

Big Shot 381

Chapter 381: Do I Regret It Now, Is It Too Late?

Gu Shiyin's hands gradually stiffened because as she opened the jade inch by inch, the places her fingers touched—

The ice-like cracks in the white jade not only did not diminish but became even more dense!

The initial small window was just a few strands, but later it was covered with crisscrossing cracks.

The fine, translucent white jade was utterly ruined by these dense ice cracks.

It's like a beautiful woman whose face had been slashed countless times, becoming unrecognizable.

The spectators looked on with pity, sighing repeatedly.

Xi Rubao squeezed in, not minding much, bluntly speaking the truth: "Oh, this spider web is so ugly, horribly ugly, so that's supposed to be the most valuable jade in the room? Ha, it doesn't even look as good as the tourmaline I randomly picked out for ten thousand!"

Gu Shiyin's hand on the stone opening machine was too stiff to continue.

Of course.

There was no point in continuing.

A jade cracked like this would still be waste jade when opened.

Worthless.

She opened two pieces of waste jade in a row, and as a top treasure appraiser, she completely crashed and burned, her face metaphorically smashed into the wall, unable to peel it off.

If only she hadn't made predictions about No. 6 and No. 16?

If she had kept her mouth shut, said nothing, and hadn't encouraged Chu Qiao'en and Yin Hu to place bets, would she not be so embarrassed now?

Gu Shiyin felt a burning gaze fall on the back of her neck, making her feel a chill down her spine.

Stiffly turning her head, she suddenly saw the frosted glass window of the No. 1 VIP room upstairs.

Though she couldn't see the person inside, Xi Rubao.

But she inexplicably felt that the other's gaze had the power to penetrate walls and hearts, thoroughly seeing her!

Indeed, it was because she wanted to compete with the No. 1 VIP room, wanting to slap their face, that she couldn't resist revealing her insights and predictions on the raw stones of No. 6 and No. 16.

What goes around comes around, and now the consequences have rebounded onto her!

Gu Shiyin took a deep breath and put down the stone opening machine: "It seems my luck is not good today, let's stop here."

She left Yin Hu and the others, gathering her cloak, and hurriedly walked away.

Yin Hu was still foolishly staring at the half-open raw stone: "What, why stop opening it? Long, you say, it's ugly indeed, but... can't it sell for a price?"

Everyone looked at this man who knew nothing about jade betting, yet dared to wager, with pity.

Chen Long covered his face.

He really didn't want to admit he knew this fool.

"What do you think? If you're ugly like a malformed fruit, only 1.1 meters tall, with negative savings and a bad temper, can you find a wife? By the same logic, can such an ugly piece of jade find a buyer? How blind would someone have to be to buy your spider web-like waste?"

Listening to Chen Long's straightforward analogy, Yin Hu finally realized his situation.

"So, I spent 5.5 million down the drain?"

"Yes."

"And 2.5 million of it was borrowed on credit?"

"Yes."

"Is it too late for me to regret it now?"

"Obviously, it's too late!"

Yin Hu fell into silence.

Where did it go wrong? How did it end up like this?

On the battlefield, he could follow Mr. Bo with heroic prowess, reacting swiftly, killing countless enemies. Why in a small auction, was he so strapped for cash, slow to react, outmaneuvered, and even his intelligence... seemed insufficient?

In the blink of an eye, a debt of 2.5 million?

The palms of his hands gradually began to sweat.

Just then.

A gentle little hand rested on his shoulder, and a familiar and elegant voice sounded in his ear—

Chapter 382: Ma Jia Keeps It Very Tight; Mr. Bo's Jade Pendant Is Being Auctioned!

"Brother Hu, what's wrong?" Miss Gu, dressed in an understated and elegant suit, walked over and stood behind him, gently tapping his shoulder.

"I lost, Miss Gu." Yin Hu looked ashamed.

He had been wanting to see her.

But when he finally saw her, he felt even more embarrassed.

Chu Qiaoen saw Gu Shiyin finally appear, and as if she had found someone to confide in, she burst into tears and threw herself into her arms: "Aunt Shiyin, I'm so miserable, so miserable, I lost ten million tonight in the stone gambling..."

Gu Shiyin, with a face full of compassion, pulled her to a quiet corner in the hall and gently comforted her: "Stone gambling is still a form of gambling. We should keep a calm mind and not think too much of it, okay? Money can always be earned back, but a tear-streaked face isn't exactly good-looking, and it doesn't change anything, right?"

Chu Qiaoen cared a lot about her appearance.

Sure enough, upon hearing this, she stopped crying and nodded vigorously: "Thank you, Aunt, for guiding me."

Her aunt's words indeed comforted her, hitting right on the point and stopping her from self-pity.

