up to ten million, he backed off, the big coward!... Ow, my mouth hurts!"

Chu Qiaoen's mouth ulcer swelled up even more; in her smugness, she forgot her pain and blurted out.

Chen Long glanced at Yin Hu: "All your money spent? Happy now?"

Yin Hu snickered: "At least I secured the gift for Miss Gu."

Chen Long sneered: "You have a maximum of three million in savings. The remaining two hundred thousand five, are you planning to live on debt?"

Yin Hu awkwardly rubbed his hands together: "I... I hadn't thought that far ahead..."

Yeah, he had been so excited during the auction, raising bids as if the money wasn't his, but now that he's calming down, he's a bit worried.

He's short on money, what can he do?

He quietly consulted Chu Qiaoen: "Um, Miss Chu, if I didn't bring enough money..."

Chu Qiaoen casually said: "Just write a promissory note to the auction house, no big deal."

Yin Hu breathed a sigh of relief.

But what Chu Qiaoen didn't mention was that the promissory note from the auction house had high-interest loans, which compound interest could be deadly.

==

Meanwhile.

In VIP Room No. 1.

Xi Rubao watched as the two basin-sized raw gemstones finally got snatched away by the opponent. Although there was a bit of disappointment, there was still joy in her heart: "Sis, I was just so afraid you'd bid up to eleven million... Glad it's finally over."

Zuzi smiled sweetly: "No, the show isn't over yet."

At that moment.

On the auction podium, Top Treasure Appraiser S suggested: "Today's auction was so exciting, why don't we invite the guests who won the raw gemstones to come on stage for a close-up view of the stone-cutting and treasure appraising, how about it?"

The hall erupted in cheers and applause.

Everyone wanted to see what kind of jade materials were inside the stones that were auctioned for ten million and five fifty thousand.

S smiled and continued: "Of course, we treat everyone equally. Even if you only bought a stone worth ten thousand, you are still eligible to go on stage and watch the live stone-cutting."

Xi Rubao was furious: "Deliberately, that Treasure Appraiser is definitely targeting us! Only our small stone is ten thousand, she wants us to make a fool of ourselves in public!"

Zuzi patted the irate Xi Rubao: "Baby has sharp eyes, you can see things clearly now."

"Sis, just wait, I'll go and..." Xi Rubao said fiercely, but then changed her tone. "Ask if they can refund my ten thousand."

Zuzi chuckled: "Little grass carp, no need to save money for me, just have fun with the stone-cutting, alright?"

Xi Rubao walked out of the VIP room with a complex mood.

Enough, if these people want to mock or sneer, let them direct it at her, just don't hurt her Sister Zuzi!

As Xi Rubao stepped onto the stage.

The crowd gasped in disbelief!

"Whoa, the boss of VIP Room No. 1 is a little girl?"

"No wonder she bid cluelessly and couldn't outbid others in the end, turns out she's an inexperienced little brat."

"She must have secretly used her family's money to play, totally clueless about stone gambling, just messing around?"

The harsh words came one after another into her ears, but Xi Rubao held back her temper, not wanting to embarrass Zuzi.

She strode up to S with a serious face and said directly: "Since I'm invited up here, let's cut my stone first!"

Chapter 376: The Face of the Boss of Ma Jia Swollen from a Slap! [2]

Gu Shiyin's face, hidden under the cloak and mask, twitched slightly.

So the VIP Room No. 1 is actually that little girl...

She vividly remembered that at the door, this girl had a minor conflict with Chu Qiaoen, and the woman in white accompanying her immediately took out Bao Gucheng's family heirloom Jade Pendant...

Gu Shiyin looked up towards VIP Room No. 1, faintly feeling a piercing gaze, staring back at her across the distance.

She, who has always been composed and resilient, surprisingly couldn't withstand the fierce aura of the other party and instantly avoided eye contact, not daring to look directly.

In that brief exchange of auras, her heart inexplicably skipped a few beats, as if oppressed by an overwhelming force!

Covering her chest, Gu Shiyin calmed her emotions, and then smiled as she said to Xi Rubao, "Sure. The smallest value of your stone is also the most..., you can start first."

Although the words "lowest value" were not spoken, everyone tacitly burst into laughter: "Hahaha! The cheapest, of course to be opened first!"

After all, Xi Rubao was young and thin-skinned, and her face instantly turned bright red.

