

## **So Pure 111**

### **Chapter 111: Rock Gambling**

“Uncle Wu, what is this material?” Yang Ming asked casually.

“Oh, those were left behind after being picked over by many people. There’s almost nothing good left there. In the end, it will be sold by the pile to the workshops that open up stalls in the night market. They can buy a pile of stones for a few hundred yuan,” said Wu Facai.

“Then, can I buy a few pieces from here?” Yang Ming acted casually. “I don’t know about this stuff. I just wanted to carve something on it!”

“Yang Ming, simply pick out what you like. Uncle Zhang will pay for you!” Zhang Jiefang wouldn’t mind a few hundred.

“Hai! Boss Zhang, from what you said, how can I charge you for a few scrap pieces?” Wu Facai shook his head. “It’s just a piece of scrap that isn’t worth much. If you pay for it, then aren’t I the one who is stingy? Little fellow, just pick anything you like. Uncle Wu will give it to you to play with!”

“Hehe, thanks, Uncle Wu!” Yang Ming smiled as he said so.

“Elder brother, if you want to pick, choose from a good pile. The leftover pile won’t have anything good!” Zhang Bing winked at Yang Ming reminding him not to be so modest in robbing the rich to help the poor!

Yang Ming nodded his head to Zhang Bing and said, “It doesn’t matter. I am just taking two pieces for fun!”

“Alright then, I will choose two as well! We can compete with each other tonight!” Zhang Bing was excited and asked, “Dad, can I choose a few?”

Zhang Jiefang was glad that Zhang Bing was interested and he replied, "Alright if you pick something great, your father will reward you!"

"What is the reward?" Zhang Bing felt that empty words weren't insured. It should be more concrete!

"Aren't you going to the university soon? I will buy you a car!" Zhang Jiefang said. In fact, he had this plan all along. After Zhang Bing enrolled in the university, he would prep to handle the company's affairs. It would be inconvenient without a car. How would that be possible?

"Alright! I want a car worth ten thousand yuan and above. Don't fool me with a cheap one!" Zhang Bing said.

"Even if you wanted a cheap one, I wouldn't dare buy it for you. I would be concerned about its safety!" Zhang Jiefang said.

Although Zhang Bing didn't pay much attention to his academics, as someone who hung out with Yang Ming, he wasn't stupid. He didn't act impatiently, but rather he observed how Zhang Jiefang's men hand-picked those stones. Occasionally, he looked at how the others did it as well.

Yet, something like this was not easy to understand through observation alone! Soon after, Zhang Bing gave up! There was no pattern to it.

However, Yang Ming seemed to find the trick. Good jadeite typically had a clear and green texture. Also, it would be almost transparent. While the others tried to figure out how to determine the quality of the gemstone, Yang Ming was learning how to discriminate the good jadeite from the bad ones!

Lan Ling wanted to ask Yang Ming why he looked at the discards that way but as soon as she saw Yang Min take a chunk in his hand, she couldn't help but be surprised!

Yes, she felt it. The gemstone in Yang Ming's hand was extremely exceptional! Lan Ling wouldn't know how great it was because it was just a feeling! A feeling indicated that this stone was better than the other stones!

Lan Ling noticed Yang Ming's leisurely expression. He seemed to want to put back the stone. She quickly pulled Yang Ming's sleeve. "I want this one!"

Yang Ming spoke near Lan Ling's ear, "Don't say anything. Just observe."

Lan Ling looked at Yang Ming with doubt. She didn't know what he meant by that! I told him about my special ability. Why didn't he let me help?

When Lan Ling saw Yang Ming take a bad stone, she couldn't control herself. "Yang Ming, this chunk isn't good!"

"I know." Yang Ming said calmly, "If everything I took was great, what would the others think? Getting one may be lucky. Getting two can be a coincidence but it also raises suspicion!"

"Ah..." Lan Ling was surprised for a bit. She quickly understood Yang Ming's message later. However, she found it bizarre how Yang Ming could identify which stone was good or bad! When she remembered what he asked in the car, he didn't have any prior knowledge of this!

"I just want these two pieces!" Yang Ming said casually.

"No problem, just grab them!" Wu Facai glanced at them and said, "Do you want to break them open now or bring them home and slowly grind them?"

Yang Ming didn't want to attract too much attention, so he said, "I will take them home first. I want to test my own skills on it!"

"Yang Ming, have you finished picking already?" Zhang Bing thought Yang Ming was too quick and he found it odd.

“Yes, I just simply took it. I don’t know much, so there’s no use in trying so hard to pick one. I will take it based on luck!” Yang Ming smiled.

“Hehe, then I will simply grab two chunks as well!” Zhang Bing noticed Yang Ming’s attitude, and he just picked two chunks that seemed bigger!

Yang Ming simply glanced at them. The two chunks in Zhang Bing’s hand weren’t that great, but once they were cracked open, breaking-even wasn’t an issue!

Throughout the morning, Zhang Jiefang’s men picked approximately three thousand chunks of stones. The merchants saved their chosen pieces into their own piles. Another group of merchants had finished picking, and they were breaking the stones open. They only kept the rocks of good quality. They sold as much as they could of the bad quality stones to the local workshop. A piece of imperial jade was already enough for them to earn a lot!

At noon, Wu Facai arranged a meal for Zhang Jiefang and another group of merchants. The group had immersed themselves in the happiness of getting an imperial jade. They didn’t bother with the food but opted to get a few boxed lunches and grabbed a few bites. Then, they continued to break open those stones.

Wu Facai knew their temperament, therefore, he didn’t force it. He ordered a few of his men to look after the warehouse then he went with Zhang Jiefang and the rest of them for a meal.

Zhang Jiefang was only involved in this occasionally. He wasn’t at the stage of addiction. What mattered more was the profit rather than the excitement of gambling. Hence, he could be deemed as a logical person. After all, jade was only one kind of jewelry, and it didn’t represent everything. There were markets of gold, silver, and diamond as well. Zhang Jiefang didn’t hold any special affection toward jade.

Yang Ming carried the two chunks of stone on him since they didn’t occupy much space. The two stones that he chose were tiny.

“Why would you carry around these things? You won’t lose them if you just left them here!” Zhang Bing asked.

“If I left them here, the others could steal it. I’m still looking forward to defeating you tonight!” Yang Ming spoke as though he was laughing.

“Damn! I despise you! Who wants to steal your junk stone?” Even though Zhang Bing said such things, he also carried both of his stones in his shirt pocket.

Zhang Jiefang and Wu Facai didn’t pay much attention. They thought Yang Ming and Zhang Bing were only fooling around like kids. They didn’t expect that Yang Ming was truly afraid of losing the pieces. They were just useless stones, and there were tons of them! Wu Facai wouldn’t care if a mere ten yuan was lost.

Lunch wasn’t as expensive as yesterday’s dinner. It was a typical working lunch so no one was drinking alcohol. The reason was that there were still some things which needed to be done in the afternoon. Even though the dishes weren’t as luxurious as yesterday’s, it was still an appetizing meal which they enjoyed.

In the afternoon, Yang Ming suggested that they walk around. With that, he wouldn’t be returning to the warehouse. Zhang Bing agreed with it as well. Zhang Jiefang didn’t have much opinion about it. Since Zhang Bing had experienced it, there was no reason for them to stay any longer.

Zhang Bing, Yang Ming and Lan Ling, the three of them, grabbed a taxi and returned to the hotel. They, fortunately, encountered someone who had just checked out and Yang Ming immediately reserved the room.

“The room which the customer checked out from is a couple’s room. Would that be alright?” The receptionist asked.

“En, I want a room like that!” Before Yang Ming could say anything, Lan Ling had spoken out.

Yang Ming was embarrassed after hearing those words. You, little girl, couldn’t be more reserved? Aren’t you afraid of other people talking behind you?

Of course, the receptionist and Zhang Bing were shocked. A typical couple scenario would always have the male request such a room. This was the first time witnessing a female being proactive!

As the receptionist saw how childlike Lan Ling was, she became doubtful of whether she was an adult yet. If there was a spot check, there would be trouble for the hotel!

With those thoughts in mind, the receptionist immediately asked, "Can both of you show me your identity cards?"

When she saw that Lan Ling was almost seventeen, the receptionist let out a sigh of relief. She didn't want something like this to cause trouble for the hotel and get fired by her boss!

Yang Ming's vision was exceptional. He casually snuck a peek and saw all of the details on Lan Ling's identity card. She was indeed from the Miao tribe. It seems that she didn't lie to me. Yang Ming was looking for her birthday so that he could give her a surprise.

Even though the sex came before love, love naturally grew as sex increased. Yang Ming only knew this girl for one day but he genuinely liked this little girl. Although she was a bit clingy, a coquettish girl with such an innocent appearance was the best choice for a wife. Her flirty demeanor was solely for Yang Ming.

After registering their identity cards, Yang Ming and Lan Ling took their luggage. An attendant was cleaning the room. When she noticed that Yang Ming and Lan Ling enter, she said, "Please wait for a little while. It will be ready soon!"

## **Chapter 112 Lan Ling Has a Secret**

The hotel staff thought he might as well swap everything like the pillow covers and the blankets. Once he wiped the table, he placed a few daily necessities on the top. Then, he left a small plastic looking item in the drawer of the nightstand. As the staff raised his head and looked at them, he hesitated, but then put another one up there, then he left the room.

"What's it?" Lan Ling looked at the two plastic packets and started investigating.

Yang Ming felt a big drop of sweat come down from him after he looked at it. They were two condoms! D\*\*\*! Yang Ming thought about the last look from the staff before he left. He probably thought that this guy wouldn't be satisfied with one condom! Do I truly look that horny?

However, we can't blame the staff for this. He saw that Yang Ming and Lan Ling were a young couple, so automatically their desire as young people would be stronger. Therefore, he left two condoms in the room.

“Ah?” Once Lan Ling understood the item's usage, she immediately felt an urge to test it out. Under Lan Ling's temptation, it wasn't long before Yang Ming...

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Zhang Bing, this guy, took sandpaper and was sanding the two rocks that he had just brought back.

After Yang Ming and Lan Ling bathed and changed their clothes, they went to Zhang Bing's room.

“That fast?” Zhang Bing raised his head and asked.

“Fast?” Yang Ming and Lan Ling stared at one another. The two of them tangled with one another for about half an hour!

It seemed that Zhang Bing was fully engrossed in sanding his jade.

“Let's go out for a walk.” Yang Ming suggested.

“You both go out. Let me sleep for a while after I finish sanding this rock. Last night, you both had a rather good time, but I had a terrible one!” Zhang Bing complained.

“Why? Are you now interested in rocks?” Yang Ming asked curiously.

“A car!” Zhang Bing's drool almost dripped down. “If I could have my own car at the university, don't you know how many pretty girls I would attract?”