After comforting Chu Qiao'en, Gu Shiyin turned to Yin Hu: "Brother Hu, you've done really well. It's your first time participating in stone gambling, and being so bold shows your confidence. Occasionally losing a bet is fine. Didn't I also guess wrong today? Blame me, I shouldn't have left in a rush and left you all with incorrect guidance, it's all my fault."

"No, no, no, it's not your fault, it's all due to my foolishness, it's all Yin Hu's fault!"

He felt a little better.

Miss Gu is really so considerate. She said she guessed wrong too just to make him feel better.

After all, she's not a treasure appraiser, guessing wrong is normal.

Seeing how receptive Yin Hu and Chu Qiao'en were to her words made Gu Shiyin secretly breathe a sigh of relief.

Luckily, her disguise was tight, and her secret identity remained undiscovered.

This major misprediction, at worst, would mean that Treasure Appraiser S would disappear from the Empire, and she could start anew with a different identity.

As long as her true self wasn't affected, she could create a new alias in a few days.

But.

Unexpectedly, just as she was relaxing, she felt that mysterious gaze burning her back again.

She turned abruptly, only to find white walls and nothing else behind her.

The distance between her and VIP Room No. 1 was not just frosted glass but several thick white walls. Could the gaze really pierce through that???

Who exactly was Xi Rubao's companion?

At this moment.

In VIP Room No. 1.

Zuzi looked at Gu Shiyin and the others with great interest: "Hmm, this story is interesting; so that's what 'Ma Jia' means..."

The little raven wearing a Moonstone, prodded and pecked in the air with its sharp beak: "Trying such petty tricks to provoke the Ancestor? Manipulate the Ancestor's people? The Ancestor can easily strip your disguise with a flick of a finger!"

Fu Xiqin chimed in: "Strip the disguise! Strip the disguise! Strip the disguise!"

Zuzi's eyes danced with an elegant charm: "Want to watch?"

The two little ones: "Yes, yes, yes!"

They had already prepared sunflower seeds, cherries, and juice.

Zuzi's red lips curved slightly: "Wait a moment, let me first fulfill my promise and sell this grand finale treasure."

The grand finale treasure?

Isn't that Mr. Bo's... personal Jade Pendant?

The two little ones were at a loss, feeling that this drama was about to escalate.

Indeed.

At this moment on the auction stage.

With the departure of Treasure Appraiser S, the final auction item was placed under a glass cover and presented.

"A piece of Millennium Dragon Stone Emerald. Starting price: 10 million."

"Wow—!"

Everyone's excitement was once again ignited.

An item starting at ten million, just how incredible is it?

Yin Hu was stunned: This, this Jade Pendant is... Mr. Bo's? Wasn't it lost?

Chen Long was also stunned: Isn't Mr. Bo's Jade Pendant in Miss Xi's possession? Could it be something happened to Miss Xi?

Wait a minute, that young girl earlier seemed familiar, like... Xi Rubao's sister! Could it be...

While everyone wore different expressions.

Gu Shiyin looked at the Jade Pendant and softly spoke, her words shocking everyone—

Chapter 383: The Aura of Killing a Thousand Men with a Lifted Hand; Exposing the True Face of the Fraudster Zuzi!

"Excuse me, is the consignor of this Millennium Dragon Stone Jadeite Mr. Bo, Bao Gucheng?"

Gu Shiyin's tone was elegant and gentle.

It wasn't an accusation, but a tender inquiry.

Still, when those three words "Bao Gucheng" were spoken, the whole room shuddered involuntarily.

Mr. Bo?!

The empire's formidable and fierce special forces commander?

The Living Yama who recently, at the national memorial ceremony, personally supported the coffin and conferred posthumous honors to the fallen comrades?

My goodness, even thinking about it brings to mind that man's gaze, cold as ice and stern as a mountain, with the aura of raising his hand to kill thousands. Is he really in a place of revelry like this today?

How can they still dare to let loose and have fun?

Thankfully.

The auctioneer quickly responded with a smile, "No, Miss Gu, this Millennium Dragon Stone Jadeite was consigned to us for auction by a guest in VIP Room No. 1."

The anxious crowd finally felt relieved.

However, upon realization, they marveled again and all looked towards Xi Rubao, who was holding two tourmaline beads on stage:

"Young lady, you're amazing, having a Millennium Dragon Stone Jadeite at home to auction off?"

"Wow, you really know how to enjoy life. Even with such expensive jadeite, you still spend ten thousand on gambling stones. Is this the dull yet simple life of the truly wealthy?"

"Young lady, here's my business card, let's be friends!"

Xi Rubao proudly lifted her head, "Sorry, this is my sister's jadeite. You're flattering the wrong person!"

Wow, the young girl has a wealthy and beautiful older sister?

All at once, the young heirs in the room were visibly interested.

Which made Chu Qiao'en furious with jealousy.