If she hadn't remembered that she shouldn't lose her composure or embarrass Zuzi in public, she would have jumped up and slapped the Treasure Appraiser across the face by now—damn it, you are a Treasure Appraiser, not a "cheap" appraiser, how could you speak so despicably, so disgustingly?

Having endured quite a bit, little Caoyu finally calmed herself down: "Stop talking nonsense, hurry up and open."

Gu Shiyin instructed the apprentice to cut the small thumb-sized raw stone bought by Xi Rubao in half.

She personally explained, "This stone is too small, if cutting it in half doesn't show any green, then it's basically just brick material, no need to continue cutting..."

As she said, cutting it in half revealed two pieces of raw stone.

Not to mention seeing any green, there wasn't even a trace of gemstone.

The hall was filled with jeers.

"Little sister, don't cry, isn't it just ten thousand bucks?"

"Call me brother and I'll give you twenty thousand!"

"Oh my, I wouldn't dare to claim such a spendthrift woman; spending ten thousand yuan to buy a brick material, even my illiterate country maid couldn't do such a foolish thing."

"I heard she's a county girl, a bit higher end than a country girl, haha!"

Listening to these uninhibited mocking and trampling remarks, Xi Rubao's face turned greener than the jade.

Still gritting her teeth she insisted, "Why conclude that our stone is rubbish, keep cutting!"

Gu Shiyin shook her head, "No need. If we cut further, it's only as big as a fingernail, and in my professional experience, there's nothing inside. Next one—"

Just as the Top Treasure Appraiser S announced this piece of stone as worthless.

Xi Rubao couldn't hold back anymore, to hell with restraint, to hell with her lady image, and to hell with etiquette and rules—she was about to blow up.

"Get lost! Next one, step aside, mine isn't finished yet!" She snatched the raw stone from the apprentice's hand and personally fed it into the stone cutter machine—thankfully, she had observed the apprentice's gestures closely and understood a bit.

The machine buzzed as it cut around.

The fingernail-sized raw stone, cut in half, had its thin skin ground away, revealing the core that emitted dots of warm, brilliant luster.

"Damn, there's material."

"And it's even a colorful one, round natural bead shape!"

"Damn, really, this small brick material still hides such wonders?"

"Treasure Appraiser, is this... a tourmaline bead?"

The public opinion suddenly reversed.

Caught off guard, Gu Shiyin could only hold her breath and stare at the supposedly impossible-to-contain-gems worthless stone, not understanding how she could have misjudged!

This was too much of a slap in the face, having confidently declared it worthless just a minute ago.

Feng Tang impatiently answered everyone, "Nonsense, even a dog's eyes can see it's a nine-color tourmaline, and it's a twin tourmaline bead, conservatively estimated to be worth millions."

"Pop," Gu Shiyin's face swelled again: "..."

Damn it, didn't this old man say he only understood antiques and not jade? Now, when it's face-slapping time, he seems to know everything, and every word hits the mark!

Chapter 377: I Don't Need Jinli Luck, I Have Little Ancestor Sister!

On the auction stage, a thumb-sized "useless scrap" produced a pair of nine-colored tourmaline beads worth tens of millions.

The small beads emitted a gentle and dazzling glow, leaving all the guests in awe and full of envy.

Making millions from a ten-thousand-dollar investment, is this the luck of a Fairy's blessing?

The guests who previously mocked Xi Rubao as a "hick girl" now shamelessly tried to bask in her glory: "Jinli little sister, congratulations! How come you have such a good eye? Which family are you from? Let's get acquainted!"

Xi Rubao rolled her eyes and elegantly uttered four words:

"None of your business."

Hmph, don't think you can cozy up to me just because the wind blows your way. Herbal Fish despises fence-sitters like you!

Also, I'm not some Fairy-charmed Jinli.

Herbal Fish's good eye is because she was born with good luck, thanks to her little Ancestor Sister, the Fairy!

In full view of everyone, Xi Rubao proudly clenched the two tourmaline beads in her hand and playfully cast a big wink towards VIP Room No. 1 upstairs.

Even from a distance, she could faintly sense the lazy, gentle smile of Zuzi looking down at her.

Ahhhh, my dear sister, little Herbal Fish is overjoyed!

Behind her.

Beneath a brown cloak, Gu Shiyin's face was grave as she fell into deep thought.

Tonight, the scrap that yielded tourmaline marked her first setback, her first defeat in her career, never expecting to be bested by a no-name girl from a small town.

But having weathered many storms, she could withstand this setback.