“If your dad knew that you want a car just to get a girl...” Halfway through this sentence, Yang Ming remembered Zhang Jiefang’s character and changed his words to, “I guess he would buy you a sports car right away!”

“That seems like a good idea. Let me discuss it with him tonight!” Zhang Bing felt the same way too.

“Then I will be going out with Lan Ling first. You continue to study your rock then!” Yang Ming said.

“Sure, contact me on the phone if there’s anything.” Right after the exam, Zhang Jiefang got Zhang Bing a phone.

Yang Ming and Lan Ling walked out of the hotel. Yang Ming also thought to himself, Shouldn’t he get himself a new phone now?

“What are you thinking about?” Lan Ling saw that Yang Ming was in a pensive mood.

“I was thinking if I should buy a new cell phone.” Yang Ming said.

“Then buy one. Otherwise, it’s inconvenient.” Lan Ling said, “Didn’t you withdraw about ten thousand yuan yesterday?”

“That was for you!” Laughing, Yang Ming told her.

“For me? Why would I need money! Moreover, right now, I belong to you completely! Unless you no longer want to have me?” Lan Ling gave Yang Ming a pitiful look.

“How would I dare not want you?” Yang Ming thought to himself, If I didn’t want you, I am not sure how I would die! “Oh, yeah. Lan Ling, do you like me?”



“I like!” Lan Ling asked, feeling confused. “Why ask such a question?”

“We didn’t seem to have much of a foundation?” Yang Ming shook his head.

“But I like you! My mom said, a girl can only love one man throughout her life, and she should only sleep with one man! If I didn’t like you, who else can I like?” Lan Ling’s expression showed that she thought it was a natural course of action.

Yang Ming sighed. Maybe this type of “first to claim ownership” mentality turned Lan Ling’s heart to solely have him. Therefore, the more she thought about him, the more the relationship developed.

What about myself? Yang Ming didn’t know when, but he started to fall in love with Lan Ling. Not bad, it was indeed love! A strange feeling! Just now Lan Ling’s words, “Unless you no longer want to have me,” made him sigh emotionally. Even though Yang Ming just said “How would I dare to not want you,” in his heart, he felt the same way.

Yang Ming was only hypothesizing. Once he resolved the voodoo issue, would he be able to abandon Lan Ling? However, the mere thought of leaving Lan Ling made Yang Ming’s heart ache.

It seemed like he was earnest toward Lan Ling, but what about Chen Mengyan? Yang Ming still thought about Chen Mengyan daily. Yang Ming can’t deny that he had fallen in love with Lan Ling, but in his heart, Chen Mengyan still held a very significant place!

Other than Chen Mengyan, there was still Zhao Ying and even Su Ya. As well as that girl who lost her virginity to him – Lin Zhiyun! As Yang Ming thought more about this, he felt a headache coming on!

He didn’t think that he was someone who would abuse his relationships because he wasn’t the kind of person who would favor the new things and forget the old things. He could only say that he was indeed quite passionate about multiple girls. But... there was the voodoo from Lan Ling. Nevermind. Let’s stop thinking about all these!

Voodoo had an unusual effect. The person who was affected by the voodoo had a special connection with the person who cast the spell. For example, the voodoo in Yang Ming's heart related to relationships, therefore, whenever Yang Ming thought about other girls, Lan Ling would feel something. If Yang Ming changed his heart, Lan Ling would feel something too.

When Lan Ling saw how painful Yang Ming was, she wanted to console him. However, as a girl, she felt a bit selfish, so she didn't do it. She would only share the secret when she truly understood what Yang Ming felt toward her. It truly wasn't a secret, but Yang Ming had misunderstood it!

It wasn't I who purposely wanted to trick you. You were the one who overthought it! Lan Ling attempted to console herself.

The cell phones were rather cheap nowadays, and Yang Ming didn't hesitate too much about it. Therefore, they arrived at a cell phone shop. Now that Yang Ming knew how he could earn some money, he didn't care about these little expenses.

Things like cell phones can be rapidly phased out in time. Because Yang Ming didn't need all the extra features like GPS, camera, mp3 or mp4 [1] – especially those decorated with jades, Yang Ming felt that all those were just useless. Wasn't a phone just for calling and texting? As long as it had a good signal and long battery life, that was enough!

Therefore, Yang Ming went straight to the phones with the cheaper price range. Once the salesperson saw what Yang Ming wanted and how he was dressed as a student, the salesperson suggested a low-end Nokia phone.

"This 1200 model from Nokia is pretty good. It has an affordable price but good quality. Many students go for this brand!" said the salesperson. "Nokia always had good signal reception, and the battery lasts about five days. The functionality would definitely fulfill most student's needs."

"What do you think?" Yang Ming asked for Lan Ling's opinion.

"It seems good." Lan Ling nodded her head. "I think it's quite good!"

"If I buy two of them, can I get a discount?" Yang Ming asked.

“We are are a standard store, so we don’t allow price negotiations. Moreover, this type of low-end Nokia phone doesn’t have much of a profit margin. 299 yuan is already a discounted price. How about this? If you buy two of them, I can give you three gift packs! Inside the gift pack there’s a battery that normally costs twenty yuan if you were to buy it separately!” said the clerk. She didn’t think she could sell two of them, which was already pretty good. The salesperson’s pay was partially commission-based so the more she sold, the better her commission.

“How about you give us four gift packs? Sister, please?” Yang Ming wanted to agree, but Lan Ling interjected.

“Ah... If that’s the case...” Seeing how cute and excited Lan Ling was, the salesperson hesitated for a while but eventually agreed. “Okay, but you mustn’t tell anyone! If everyone here were to get two gift packs per person, we would really be out of profit!”

It seemed like a loli’s attack power wasn’t only effective toward men! Yang Ming was impressed, one sentence and she got an extra battery!

Usually, the gift packs that came with the cell phones were of the same number. However, if there were any problems with the device when customers returned it to the company they did not also return the packs, therefore the store had a few extra.

Yang Ming wanted a black and white colored one. The salesperson let the two of them test out the devices. Once it was certain that there were no problems, she wrote the bill and Yang Ming went to pay.

“Do you all have sim cards?” Once Yang Ming returned, the salesperson asked out of habit. Usually, people who bought phones would also buy a sim card. In this way, they could earn a few yuan of profit from it.

### **Chapter 113: The Value of Jade**

“Not yet. Do you have a cheaper card for emergencies?” asked Yang Ming. “We probably won’t be staying here for long!”

“Then buy the China travel card. There’s no need to register and no monthly plan. You can use it as long as you reload the points,” recommended the salesman. “Dialing fees are just two yuan. There’s no charge to receive calls. A long-distance call with 12595 was three yuan!” (The author didn’t know about the local prices, so he made it up.)

“Right, give me this then.” Yang Ming nodded his head and thought this was affordable.

“The card number was thirty yuan; reloading the card was a hundred yuan. The total is one hundred thirty yuan.” The salesman said, “This is the number card; pick a number as long as it doesn’t end with a star or triangle symbol. The ones with a symbol are lucky numbers and cost more. If it’s for emergency use only, those aren’t necessary!”

Yang Ming picked a number that he liked. The number ended with 3401; Lan Ling’s number ended with 3402. There was no wait when using a credit card to buy a phone card. It was usable right after reloading. After he tested the phone, Yang Ming paid right away.

Because the phone card had no warranty, there was no invoice, and the payment was straightforward.

Yang Ming took out the warranty card and accessories and put them into Lan Ling’s small bag. They discarded the packing box. Although they could sell these things as second-hand items, Yang Ming didn’t plan to resell a two hundred yuan phone.

After he went outside, Yang Ming called Zhang Bing.

“Hello? Who is this?” Zhang Bing looked at the unknown number and asked cautiously.

“Hello, sir. This is the Hong Kong Big Shore Group. Your phone number had won the second prize...” Yang Ming said in a serious tone.

“F\*\*\* off. I don’t believe it! If you call again, I will report you to the police... En? Yang Ming?” Zhang Bing suddenly felt that the voice sounded familiar. “Oh f\*\*\*, it’s you!”

“Ha!

I didn’t expect you to have such a big reaction. Did you get fooled before?” Yang Ming laughed.

“Only stupid people would be fooled!” Zhang Bing said, “Ever since I got my cell phone, I’ve gotten more than ten of these messages and harassment calls.”

“This is a local number. I just bought it. If you need to find me, call this number!” Yang Ming said.

“Okay, where are you?” Zhang Bing asked.

“I’m going to a bookstore!” Yang Ming said, “Why? Is there a problem?”

“It’s nothing. You guys have fun. I’m going to sleep later so don’t call me if you don’t have anything!” Zhang Bing made it clear.

After he disconnected, Yang Ming asked Lan Ling, “Do you know of any bookstores nearby?”

“You want to buy books?” Lan Ling froze slightly. Who would buy books while on a trip?

“En. I want to buy a few books about jadestone.” Yang Ming didn’t hide it from Lan Ling.

“Is that so?” Lan Ling nodded her head. “There is a Xinhua Bookstore near Fifth Street and South Gate Street. Right, Yang Ming, you haven’t told me what happened this morning! Previously in the hotel, I was busy doing ‘that’ with you. I completely forgot about it!”

“Who asked you to be dirty minded! You horny little girl!” Yang Ming said as he slapped Lan Ling’s a\*\*.

“I only think by myself. I can’t do anything if you don’t want to do it! If you didn’t get hard, I couldn’t do anything to you even if I was tired to death!” Lan Ling said lightly to Yang Ming.

F\*\*\*! Isn’t she seducing me now? Yang Ming felt that he was hard again!

Lan Ling easily spotted Yang Ming’s bulge. She scanned his lower body part. “Look at you. I’m not sure who the one with the dirty mind is. You even want to do it in the street!”

“Let’s see how I punish you tonight!” Yang Ming glared at Lan Ling.

“Welcome! Welcome! I welcome you warmly!” Lan Ling jumped like a child with a delighted expression.

Yang Ming was helpless. He could only change the subject. “What was the issue in the morning?”

“When you were gambling stones in the morning, how did you know the quality of the jade in the stone? This should be your first time gambling, right?” Lan Ling asked curiously, “Do you have the same instinct as me?”

“No, I don’t. I was just a little lucky!” Yang Ming hadn’t decided whether to tell Lan Ling about his abilities. After all, it wasn’t a small case!

“If you’re not telling then, fine!” Lan Ling flattened her mouth and showed an unhappy expression.

“It’s not like I’m not telling you. It’s just that my situation is rather special. It’s not easy to describe!” Yang Ming gave an excuse. The thing that happened to Yang

Ming was indeed strange, but it wasn't impossible to describe. It was just troublesome to explain.

“Alright!” Lan Ling only forgave Yang Ming after he explained but she didn't worry about it and even forgot about it after a while.

Because of Tengchong's geographical location and specialty in trading, Xinhua Bookstore had many books about the field of jadestone. Jade was like a tradition here. As a Tengchong local, if the person didn't know anything about jade, that would be shameful!

