

Genius 80

Chapter 80 - Appraisal of Antiques_1

"Fake?"

Chen Jiangnan's face instantly stiffened, and disbelief filled his eyes, "That's impossible, the old man treasured it like a precious jewel; how could it possibly be fake?"

"Believe it or not!"

Qin Fang shrugged his shoulders and muttered quite calmly.

Of course, he could be certain this piece of antique porcelain was a sham, as he had just thrown a Scouting Skill onto the vase when he had nothing better to do, and thus the following result appeared: "A well-made imitation of an antique porcelain vase."

Could Qin Fang's Skill be mistaken?

Obviously not!

Or to say, up to this point, it had never been wrong.

And such was the result of scouting the porcelain vase: although Qin Fang couldn't tell where exactly the porcelain was falsified, at the very least from the outward appearance, it was crafted exquisitely, and it genuinely had an ancient charm to it.

"Are you sure this antique is really a fake?"

Rattled by Qin Fang's actions, particularly his brimming confidence, Chen Jiangnan began to doubt as well. He hesitated for a moment before he couldn't help but make a request, "Could you, you know, let me go so I can make a phone call?"

"What do you think!"

Qin Fang remained unmoved, about to remind Tang Feifei to hurry up and call the police.

"Qin Fang, I think he... seems to be telling the truth! Why don't we... let him make a call? I'll dial for him!"

Tang Feifei, that girl, was comparatively kind-hearted. Seeing Chen Jiangnan's anxious demeanor, which really didn't seem fake, she began to discuss it with Qin Fang.

"This... alright then!"

Qin Fang hesitated a bit, but unable to resist Tang Feifei's longing gaze, he eventually nodded and agreed, then fished out a mobile phone from Chen Jiangnan's pocket and tossed it to Tang Feifei.

"Is this old man in the phone your dad?"

Following Chen Jiangnan's guidance, Tang Feifei quickly located the target individual, namely Professor Chen Fanghai, Chen Jiangnan's father. However, the contact was labeled "Old Man," which made Tang Feifei involuntarily inquire.

"Uh, yes!"

Chen Jiangnan appeared slightly embarrassed but still nodded in confirmation.

Tang Feifei swiftly dialed the number, and immediately a robust, elderly voice sounded in her ear, "Hello, this is Chen Fanghai..."

"Yes, that's him!"

Upon hearing the other party introduce himself, Tang Feifei nodded and, having received Qin Fang's consent, handed the phone to Chen Jiangnan. Qin Fang also released one hand, allowing Chen Jiangnan to free a hand to take the call — it would be improper to make Tang Feifei attend to him like a maid.

"Dad, it's me, Jiangnan!"

Chen Jiangnan took the call and identified himself before diving straight into the matter at hand, "So, something came up today concerning that precious antique porcelain vase of yours! Right, it went like this... I met some antique-loving friends, and during our conversation, we brought up your vase, and guess what, they said your... it's fake! Not an antique, but a high-quality imitation..."

"That's impossible!"

Qin Fang hadn't picked up on the earlier part of Chen Jiangnan's conversation, but this statement sounded as if it were shouted, and even Qin Fang, standing close by, felt as if he'd almost been sprayed with saliva.

"Dad, I'm telling the truth, if you don't believe me, you can ask Uncle Lu to examine it for you, then you'll know if it's real or fake..." Unconsciously, Chen Jiangnan seemed to truly have believed Qin Fang's words, as the tone in which he spoke to his father was so certain.

"Okay, okay, I'll get on it right away..."

The other party was silent for a while, then seemed to say something, while Chen Jiangnan kept nodding incessantly.

However, Qin Fang did not notice this; he suddenly used his Scouting Skill on Chen Jiangnan, and surprisingly obtained a completely different result.

"Chen Jiangnan, mistaken for a thief..."

Seeing such a result, Qin Fang knew he had indeed made a mistake, immediately released Chen Jiangnan's arm, and gave him his freedom back.

"Big brother, I'm really sorry, I misunderstood you!"

And with that, Qin Fang apologized, leaving Chen Jiangnan somewhat baffled, while Tang Feifei and Xiao Muxue both wore expressions of astonishment, wondering in their hearts: How could he be so sure that Chen Jiangnan wasn't a thief just from those few words?

Of course, Qin Fang couldn't possibly tell them the reason.

"So the results of scouting can change too..." This realization was a valuable gain for Qin Fang.

"Student Qin, I really need to thank you today. If it weren't for you mistakenly catching me as a thief, taking this thing out... I probably would've ended up getting my hands and feet chopped off! I owe you a great debt of gratitude, but I have urgent matters to attend to today, I will definitely come to thank you in person another day!"

Chen Jiangnan seemed to be in a hurry, thanked Qin Fang profusely, and then left quickly—of course, taking that fake vase with him.

"Since when can you appraise antiques, Qin Fang?"

Chen Jiangnan may have left, but Tang Feifei's curiosity had been piqued, and she asked him with a smile.

Earlier, she too had looked at that antique vase; it was exquisitely made, very delicate, but Qin Fang had managed to recognize at a glance that it was a fake, which was really impressive.

Of course, whether it was genuine or fake, right or wrong, she didn't know the outcome yet, but she chose to believe Qin Fang.

"This... Back when I was at home, there were always people coming to scour the old houses in the countryside. I'd tag along out of curiosity, listen, and ask questions, and picked up a bit of knowledge that way."

What Qin Fang said was actually true; there were people who scoured old houses because Qin Fang's hometown had several tombs dating back to the Han Dynasty. Some families had even dug up some Han Dynasty jade and other burial items. Antique collectors liked to wander around those places, hoping to snag a bargain.

But these people were not ones to interact with a kid like him; they would prefer that someone like Qin Fang, a country bumpkin, didn't know the trade, so they could find better deals.

Of course, now that Qin Fang used this explanation, it left Tang Feifei with nothing to criticize.

"Then you tell me..."

However, it seemed Tang Feifei wanted to ask more questions, but Qin Fang preemptively interrupted her, promptly mentioning the reason he had called them out, and briefly explained the partnership proposal brought up by Xiao Nan.

"In principle, I agree, but since you two are shareholders, it's only right to ask for your opinions..."

"It's a very good plan!"

Xiao Muxue's response was rather straightforward, and her evaluation was concise.

"Let's go ahead with it then. Actually, I've wanted to suggest it for a long time, but I was afraid that you... This way, you can break free and not be limited to just this little noodle shop anymore!"

Tang Feifei was quite candid. She had indeed had this idea for a while, but she had worried about hurting Qin Fang's pride. Additionally, the business was something both of them cherished. However, since Xiao Muxue had come into the picture, Tang Feifei had been feeling blocked and had been eager to draw Qin Fang out.

"Since you both agree, then I'll go back and discuss it with Second Brother..."

Tang Feifei wasn't one for ulterior motives, just a simple girl, so Qin Fang naturally didn't overthink it. He smiled and spoke to them, thus finalizing the matter.

Clueless about romantic gestures, Qin Fang did not invite the two beauties to enjoy an evening under the blossoms and moon. Given that the combination of one man and two women was admittedly awkward for such activities, they merely chatted for a while and took a walk, after which he escorted the two women back to their dormitory before Qin Fang himself returned.

"I didn't expect scouting skills could also appraise antiques; that could very well be a great way to strike it rich..."

As he walked down the street, Qin Fang couldn't help but have such a thought.