"Just a few country girls, pretending to be wealthy and beautiful? That so-called Millennium Jadeite must be fake!" Chu Qiao'en said angrily, "Aunt Shiyin, I really can't stand people like them!"

Especially that Zuzi, who has been opposing her since they met on the plane, trying to seduce her Mr. Bai, and playing tricks with candy for curing diseases. How could that vixen be a wealthy beauty? She couldn't stand it!

Gu Shiyin pursed her lips, sighed, and spoke fairly, "Qiao'en, the jadeite must have undergone preliminary verification before reaching the auction stage, so it shouldn't be fake, but..."

She hesitated, as if it was inconvenient to express her doubts.

Chu Qiaoen suddenly recalled what Gu Shiyin had said before, that the jadeite resembled Bao Gucheng's Jade Pendant.

She slapped her forehead, "Aunt Shiyin, they're thieves! I must report them for stealing Mr. Bo's Jade Pendant!"

Gu Shiyin held her back, gently shaking her head, "Qiao En, without evidence, we can't speak carelessly."

An attitude of keeping the peace.

Hearing this, Chu Qiaoen became more agitated, "Aunt, I can't tolerate deceit. Since I know they're thieves, how can I pretend otherwise? Aunt, you're kind-hearted not to argue with them, but I won't stand by idly. I'll meticulously pursue every detail! No evidence, you say... who says there's no evidence?"

Chu Qiaoen turned and said, "Brother Long, Brother Hu, you're with Mr. Bo. Can't you recognize that the Jade Pendant is his? Step out and testify! Wait, where's Brother Long?"

Chen Long had somehow left the auction hall, heading quickly toward the bathroom.

She then grabbed Yin Hu, refusing to let go, "Brother Hu, speak up. You must help me expose the truth about that fraud Zuzi!"

Yin Hu was still troubled by the 2.5 million debt he incurred and felt uncomfortable, "I really can't distinguish any characteristic of Mr. Bo's Jade Pendant, as he always wears it closely..."

Chu Qiaoen bit her lip and glared at him disdainfully.

Then she turned to see Gu Shiyin fiddling with her phone, and her eyes lit up!

She thought of it! —

Chapter 384: Backhand Slap to the Face - Wave Four!

"Aunt Shiyin, isn't your phone's wallpaper a photo of Mr. Bo?! Does it have Mr. Bo's Jade Pendant on it?"

Chu Qiaoen called out crisply.

Gu Shiyin felt a bit embarrassed immediately, hesitated, and touched the phone screen: "That was a graduation year photo with Mr. Bo, taken in my home's garden with my dad. I didn't look closely..."

"Aunt, quickly zoom in and take a look!"

"Well... okay then."

Under Chu Qiaoen's repeated urging, Gu Shiyin finally handed over the phone.

In the photo, Bao Gucheng was wearing a white shirt and black trousers, still exuding a cool, detached youthfulness.

Chu Qiaoen zoomed in, and zoomed in again, finally seeing clearly the Jade Pendant hanging from the belt around Bao Gucheng's waist.

The size, shape, and pattern were identical to the one Xi Zuzi brought out for auction.

"We have evidence!" she exclaimed in excitement, holding the phone up, she said to the auctioneer, "I accuse the thief from Room 1 of stealing Mr. Bo's Jade Pendant, falsely claiming it as their own to sell!"

Aunt truly is amazing, keeping that old photo, letting her find evidence so easily, embarrassing Xi Zuzi on the spot.

Humiliate her thoroughly, hahaha!

When Chu Qiao presented this photo, not just the auctioneer, but all the guests were dumbfounded, reacting quite strongly:

"What, so this whole time it was a fraud?"

"I said that girl doesn't behave or dress like someone from high society, no wonder!"

"I've always said girls from small towns can't be trusted, there you go."

"If it turns out she's really a fraud and a thief, this isn't something money can settle, with a million-dollar issue, that girl could go to jail!"

Xi Rubao felt embarrassed and uncomfortable being the center of gossip.

She didn't really suspect Xi Zuzi of taking someone else's things.

She just thought these fence-sitters were so disgusting!

Going back and forth, seriously, isn't it exhausting.

"You people are talking nonsense, this is my sister's Jade Pendant, what Uncle or Grandpa, how is it related to us, you have a photo as evidence, I have a witness, I testify that my sister always had this Jade Pendant, she even went to sleep with it!"

Behind, Gu Shiyin's lips moved.

Sleeping with it???

The scene was chaotic, and the manager of Emperor Song, Qiu Guosheng, was invited to handle the situation, and he too was at a loss: "This, this Jade Pendant, is it..."

Whether it was stolen, robbed, or owned by Xi Zuzi herself, he wasn't the police to resolve this case.

Gu Shiyin spoke gently, softly: "Manager Qiu, why not invite the girl from Room 1, to come out and explain personally?"