Following the signage on the door, Yang Ming and Lan Ling easily found the cabinet that stored books about jadestone. There were a few readers already standing here. There was a person who looked like a scholar among them. He was about fifty years old.

Seeing the variety of books, Yang Ming had a headache. He had a similar feeling when he bought the books about lip-reading. Now, the living standard of citizens was too high; the spiritual culture was too rich. However, correspondingly, there a growth in the fake cultural products as well.

If the book was prose, novel, comic or a picture storybook, it was okay to concoct some nonsense. However, if you bluff on an academic book, that would be ridiculous!

For now, such “professional” books weren't a minority in number. If the book was purely a patchwork of other books, it was harmless. If after reading the book, you learned nothing, you wouldn't have learned anything incorrect either. It would be dangerous if the author created the wrong facts and the contents of the book were all mistakes. Wasn't this misleading?

Yang Ming only read a few books, and he was confused. The opinions were indeed based on people. Every author had a different understanding about jade; these were so hard to read!

Lan Ling's ability to differentiate jade was based solely on instinct so she had no technical knowledge about jade.

“What's wrong, kid? Why do you have such a sour face?” The scholar who stood beside Yang Ming asked suddenly.

“Sir, I want to study about jade, but I don’t know which book I should read!” Yang Ming noticed that he was looking at books for quite some time now, so he tried his luck and asked. “I realize now that many books have differing opinions. I don’t know what to do!”

“Hehe! So that’s your predicament!” The old man laughed. “There is nothing to worry about! The books you’re talking about are the appreciative type. Collectors usually write these books. Their personal interests differ, so their opinions are naturally diverse!”

“But the price of jade, isn’t it decided by these collectors?” Yang Ming questioned.

“Not all are like that! Their words have a certain power in a price evaluation of jade, but it’s not like that!” As he spoke, the old man took out from the book rack. He opened a page and pointed at the picture inside. “Just like these two jade bracelets! Look carefully; these two jade bracelets used similar materials. Look here; there is a texture report for them!”

Yang Ming took a look. The old man was right! Both had similar quality, but the estimated prices differed by about two million yuan!

“Did you see that? Do you want to know why this connoisseur appraised the bracelet, while the other only talked about it briefly?” The old man asked.

Yang Ming shook his head. How could he know about this? If he knew, then he wouldn’t be distressed!

“Hehe. Kid, although the jadestone quality is important, the person who carved it is important as well! These two jade bracelets have distinctive artistic carvings. If you look carefully, the one with higher evaluation has exquisite carvings while the other is still rough!” The old man explained.

“Ah! So that’s why!” Yang Ming was enlightened! He only focused on the difference between the quality of jade but didn’t bother about the artistic carving. “That’s why the same quality jade can get such a different price!”



“Yes, the sculptor of this bracelet might be a newbie. To put it bluntly, he ruined this jade!” The old man shook his head feeling sorry for it.

“I understand!” Yang Ming nodded. “Then sir, which book do you think I should read as a beginner?”

“If you’re interested in jade, you can learn about the texture of jade first. For example, this book suits you better!” The old man took out a book that was not very pretty from the cabinet’s corner and passed it to Yang Ming.

#### **Chapter 114: Old Mister Liu**

Yang Ming grabbed the and looked at the publication date.

Year 1988 – First edition.

Year 1997 – Second edition.

Year 2008 – 36th edition.

This book was released before Yang Ming was born! Yang Ming was from the 90s, and this book was older than him by two years!

“Hehe, isn’t it surprising? The book had some history already?” The old man smiled as he looked at Yang Ming’s expression.

“En, yes. The book is two years older than me. Could it be outdated?” Yang Ming voiced out his concern.

“Outdated? Knowledge wouldn’t be outdated!” The old man shook his head and said, “Youngsters like you who buy books would always prefer the new editions! That wouldn’t be bad with fashion books. However, regarding books with knowledge, that wouldn’t be the case!”

“For example, the addition and subtraction that we use in daily life were invented by our ancestors a few thousand years ago. Could you say that is outdated?”

“Here’s another example. The poems from the Tang dynasty and the verses from the Song dynasty, are those out of date?”

“Knowledge won’t be outdated. Take this book, for example. It was reprinted for the 36th time. This proves its value!”

Yang Ming nodded his head. Not bad. He truly had benefited a lot. Aside from that, the old man knew a lot about evaluating the quality of jade. Also, he shared a book that was suitable for Yang Ming. He was pretty happy. “Old man, thank you. I understand. I will study hard with this book!”

“En, initially, I wanted to explain more to you, however, I have something else I need to attend. This is my name card. If you have anything you don’t understand, just call my phone! It is rare to see a youngster who likes to learn more!” The old man took a card from his pocket and passed it to Yang Ming.

Yang Ming felt shameful with what the old man said. I don’t really like to study but, I study to earn money! However, he acted respectfully and accepted the name card from the old man with his two hands.

The name card was simplistic. It showed a name and a phone number without any other details such as occupation and address. It looked to be a private name card.

Those who gave name cards to others were usually successful people of some industry. They already disregarded fame and fortune!

Liu Weishan, Yang Ming had never heard this name before, but he reckoned that old man Liu must be an expert in the jade industry!

After he bid farewell to Liu Weishan, Yang Ming and Lan Ling browsed around the bookstore. Yang Ming simply skimmed books about Qigong[1] and special abilities. The content was only superficial. It wasn’t related to x-ray vision. However, Lan Ling’s sixth sense was mentioned in many books. The explanation basically was summarized as:

The ancient Greek scientist and philosopher, Aristotle, had thought about it a long time ago. Humans had five senses: vision, hearing, smell, taste, and touch. However, many people in life still believed in the existence of “instinct” or “the sixth sense” especially females. Did the “sixth sense” actually exist? The scientists still cannot provide us with an accurate answer.

Damn, what sort of explanation is this! Yang Ming was disappointed with what he read. Yang Ming could read in more detail on Qidian. The books in the bookstore didn't seem to be professional.

“Lan Ling.” Yang Ming turned around and realized that Lan Ling wasn't there. This girl, where did she go?

Finding a person in the bookstore was a challenge. The bookshelves blocked the line of sight. It wouldn't be possible to see a person behind a bookshelf.

Of course, that was for normal people. This kind of obstacle was ineffective against Yang Ming! His eyes were like an x-ray telescope and cannot be compared to a normal person's.

Yang Ming straightaway used his special ability. He quickly noticed that Lan Ling was behind a distant bookshelf focused on a book.

Yang Ming swiftly walked there. It seemed that Lan Ling was absorbed in it. She didn't notice that Yang Ming suddenly appeared behind her.

“Lan Ling, what are you looking at? You are so absorbed in it!” Yang Ming slapped her but\*.

“Ah!” Lan Ling was surprised. She was relieved when she found out it was Yang Ming. “You shocked me!”

“Heh?” Yang Ming saw the book in Lan Ling's hand and couldn't help but be surprised. . Damn, this little girl is quite audacious.

“Yang Ming, look at the positions and postures in the book. We haven’t tested them yet. How about we try them tonight?” suggested Lan Ling as she pointed at the pictures in the book.

Yang Ming quickly looked around after hearing that. Luckily, there wasn’t anyone next to them!

“Lan Ling, can’t you speak in a lower volume? It would be bad if others heard it!” Yang Ming reminded her.

“What is the problem? Don’t they do it at home? Also, isn’t this book published for people to read?” Lan Ling asked puzzled.

Yang Ming was flabbergasted. Is this girl acting on purpose! This is way too innocent.

“This is private between two people. It is better not to let other people know!” Yang Ming explained.

“Oh, then I will stop talking about it!” Lan Ling nodded. “Could we buy this book and bring it home?”

“Buy?” Yang Ming did not want to see the strange look from the cashier. He shook his head and said, “Forget about it. It is just theory and not practical. It is better to watch an adult movie!”

“Adult movie? Great, great. Can we watch it later tonight?” Lan Ling asked.

“En, we will talk about it once we go back.” Yang Ming thought, Is there a place to download it here?

When they left the bookstore, Yang Ming and Lan Ling found a concession stand. Before they left the hotel, the two of them had some fun there and digested all their lunch. In addition, they shopped around the bookstore for a long time. They were already hungry.

Cross the Bridge Noodles was one of the famous snacks in Yunnan! If someone came to Yunnan but missed the Crossing the Bridge Noodles shop, that would be a waste! Yang Ming had yet to try the Crossing the Bridge Noodles, so naturally, he wanted to grab a bite.

Lan Ling didn't care much. She was a standard local. She ate it often yet she still loved to eat it.

The two of them ordered a large serving. A couple who ate out together had this perk. A big serving was far cheaper than two small portions. In addition, there was an extra type of meat and two more types of greens. There were one type of protein and three types of vegetables in a small serving. The large pot came with three types of meats and five types of greens.

If it were Yang Ming and Zhang Bing eating out together, they wouldn't be able to share a pot of it! However, it was different with Lan Ling. The two of them had kissed and had s\*x. Yang Ming wouldn't mind Lan Ling's "pee", let alone saliva!

The two of them rushed to eat their delicious food. Lan Ling had big eyes but small stomach[2]. Before they dug in, she bet that she could finish half of it. In the end, however, she only ate a few bites, and she was full. Yang Ming finished the rest of it.

The noodles from this place were authentic. It was spicy and flavorful, so Yang Ming didn't find it difficult to finish the food.

"Eat slowly!" Lan Ling laughed as she handed a napkin to Yang Ming. "Wipe your sweat!"

Yang Ming accepted the napkin. He raised his head and gazed into Lan Ling's eyes which were full of tenderness and love. Yang Ming enjoyed the moment. It seemed those were the feelings of two people who were together!

Even though Yang Ming hung out with Chen Mengyan before, part of the barrier between them was still intact. Therefore, they were still modest to each other. That was another type of feeling!

As he thought of Chen Mengyan, Yang Ming became sad. Lan Ling, I could never have abandoned her. This girl was just like an adorable elf. Yang Ming would be thinking about loving her first. How could he not want her!

The key problem was what to do with Chen Mengyan. Not even talking about whether she would be able to accept Lan Ling, the “voodoo” problem was already hefty!

Yang Ming shook his head. He tried his best not to think about sad things. His belief in life was: when one door closes, another door will open. But how could that be? God might be looking after him. Yang Ming’s luck was exceptionally good.

“Lan Ling, how did Cross the Bridge Noodles get its name?” Yang Ming put the remaining half of the meat sauce into the noodle pot and finished it off.

“Hehe, when I was young, I asked this question to my grandmother! She told me that the legends said there was a scholar who studied very hard in a small house by the lakeside in order to obtain fame. His wife always brought food to this scholar, but by the time the food arrived, it became cold. Later, his wife thought of a solution. She prepared Chicken Soup Noodle because the thick chicken oil kept it warm. Therefore, the scholar could dig into the hot food. This later spread around. Since the wife needed to cross the bridge to deliver the food, it was named Cross the Bridge Noodles.” When Lan Ling finished speaking, she looked at the noodles in front of her in a trance. It was as if her eyes were charmed.