Soon enough, she assumed the posture of a professional Treasure Appraiser, regaining the audience's attention: "Congratulations to the guest who just found the tourmaline. Such luck can only be witnessed at our Emperor Auction."

Without a trace, she attributed Xi Rubao's luck to the auction's fortune, then swiftly shifted topics, "Since ten thousand got us tourmaline, what surprises might stones valued at a hundred thousand or a million bring?"

"Especially our two promising raw stones, numbers 6 and 16, which had fiercely competitive bidding earlier. Are you curious to know what jade these will reveal?"

Gu Shiyin truly deserves her title as a top Treasure Appraiser; her way with words is impressive.

In just a few phrases, she successfully whetted the appetite of all the guests.

"Yes, yes, yes! Goddess S, please start cutting the stones!"

"I've been eagerly waiting for stone number 6 to reveal a stunning treasure!"

"The raw stone is already worth millions; if it yields a basin-sized jade, wouldn't it start at a billion?"

"Please, Appraiser, get started soon!"

Amidst the pleas, Gu Shiyin directed her apprentices to continue cutting the stones in an orderly manner.

Xi Rubao turned back disdainfully, making a face: "Hypocrite! Is it so hard to admit your failure? Must you twist things to downplay others' good fortune and boast about yourself? Beware of blowing up your ego and tearing your own tongue!"

Gu Shiyin vaguely heard Xi Rubao's muttering, her lips twitching slightly.

This small-town girl, just as Qiao En described, is indeed crude and not very sharp.

Of course, she wouldn't argue with Xi Rubao in public; that would be beneath her.

She focused intently on the remaining raw stone.

As long as stones number 6 and 16 yield impressive jade, she will still be the top Treasure Appraiser S standing atop the clouds!

Soon.

A few stones were cut, all average, neither profitable nor loss-making, causing no excitement.

Until the final two stones.

Chu Qiao'en's stone number 6, bid for one million, and Yin Hu's stone number 16, bid for five hundred and fifty thousand, were about to be opened.

This is the real focal point!

Chapter 378: Little Ancestor Slaps Back, Third Wave!

Since everyone is so interested, Xi Rubao simply stood in the hall to watch, to see what was so special about these two basin-sized stones.

But before she could steady herself, someone shoved her aside: "Move aside, move aside, don't let the shabby smell of country folk contaminate my jade!"

Xi Rubao stumbled from the push, furious: "...Who the hell is barking here!"

Upon seeing it was the imperious Chu Qiao'en, she became even angrier.

"You keep saying us country folks are polluting the air of the Empire, do you live in a vacuum or something? Picky and pretentious much?"

Chu Qiao'en, on seeing Xi Rubao, also flew into a rage: "So it's you, the poor ghost pretending to be rich, bidding against us in VIP Room 1?! It's laughable, someone who can only afford a 10,000 yuan broken stone, who gave you the courage to snatch treasures from me? Can you come up with a million in cash!"

Xi Rubao: "..."

It's the first time in her life she was called a poor ghost and the first time she was defeated by money.

It was truly suffocating.

But then Yin Hu coughed, mediating: "Miss Chu, let's focus on opening the stones, no more arguing."

Chu Qiaoen finally turned away: "Who wants to argue with such a poor ghost, bad luck!"

Xi Rubao: "..."

You, you, you're the bad luck!

I curse you to uncover a pile of junk!

However.

The entire hall eagerly surrounded Chu Qiaoen and her no. 6 uncut stone.

Treasure Appraiser S gave Chu Qiaoen special attention, putting on gloves and personally opening the stone.

"Having Goddess S personally open a stone, that's the highest privilege, wasn't the last time only when the royal family of A Continent visited, and Goddess S personally handled a stone?"

"Can't afford a million-yuan uncut stone, but seeing Goddess S open a stone is a treat for the eyes!"

"Ah, look quickly, Goddess S's technique in opening a stone is stunning, no wonder she's the Empire's top Treasure Appraiser, the stones she handles seem to have more spirit..."

Others have apprentices open the stones.

But these last two are personally opened by Gu Shiyin.

Though she often hears praises, they don't move her much, she just enjoys, thoroughly, the moment of unveiling the most beautiful and dazzling jade stone with her own hands.

Only such beautiful jade is worthy of her personal touch.

Without a doubt, tonight, the Empire's collection community will gain two immensely valuable giant pieces of jade, recorded for posterity...