Qiu Guosheng: "Then that's all we can do."

At this moment.

Room 1.

Xi Zuzi gazed down coolly at the commotion in the hall.

Her jade-like fingers rested on the little crow's forehead, playing with it.

The little crow chirped twice: "Ancestor, please, stop plucking Jinjin's feathers, Jinjin is going bald, Jinjin isn't a Peach Tree Spirit!"

Remembering how last time Xi Zuzi plucked the Peach Tree Spirit under the Queen Mother of the West bare when she heard a woman wanted to invite Bao Gucheng for dinner.

It shivered.

It didn't want to become a bald crow ah ah ah.

Xi Zuzi lifted her jade-like finger lightly, gracefully stood up: "Hmm, okay, I won't pluck yours."

Her gaze returned from the wallpaper photo on Gu Shiyin's phone.

Ha, Ancestor doesn't even have such tender, youthful photos of a young boy.

And this woman, actually does?

"Ancestor, where are you going?"

"To pluck someone else's feathers. Oh, no, to expose someone else's secret identity, don't you want to see?"

Downstairs in the hall.

Everyone was chattering, Xi Rubao and Chu Qiaoen particularly arguing to the point of lividness.

Suddenly.

The crowd inexplicably parted to form a passage.

A figure in plain clothes, a proud little black and gold bird perched on her shoulder, gracefully walked toward the auction stage...

Chapter 385: Ancestor's Words, Shocking Everyone

"Who's doubting the Jade Pendant of the Ancestor?"

Zuzi walked leisurely, her voice clear with a hint of laziness.

Such an ethereal and unconventional girl had never been seen in the high society of the capital.

In an instant, everyone made way for her, as if accidentally brushing against the hem of her skirt would be considered disrespectful.

Gu Shiyin looked up, her eyes involuntarily averting from the blinding brilliance.

Isn't she a girl from a small county?

How could she have such a presence?

Even someone as composed as herself almost couldn't withstand it?

While Gu Shiyin was puzzled, beside her, Chu Qiao'en jumped out, "Let's not beat around the bush, Zuzi, I'm questioning you, thief, liar!"

Zuzi didn't look directly at her, her eyes casually sweeping over Gu Shiyin, "Do you have an opinion too?"

Gu Shiyin intended to act low-key, but unexpectedly, she was called out immediately by Zuzi, so she couldn't pretend to be ignorant. Putting on a gentle smile, she softly said,

"This... is it Miss Xi? The jade you brought looks identical to that of a good friend of mine. It's not really questioning you, just want to ask you, what's the situation here?"

Gu Shiyin was gentle and polite, not aggressive, making everyone feel she was reasonable. If Zuzi didn't provide a reasonable answer, it would suggest she had a guilty conscience.

However, Xi Rubao felt uncomfortable listening: "You're beating around the bush, aren't you suggesting that my sister took someone else's jade? What good friend, speaking so ambiguously, does that person even know you? Where did you get the photos, did that person agree to let you keep them on your phone?"

Gu Shiyin had never been pointed at and rebuked before, and this was a chaotic barrage with no order, making it difficult to respond to Xi Rubao's wild attacks one by one.

She pressed her lips together, softly said, "I've known Mr. Bo for years, believe it or not, I have a clear conscience. I'm actually puzzled about this as well, so I asked Miss Xi to kindly explain it in person."

The ball was subtly passed back to Zuzi.

Seeing Gu Shiyin's demeanor, Xi Rubao couldn't help but think of the gentle and sensible Xi Ruzhu.

This woman was simply an upgraded version of Xi Ruzhu, others might not feel it, but Herbal Fish saw it clearly!

After all, Herbal Fish was almost destroyed by that White Lotus, Xi Ruzhu!

Fire flared in Xi Rubao's eyes, and she clenched her little fists, ready to retort further.

But Zuzi stepped forward, holding down her hand, "There's nothing much to say. This jade is mine, the Ancestor's."

"Evidence?"

"Evidence?" Zuzi smiled sweetly, "It's simple, it recognizes its owner."

Saying this, she walked straight to the auction stage and publicly lifted the glass cover.

"If any of you can pick it up from the tray, the Ancestor will give it to you, not asking for a penny."

Zuzi's words immediately caused an uproar in the audience.

To them, it didn't matter whose jade it was; what mattered was that it looked extremely valuable, worth perhaps thousands if not a thousand-year-old artifact. If you only had to pick it up to get it, it was a huge bargain.

The wealthy people of high society were no exception regarding greed.

In a moment, countless hands reached for the auction stage, pushing both the auctioneer and the General Manager of Dige, Qiu Guosheng, out of the way!

Grab, grab, grab.

However, when everyone reached for the Jade Pendant, they found that it seemed protected by an invisible barrier—not only could they not pick it up, they couldn't even touch it.