Chapter 115: Learn and Apply Immediately

“What’s the matter?” Yang Ming saw how Lan Ling’s expression wasn’t quite right and immediately asked her.

Lan Ling shook her head. “I miss my grandmother and my mom!”

“Where is your grandmother?” Yang Ming knew that her mom had already passed away, but her grandmother should still be alive!”

“I don’t know where she went...” Lan Ling felt a bit lost. “She got cursed by an enemy’s voodoo, a powerful voodoo, then she disappeared... I miss her... When I was young, my grandmother always made me noodles and told me nice stories...”

Yang Ming sighed. Lan Ling's situation was too pitiful!

After they finished their noodles, Yang Ming paid the bill for Lan Ling. He turned around to head out. At that moment, the shop owner shouted at him, "Wait a moment. The money isn't right!"

It isn't right? Yang Ming was surprised. Did I encounter the black shop from the legends? Yang Ming was not a person who was afraid of trouble. However, now that he was in a foreign town, he tried to keep to the principle that the less trouble he got himself into, the better. Since he didn't get attacked on the spot, he turned around and asked, "Why? Isn't it twenty-five yuan?"

"It is indeed twenty-five yuan, but you gave me thirty-five. These two ten yuan notes got stuck together!" The shop owner returned ten yuan to Yang Ming.

Yang Ming didn't know whether to laugh or cry. It seemed that he was too cautious. There was an overwhelming number of news stories online about how tourists got cheated, so he thought that he needed to be extraordinarily careful during his travels. However, he looked again at this little restaurant that was full of customers. How could this be a black shop! So many locals were here for their meals. If it was a black shop, who would dare to come again?

Once he was back at the hotel, he was surprised to see that Zhang Bing wasn't asleep yet. He was still playing with his two gemstones. It seemed that this time Zhang Jiefang would be elated! It was natural for the father to pass the business to his children. His only concern was that his son would not properly attend to his duty. Yang Ming was also able to guess what Zhang Jiefang intended, but he didn't say it out loud. It seemed that Zhang Bing was the only one who wasn't aware of the situation!

"What do you think of my piece of jade here?" asked Zhang Bing as he took out one of the gemstones that he polished.

"Oh? Your piece here?" Yang Ming took it and looked at it. When he was in the taxi, he briefly browsed through the book that he bought and gained some understanding of jade. Therefore, he could immediately apply what he learned and said, "There are six criteria to determine the quality of jade. They are the color, transparency, uniformity, shape, density, and clarity."

"What do you mean?" Zhang Bing thought his head was in the clouds after he heard it. "Seduction? Fraud? [1]"

“F\*\*\*!” Yang Ming looked at him with contempt. “It’s fine that your brain is empty, but don’t let it go underwater! What seduction and fraud? I don’t even know how you formed these words! It’s color, transparency and density, clarity!”

“Hehe. It was just a bit of my hearing problem.” Zhang Bing said embarrassingly, “You came out with so much jargon at once. How would I be able to understand? You should at least explain them all!”

Yang Ming intended to show off a little, so he said, “Firstly, it’s color. By color, we mean color [2]. The best color for jade would be a green color; the red and purple colors are only twenty percent of a green colored jade’s value. The jades that are red, purple, green or white color are considered to be a ‘Fu Lu Shou Xi’; if they contain red, green and white – all three colors – it would be considered ‘Fu Shou Xi’ [3]. When the color is pale or has a slightly yellowish color, the jade is considered low-quality. If a jade has a single color, and as long as the color is balanced, it is considered a good jade. Your jade, not that I want to put it down, is black and bulging with some slightly yellowish color. One look and you would know that it’s a low-quality jade!

“By transparency, it means that the jade should be like glass – completely transparent. There shouldn’t be any dirty spots on it. It would be considered a good quality jade as long as it was not rough or too slippery. Semi-transparent jade and opaque jade are both classified as moderate quality jade and average quality jade. Before and during the Qing dynasty, imperial jade only included the red, green, and white jade. But in modern society, imperial jade essentially refers to those types of transparent jade. Thus far, all imperial jade are identified as green in color and looks transparent. Your jade isn’t green; neither is it transparent. That’s the second point.

“The third point is balance. It fundamentally refers to how even the jade’s color is. If the jade’s color contains white and green but the color wasn’t even, the price would be low. This jade of yours doesn’t qualify, but your yellow jade is exquisite.

“Shape essentially refers to how the shape of the jade chunk could be processed into various pieces. There was no specific requirement for it. Normally, the larger, the better. Yours looks pretty big.”



Yang Ming didn't even finish his sentence before Zhang Bing interrupted him, "What do you mean by pretty big? Your words sounded like there was a second meaning. Sister-in-law is still here. Can you be more polite?"

"Were you listening? When I say that your thinking has some problem, it means that your thinking certainly has a problem! Why wouldn't others be thinking in the same direction?" When Yang Ming finished his sentence, he asked, "Little Lan Ling, what did you think I was referring to when I said the words 'pretty big'?"

"Of course, 'pretty big' was referring to the jade in your hand!" Lan Ling blinked her big innocent eyes and naively said, "Was it referring to some other thing? Why wouldn't I know it?"

"F\*\*\*, both of you evil adulterers [4] are echoing one another's words. You have defeated me!" Zhang Bing was sweaty as he said, "Okay, let's say that my thinking was unhealthy. Why don't you continue and talk to me about that fraud?"

"It's density and clarity. I think you honestly have the potential to be a good gangster!" Yang Ming continued his explanation. "Density refers to whether any cracks exist in the jade. It's not easy to observe a cutting line. If you knock on it with a metal object or toss it on a plate, then you can listen for the crisp sound and determine if a crack existed. When the sound is crisper, the quality is better. For your jade, we don't even need to knock on it. We can see that it has a horizontal crack!

"Regarding clarity, it refers to the black spots and flaws that the naked eyes cannot observe. We only have to use a microscope to look at it then we would know the look of it. We divide a jade's grade into ten levels. Then we further divide each of the grades into the subgrades of upper, middle and lower class. Within that, for white jade, no matter how transparent it is, how balanced the color is, the price is always the lowest. Your jade has a lot of flaws in it, so we could save this step as well!"

“Are there still so many explanations? Yang Ming, who did you learn this from?” After Zhang Bing listened to Yang Ming’s explanation, he was amazed. “This afternoon you were still a complete beginner. How did you become a professional in only an afternoon? Don’t tell me you had some miracle like some gemstone professional’s soul had gone into your body?”

“Why don’t you say that I had been reincarnated and came back to life?” Yang Ming was dissatisfied with Zhang Bing’s despise.

“I was about to ask that!” said Zhang Bing without giving him any face.

“Look at it yourself!” Yang Ming took out his book, , and passed it to Zhang Bing.

“You are so good. You even bought a book. Why? Have you started to be interested in this line of work?” Zhang Bing took the book and started reading through it.

“I guess there was just a bit of interest in it!” Yang Ming smiled. “I was also preparing myself to gamble for a bit of jade for some pocket money.”

“How much could you earn? Why don’t I tell my dad and let him guide you a bit more?” Zhang Bing felt that if his best brother would be able to do the same thing, then he would be able to have someone who cared for him after he took over his father’s business!

“Sure, but I am just playing at a small scale, and this was merely a part-time project. Our primary projects are still being a university student.” Yang Ming nodded his head. He would surely not be able to hide this thing from Zhang Jiefang. Since he was a new person, even if he possessed a valuable jade, he wouldn’t have any path to sell it. However, Zhang Jiefang was different. He owned a factory and shop to sell those jades.

Therefore, if he were to earn anything through gambling for jade, then the only thing he could do right now was to think of how he could get Zhang Jiefang to help him out. Otherwise, he even if he had a jade which was worth a lot, he wouldn't know how to sell it for a good price.

Once he already settled on his path to building a stronger relationship in society, he would be able to set up his own company. Of course, this was only an initial idea. If he spent his whole life gambling on rocks with his special power, it still seemed like a waste!

Moreover, his intuition told him that once the lenses had integrated with his body, his current repertoire of skills wasn't finalized yet. Binocular vision and x-ray vision were all easily discovered. You could also say that they were simple to operate. However, the ability to read other people's thoughts was something that Yang Ming hadn't grasped how to operate. Therefore, we could say that there was still a challenge Yang Ming had yet to overcome!

Gambling for jade was a shortcut to earn some money, but not the only one. Let's not talk about those that are far away, and speak of those that are nearer first. If he could gamble for jade, then he could gamble for diamonds. Or, as Zhang Jiefang said, he could search for treasure!

"En, what you said was right. But if my dad finds out that you like this field, he would be extremely happy!" Zhang Bing smiled as he said, "if you would do this in the future, then my dad won't be afraid that I won't do this!"

"Hehe, pass me a few sheets of sandpaper. Let me go back and take a look at my jade!" Yang Ming smiled.

"There's plenty on the table. Help yourself!" Zhang Bing pointed at the writing desk beside the television and said, "Pass me another two sheets."

Yang Ming passed Zhang Bing two more sheets. This guy threw aside the jade that Yang Ming had criticized not being worth a single cent and started to sand the other rock.

Yang Ming took a look at it. The second stone that Zhang Bing had gotten seemed pretty fine. It was much better than the first one. Therefore, Yang Ming encouraged him. "This piece seems fine. I hope that it's a good jade!"

Chapter 116: Live-action Movie

“Zhang Bing’s product, must be a good choice!” Zhang Bing looked like he was gambling for jade.

Yang Ming didn’t bother with him. He went back to his room with Lan Ling. They put up the “do not disturb” notice, then they lay on the bed. Yang Ming and Lan Ling were tired. They wanted to do something they liked to do, but they didn’t really have the stamina, so they hugged each other and slept.

While Yang Ming was groggy, he heard a strange voice. This voice was so familiar. Lan Ling would express such a voice every day. Yang Ming opened his eyes and looked up. He realized the TV was playing adult pornography.

He wasn’t sure when Lan Ling woke up. She was sitting in front of the TV and concentrating on it. Occasionally, she nodded and had a thoughtful expression.

“Lan Ling, how did you switch to this channel?” Yang Ming asked curiously.

“Yang Ming, is this the live-action movie you were talking about? The demonstration was much better than the book!” Lan Ling said, “Why don’t we watch together?”

“I’m not watching. I have passed the age of watching such movies.” Yang Ming sighed. He had grown up without knowing it. He still remembered all those years. Yang Ming, Xu Peng, and Li Dagang, they went to the internet cafe, video playhouse, billiard room every day. Watching AV movies was very common back then. As for now, those days seemed far away. Yang Ming’s memory became blurred.

