

Genius 105

Chapter 105 One Slice of Heaven, One Slice of Hell (Part 1)_1

"This young man is too impatient, if he waits a bit longer the price might even go up!"

"That's not necessarily true, the price of this kind of water-content raw material has almost peaked."

Regardless of what others thought or discussed, Qin Fang, who came from a poor background, firmly believed in one thing: it wasn't real until the money was in his pocket.

The transaction went smoothly, with Bizarre Stone Archway allowing for direct bank transfers. After deducting certain fees, Qin Fang's account was three thousand yuan richer—a considerable sum for him.

"Fourth Brother, let's have a feast tonight at Ningcui Residence, it's on you, no problem, right?"

By the time Qin Fang completed the transaction and returned, the other piece of raw material was already displayed on the machine. However, his brothers weren't in a rush to cut the stone; instead, they were waiting for Qin Fang to come back so they could first cajole him into treating them to a meal.

"No problem, this meal is on me!"

Despite feeling a little pain in his wallet, Qin Fang believed it was only right to treat his friends to a meal after earning such an unexpected windfall, especially since it involved his close buddies. Naturally, Tang Feifei and Xiao Muxue needed to be invited too.

Although Ningcui Residence was the most upscale hotel near the university town, it mostly served the students and faculty there, so the consumption level couldn't compare to the hotels in the downtown area. For Qin Fang, this meal was estimated to cost only around two to three thousand yuan.

If it were based on Qin Fang's past financial situation, he certainly wouldn't have been able to afford it. However, he had just made a lucky bet on a piece of raw material that went up thirtyfold, so there was no problem affording the meal.

"Fourth Brother, you make the call, how should we cut this one?"

Xiao Nan and a few others couldn't wait any longer. Although the raw material they picked had all been losses and Qin Fang's had gained, they were a bit envious, yet they knew it was all down to luck. Just like Shen Yang, who had won the most playing landlords but somehow managed to lose tens of thousands of points in one round.

"Let's stick to the usual rule..."

Qin Fang wasn't very knowledgeable; his previous few pieces had all been cut with a single slice, so he naturally assumed this one would be no exception. But as soon as he spoke out, the Master Jieshi beside him couldn't help but interject, "Young man, the skin on this raw material isn't very thick. I suggest you slowly rub it with a grinding wheel. It might be more troublesome, but this way you won't damage the jade inside. The most complete jade is produced this way, and naturally, the price will be higher..."

"What do you think? Master Jieshi is a professional, we should listen to him!"

Qin Fang nodded, then turned around to see his brothers looking at him, seemingly waiting for him to make a decision. He immediately chuckled and said.

"Alright! You know I have the legendary lucky touch, and this time it's sure to yield something even better..." Shen Yang, seemingly having forgotten about the raw material he had busted, immediately laughed out loud.

This guy used to boast in the dormitory that he had a lucky hand, claiming that when playing World of Warcraft, he was the one who always looted because his luck was so good that even the rarest items seemed to drop for him.

Of course, whether that was true or not, no one knew for sure, and Qin Fang and the others didn't care to find out.

"Nope, if you're going to brag like that, I think it's better if someone else does the job..."

Qin Fang immediately joked in response.

"Bro... don't be like that! Give me a chance, bro!"

Despite his hefty build, Shen Yang could be quite the joker; he immediately rushed towards Qin Fang, putting on a pitiable face and giving him longing, puppy-dog eyes.

"Alright, you win. Go ahead! But no, I have to go throw up first. Anyone joining me?" Qin Fang grinned and laughed.

"I can't take it either. I'll go with you!" Xiao Nan, another prankster, immediately echoed.

"Alright, alright, knock it off, let's get on with the cutting; I can hardly wait!"

After some teasing and laughter, not only did Qin Fang and his friends relax, but even the onlookers sported smiles, seemingly charmed by the joviality of these young people.

"Master, please help us draw the line..."

Though Qin Fang and his friends lacked experience, Master Jieshi had plenty. They naturally asked him to outline a predetermined line, which would make the grinding faster and determine more quickly whether there was any green inside the stone.

Whirr Whirr Whirr Whirr~~~~

The grinding wheel spun rapidly, gradually wearing away the skin of the jade raw material, inching towards the predrawn line. Amidst the wisps of grey dust, the situation inside the raw material became clearer and clearer.

"Stop!"

Just then, Master Jieshi suddenly called out, and Shen Yang immediately stopped.

"What's the matter, Master?"

Qin Fang looked over. The skin was still just the skin, with no trace of green visible, so he was somewhat puzzled as to why Master Jieshi had called for a halt.