Their hands, absurdly, were just groping at the air around the Jade Pendant...!

Chapter 386: I'm Not Worthy, Mr. Bo's Jade

What the hell!

The crowd was holding hands, the ones above found the ones below to be in the way, while those below complained about the obstruction to their view, leading to a mass of hands grappling above the jade pendant.

Yet the jade pendant remained motionless, untouched by even a leaf.

Having been pushed out of the crowd, Gu Shiyin finally managed to steady herself, raising her eyes to see the scene, and she caught her breath in astonishment.

This, this is too incredible.

Could it be that Zuzi placed some kind of mechanism inside the glass case?

Chu Qiao'en, hands on hips, looked indignant: "I don't believe that county girl's nonsense for a second, I want to try it myself!"

With that, she pushed her way into the crowd, reaching for the jade pendant.

However.

Like everyone else, her hand couldn't even touch the jade.

Thinking she was smart, she suddenly came up with an idea, grabbing the bottom edge of the glass case with both hands, trying to lift the entire base up.

But to her surprise, even the whole base of the glass case seemed to be glued firmly to the table, unable to move an inch.

Chu Qiao'en pulled her hand back as if it were burned, shouting loudly: "Aunt, Aunt, come and look, this is really spooky!"

Gu Shiyin pursed her lips.

Because of Chu Qiao'en's intense invitation, she only "reluctantly" moved to squeeze into the crowd.

This is Bao Gucheng's jade pendant.

Others may not be able to get it.

But she... perhaps she could?

Gu Shiyin's heart sped up a bit. She finally squeezed to the front row and, in front of the people about to give up, she raised her arm.

Even in such a chaotic situation, her movements remained quite elegant.

Her fingers approached the jade pendant gracefully, like pinching an orchid.

Just as she was about to touch the jade pendant...

Suddenly, an invisible force collided with her fingers, not only bouncing her entire hand away but also causing her fingertips to ache!

The elegant posture could no longer be maintained; she recoiled in horror, taking two steps back, her eyes wary: Could Mr. Bo's jade pendant truly only be moved by its owner?

Could it be that Zuzi stole the entire glass case to auction it off?

No one at the scene was able to obtain the jade pendant.

Not even Gu Shiyin.

Everyone tried many times to grab it, but ultimately had to admit they didn't have the ability to take advantage.

How frustrating!

Manager Qiu Guosheng was the most frustrated of all, thinking if the jade truly recognized its owner, how could he auction it, and how could he earn his commission?

Suddenly he remembered, he had witnessed Zuzi taking out the jade pendant and placing it in the glass case... his gaze grew a bit more reverent, and he humbly asked: "Miss Xi, your jade, might we ask you to personally... let it be touchable by the buyers, perhaps?"

Zuzi stepped forward, her red lips slightly curving: "I can."

Her slender arm reached for the jade pendant, and with a casual pick of her fingertips, the jade pendant obediently dropped into her fair and soft palm.

The whole hall watched in disbelief, eyes wide and not blinking!

The jade truly recognized its owner.

Zuzi toyed with the jade pendant, fortunately, she had protected it, not letting Xiao Cheng'er's aura be tainted by those claws; the spiritual energy remained intact.

The deep green jade contrasted beautifully with her skin as white as snow, leaving everyone speechless again, unable to utter a single sound.

Gu Shiyin felt her throat dry and uncomfortable.

She pursed her lips, standing next to Yin Hu, and softly sighed: "I'm not worthy, maybe Mr. Bo's jade really has a special connection with that girl..."

Yin Hu, hearing her gentle sigh, felt an overwhelming sense of oppression, thinking how could Miss Gu, such a figure, be played around by this little girl.

The jade was indeed exactly like the one in Mr. Bo's photo.

He couldn't help but blurt out—

Chapter 387: Who Said My Woman Committed a Crime? Mr. Bo Himself Slaps the Accuser's Face on the Spot!

Yin Hu blurted out:

"Miss Xi, I don't really understand if jade can choose its owner, maybe there's some sorcery that ordinary people like us can't see through..."

Gu Shiyin gently tugged at his sleeve: "Brother Hu, let it go..."

Yin Hu: "I'm just speaking some fairness."

Chen Long, having just finished a call and visited the restroom, came out and saw Yin Hu standing up for Gu Shiyin, couldn't help but hold his forehead.

Oh, he was only away for a little while, and this simpleton is at it again!

Chen Long jogged to try and stop Yin Hu.

But it was too late.

Yin Hu spoke righteously: "Miss Xi, I've been by Mr. Bo's side for so many years, and I've never heard of him giving away the Jade Pendant. But I do know he recently lost a jade. And just so happens, this identical piece is with you. Isn't that too much of a coincidence?"

Chen Long covered his face.

It's over, this fool is beyond saving.

Just because you don't know something doesn't mean it doesn't exist, you blockhead!