Now, Yang Ming had a new life, new path, and Lan Ling...

Chen Mengyan waited in her house for a few days. She was furious that Yang Ming hadn’t called her.

This Yang Ming kept on saying that he loved me. He wanted me to be his girlfriend, then why isn’t there any message? When I was busy studying previously, this guy kept asking for a date. Now after the exam, we are both free, so why didn’t he invite me?

Chen Mengyan felt she got treated wrongly. I only showed a slight temper on that day, but there is nothing wrong for a girl to show her temper! Chen Mengyan was a girl after all. Why can't he forgive her? How would they get along with each other in the future?

However, after a while, Chen Mengyan felt that she was wrong too. She believed Wang Zhitao rather than Yang Ming. Yeah, I trusted in Wang Zhitao and doubted Yang Ming. If I was him, I would be angry too!

With lots of courage, she made the first step. Chen Mengyan called Yang Ming again. This time she chose to call in the evening. Maybe Yang Ming was at home.

As expected, the phone got picked up after a few rings.

"Hello, how are you?" According to the voice, this was probably Yang Ming's mother.

"Hi aunty, I'm looking for Yang Ming." Chen Mengyan was anxious. Chen Mengyan called once before when Yang Ming was "sick." Yang Ming's mother had picked up then too. But, they were close friends at that time, so she didn't feel anything. However, this time was different, Chen Mengyan and Yang Ming had an ambiguous relationship now. Chen Mengyan felt like an unsightly wife meeting her husband's parents.

"Oh. You are?" Mother Yang asked.

"I'm Yang Ming's classmate. My name is Chen Mengyan." Chen Mengyan said.

"Oh, it's you. Yang Ming always told me about you. His improvement in academics was thanks to you!" Mother Yang became passionate once she heard the girl was Chen Mengyan.

"Aunty, you have overrated me. Yang Ming is very clever. He even got better results than me most of the time!" Chen Mengyan said immediately.

“Hehe, come to visit us when you’re free. Auntie will treat you nicely!” Mother Yang laughed and said.

“En, okay, auntie. Is Yang Ming...” Chen Mengyan noticed that Mother Yang didn’t intend to call Yang Ming, so she reminded Mother Yang.

“Oh, you’re looking for Yang Ming. He went out already!” Mother Yang said, “He went overseas!”

“Went overseas? When was it? Where did he go?” Chen Mengyan was dumbfounded.

“He went to Yunnan with his classmate two days ago.”

“With a classmate? Who did he go with?” Chen Mengyan asked subconsciously.

“Hehe, you don’t worry. It’s a male classmate. His name is Zhang Bing.” Mother Yang smiled ambiguously. She could hear that the girl was worried about Yang Ming.

“Auntie, I didn’t mean it...” Chen Mengyan was embarrassed. She did mean that for a moment.

“I’m just saying so. Don’t mind me.” Mother Yang smiled and said, “Do you have anything to tell him? I’ll let him know when he is back.”

“Nothing. Tell him that I called.” It was hard to leave a message like this, so Chen Mengyan didn’t say anything.

“Alright, I’ll pass him the message!” Mother Yang said.

“Okay, aunty. I don’t think I have anything else. I think I should hang up the phone now?” Chen Mengyan said carefully.

“En, come to visit when you have time!” Mother Yang reminded her again.

“Alright, I will.” Chen Mengyan felt relieved after the phone hung up. But she was pissed off at the same time. This Yang Ming! He didn’t even tell me that he went on a trip! He had to make me worried over these past few days!

Chen Mengyan was relieved to know that Yang Ming wasn’t in town. She thought Yang Ming would contact her after he got back, and then they could do something naughty.

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Yang Ming watched the channel that Lan Ling was watching. It was a closed circuit television channel. Yang Ming was relieved when he thought of the nature of his room. Many hotels provided adult pornography for couples rooms. Because it got viewed privately and this was an implicit rule of the hotel, people usually wouldn’t report it, and the hotel management wouldn’t come and check deliberately.

“Yang Ming, why don’t we try it now? I learned some new moves.” Lan Ling said with cheer, “Do you want to try!”

“Okay...” Yang Ming couldn’t defend himself from Lan Ling’s temptation.

“What are you doing?” When Yang Ming saw Lan Ling put her head on his lower body part, he asked immediately.

“The woman in the movie was doing the same!” As Lan Ling said this, she swallowed Little Yang Ming in her mouth...

“Si...” This little fairy! Yang Ming even doubted if he would die of sperm exhaustion.

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Around 6 p.m., Zhang Jiefang returned. He called Yang Ming to eat dinner. Tonight Wu Facai didn't plan anything. All in all, he couldn't spend all his time with one customer only. He still had other customers.

When Yang Ming came to Zhang Bing's room, Zhang Bing was holding his polished stone in an enraptured fashion as he spoke with Zhang Jiefang.

"How to differentiate the quality of jade? There are six criteria which are: 'Color, transparency, uniformity, shape, density, and clarity..." Zhang Bing repeated the things that Yang Ming told him in the afternoon.

"Great job, son!" Zhang Jiefang was delighted to hear that. "I didn't expect you to know so much, but you did! Although you bet on jades that weren't good stuff, dad is happy about it too! If you put some effort into our family business, let alone buying a car for you, I would even buy you a house near school!"

"Hehe, I learned it from Yang Ming in the afternoon..." Zhang Bing felt guilty He plagiarised from Yang Ming after all.

"Oh?" Zhang Jiefang looked surprisingly at Yang Ming who had just gone in. "Yang Ming, it seems like you're interested in jade stones as well?"

"Yes, Uncle Zhang, I want to gamble a few jades to earn some money for tuition." Yang Ming laughed and nodded his head.

"Gambling jade isn't a problem, but it can't be used to pay for tuition. This business is solely dependent on luck. Like the businessman today, he got an imperial jade so easily, but the chances are still slim." Zhang Jiefang said, "You can do it as a hobby, but earning enough to pay tuition is a little bit difficult."

"I understand that too, so I didn't plan to do it frequently. I'm prepared to gamble a few thousand yuan only on stone." Yang Ming said. It wasn't because of Yang



Ming's lack of money for more stone, but the good items in Wu Facai's stock were limited. So spending more wouldn't help earn more.

"Right, if you don't understand anything just ask me!" Zhang Jiefang didn't mind at all, but he was curious how Yang Ming knew so much about jade all of a sudden. "Where did you get to know this?"

"Hai! I just learned from the book blindly! Zhang Bing, where's the book?" Yang Ming asked.

Zhang Bing immediately picked up the one on the bed, then passed it to his father.

Zhang Jiefang looked at a few pages with interest. "Not bad, this is very basic. You're quite good at choosing this book. This book entirely suits a beginner like you."

"Uncle Zhang, please excuse me. I didn't know about it. I just got lucky that I met an old man who understands this field well, and he suggested it to me!" Yang Ming said laughingly.

"Is that so? It looks like the person is an expert too." Zhang Jiefang nodded his head.

Yang Ming suddenly remembered that Zhang Jiefang was involved with this field. He might have heard of old man Liu. Hence, he hopefully asked, "Uncle Zhang, have you heard of Liu Weishan?"

Chapter 117: New Intel

Yang Ming suddenly remembered that Zhang Jiefang was involved with this field. He might have heard of old man Liu. Hence, he hopefully asked, "Uncle Zhang, have you heard of Liu Weishan?"

"Liu Weishan? The old man you mentioned is Liu Weishan?" said Zhang Jiefang full of surprise.

"Why? Is Liu Weishan famous?" Yang Ming wasn't in this field, and naturally, he never heard of him.

“Of course, Liu Weishan is an expert in sculpting jadeite. He is a master of gemstone appraisal himself! As such, he is the honorary advisor of multiple jewelry companies!” Zhang Jiefang said, “My company had tried multiple times to recruit him as an honorary advisor, but it was to no avail. A gemstone that was appraised by the old man will have its price hike up quite a bit!”

“So impressive!” Yang Ming was surprised. He never thought that he would encounter a supreme master. “Uncle Zhang, Elder Liu left a name card for me. If there was something I didn’t know, I could learn from him. Do you think I should call him?”

“Of course you should. Elder Liu rarely passed his contact number to others. Also, he wouldn’t do it just out of courtesy. If he lets you call him, naturally it is his wish, or else he wouldn’t pass you his name card!” Zhang Jiefang also said, “Yang Ming, this is a great opportunity. If you can have Elder Liu as your teacher, you will be the new master of the jewelry industry!”

Zhang Jiefang had his own plan as well. If Yang Ming established a connection with Liu Weishan, that would benefit his jewelry company a lot!

“I understand.” Yang Ming nodded his head. Yang Ming didn’t plan to be Elder Liu’s apprentice yet. He couldn’t be gambling jadeite as a career or for the rest of his life. Right now, it was merely an avenue to earn money. Hence, it didn’t matter for him to learn sculpting or appraising. His priority was picking out something great among the gemstones. Regarding the person processing it or how would it be after the processing, Yang Ming didn’t want to be involved.

Zhang Jiefang saw that Yang Ming wasn’t interested, so he didn’t pursue further, but he suggested, “Take it into consideration. It isn’t easy to have such an opportunity. A lot of people want to be his apprentice, but can’t achieve that!”

“Probably, Elder Liu only considered myself to be a youngster that is eager to learn. He may not have the intention for me to be his apprentice!” Yang Ming laughed.

“What you said can also be true. Since he had proposed it, you’d better consider it!” Zhang Jiefang said, “Let’s go and grab some food.”

Zhang Bing didn’t eat anything this afternoon. He was hungry a while ago, so, he was quite excited. On the other hand, Yang Ming and Lan Ling weren’t hungry.

“Oh, ya, Yang Ming. How about your two stones? Are you embarrassed to show us because they are merely garbage inside?” Zhang Bing suddenly recalled their competition.

“I haven’t open it yet...” Yang Ming broke out in a cold sweat. He indulged himself in a “couple activity” with Lan Ling. He had completely forgotten about the competition!

“Did you think the two stones that I picked was so bada\*\* to the point where you lost confidence in your broken stone?” Zhang Bing boasted himself.

“Probably what would come out is an imperial jade!” Yang Ming laughed as if that were true.

“Imperial jade? Yes, what exactly is imperial jade? Isn’t it a jadeite as well?” Zhang Bing couldn’t figure out the difference between the two.

“Zhang Bing, imperial jade and jadeite are easily confused. In fact, imperial jade is a jadeite, but a jadeite doesn’t necessarily equate to imperial jade.” Zhang Jiefang heard his son and explained, “Jade is the name of the stone naturally produced from a mixture of minerals. Natural jade stone has various types which are determined by its own unique chemical component, density, hardness, and refractive index. Hence, jadeite and nephrite are two types of natural jade stone. Myanmar produces a jade called jadeite. Jadeite portrayed its fine quality in its content. Imperial jade has a superb quality, and it was crowned as the ‘king of jades’ and favored by the majority. Nephrite with its hardness belongs to a naturally made jade that is lower than jadeite. Our country’s production of natural jade stone belongs to nephrite. Xinjiang produces the typical Heitian Jade. That is the most outstanding one among China’s jades.”

