

Chapter 71

The whole Aurous Hill was watching the extremely lavish wedding through the hazy frosted crystal glass.

While they were extremely envious of the couple and their setting, they couldn't help but wonder who the couple who held their wedding in the Sky Garden was.

Moreover, they were so mysterious that there were only two of them at their wedding. Not a single relative nor friend was present, not even a witness!

On the crystal stage, Charlie took Claire's hand and retrieved the jade necklace he had prepared for a long time.

"Claire, this is my wedding anniversary gift for you. I hope you like it!"

Claire stared at the crystal-clear jade necklace and exclaimed, "This...isn't this the prized possession of Emerald Court? Charlie, how and where did you get this?"

Claire was astonished when she said it.

Was Charlie the mysterious billionaire in the video?

How else could he have had this jade necklace?

But...

But it didn't make any sense!

She was very clear about Charlie, how could he be the mysterious man?

The word wealthy didn't exist in him, period!

Charlie could see the surprise and bewilderment in Claire's eyes. He had the sudden urge to reveal himself to her, to tell her who he really was. He wanted to tell her so badly that he was the descendant of the Wade family in Eastcliff, the heir of trillions in family fortune.

However, a horrid and serious thought struck his mind.

He had no clue about the Wade family's current situation!

In his memory, he remembered meeting his uncles when he was young—that was to say that his father was not the only son of his grandfather.

If so, his uncles must have their offspring too. These people would inevitably regard him as a thorn in their fleashes in terms of succession of inheritance.

If he hastily disclosed his identity before he got hold of any information about his family and the ability to protect himself and Claire, it would put Claire's life in danger!

Inheritance disputes and the ploys involved were very treacherous and cruel, and he didn't want his beloved wife to face such risks because of him.

Hence, he quickly came up with a lie. "This necklace may look exactly like the prized treasure of Emerald Court, but it's actually a counterfeit that I paid someone to make. It is made of good jade material, but it is different from the one at Emerald Court, this necklace only costs me tens of thousands of dollars in total."

He looked at her anxiously and asked, "Claire, do you still like it now that you know it's a fake?"

Claire heaved a heavy sigh of relief!

It made so much sense now!

She quickly smiled gleefully and said, "Dumdum, of course, I like it! You've done so much for me, I'm very touched!"

Charlie was relieved and hurriedly put the jade necklace on for Claire.

He looked at Claire earnestly and uttered, "Claire, we've been married for three years but I've given you nothing but trouble and humiliation, I'm sorry. But from now on, I can assure you that no one can bully you anymore!"

Claire nodded, feeling very glad and happy. At this moment, she realized that her husband

was finally going to straighten his back and be a man!

After the wedding, Charlie and Claire left quietly from the exclusive elevator in the Sky Garden.

The onlookers were dumbfounded and bewildered.

Did they leave just like that?

After showing so much romantic affection to the world, they simply left?

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Overnight, the grand wedding at the Sky Garden became the hottest topic in the city.

However, the bride and groom of the wedding remained unknown.

Charlie drove the modified BMW 520 and went home with Claire.

Claire was still immersed in great happiness, almost as if she was laying in the center of cloud nine. She couldn't help but ask, "How did you book the Sky Garden? They've never allowed that ever."

Charlie smiled coyly and said, "Frankly, the senior executive of Shangri-La is a good friend of mine back at the orphanage. We used to share our hard and difficult times together and I always shared half of my steamed bun with him, so when I asked him for a favor, he said ok."

Claire nodded lightly. "Oh, I see. Why haven't I heard about this before?"

"I have a lot of friends at the orphanage, I might need at least three days to talk about all of them. I've never mentioned anything because I thought you didn't like listening to it."

Claire uttered in an earnest tone, "You are my husband, of course I'm interested in your past.

I'm very curious."

Charlie laughed gladly. "Okay then, I'll tell you more!"

"Alright!"

Back in their block, Charlie parked the car downstairs.

Just when they got out of the car, they bumped into Claire's parents walking back from outside.

Elaine, Claire's mother, shrieked when she saw them, "Claire, where did the BMW come from?"

Jacob, Claire's father, had sparkles in his eyes when he saw the car!

"Wow! BMW! Claire, it's this your new car? You're quite a big spender huh!"

Claire hurriedly clarified, "Mom, Dad, I didn't buy the car, it's Charlie's."

"Charlie?" Jacob frowned, curious. He turned to Charlie and asked, "Where did you get the money to buy this car? You used Claire's money, didn't you?"

Charlie waved his hands frantically. "No, Dad, I bought this with my private stash..."

Elaine pulled Jacob and circled the car to take a better look, and then pouted, "Huh! You're staying under our roof and we pay for your food, but you don't even know to flatter us when you have the money to buy a BMW! You ungrateful bastard!"

Claire hurriedly said, "Mom, don't say that about Charlie..."