Xi Zuzi listened with a slight smile, patiently waiting for him to finish, then scanned him with her eyes: "Hmm, it wasn't him who gave it to me, indeed."

Everyone was in an uproar.

Not only were they surprised to find out that Yin Hu was actually Mr. Bo's subordinate.

But even more shocked that this female thief ended up admitting it herself!

Chu Qiaoen gathered courage: "She's a thief, call the police fast!"

However, the next moment.

Xi Zuzi lightly lifted her brows, her smile turning frosty: "I don't need him to give me anything; this belongs to the Ancestor."

Everyone: "...!"

The young girl sure has a big mouth.

Yin Hu frowned: "Miss Xi, if you don't acknowledge it, don't blame me for being rude..." His hand moved to his waist, as if to take something out.

Gu Shiyin gently advised him: "Brother Hu, don't get angry, let it go, it's better to let the police solve it. After all, it's a criminal matter..."

Before her words fell.

A strong and powerful male voice rang in their ears, shaking them to the core——

"Who said my woman committed a crime?"

Gu Shiyin's heart suddenly lifted, unable to settle!

This is... Bao Gucheng's voice?

She had gone so long without seeing him, fearing she might have heard wrong. Stiffly, she turned her head and saw a man draped in a deep green military coat, seemingly arriving in haste. His black leather boots tapped powerfully on the white marble floor, each step like a beat upon her heart.

He was here!

But he wasn't here for her.

Nothing could hurt more than this.

Only to see Bao Gucheng parting the crowd, striding directly to stand in front of Xi Zuzi, naturally wrapping his arm around her slim shoulders, almost enveloping her petite figure entirely within his sphere of influence.

His cold eyes widened, sweeping over the crowd chillingly: "My woman can do whatever she wants, who gave you the courage to speak ill?"

The crowd fell silent like cicadas in winter, all shrinking back without daring to reply, but internally each was boiling with turmoil, a tsunami about to rise.

"Damn, Mr. Bo himself came to smack faces!"

"So that Jade Pendant... whether it's Mr. Bo's or not, ultimately belongs to this young girl?"

"Goodness, the key is, that young girl is actually... Mr. Bo's woman? Weren't the rumors saying Mr. Bo never has women by his side?"

"This is too explosive, this news is more sensational than tonight's ten-million-dollar auction piece."

Gu Shiyin forced herself to remain calm, barely managing to lower her racing heart, softly greeting: "Hi, Mr. Bo, long time no see."

Bao Gucheng responded with a casual "hmph," not looking at her, instead focusing on Yin Hu:

"Lost over five million in one night, with a debt of two hundred fifty thousand, and you still have the face to be here pointing fingers, framing others?"

Chapter 388 Xiao Cheng, You Look So Beautiful

Yin Hu was dripping with cold sweat, never expecting Bao Gucheng to come personally.

"Mr. Bo, I..."

"No need for words, from now on, you'll be cleaning toilets at the camp and wiping bones in the morgue! Reflect properly on whether you've lived up to your brothers, is living just to squander and incur debt?!"

Bao Gucheng offered no chance for explanation.

Yin Hu hung his head: "Yes!"

There was no doubt about it; his impulse to gamble today was truly unwise.

It violated discipline and the expectations of his brothers; he deserved to be punished.

It's just that...

He bit his lip: "Mr. Bo, this jade is really yours, not hers..."

Chen Long covered his face in despair: "..."

Fool, can't you just keep your mouth shut!

It's like you died once but insist on sitting up from the coffin, stretching your neck to let the master hack you to death again.

Bao Gucheng suppressed his anger, his gaze cold and stern, his thin lips opening: "It's hers."

The three words, forceful and concise, sent a shiver through the crowd.

That sentence, of course, had multiple meanings: it could mean the jade originally belonged to Zuzi, or it could mean Bao Gucheng gave it to her.

The truth wasn't important.

What was important was that Mr. Bo personally endorsed Zuzi's words.

Whatever she says, goes!

Simply incredible.

Who would've thought this iron man could be so unreasonable, so unprincipled, when it comes to being tender to a woman.

Yin Hu's head drooped again: "Yes!"

Chen Long quickly pulled him away to prevent this guy from acting up again, provoking the master's anger: "You're lucky you weren't sent to Africa to dig mines this time, hurry back to clean the toilets! Wipe the skeletons!"

With Bao Gucheng present, naturally, no one dared to question Zuzi further.

Qiu Guosheng smiled broadly, trying to mediate: "I told you, Miss Xi has an air of nobility, this jade is naturally hers, and the jade is obedient, it only acknowledges her! Since that's the case, shall we continue the auction?"

Others quickly agreed down the steps: "Alright, alright, let's continue, continue!"

Oh my, being stared at by that icy gaze of the Living Yama is really unbearable, it doesn't feel like participating in an auction, more like being at an execution ground.

