

## Golden 13

Chapter Thirteen: Upgrade (Please add to your favorites and recommend)

The old lady was fidgeting in the shop, her eyes constantly glancing towards the entrance, her face full of anxiety. Only when she saw Zhuang Rui and Liu Chuan walk in did she breathe a sigh of relief and ask softly, "Young man, do you still want this book?"

Zhuang Rui didn't even bother to call, and said directly, "I'll take this book, ma'am. Please give me a reasonable price. It's so cold, you probably won't be able to sell it anywhere, so don't bother going back and forth.

"I don't know what price to ask for. When I got married, my mother said these books were treasures. If my husband hadn't had that accident, I wouldn't be selling them. Young man, how about 20,000 yuan for the three books together?"

The old lady's voice grew softer and softer, until it was almost inaudible when she mentioned the price of 20,000 yuan. After the prices offered by the previous shops, the old lady probably felt that her few tattered books were not necessarily treasures. In addition, her two sons were in school, and they received so many books every year, which only cost a few hundred yuan. For her to ask for 20,000 yuan for these three tattered books was like selling cabbages as treasures. The old lady herself felt a little embarrassed.

"How much?"

The old lady spoke too softly, and Zhuang Rui indeed didn't hear the price clearly.

"Twenty thousand yuan, is that okay? Or eighteen thousand would also be fine. We have to pay a fine when we get back. We haven't paid for the old man's hospital bills yet, and we owe several thousand yuan for the child's school fees. Any less won't do."

The old woman's voice was a little louder, but her tone was firm, and her cloudy eyes were already filled with tears.

"My own couplet is worth ten thousand. If we consider the spiritual energy content, this book should be worth no less than ten thousand. Even if its condition is a bit poor, buying it for twenty thousand won't be a huge loss. I'll just consider it an act of charity.

After silently calculating in his mind, Zhuang Rui pointed to the most worn-out book on the coffee table and said, "Auntie, I don't want those two books. I only want this one. To be honest, this book may be worthless in some people's eyes, but it may be a treasure in other people's eyes. However, this book has not been well preserved. Many parts are damaged by insects. I estimate that it is worth at most 20,000 yuan. How about this, let's not go for 18,000 yuan, just 20,000 yuan. I'll take it."

Since Zhuang Rui had decided to buy it, the difference between 10,000 and 20,000 yuan wasn't that significant. In his mind, the value of the spiritual energy contained in the book far exceeded 20,000 yuan.

"Wood, this lousy book isn't worth 20,000 yuan. Don't throw your money away. If we don't buy it, do you think we're stupid?"

Liu Chuan, who was standing to the side, couldn't hold back any longer. He had also taken the book and looked at it over and over for a long time. His feeling was summed up in one word: tattered. If this tattered book could be worth 20,000 yuan, then he could easily get a mongrel dog from the countryside and sell it for the price of a German Shepherd. Liu Chuan felt that Zhuang Rui had been knocked stupid.

"This... I mean, it can be less. It's the 20,000 that this guy said."

Seeing Liu Chuan's fierce face, the old lady was a little scared and said timidly in a low voice that she probably also felt that Zhuang Rui's brain was not working properly, that someone was actually buying things at too high a price.

"You scoundrel, stop with the nonsense and hurry up and hand over 20,000 yuan. I'll pay you back when I get home. Give the money to the old lady; it's almost dark, and in this heavy snow and freezing weather, I still need to get back to Tongshan.

Zhuang Rui had no idea that the two people beside him had already categorized him as someone with a mental problem. All he wanted to do now was get the book as soon as possible and go home to study it carefully.

"I have no money, and even if I had money, I wouldn't give it to you!"

Liu Chuan turned his face away, thinking to himself that if he were to take out 20,000 yuan, and word got out, his shop would be crammed full of people trying to take advantage of him.

"Are you going to take it or not? If not, I'll go home and get it now..."

As Zhuang Rui spoke, he stood up. The 100,000 yuan bonus from his company was still at home, and he had more than 20,000 yuan in his bank account. He could just take a taxi home to get it.

"Alright, alright, I'm scared of you. You sit down and wait a few minutes. Damn it, I'm unlucky to have met you..."