There was a hint of jealousy in Jacob's tone as he said, "Huh, he even bought a 520, does he think he deserves such a good car? I think the 3 Series is enough for him to show off!"

Elaine said coldly, "I'm telling you, your dad doesn't even own a car yet! At his age, you'd better let him enjoy life more. Otherwise, it will be too late!"

Then, she added with a demanding tone, “Why don’t we do this? Give the car to your dad as a gift and let him use it!”

Claire looked at Charlie as she pursed her lips and asked, “Charlie, what do you think?”

In Charlie’s thought, he didn’t mind the idea but the car was not a 520, it was a 760!

Frankly speaking, he thought BMW 760 was a waste for his father-in-law as he was a henpecked husband and was not on the favored side of Lady Wilson too...

As he thought of this, he quickly came up with a flattering excuse. “Hmm, Dad, this is a BMW 520, the cheapest model of the 5 Series that they’ve named the beggar version of the Series. I’m afraid that people might tease you when they see you drive it.”

Elaine frowned in displeasure. “Why? You don’t want to give it to us, do you?”

Charlie waved his hands hurriedly. “Oh, no, no! I don’t mean that! It’s just that I can’t let you drive such a cheap model. What about this? Let Claire use this car and I’ll buy you a 530. It’s one class higher than 520 and it’ll boost your reputation more, don’t you think?”

Elaine frowned again, curious this time. “You still have money to buy 530?”

“Yes, I still have some money in hand since I only made a down payment for this car. Don’t worry, I’ll bring you to the showroom for car shopping tomorrow morning!”

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Wide and radiant smiles were plastered on the in-laws’ faces when Charlie said that he would buy a better car for them tomorrow.

What Jacob didn’t realize was that he had just missed out on the top-spec 760.

Claire was a little worried. After returning to their room and washing up, she quietly asked, “Do you really still have the money to buy a new car? I have some secret stash here, take it tomorrow!”

Charlie waved his hands quickly. “No, I don’t need your money. I still have some, it’s enough.”

Claire mumbled apologetically, “I’m so sorry, I didn’t know my dad and mom would be like this...”

“What are you talking about? Your parents are my parents too. We are a family, I’m glad to be able to shower them with gifts once in a while.”

Charlie lay on his tiny bed on the floor and said with a gentle smile, “Don’t worry, I’ll go and get a new car for dad tomorrow morning!”

Claire smiled warmly. “Thank you, Charlie!”

Charlie chuckled. “The pleasure is mine, my dear!”

Claire suddenly blushed when she asked, “Will you be cold at night if you sleep on the floor?”

Charlie blurted without a second thought, “No, it’s not cold at all. Don’t worry, I’m alright!”

Claire smacked her lips in annoyance. “Then go ahead and sleep! Dumdum!”

She finally had the urge to ask him to sleep in the bed, but the dumdum didn’t take her cue...

Suddenly, Charlie realized that he seemed to have accidentally missed her point...

So he frantically uttered, “Uh, dear, it’s so cold, I’m shivering now!”

Claire huffed in irritation, “If it’s cold, add a quilt!”

“Sigh...”

Charlie felt extremely regretful and depressed.

After a short while, he tried again, “My dear, I think it’s getting colder now, I’m so cold!”

Claire kicked off a quilt to the floor and said angrily, "How cold can it be in the summer night? If you're still cold, I'll get a jacket for you!"

Charlie was so disappointed at himself and cursed himself quietly. It seemed that his wife would not let him go to bed tonight!

The next morning, Claire got ready to go to work early in the morning.

Charlie made breakfast for her. He passed the car keys to her and said, "Drive to the office today."

Claire was a little uncertain. "It's your car. Can I use it?"

"Why not? You're my wife. Besides, I bought the car for you and not for myself."

Claire nodded gently and said as she took the keys from him. "Thank you!"

Jacob was very envious as he watched their interaction and said, "Charlie, you do remember buying me a car today, don't you?"

"Of course!" Charlie blurted quickly. "I'll go and buy it right away. Just wait for me to drive the brand new car home!"

Jacob was grinning from ear to ear. "Then I'll wait at home! BMW 530, you promised it yourself, don't get the wrong car!"

Charlie chuckled in amusement and said with a nod, "Dad, don't worry, I'll buy you a BMW 530 today!"

He went downstairs with his wife. He opened the trunk of the BMW 760 and took his little electric scooter out.

Claire drove the car to work while Charlie rode his little e-bike and went to the BMW showroom again.

He passed by the Audi showroom as he was approaching his destination.

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The people in the Audi showroom spotted Charlie as he was getting closer and closer. One of the salespersons blurted, "Fuck, it's the e-bike guy who bought the BMW 760!"

"Damn, I'm going to stop him and persuade him to buy the top-spec Audi A8 even if I have to lick his boots!"

"Yes!"

All of a sudden, a large number of Audi salesmen rushed out and surrounded him.