“In other words, as we gamble rocks, it is possible to obtain an imperial jade?” Zhang Bing was surprised.

“Yes, Guangdong and Hong Kong have a lot of jewelers who got rich overnight. They rely on their jadeite gambling!” Zhang Jiefang continued, “But, only in the first few years did one have a greater chance to acquire imperial jade though gambling. The stones at that time were quite cheap. A pile of it didn’t cost much. Later on, the businessmen who sold the raw stones became smarter. They inflated the price several times. If you bought a big pile of gemstones, you couldn’t earn much, even if you acquired an imperial jade.”

“Then, why are you in jadeite gambling?” Zhang Bing felt it was a little odd.

“Hehe, jadeite gambling is just a hobby. Getting involved in it once in a while wouldn’t be bad. Just like lottery tickets, if you spend few hundred yuan on it for every month, it’s fine. But if you were to spend few hundred thousand on it, that would be inappropriate!” Zhang Jiefang explained, “The reason we came here is just for your exposure, and so that you get some experience with it.”

Based on the situation, it seemed that Zhang Bing had learned quite a lot about it without him noticing. In other words, his son was already at entry level! Zhang Jiefang was delighted as he felt the trip was worth it. Moreover, he was glad that he brought along Yang Ming! It was due to Yang Ming’s interest that it caught Zhang Bing’s attention!

One should not underestimate the entry level. As the Chinese idiom goes, the master leads you to the door [1], the rest is up to you. In other words, it is important to enter the door first. Once one gets through the door, one can make improvements later.

If one can’t even reach the door, how could any improvements be made?

They discovered an authentic Northeastern restaurant. Zhang Jiefang and they walked in. It seemed that they had Yunnan dishes for the past few days. Hence, Zhang Jiefang missed his hometown food. On the other hand, Lan Ling was quite excited since this was her first time to get to taste dishes from the northeast.

Shredded pork with chili and soy sauce, double fried pork, spicy beancurd as well as sautéed potato, green pepper, and eggplant served together with rice [2]. That was the ultimate way to enjoy northeastern dishes. Northeasterners weren't fond of noodles. Rice was essential for every meal.

Zhang Jiefang ordered several types of northeastern special sauce. All of them started digging in. However, Lan Ling couldn't eat much. She tasted a few dishes, and she was full.

"Are you bosses from the northeast?" The boss of the restaurant seemed to be free as he came over and joined the conversation.

"Yes, I didn't expect myself to enjoy northeastern dishes here!" Zhang Jiefang gasped in amazement.

"Of course, I am an authentic northeasterner. My spouse is a cook as well. She is a northeasterner, and her skills are authentic!" The restaurant boss boasted.

"Hehe, we are actually from the same town after all. We are from Song Jiang City, Eastern Three Province. Since we are from Eastern Three Province, we are a family after all!" Since Zhang Jiefang was a businessman, he had a straightforward personality and was easy to talk to.

"Yup, there are quite a few customers here. But, northeasterners will be the minorities. Those who came here to acquire goods are mostly the southerners." The restaurant boss continued, "Are you in the gemstone business?"

"I am in jewelry. I am involved in gemstone on a small scale which is incomparable to the bosses from the north." Zhang Jiefang said it truthfully as his scale wasn't big enough.

"Where do you acquire your goods?" The restaurant boss asked.

"Wu Facai. Why?" Zhang Jiefang asked, "Are you familiar with this as well?"

“Just slightly. Wu Facai’s goods were from last month. A few waves have already picked through them. What you guys picked are the remaining ones. I heard from another customer that Liang Jinya has imported new goods in the garage. If you are interested, you should head over and see. The early bird gets the worm.” The restaurant boss said.

“Liang Jinya?” Zhang Jiefang didn’t frequent here. Naturally, he didn’t know the name of the other merchant.

“It is Liang Jinya. It is due to his golden front teeth that everyone called him Liang Jinya.” [3] The restaurant boss laughed, “If all of you are looking forward to it, hang tight with this opportunity. Don’t spread the news around. The newly imported goods are the center of attention. Once it has reached a later period, the owner of the goods will only spread the news to have more buyers.”

Zhang Jiefang nodded his head as he heard it. It seemed that he was invited by Wu Facai in this manner as well. In fact, it was understandable since he wasn’t always into rock gambling. Wu Facai would prioritize his goods for his frequent clients.

However, it seemed that Liang Jinya had newly imported goods this time. Zhang Jiefang wanted to take a look, but he would be there only to hang around. He wasn’t an expert in this field and being early there wasn’t much use.

However, Yang Ming was different. When he heard what the restaurant boss said, he didn’t want to miss this opportunity. It was because his status and origin wouldn’t allow him to frequent Yunnan, so, why not take this opportunity and do something about it?

With that, the toughest problem would be the sale. What excuse should Yang Ming think of so that Zhang Jiefang won’t suspect him? Yang Ming frowned uncontrollably.

Chapter 118: Luck

That evening, once they went back to the hotel, under Zhang Bing’s repeated requests, Yang Ming brought the two rocks that he had gambled with to Zhang Jiefang’s room so that Zhang Jiefang could assess whose were more valuable.

“Definitely mine!” Zhang Bing pointed at his the moment after he finished polishing the rock. “The volume of my jades are double yours!”

“That may not be the case. If it was an imperial jade, the size of a palm would have been worth up to a million!” Zhang Jiefang shook his hand. “Between a piece of gold and a piece of silver that’s twice the size, which one do you think is worth more? It’s the same reasoning!”

“It’s impossible to get an imperial jade!” Zhang Bing was feeling a bit reluctant.

“Nothing is impossible. It’s hard to predict luck!” Zhang Jiefang shook his head. “Let’s talk about me. During those years I went to sea with a few friends, I am the only one who got rich. Everyone else was still busy making their living selling small objects.”

Zhang Bing didn’t dare to say much more. He also knew that his dad had some strong superstitious beliefs. Therefore, he said obediently, “Yeah, I just don’t have good luck.”

“Son, you don’t need luck. Your strongest advantage is that you have a good father! Even though your dad is not a billionaire, my net worth is at least in the millions. As long as you don’t ruin it, and run your business honestly, you wouldn’t have any problems throughout your life! I don’t expect you to expand things that much either. As long as you can guard our business, it’s fine!” said Zhang Jiefang.

“Dad, your words make me sound as if I am a prodigal son!” Zhang Bing felt a bit embarrassed. “In the future, as long as Yang Ming and I take care of one another, we are sure we would expand your business well!”

“En, I was just waiting for your words!” Zhang Jiefang laughed. His words just now were to avoid pressuring his son. However, he didn’t think that his son would be able to mature enough to put his heart at ease!

Yang Ming continued to sand the low-quality jade quietly. It started to show the basic nature of the jade. Then he pretended to be disappointed and sighed, “It is nothing even when compared to the worst jade that you have!”

Zhang Jiefang came over and had a look. He also shook his head. “This jade would only be worth ten yuan even if you sold it to the Hand Crafting Workshop. However, nevermind, we still have one more piece. Maybe it could be an imperial jade!” Zhang Jiefang comforted him.

“We shall ride on your lucky words then!” Yang Ming smiled. He purposely came up with this sentence because he wanted to turn the topic into luck. He never thought that Zhang Jiefang would have said it first. It saved him some thinking and words.

Yeah, luck is a strange and interesting thing! At least now there were many scientists from different countries who had started studying “luck” as a field of study! Even though this may sound a bit obscure, you can’t deny that in all the darkness, there seems to be the presence of luck!

For example, when people buy the lottery, someone would continuously win whereas someone else would not win a single prize. Yet the person who won the lottery wouldn’t know why he won the lottery!

The same applies to a table of poker players. Some of the poker players would always have some smooth cards, and their luck from start to finish was incredible!

Science cannot explain all these things. Therefore, Yang Ming wanted to tackle this perspective and have his special ability be due to luck. This way, no one would want to do anything to him.

“Hehe, Yang Ming, how is it? You lost, right? I told you. What could you have gotten out of that bunch of scrap material? There were so many professionals before you. How would it be you!” Zhang Bing criticized.

“I shall look down on you. Are you worried that I may get an imperial jade and your car would be gone?” Yang Ming threw a look of contempt at him.

“En? Why is it so green?” Yang Ming pretended to be curious while he pointed at the corner of the jade that had been chipped off.



“Let me have a look!” Zhang Jiefang was stunned. He took the jade in Yang Ming’s hand and took a look at it. His facial expression became emotional. “Yang Ming, this is an imperial jade! You surely picked up an imperial jade!”

“What? imperial jade?” Yang Ming pretended to be surprised as he stood up. “Uncle Zhang, are you sure you didn’t make a mistake?”

“It can’t be. How would I make a mistake?” Even though your Uncle Zhang is not a professional when it comes to assessing jades, but I am someone who had been in the line for a while. I know how to distinguish a normal jade from an imperial jade! This was absolutely an imperial jade! Yang Ming, we didn’t see it, but you have remarkably good luck. Today there was the traveling merchant who opened an imperial jade, and I thought he was lucky already. I didn’t think that with only two rocks, one of them would be an imperial jade!” Zhang Jiefang took the sandpaper in Yang Ming’s hand and started to sand it.

“Dad, this is an imperial jade?” Zhang Bing also felt that it was very unbelievable.

“Go to the side. Why would your dad cheat you?” Zhang Jiefang felt a bit unhappy. “Let me tell you. This time, Yang Ming has won. Your car is gone!”

“Ah? Please, don’t dad. Isn’t this like making me sit on a roller coaster? It’s just that I’m still in the sky, and after a split moment later I’m at the bottom.” Zhang Bing felt a bit sad.

“However, seeing how interested you are toward jades, I will just reward you one.” Zhang Jiefang said it casually, yet it made Zhang Bing break out in a sweat.

“Dad, aren’t you just threatening me?” Zhang Bing breathed a sigh of relief.

“Yang Ming, the quality of your imperial jade wasn’t as good as the traveling merchant’s from today, and neither was its size. However, one could still consider it as a middle-grade imperial jade. If you sell it right away, it could be

worth about 200,000 yuan.” Zhang Jiefang said, “How would you like to settle it?”

“I don’t know how it’s usually done in the line. Uncle Zhang, what do you think?” Yang Ming thought to himself. He still had about 20,000 yuan of savings. He already had enough money to gamble for more jade. Even if he didn’t cash out this piece of imperial jade right after that, it was perfectly fine.