Liu Chuan knew Zhuang Rui's personality all too well. From childhood to adulthood, once Zhuang Rui set his mind on something, he would definitely do it, and no one could change his mind.

Liu Chuan shoved Zhuang Rui onto the sofa, then stormed out, his face full of displeasure. He didn't even take an umbrella. He didn't usually keep that much cash in his shop, but there were banks and ATMs right next to the market, so depositing and withdrawing money was very convenient.

"Young man, look, just give me 18,000, this... this is too much trouble."

"It's alright, ma'am, it's only 20,000. Don't worry, I won't hold you accountable later. After you get the money, please go home as soon as possible. It's important to get Grandpa treated first..." Zhuang Rui's words brought tears to the old lady's eyes. She kept wiping her tears with her sleeve, sobbing and unable to speak.

As the two were talking, not long after, they heard a loud bang as Liu Chuan pushed open the shop door. Liu Chuan, whose head was covered in snowflakes, didn't even wipe them off before throwing 20,000 yuan to Zhuang Rui.

"Auntie, count the money and hide it well. There are a lot of thieves during the holidays, so be careful on the road. You scoundrel, why don't you just drive me to the station..."

Zhuang Rui glanced at the snow falling heavier and heavier outside the door, handed the money to the old lady, and then said to Liu Chuan.

"No need, no need, I wouldn't dare trouble you. I know the way."

Perhaps a little afraid of Liu Chuan, the old lady stopped counting the money. She took out a handkerchief, first wrapped it in her wallet, then lifted her clothes and stuffed the money into her waistband. When she packed the other two books into her bag, her left hand was still covering the money. However, once she slung the bag over her shoulder, it was no longer noticeable that she had hidden money in her waistband.

Zhuang Rui, holding an umbrella, walked to the roadside and hailed a taxi. After helping the old lady into the car, he returned to Liu Chuan's pet shop. Seeing the guy looking like he was about to be berated him, he couldn't help but laugh.

"Hey buddy, why that wife-dead look on your face? Let me tell you, this book is definitely worth more than 20,000 yuan. We've made a profit. Wait a minute, let me see what's in it." Zhuang Rui's words were infuriating. He didn't even know what was written in the book, yet he threw away 20,000 yuan.

Liu Chuan was so angry he almost jumped up, pointing at Zhuang Rui and cursing, "Damn it, this lousy book is too hard to even wipe your butt with! What, what did you say? You haven't read this book yet???"

Liu Chuan was completely speechless. Seeing Zhuang Rui flipping through the book and ignoring him, he angrily lit a cigarette, sat back down at the computer, and started playing games. He was secretly planning how to complain about the kid to his godmother that night.

Zhuang Rui ignored Liu Chuan, as he was concentrating on the book in his hands. To his slight disappointment, the spiritual energy in the book seemed to have been absorbed, just like the couplet. After one use, no more energy flowed into the spiritual energy in his eyes.

However, this was within Zhuang Rui's expectations. Moreover, his surprise far outweighed his disappointment, because when he used spiritual energy, he could clearly feel that the spiritual energy infused with the aura of this ancient book was very different from before. How to put it, if Zhuang Rui were to describe it himself, he would feel like he had leveled up in a game.

The greenish-blue light that preceded the use of spiritual energy has now turned into a pale orange-yellow. Not only has the total amount of spiritual energy increased, but it has also become easier to control. Zhuang Rui can even control the spiritual energy within any page, just like turning the pages of a book.

He even had a feeling that he could look at other people's bodies with his eyes and see right through their clothes without touching their skin. Of course, right now it was just Liu Chuan and himself in the shop, and he had absolutely no interest in Liu Chuan's body.

The distance that his eyes could see through had also increased. Just now, before he picked up the book, Zhuang Rui glanced at the book on the glass coffee table, and the distance was definitely more than a meter. Zhuang Rui planned to test it slowly when he got home that night to find out exactly how much it had increased.

Most importantly, after experiencing the twice that he could absorb spiritual energy from the manuscript of the couplet, Zhuang Rui found a way to continuously increase the spiritual energy in his eyes. He even looked forward to what kind of magical changes his eyes would undergo after absorbing more spiritual energy.