As the outer shell was carefully polished away, the no. 6 uncut stone revealed a small piece of deep green jade, with excellent quality and vibrant color!

The crowd erupted in cheers.

Xi Rubao felt somewhat disheartened.

Alas, the curse failed.

She listlessly messaged Zuzi: "Sis, do you think if they really uncover some awesome jade, wouldn't that be unfair, especially for someone like Chu Qiaoen, why should she hit the jackpot? Did she help an old lady cross the street, rob the rich to give to the poor, or care for small animals?"

Zuzi's reply came swiftly.

As always, lazy and straightforward: "Hmm yeah. They don't have the luck."

Xi Rubao beamed with a smile.

Sister Zuzi said they don't have the luck, so they definitely don't. Let these people show off as much as they want.

Just waiting for my sis to hit back!

At this moment, although squeezed outside, Xi Rubao wasn't complaining or angry, she simply tiptoed to peer inside—

Treasure Appraiser S had already polished the entire outer shell of the basin-sized stone, revealing a basin-sized jade.

"Wow, I've never seen jade filled to this extent!"

"With such a huge piece of jade, just how many pendants and bracelets could be made!"

"Miss Chu is so young, she's made a killing..."

The crowd exclaimed in awe.

However.

The next second.

Everyone's expressions changed.

Treasure Appraiser S's fingers even trembled slightly.

To see that seemingly large and full jade actually—

Chapter 379: The Hollow Jade, Perfect Match for the Naive Young Lady!

The seemingly huge and full jade surprisingly, surprisingly, let the light pass through easily!

Through a jade as thick as a basin, you could clearly see the person on the other side.

What kind of concept is this?

"Is it that the water content of this jade is so sufficient that it's crystal clear to this extent?"

"Or is it a new variety with exceptionally high purity that we've never seen before?"

A couple of clueless young men were still joking around, asking with a laugh.

However.

The faces of guests with a little bit of gambling stone knowledge changed instantly.

Out of respect for the Treasure Appraiser S, no one spoke up first.

Chu Qiaoen looked at the crowd's complex expressions, clueless and anxious: "What's going on, what kind of amazing jade do I have? Are you all so stunned you can't speak properly? Is it some kind of old mine jadeite or..."

An elderly cold snort interrupted Chu Qiaoen.

"Ignorant child!"

"This is not any new variety, nor old mine jadeite; it's just an ordinary empty shell low-grade icy jadeite."

"The reason it seemed like it had a good water head earlier was just due to the illusion of surface green!"

"The reason it is now translucent is merely because it's empty inside!"

Professor Feng Tang, usually silent and reserved, spoke startling words, piercing straight to the heart.

Even though Chu Qiaoen understood nothing, she staggered a bit:

"What? Hollow? Then, then I spent ten million, and all I bought was a layer of jadeite skin? And it's worthless low-grade icy type too?"

The people present nodded silently, offering her their sympathy.

This layer of jadeite skin, at best, is worth one hundred thousand.

Spending ten million only to get a hundred thousand...

Tsk tsk, the infamous spendthrift of the Chu Family lives up to her reputation.

Chu Qiaoen, unwilling to accept reality, staggered towards Treasure Appraiser S: "Everyone says you're the most skilled treasure appraiser in the Empire, tell me, they're all talking nonsense, that old fogey was lying, right?"

Gu Shiyin's cloak was almost torn off by Chu Qiaoen, nearly revealing her true identity.

So close!

Almost exposed her cover!

Lucky she reacted quickly, swiftly backing away, speaking calmly with a suppressed voice: "This customer, please accept reality, stone gambling itself is risky, every customer who enters signs a waiver, accepting the risks to participate. If you play, you must be able to lose, please... accept fate with grace."

These words were not wrong.

But, but why does it feel off somehow?

Chu Qiao'en took a long time to respond: "But, but before cutting, you clearly said this was the most outstanding stone in the whole place! You..."

However.

The Treasure Appraiser S had already turned away from her, smiling as they asked Yin Hu: "Sir, would you like me to personally help you cut this stone?"

Yin Hu was taken aback.

A strange blush appeared on his face.

So strange, he only blushed in front of Gu Shiyin, yet tonight, he's blushing at a woman he's never met before.

It must be his first time stone gambling, he's a bit nervous!

"Ahem, I would appreciate it." He averted his gaze, politely agreeing.

The Treasure Appraiser took the opportunity to go to original stone number 16 and busily went to work.