“I wouldn’t recommend you to sell it off right away! Uncle Zhang is now advising you as a senior. Of course, I am also a business person. From a business perspective, I would ask you to sell it off to me straight.” Zhang Jiefang continued, “But Uncle Zhang can’t do so. You are a good friend of Zhang Bing. If I wanted to earn money, I wouldn’t earn it from you! What I mean is that you could hand the imperial jade to me, and then we could process the imperial jade in the factory to make a few pieces of jewelry. Then we could sell it off at the shop, and the total revenue could be about 800,000 yuan!”

“Then it shall all depend on your decision Uncle Zhang. Just give me half of the money that you have earned.” Yang Ming wasn’t greedy for money, and he still needed to depend on Zhang Jiefang for a while in the future. Therefore he couldn’t be very stingy with him.

“Hehe, you are a junior. How would I, Zhang Jiefang, want your money?” Zhang Jiefang laughed. “But if you truly want to pass me some amount, then we will do it according to the standard rules for consignment. Give me a 10% procedures fee!”

“However, don’t you also need some procedures fee while you process the imperial jade?” Yang Ming felt that Zhang Jiefang wasn’t a person who cared only for the profit, therefore Yang Ming handed the imperial jade to him without much worry.

Moreover, this imperial jade wasn’t anything much for Yang Ming. Yang Ming thought that he could find a lot more imperial jade from those thousands of raw pieces.

“Those fees are some small amount, only about 1,800 yuan.” Zhang Jiefang shook his hand. Normally, it’s only the people who don’t have a path to process their imperial jade who would sell the imperial jade right away. Or else who would be so stupid? That’s like throwing away money.

“Then I will need to trouble Uncle Zhang.” Yang Ming thanked him.

Zhang Jiefang had already learned of Yang Ming’s financial situation from Zhang Bing. He knew that both of his parents were blue collar workers, therefore he wanted to use this opportunity to help Yang Ming. Moreover, he was here for work, how could he not earn any money! Since Yang Ming was willing to hand over some procedures fee, that’s fine too.

For Yang Ming to get an imperial jade, Zhang Jiefang also saw it as Yang Ming’s good luck. Because even as someone who had been in the field for about ten years now, he wouldn’t be able to guarantee that he would get one imperial jade from two raw stones! If Zhang Jiefang knew that Yang Ming had some superpower, he would still hesitate for a while. Even if Yang Ming was Zhang Bing’s good friend, he can’t just ask him to work for free!

“Uncle Zhang, from the end products of the imperial jade, can you just pass me one jade pendant?” Yang Ming asked after hesitating for a while.

“Of course, the imperial jade was originally yours.” Zhang Jiefang smiled as he said, “Whatever pattern that you want to carve, I shall instruct them to do it!”

Yang Ming nodded his head. He had decided to give a gift to Lan Ling. He had already XO [1] her for N number of times. If he didn’t give a single gift, wouldn’t that be too stingy?

“Damn, Yang Ming. You just bend your waist once, and you have already gotten yourself 800,000 yuan!” Zhang Bing felt very envious. “Do you have some kind of secret?”

“The secret is, no matter how tight the net is, there’s always fish who would be able to pass through it.” Yang Ming smiled, “It’s just probability, hehe.”

“What?” Zhang Bing was stunned.

“Even though Yang Ming’s words have some reason to it, it can’t be the entire case. Surely, this could just be Yang Ming himself who’s luckier!” Zhang Jiefang smiled as he said this.

“What does that mean?” Zhang Bing still didn’t understand.

“Uncle Zhang talked about this before. Regarding the ‘eyes’ who are used to gamble for rocks, a huge part of it just depends on their experience and feeling. There’s nothing based on the outer appearance of the rocks that you could use to differentiate between a good jade and a bad jade. If someone was able to look inside and see whether the jades are good or bad, who else would be selling the stones? Just go and pick out the imperial jades! Even those people who dig for raw stones every day won’t be able to differentiate things clearly, so let’s not even talk about those who are gambling for jades! Therefore, I feel that there would always be some good jades that are left after the others have picked.” Yang Ming explained, “Even though the majority of people thought that they wouldn’t find a good jade from that pile, that doesn’t mean that we can’t get a good jade from it.”

“I understand.” Zhang Bing nodded his head. “What you mean is that the pile of rocks which people had picked from and the pile of rocks that no one had picked from have the same probability of finding a good jade.”

Chapter 119: Yang Ming’s Worries

“What do you mean?” Zhang Bing still didn’t understand.

“Uncle Zhang talked about this before. Regarding the ‘eyes’ who are used to gamble for rocks, a huge part of it just depends on their experience and feeling. There’s nothing based on the outer appearance of the rocks that you could use to differentiate between a good jade and a bad jade. If someone was able to look inside and see whether the jades are good or bad, who else would be selling the stones? Just go and pick out the imperial jades! Even those people who dig for raw stones every day won’t be able to differentiate things clearly, so let’s not talk about those who are gambling for jades! Therefore, I feel that like there would always be some good jades that are left after the others have picked.” Yang Ming explained, “Even though the majority of people thought that

they wouldn't find a good jade from that pile, that doesn't really mean that we can't get a good jade from it."

"I understand." Zhang Bing nodded his head. "What you mean is that the pile of rocks which people had picked from and the pile of rocks that no one had picked from have the same probability of finding a good jade."

"That's the general reasoning." Yang Ming was spouting nonsense. He couldn't tell Zhang Bing that he knew there was imperial jade in those stones!

"Right, Yang Ming is right." Zhang Jiefang nodded his head too. "But I think, Yang Ming, your luck isn't the same as a normal person's!"

"Hehe, just lucky, just lucky." Yang Ming said, "When I picked up this stone, I felt like someone was telling me to do this. I didn't expect to pick such a treasure. If Boss Wu knew I have taken one of his imperial jades, he would have a heartache!"

"That's not gonna happen. He would probably be envious of it. People who want to run a long-term business won't ruin his reputation because of such a small profit. Well, yours won't yield a small profit, but Wu Facai won't ruin his reputation because of this." Zhang Jiefang shook his head and explained, "Especially in the business of jade gambling, if Wu Facai showed regret when he sees a customer open up an imperial jade, then that will be the end of his business!"

After Yang Ming heard this, he also thought that Zhang Jiefang was right, so he didn't mind.

The imperial jade used to sit on a table in Yang Ming's room. However, now that Zhang Jiefang knew that this was an imperial jade, he wouldn't allow Yang Ming to leave it out in the open in his room. One must not have the intention to harm, but the intention to guard against harm. Who could guarantee that this hotel was 100% safe? The staff members were usually part-time workers. Who could guarantee that they won't commit a crime if they saw valuables?

The locals of Tengchong knew more or less about the price of imperial jade. If an item that was worth a few hundred thousand yuan was left in the room, it was tough to be sure that no one would be tempted by it.

So Zhang Jiefang directly wrapped the imperial jade in a plastic bag, then he put it into his own suitcase with a password lock.

At night, Yang Ming called home with his new cell phone. He had been out for three days, and Yang Ming hadn't contacted his parents yet, so he was afraid that his parents would worry about him.

As expected, Mother Yang picked up the phone. When she heard Yang Ming's voice, she asked anxiously, "Big Ming, how are you? Are you used to living there? Do you feel sick?"

"Mom, don't worry. I'm fine. I'm staying at a three-star hotel. The washroom is much higher class than our house!" Yang Ming comforted her. "I'm eating and sleeping well too. There are many snacks here. It's just that I can't bring them back for you and dad."

"Bring what? Mom is so old already. Is there anything I haven't eaten? Would I still care about those snacks?" Although Mother Yang said this, she was still happy that she had such a filial son.

"Hehe, let me see. Are there any ziplock bags? I will bring some for you." Yang Ming smiled and said, "Are you and dad still fine?"

"We are both fine. Oh yeah, Big Ming, your classmate had just called you." Mother Yang said.

"Classmate? Who?" Yang Ming's breathing became rapid. He had a feeling that the person was Chen Mengyan.

As expected, Mother Yang said, "It's Chen Mengyan. Give her a call after you come back."

“...” Yang Ming gazed toward the washroom. Lan Ling was showering. He couldn't help but sigh, “Okay, I understand.”

“En, this girl is quite good. Invite her over as a guest after you come back. Let us get to know each other.” After Yang Ming finished his exam, Mother Yang didn't stop Yang Ming from having a romantic relationship.

“I'll talk to you later, mom. She is just a girl. She couldn't simply be a guest at other people's house!” Yang Ming said agitatedly.

“Why can't she come? I have asked Chen Mengyan to be our guest, and she agreed too.” Mother Yang was certainly satisfied with Chen Mengyan, so she wanted to match them together.

“Mom, why... nevermind. I'll discuss it with you when I get back.” Yang Ming was helpless. If this happened a few days earlier, Yang Ming would be happy. But now? Yang Ming felt that he couldn't face Chen Mengyan anymore.

He wanted to have his cake and eat it. This was his dream, but the reality didn't work that way. After he hung up the phone, Yang Ming gave a bitter smile and shook his head. He frowned and fell into deep thoughts...

“Yang Ming, what are you thinking?” Lan Ling hugged him from behind. Her soft breasts pressed on his back. She didn't wear any clothes!

Yang Ming forced a smile, and he pushed away Lan Ling lightly. “I'm sweating all over. Won't you get dirty after you had your shower?”

“I'm fine. I just love the scent of your body.” Lan Ling didn't notice Yang Ming's bitterness.

“I'm going to shower.” Yang Ming stood up and walked to the washroom.

Lan Ling looked at his back and sighed sadly. She had heard most of his conversation. she was only playing dumb. Should I tell him?

Although Lan Ling's identity was in disrepute when she met Yang Ming, no matter how disreputable it was, Lan Ling was a girl too, and she was jealous. She couldn't give up her right to like Yang Ming because he bought her first time.

Because he was thinking of Chen Mengyan, Yang Ming only hugged Lan Ling that night. They didn't do anything else. Lan Ling was unusually well-behaved, and she didn't flirt with Yang Ming.

On the next day, nothing special happened. Yang Ming and Lan Ling woke up very late. Yang Ming was apologetic when he went into Zhang Bing's room. He didn't expect that Zhang Bing had just woken up too because he was brushing his teeth in the washroom.

"Yang Ming, after I go to university. I'm eating all your money. You're such a tycoon!" Zhang Bing couldn't speak clearly with toothpaste in his mouth.

"Come on. If I'm a tycoon, then you're old money." Yang Ming said cheerfully, "I still have to save that money for marrying a wife!"

"Why are you still marrying a wife? Isn't Chen Menyan your first wife..." Zhang Bing felt something wrong when he stopped halfway. Lan Ling was still standing beside Yang Ming, so he said with embarrassment, "You have Lan Ling already. Why are you still earning money?"

Lan Ling acted as if nothing happened. She was still showing a cute expression. She just bit her lips unknowingly.