The auctioneer, gathering the courage, returned on stage to tidy up the scattered scene.

Xi Rubao waved enthusiastically at Bao Gucheng through the crowd, mouthing silently: "Brother-in-law! Brother-in-law!"

Bao Gucheng glanced at her, nodded seriously in response: "Mhm. Hello."

Whoa.

Since Bao Gucheng entered, she's the first woman he's paid extra attention to besides Zuzi.

Others only felt Bao Gucheng gave special attention to Xi Rubao, but only Gu Shiyin, who was familiar with lip reading, could see the two silent words coming from Xi Rubao's mouth—Brother, in-law.

Her previously settled heart tightened again.

Brother-in-law?

This Miss Xi was already making such an impression on Bao Gucheng? Bao Gucheng's only been in Qingcheng for a few days, what kind of tactics did this woman use to win him over?

Gu Shiyin couldn't help but softly ask Chu Qiaoen: "Qiao En, didn't you say Miss Xi likes... Mr. Bai?"

Chu Qiaoen was also baffled and shocked, stunned into not daring to speak loudly by Bao Gucheng: "Aunt, I don't understand either. On the plane, I think I heard Mr. Gu say she's some kind of cousin? Does your Gu Family have relatives surnamed Xi? Like distant relatives from the countryside?"

Gu Shiyin shook her head: "I've never heard such a thing. Our Gu Family has no such relatives."

Chu Qiaoen said resentfully: "Then she's pretending! So shameless, bewitching Mr. Bai, and now trying to seduce Mr. Bo, this small-town girl is shameless vixen! I seriously suspect she knows demon art..."

On the other side.

Seeing the auctioneer regain courage and continue.

Zuzi also placed the Jade Pendant back into the glass case.

In the eyes of everyone, she was now a little woman protected by Bao Gucheng.

However.

As she turned to smile at Bao Gucheng, the crowd was collectively stifled by the incredible scene—

"Xiao Cheng, you look really good tonight!"

Little, Little Cheng, er?

Could this one not be an Ancestor?

Chapter 389: Is His Status Not Even Comparable to a Bird?

Realizing that Zuzi is not a submissive little woman depending on Bao Gucheng's embrace, she even calls him "Xiao Cheng'er".

The crowd looked at Zuzi once more, reevaluating her.

What exactly is the relationship between this woman and Mr. Bo?

Someone sneakily inquired from Xi Rubao:

"Little girl, how did your sister meet Mr. Bo?"

"I heard Mr. Bo doesn't let any woman within ten meters of him—he's a woman-repellent! Any woman who approaches him gets tossed aside like a sandbag! Your sister wasn't thrown?"

"What's your sister's background?"

Xi Rubao looked at her sister and brother-in-law whispering sweetly, and the scene was indescribably beautiful. She felt very proud and honored—

"My sister... Mr. Bao is her mentor, and she's his student!"

Hmph, not going to tell you more. Let you stay puzzled.

Indeed.

The crowd was even more confused when they heard.

This relationship is too complicated, isn't it?

Student-teacher relationship? But Mr. Bo says she's his woman? And this woman calls him something like a junior... It's a complete mess!

While the confused crowd kept guessing, Bao Gucheng and Zuzi whispered sweetly:

"Miss Zuzi, you are truly beautiful tonight... You came to the capital and didn't inform me first? Huh?"

"Well, ahem, Xiao Cheng was busy with serious matters, didn't want to disturb you."

"You are the serious matter."

"Ahem ahem ahem, Xiao Cheng, does this Moonstone necklace I won look beautiful?"

"Is this the gift for the crow?"

"Uh-huh. And how about this tourmaline bead, does it look good?"

"It's okay."

"Just right, one to make a pendant for little grass carp, and one as a tassel for my zither, what do you think?"

Zuzi introduced her "trophies".

Out of nowhere, the man asked gloomily: "And what about me?"

Even her crow and zither got gifts, but his place in her heart is below that of a bird?

Zuzi: "Huh? What did you say, Xiao Chenger?"

Bao Gucheng: "..."

After a few seconds of silence, the man looked up at the auction stage at the Jade Pendant under the glass dome: "Miss Zuzi doesn't like my... thing anymore?"

Although it was an ancestral jade, he had no objections when she took it away back then.

But now she's going to sell it...

Why does he feel like she's about to abandon him?

Zuzi smiled radiantly: "Xiao Chenger, how could the ancestor bear to part with it? I'm just teasing them."

Bao Gucheng: "An auction is no joke when it's nailed with a hammer."

"Well, an ancestor can play you know."

Meanwhile.

The auctioneer had regained momentum and announced the starting bid for the Jade Pendant: "No need to worry, folks. If you win the bid for this Jade Pendant, Miss Xi will let it acknowledge a new master again..."

