

Middle Age 66

Chapter 66: Park Zhixiong

"How much is this stone?"

Qi Yun asked casually while setting the rough stone aside with an indifferent expression. He then picked up another stone and pretended to examine it intently.

People in this jade market may look honest and simple, but they're all seasoned actors.

He had witnessed their superb acting skills the last time he was here, so he didn't show strong interest.

The stall owner rubbed his hands together, smiling broadly, "Boss, this stone is a good one. Eighty thousand!"

Upon hearing the price, Qi Yun couldn't help but chuckle quietly; this guy really intended to cut deep.

Although he knew nothing about rough stones, the system valued this stone at only a hundred thousand.

Without even opening a window, the other party dared to ask for eighty thousand, clearly intending to rip him off.

Qi Yun waved his hand and looked up, "Don't shout blindly, just name the selling price directly."

The smile on the stall owner's face didn't change, with a subtle cunning flickering in his eyes: "Boss, that's the real selling price. You see, the item is good. I'm giving you the price with a clear conscience."

"Twenty thousand!" Qi Yun didn't beat around the bush and directly quoted his price.

The stall owner, upon hearing the twenty thousand, immediately put on a pained expression, frowning so much it seemed it could catch a mosquito.

"Ah, no way! No way, I'd be losing money. Boss, please add more."

Qi Yun stared at him for a while, trying to discern the truth in his words, but there was no flaw on that seemingly honest face.

He sighed and said in a deep voice, "I'll add two thousand more, twenty-two thousand!"

But the stall owner kept shaking his head, "No, Boss, that's a loss!"

"We haven't opened a transaction all day. Out of respect, I'll give it to you for seventy thousand! The real selling price!"

Seeing this, Qi Yun furrowed his brow.

The other party seemed impossibly stubborn.

Just as he was pondering whether to raise his offer, a familiar voice suddenly came from beside him.

"Hey everyone, just after the New Year, today I'm taking you to the bazaar. I heard a new batch of goods arrived recently. Let's see if we can get a bargain here..."

Qi Yun turned towards the voice and saw the person holding a phone stand in one hand and two grilled buns in the other, chatting away at the phone screen.

Isn't this the streamer he met here last time buying jade?

Qi Yun had a flash of inspiration and immediately had an idea.

It's best to leave professional matters to the professionals.

He didn't waste any more words with the stall owner and walked straight towards the streamer.

"Hey, isn't this the big brother from last time? Here to pick jade again today?" The streamer recognized Qi Yun at a glance, greeting him warmly.

Qi Yun smiled back, "Haha, yes, I happened to have something I wanted to discuss with you." He gestured towards the phone the streamer was live-streaming with.

The streamer immediately caught on and spoke apologetically to the camera, "Sorry everyone, bumped into an acquaintance. Please wait a moment."

He then moved the phone stand aside.

"What's up, big brother? Spill it," the streamer said.

Qi Yun glanced back at the stall and whispered something to the streamer.

The streamer chuckled, "Big brother, you might not know, there are only two stalls selling jadeite rough stones here, and the other stall is his brother's. It's normal for new faces like you to struggle with bargaining."

"I can help you solve it, no problem, but you know my rules, right?"

Qi Yun agreed without hesitation, "Sure, no problem."

After receiving Qi Yun's confirmation, the streamer smiled confidently, "Alright, just watch."

The two of them walked back to the stall where they had been earlier.

As soon as the stall owner saw the streamer, his face broke into a wide smile, warmly greeting, "Mr. Park, check out the new goods that arrived yesterday."

Park Zhixiong nodded in acknowledgment and immediately focused on the rough stone Qi Yun had picked up.

It was obvious that not only was he proficient in jade, but he also had some understanding of jadeite rough stones.

He held the rough stone up to the light, then turned his head towards Qi Yun with some surprise on his face, "Big brother, you have a keen eye, this stone has great potential."

It's known that jadeite rough stones are quite similar to jade.

Except for certain seed materials, with stones like this that haven't been windowed, it's difficult to accurately judge just by their appearance what the inside might hold, with a considerable element of gambling.

However, this rough stone showed a faint outline of green when lit, at least ensuring it wouldn't turn out to be just an ordinary stone.

But its true value once cut would depend entirely on luck.

"Haha, I don't understand these things; I just think this stone looks pleasing," Qi Yun replied modestly, smiling.

Park Zhixiong nodded and spoke directly to the stall owner, "Adasi, this big brother is a friend of mine. He's interested in this stone. How about selling it to me for twenty-five thousand?"

Upon hearing the price Park Zhixiong named, the stall owner looked between the two of them, showing some hesitation.

Seeing this, Park Zhixiong extended his right hand and urged, "Hurry up, the price is set. Don't I give you a lot of business every year at your booth?"

The stall owner heard this and looked even more conflicted; twenty-five thousand was a low price. Selling it for such a price felt unappealing.

However, he didn't want to offend this large customer, so after some contemplation, he nodded in agreement.

He reached out and gave the other a hearty handshake, "Mr. Park, for your sake, I'll give in!"

Park Zhixiong smiled with satisfaction, "That's right, I'll keep buying your stones in the future."

With that said, he handed the rough stone to Qi Yun.

Qi Yun didn't hesitate; he immediately took out his phone and transferred twenty-five thousand to the stall owner.

After purchasing the stone, he followed Park Zhixiong aside and transferred him a commission of two thousand five, making the total cost of the jadeite rough stone twenty-seven thousand five.

"Alright, if you need anything next time, just reach out to me on WeChat," Park Zhixiong said, confirming the payment and smiling wider. "By the way, are you going to cut the stone this time?"

Qi Yun thought for a moment, then shook his head and smiled, "I have something else to do later, so let's not cut it today."

He knew if he decided to cut the stone, the other party would likely come along to livestream.

A few days ago, he had already cut out a piece of nephrite jade worth a hundred thousand; cutting another piece of jadeite worth a hundred thousand today would be too miraculous.

So Qi Yun simply declined and planned to find a shop to cut it later.

Park Zhixiong didn't press further, said his goodbyes, and left first.

After the other party was out of sight, Qi Yun also turned and left the jade market.

Across the street was a row of shops specializing in stone cutting, and he randomly chose a Han-owned shop.

Inside, the machines roared loudly, and the air was filled with the scent of stone dust.

A dark-skinned young man focused intently on operating a cutting machine, with some already cut stone material piled beside him.

Qi Yun approached and took the rough stone from his pocket, placing it on the table.

"Mister, could you help cut this rough stone?"

The dark-skinned youth paused his work, looked Qi Yun over, and then focused on the rough stone.

He reached out a callused hand, picked up the rough stone, and examined it carefully under the light, then said plainly, "Opening the window is fifty, anything else will have additional charges."