Yang Ming let out a laugh. He didn't want to continue this topic anymore. "Where's Uncle Zhang? What's the plan for today?"

"My dad? I don't know. I just woke up. I'll call him later. Of course, it would be better if I caught him doing something bad on the spot. Yesterday, I was thinking of asking dad to buy me a BMW." Zhang Bing gave a devious smile.



“This matter cannot be spread around. If you spread it around, you wouldn’t get what you want. Your dad will suffer from your mom’s wrath, and kneel to death. You should think about the consequences.” Yang Ming said without emotion.

Zhang Bing let out a hehe. He was just casually saying it. He didn’t have the guts to catch the old guy in his dirty act.

After Zhang Bing was ready, they went to Zhang Jiefang’s room. They knocked on the door for quite a while. Zhang Jiefang only opened the door with sleepy eyes. “Oh, Zhang Bing, do you guys have anything?”

“Dad, you haven’t woken up yet?” Zhang Bing knew that he must have woken his father.

“En, I didn’t sleep well last night. You guys go and play. I still want to sleep a little more.” Zhang Jiefang nodded his head.

“Dad, you slept quite early yesterday. It is already ten o’clock. Why are you still sleeping?” Zhang Bing was skeptical. But a moment later, his face showed an ambiguous expression. “Is it...”

“Son, stop making up stories. Wasn’t your dad just thinking about things on business?” Zhang Jiefang waved his hand impatiently. “I’m very sleepy. I’ll call you after I wake up!”

After he spoke, Zhang Jiefang was about to close the door. Suddenly a lazy female voice came out from the room. “Boss, who is that? Why so early? It’s so noisy that I can’t even sleep...”

“Heh?” Zhang Bing and Yang Ming looked at each other... We had just spoken about it. Was there such a coincidence?

Zhang Jiefang was embarrassed. “I forgot to turn off the TV. I’m turning it off. You guys enjoy yourself...”

“Dad, I...” Zhang Bing wanted to say something but was interrupted by Zhang Jiefang.

“Don’t disturb me! If not, you won’t get your car!” As Zhang Jiefang said that, he closed the door.

## **Chapter 120: Stolen Jade**

“See, am I right?” Yang Ming patted Zhang Bing shoulder with sympathy. “My condolences.”

“Boss, please don’t scare me. My car!” Zhang Bing was astonished.

“You deserve it. Uncle Zhang said the television wasn’t switched off, but, did you preserve his reputation?” Yang Ming sighed. “You should have given him the chance to keep his ego!”

“At that time, I wanted to gain more benefits...” Zhang Bing said softly.

“More? Your father gives you an inch and you take a yard. I can’t do anything to help you.” Yang Ming shook his head.

“Please don’t, brother. Think about it. If I have a car, doesn’t that mean that you have a car also? By that time, you can go for a drive with Lan Ling!” Zhang Bing enticed him.

Yang Ming contemplated. If I can analyze gemstones, getting a car isn’t tough. Since it is still the beginning, I am better off not attracting too much attention. Also, he is a newbie. A new driver will unquestionably wear the car down. I can start practicing with Zhang Bing’s car. Hence, Yang Ming said, “You only need to pretend you didn’t know anything, then it will be fine. Worst case scenario, I will clarify it for you. Just say that you need to frequent his shop to research gemstones. It will be inconvenient without a car.”

“You are right. The bus journey from the school to my dad’s company will take one hour. I will clearly say so.” Zhang Bing nodded. “Also, he just earned eighty thousand yuan in commission from you. He should have bought it!”

However, Zhang Bing couldn’t do anything about it. Subsequently, the matter of Zhang Jiefang having a prostitute was in the open.

In the afternoon, two police officers came over to Zhang Jiefang’s room in the hotel. Of course, they weren’t there for arresting a prostitute. On the contrary, Zhang Jiefang called the police! Yang Ming’s imperial jade was gone!

The imperial jade that was worth twenty thousand was gone. The head of the police department prioritized this case. Tengchong was a trading city for gemstones. The government recognized the importance in the safety of the businessmen. Hence, two police officers came to investigate not long after Zhang Jiefang reported it.

Yang Ming and Zhang Bing heard the news and rushed back to the hotel. When they arrived in Zhang Jiefang’s room, the police was investigating the crime scene and taking the statement.

“When did you find that the imperial jade was missing? After that, when was the last time you saw your imperial jade?” asked the police officer who was making the notes.

“When I woke up in the afternoon, the imperial jade was gone when I opened the box.” Zhang Jiefang answered, “The last time I saw it was yesterday when I put it into a bag.”

“When you put it in your bag, did anyone else see you?” The police officer asked.

“Besides me, is my son, my son’s friend and his girlfriend.” Zhang Jiefang replied truthfully.

“Who is your son’s friend? How is his friendship with your son?” The police officer asked.

“Police officer, you shouldn’t be suspicious about my son’s friend. It is impossible. The imperial jade belongs to him!” Zhang Jiefang quickly explained.

“En? With that said, the owner of the imperial jade is him? Where is he?” The police officer asked.

“I am here. I am Yang Ming.” Yang Ming nodded to the police officer as he approached. “I am the owner of the imperial jade.”

The police officer nodded as he crossed Yang Ming off as the suspect. He didn’t have the motive to execute the crime. He wouldn’t need to steal his own possession.

“In other words, those who saw the imperial jade are people in your own party?” The police officer asked.

“Yes.” Zhang Jiefang nodded.

“After they returned to their rooms, has someone else been in this room?” The police officer asked.

“I...” Zhang Jiefang was flushed. “I invited a prostitute in.”

“Where did you get her? What’s her name? Do you have any means to contact her?” The police officer didn’t expend any effort in reprimanding Zhang Jiefang’s action. Twenty thousand yuan worth of imperial jade mattered more than prostitution. If the case wasn’t solved as soon as possible, it would leave a negative impression for other merchants.

“I contacted her based on this name card. According to her, her name is Xiao Li.” Zhang Jiefang didn’t dare to hide the truth. He handed a name card from the bedside table to the police officer.

Yang Ming noticed and smirked uncontrollably. The name card was written as, “Sweet Smelling Pavilion Private Escort. Female students, white collars, models are all yours to pick from. Room service offers invoices. Contact number: 139xxxxxxx. Contact person: Gengoroh.”

*Gengoroh? Damn, this fellow pretended to be Japanese. Does the name mean ‘p\*mp’? Could they even provide invoices?*

For some reason, Yang Ming wasn’t worried about his lost imperial jade. Maybe because it was easily obtained. Yang Ming didn’t put this in his heart.

“Little Wang, could you investigate who owns this phone number?” The police officer took the name card and handed it to the other police officer who had just finished investigating the scene.

Little Wang took off his white gloves and took the name card. Then, he left the hotel room.

“When the prostitute left, did she carry anything, for example, a bag? Also, when did she leave?” The police officer who was taking the statement continued.

“She left at 11 a.m. She only had a small handbag with her.” Zhang Jiefang said, “If her handbag was empty, it was possible to keep the imperial jade in it. However, I didn’t expect her to steal it. Hence, I didn’t pay much attention.”

“You are already a big boss. On your business trip, why didn’t you bring your secretary? Why did you get a prostitute?” The police officer mocked Zhang Jiefang. “Well, now you lost something worth twenty thousand!”

“Police officer, it was my fault. I won’t get another prostitute!” Zhang Jiefang was ashamed over what happened. It wasn’t that he didn’t want to have his secretary accompany him. It was because his son was with him and having his secretary by his side would have been inappropriate...

“Alright, it is no use to talk about what had been done now!” The police officer asked a few more questions about the appearance of the imperial jade. Zhang Jiefang answered them one by one.

“Deputy Director Li, I asked my informants about the Sweet Smelling Pavilion Private Escort. It is a northern bath run by Feng Laoliu. Look at this...” At this moment, Little Wang returned and spoke to the police officer.

“En, I understand.” The police officer who was called Deputy Director Li replied. Then, he took his phone and called the number on the name card.

When the phone call was connected, a sweet voice came through. “Hello, this is Sweet Smelling Pavilion Private Escort, do you need any help?”

“Can you help me get Feng Laoliu.” Deputy Director Li asked.

“Are you looking for Manager Feng? Please wait.” The woman replied.

After a while, a man’s voice came on the phone. “Hey, who are you?”

“Feng Laoli, I am Li Xiaoliang.” Deputy Director Li said.

“Aiya, it’s Deputy Director Li. What do you need from me?” Feng Laoliu sounded more enthusiastic.

“Feng Laoliu, let me asked you this. Is the Sweet Smelling Pavilion Private Escort founded by you?” Deputy Director Li asked.

“Deputy Director Li, my company is legitimate. What do you mean...” Feng Laoliu was anxious as he smiled in reply.

“I don’t care if your company is legitimate. That’s the work of the industrial and commercial bureau. Last night, at xx hotel xx room, there was a girl named Xiao Li. Do you have her contact number?” Deputy Director Li asked.

“Deputy Director Li, what do you mean? My company here is a legitimate one. Where did this girl come from?” Feng Laoliu pretended to be innocent.

“Feng Laoliu, stop acting like a fool. Let me tell you straight I have a case here involving the girl, Xiao Li. I don’t plan to involve you at all. Do you want to be in my way?” Deputy Director Li was irritated.

Feng Laoliu understood the meaning once he heard it. He felt more at ease when he wasn’t the target. Hence, he quickly replied, “Yes, we have it! I will pass you her address... Xiao Li’s actual name is Li Moli. Her house is at xx road xx id, fourth unit 601.”

“Is she at home?” Deputy Director Li asked.

“I’m not clear, but she should be. Her line of work typically operates at night.” Feng Laoliu replied.

“Alright, I got it. Don’t spread the news today around or else you will face the consequences.” Deputy Director Li said, “Also, be honest with what you say. If something happens, you will be the first person I look for!”

“Yes, Deputy Director Li. I am a legitimate businessman!” Feng Laoliu replied.

You are a legitimate businessman? Deputy Director Li shook his head. Then, he asked Zhang Jiefang a few questions. Later, he asked him to refrain from leaving the hotel and wait for their news.

“Yang Ming, I apologize that I lost your imperial jade...” Zhang Jiefang felt guilty.

“Nevermind, Uncle Zhang. You have already lodged a report. I believe results will be out soon.” Yang Ming smiled as he comforted him.

“Rest assured. If I can’t get it back, Uncle Zhang will compensate you for your imperial jade. Please don’t be mad!” Zhang Jiefang said.

“Uncle Zhang, look at you. It is alright. How about we go for another round of gambling to acquire another imperial jade!” Yang Ming shook his head and said it without much concern.

Zhang Jiefang heard it but didn’t say anything. He knew Yang Ming was comforting him. Is imperial jade something you get every time just by gambling? Certainly, he didn’t know about Yang Ming’s unique ability. If he knew about his extraordinary powers, he would understand everything was possible for him!