The guests in the hall were instantly stirred up, feeling a bit tempted!

This ten-thousand-year-old dragon stone jadeite already has exquisite quality, and with Mr. Bo's seal of approval, it even showcased the ability to recognize a master earlier, truly a top jade piece.

Ten million is genuinely not expensive.

Those who hadn't collected any treasures tonight were eager, getting ready to raise their paddles to bid.

Turns out.

The first to snatch the bid was...

"Ten million and one thousand!" Bao Gucheng said lightly.

Crowd: "...!"

Mr. Bo, even you're competing with us for this?

Chen Long, who had dragged Yin Hu to the door: "..."

Sir, you're personally spending big bucks to win back your own Jade Pendant, this is kind of baffling, isn't it?

Xi Rubao covered her mouth and screamed: "..."

Ahhhhh brother-in-law is so handsome, ten million and one thousand, is this a declaration setting her apart from thousands for my sister?

Gu Shiyin: "..."

Has Mr. Bo been bewitched by this woman? Money doesn't get spent like this, Mr. Bo!

Chapter 390: Men Definitely Won't Like a Woman Who Squanders Money!

Bao Gucheng took the lead in supporting Zuzi's ten-thousand-year old dragonstone jadeite.

The stimulated crowd immediately swarmed to follow—

I bid ten million and twenty thousand!

I bid eleven million!

I bid fifteen million!

...

However.

Something terrifying happened to everyone.

The prices they shouted got stuck, lodged in their throats, no sound could come out.

No matter how hard they tried, they just couldn't speak up.

Anxious, afraid someone else might get ahead, they rushed to the auction stage, frantically gesturing to the auctioneer. Some tried to write it down, others twisted their arms and bodies into numerical shapes...

But, at the Imperial Auction House, the rule is you have to hear it to believe it, only bids personally acknowledged by the bidder are considered valid.

"Ten million and ten thousand, once."

"Ten million and ten thousand, twice."

"Ten million and ten thousand, three times! Alright, the ten-thousand-year old dragonstone jadeite is sold!"

Bao Gucheng got the jade for just ten thousand over the auction price.

Zuzi smiled cheerfully, "Xiao Cheng, I said they wouldn't be able to snatch it, and they couldn't... well, you snatched it too quickly."

Originally, she had no intention of selling this jade.

It was just a way to gain entry with Xi Rubao to see the excitement, and she also took the opportunity to look for materials to make Spiritual Medicine.

As long as she didn't allow anyone to make a verbal bid during the auction, it would naturally be unsold, and the jade would return to her hand undamaged.

But now Bao Gucheng had snatched it up...

Gu Shiyin, who had been silent all along, gently said, "Miss Xi, your joke may have gone too far, having Mr. Bo spend a fortune to redeem the Jade Pendant for you, this seems..."

She stopped mid-sentence.

Someone beside her naturally continued—

"Mr. Bo's money doesn't grow on trees, it's hard-earned pay from the weather and the battlefield, and here you are, squandering a million and ten thousand of Mr. Bo's money in one night! Zuzi, you wastrel!" Chu Qiao'en mocked bitterly.

Bao Gucheng gave her a cool glance, which made Chu Qiao'en swallow her words.

"Does this lord need your opinion on how I spend my money?"

Chu Qiao'en dared not speak further.

Only Gu Shiyin softly continued, "Mr. Bo, Miss Xi also bid six million for a Moonstone tonight, it's no small amount. I'm not worried about you, just a bit worried about her. I heard this money is listed as a debt..."

She didn't believe Zuzi could afford it.

As Chu Qiao'en said, Zuzi is from the town, how much money could town folks have, it was easy to guess.

So this six million would likely also fall to Bao Gucheng to settle.

Which means that tonight Bao Gucheng would end up paying a total unjust debt of over sixteen million for Zuzi.

She didn't believe a normal man could like such a spendthrift woman.

Just as Gu Shiyin voiced her doubts and before Bao Gucheng could respond, Zuzi chuckled, her red lips curving slightly:

"What a waste of Miss Gu's worry on behalf of the Ancestor."

Saying that, she turned to Qiu Guosheng on the stage, "Tonight, I'll note it down as sixteen million and ten thousand on your account. This money, the Ancestor isn't planning to give it to you."

Everyone: "...!" Damn, it was the first time seeing someone so brazenly racking up debts.

Qiu Guosheng had seen Zuzi say too many shocking things tonight, but this time he was more composed, smiling apologetically, "Alright, alright, Miss Xi, tell me. I'm listening."

Zuzi was quite satisfied with Qiu Guosheng's attitude, "Hmm, Ancestor has a jar of wine here, why don't you just keep it here and auction it off slowly. Find a good buyer, and we split it eighty-twenty."

Qiu Guosheng was bewildered, "... Wine? A jar of wine?"