"Change the direction, start from here..."

The master didn't pay heed to Qin Fang but kept his gaze fixed on the raw material, then drew a new line in a different direction and directed Shen Yang to come and rub from there.

"Listen to the master..."

Shen Yang looked at Qin Fang, slightly annoyed at being ordered around by the master. Fortunately, Qin Fang was sensible enough to nod, so Shen Yang picked up the grinding wheel and moved to the new position, continuing to rub.

This time, Shen Yang's movements were much more gentle, almost like he was rubbing the wheel into the stone bit by bit, very cautiously, as if he was worried about damaging it.

"The Third, hand me the grinder, I'll do it myself..."

But the more careful he was, the more unsettled Qin Fang and the others felt. As the grinder approached the line drawn by Master Jieshi, Qin Fang couldn't hold back any longer and immediately jumped forward to take over.

The rough stone belonged to Qin Fang, and since Qin Fang wanted to rub it himself, Shen Yang, although a bit reluctant, passed the grinder over to Qin Fang and then stood at the nearest spot, waiting for the final result.

Zzzzzz~~~

The grinder was now spinning, gently rubbing away the outer layer of the rough jade. Qin Fang's face was almost against the stone, and the flying fragments struck his flat glasses and face with a crackling and stinging sensation.

Yet, Qin Fang acted as if he hadn't noticed at all, to the point where even he felt his breathing seemed to have stopped, and there was a tightness in his chest.

The onlookers grew tense as well, especially because the experienced Master Jieshi had such an expression, which led them to anticipate that there might be a good chance of revealing green.

Crack~~

When a small piece of the outer layer was rubbed off, the true face of the rough stone was finally revealed!

"It's gone up, gone up again!"

Someone close by suddenly shouted, startling Qin Fang. The already heavy and suffocating atmosphere was completely relieved with that shout.

"Damn, that luck... is indescribable!"

"Both pieces went up!"

"Amazing! This guy, why doesn't he go buy lottery tickets..."

The various comments were noisy, all expressing astonishment at Qin Fang's consecutive luck in betting on the rise. His luck seemed incredibly good.

Of course, there were also some envious detractors who couldn't eat the grapes and so dismissed them as sour, with remarks such as "It's just dumb luck, a blind cat finding a dead rat."

"Dumb luck? You try stumbling upon that luck just once!"

"Exactly! Why don't you step in some 'dog crap' like that!"

"Jealous that someone else won? Why don't you try your luck betting on a rise and see!"

Such comments were quickly drowned out by the scoffing of the crowd. It was evident that people despised the mentality of sour losers who couldn't stand to see others succeed. With the majority on their side, they immediately chased those few insanely jealous individuals away in shame.

"Right, how's the quality of the jade?"

"I was so focused on seeing the green, I totally forgot to check the quality!"

"Hey, you up front, tell us, how's the quality?"

After dealing with those few, the onlookers remembered that they hadn't taken a closer look at the quality of the jade.

Qin Fang's rough stone had been purchased at a very low price. Basically, as long as there was jade, there would be no loss. Even the worst "dog crap" quality could turn a profit of a few hundred yuan, so it wouldn't be a terrible loss.

"Master, how is the water content?"

By now, Qin Fang had washed the cut surface with water, revealing the green more clearly. But as Qin Fang still didn't understand how jade quality was classified, he had to ask Master Jieshi.

"The water head is quite good, it has reached the level of 'egg white.' Though the green is a bit faint, the color is quite correct. It's another big win..."

Master Jieshi took a brief look and then commented so.

"Better than the one just now?"

Qin Fang obviously knew it was a big win, and it seemed that in terms of greenness, color, and other aspects, it was even better than the piece he had sold for thirty thousand.

"Much better, of course... don't believe me? Just listen to their bids!"

Master Jieshi gave Qin Fang a dismissive look, chuckled, and then gestured with his mouth towards a few jade merchants.

"I bid two hundred thousand!"

Seemingly having overheard Master Jieshi's conversation with Qin Fang, a jade merchant immediately started bidding.

"I bid two hundred twenty thousand!"

"I bid two hundred fifty thousand..."

Qin Fang was so startled by the figures being thrown out that he almost couldn't stand.

Just a short while ago, he was over the moon about the rough stone he bet on going up, turning a thousand yuan into thirty thousand—a thirty-fold profit—making him feel faint with disbelief.

But now, with the same initial investment of a thousand yuan, the current bids were almost making him pass out. It was only the first round of bidding, and the profit had already increased by more than two hundred fifty times, with numbers still rising, seemingly unstoppable even at three hundred thousand...