The crowd naturally followed, leaving the heartbroken and despairing Chu Qiao'en aside, unnoticed.

Only Xi Rubao walked by leisurely, deliberately playing with the pair of twin nine-colored tourmaline beads in his hand, enjoying the spectacle while stirring trouble—

"Hey, Miss Chu, I think your hollow green is pretty nice."

"What do you mean by that?"

"Just what it sounds like. This hollow shell jadeite matches perfectly with you, an empty-brained young missy, hahahaha!"

Xi Rubao laughed openly, his dissatisfaction completely vanished.

Leaving Chu Qiaoen frantically on the spot: "...!"

Chapter 380: The Top Treasure Appraiser Completely Messes Up! His Face Got Smacked Against the Wall!

Chu Qiaoen was super irritated, the ulcer on her lip almost seemed to reach her heart.

No one in the entire venue paid attention to her or comforted her, all flocked around the newly opened stone to watch the spectacle.

Even her Aunt Shiyin had left the VIP room for a long time and hadn't returned, not knowing where she had gone.

It's as though three million in pocket money went down the drain, not to mention she now owed seven hundred thousand in credit debt, clueless about how to explain this to her family!

As if rubbing salt in the wound, Xi Rubao stomped repeatedly: "My Ancestor Sister said it's not in your fate, then it truly isn't, the end of forcing it is quite miserable you know!"

Ah, could it be that even that little curse from the Herbal Fish worked a bit, what a whirlwind.

Chu Qiaoan: "...!"

At this moment.

Yin Hu was extremely nervous.

It turns out that the taste of gambling is not pleasant at all, the feeling of gain and loss, afraid of stepping into nothingness, is utterly tormenting.

At least he couldn't quite endure it.

If it weren't for the belief of presenting a gift to Miss Gu holding him up, he wouldn't have been able to stand here, watching the Treasure Appraiser S bit by bit slowly grind off the raw stone's moss-covered outer layer.

Perhaps it was the previous stone that caused the Treasure Appraiser S to lose face.

This time she was exceptionally serious and focused.

She didn't even bother to wipe the sweat dripping onto the table.

She changed her technique for cutting the stone.

Instead of polishing it all off, after grinding a palm-sized piece, she used a stone cutter to drill deep inside—she absolutely couldn't accept another hollow green!

She opened a small window on one corner of the raw stone.

The result was satisfying, the green revealed inside was solid.

She breathed a sigh of relief.

Yin Hu didn't understand much, curiously asking: "Treasure Appraiser, why are there so many cracks inside this stone, was it shattered by the drill just now?"

Gu Shiyin's voice was elegant, explaining rather professionally: "No. This kind of ice crack is quite common, usually appearing only in specific areas. This little window has ice cracks, proving the other parts are intact and transparent, you should be happy."

She paused, with a hint of joy: "Tonight, the best value for money is probably going to be your piece of White Cloud Jade."

White Cloud Jade?!

The regulars in the venue all gasped.

This is a very high-grade white jade.

This kid only spent five hundred and fifty thousand but managed to get such a big chunk of White Cloud Jade, and it's solid, damn he hit the jackpot.

Yin Hu didn't know much about White Cloud Chicken or Black Cloud Chicken, chuckled foolishly twice:
"As long as it's pretty, I'm planning to give it to a girl and make her a full set of jewelry."

Everyone looked at him enviously: "...Tsk tsk!"

"Using White Cloud Jade for jewelry, kid, that's generous, getting ready for a proposal or what?"

"Going all out with a token of love, are you?"

"Didn't see you being such a shy romantic." Chen Long snickered from the side.

Although he didn't approve of Yin Hu gambling on stones, if he could indeed win, as a brother he of course would give his blessing.

Yin Hu waved his hand shyly: "No no, she's not my girlfriend, just a girl I respect a lot."

Chen Long: "...Tsk!" It's Miss Gu again, isn't it? Knew it was you!

As Gu Shiyin continued cutting the stone, she heard the discussions behind her, the corners of her mouth curled up.

Her gestures became more fluid and meticulous, meticulously grinding away the skin, clearing away impurities, as if carefully cutting the stone for herself...

Just as the jade was gradually revealing its original appearance.

Suddenly.

The smiles on the spectators' faces began to freeze.

Gu Shiyin's stone-cutting hands also gradually stiffened!

Impossible.

This is impossible.

She, the Empire's top Treasure Appraiser, absolutely could not make mistakes twice in one evening!