"Sir! Please come and see the latest top-spec Audi A8 in our showroom!"

"Sir! Our A8 is very powerful. It uses a W12 engine, which is much better than the BMW 760 V12 engine!"

Charlie arched his eyebrows curiously. "Really? Isn't that great?"

"Yes!" An Audi salesman marched forward hurriedly and started, "Boss, let me explain to you. Our W12 engine is divided into two sides and one side can be turned off as you please. It is more fuel-efficient when you turn off half of the twelve cylinders!"

Charlie growled contemptuously, "Are you out of your mind? Why would I buy a twelve-cylinder car and turn off six cylinders for the sake of fuel saving? I can just buy a six-cylinder car!"

"Erm... Ah... I..."

The salesman's face turned into an embarrassing shade of red when he realized that he had misspoken.

Charlie smirked at them and said, "I know what you're thinking. You are frustrated that I bought a BMW 760 next door yesterday and you want me as your customer today no matter

what, am I right?"

The group of salespersons nodded profusely.

Charlie snorted. "Let me tell you, it's too late! You ignored me and treated me indifferently yesterday. Today, I'm way out of your league!"

Honk honk!

He pressed the horn of his little scooter and said, "Get out of my way, I would like to go to the BMW showroom to buy a car!"

The BMW salespersons rushed out of their door and shouted, "You Audi losers, what do you think you're doing? Are you trying to steal our customers? Don't you see he doesn't even want to listen to you? Get out of his way! If you block his way again, I'll call the reporters and expose you!"

The Audi salespersons sighed regretfully and walked away in despair.

The manager of the BMW showroom came to greet Charlie in person and asked respectfully, "Good morning, Mr. Wade, would you like to buy another car today?"

Charlie nodded and said, "Do you have a BMW 530? Cash and carry!"

"Yes! We do!"

The manager was over the moon.

A 760 yesterday, a 530 today, he was indeed a generous customer!

He hurriedly said, "Sir, please follow me, I'll show you the car."

Charlie hummed and followed him into the showroom.

There was a BMW 530 in the exhibition hall. Charlie sat in to feel it and realized that although the exterior was very similar to the 7 Series, it was a lot worse inside. However, it was considered luxurious enough for his aging and pompous father-in-law.

He was about to take out his card and go on with the transaction when he heard a familiar voice coming from nearby, “Oh my dear, I really like the BMW X6! Could you buy me one, please?”

Charlie, who was sitting in the car, looked towards the direction of the voice when he saw Lily, Douglas’s fiancée, wrapping her arms around a stranger’s arm and speaking in a coy and intimate manner.

Charlie frowned in agitation and thought, ‘Lily called the man ‘dear’. Is this woman cheating on Douglas?’

Suddenly, a surge of fury slowly burned inside him. He hated unfaithful women who had no moral boundaries.

Moreover, Douglas was working hard to build his career while this woman was cheating on him! She was so disgusting!

He listened to the man teasing her with a lustful face, “If I buy you the X6 now, how would you explain this to Douglas?”

“Douglas?” Lily blurted with a look of disgust. “Don’t mention his name, he is nothing but a loser! He is not rich, he has no skills, he has nothing! I wouldn’t be with him if not for his honest and down-to-earth personality!”

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The man grinned. He pinched Lily’s face and said, “You’re my woman now, why do you still want to be with him? I don’t allow other men to touch my woman!”

Lily hurriedly persuaded with a coy voice, “Don’t worry, Jerome, I haven’t let him touch me since we got together. He’s so filthy! My body is always yours and only yours, it’s exclusively for you alone!”

Then, she continued, “Actually, I wanted to break up with him as soon as the restaurant started operating, but I didn’t know that the loser had a friend who is quite resourceful and

helped me get rid of Scarface at the redevelopment zone. Wait until the business is on track—I'll ditch him and kick him out of the restaurant then!"

Jerome Hunt laughed pompously and said, "It's just Scarface! If you'd told me earlier, all I would need is a phone call and his boss would come to kneel and apologize to you directly!"

Lily giggled delightedly and said, "Oh, Jerome, you're my hero! It was quite urgent at that time, so I didn't manage to contact you. Besides, Douglas was there, I was afraid that you'd be annoyed to see him!"

Jerome pinched her waist seductively and laughed. "You're such a good girl!"

Lily rubbed her breast against his arms like a cat rubbing itself on a pillar and said, "Jerome, could you buy me the BMW X6 now? Please..."

Jerome smiled haughtily and said, "Later, baby. We'll go to my place first, let me feed you several rounds. Then, you ditch that loser and I'll buy you the X6 tomorrow!"

Lily shrieked joyfully, "Jerome, is it true? Will you really buy me X6 tomorrow?"

"When have I ever lied to you?" Jerome grinned. "But you need to make me happy first!"

Lily looked at him coquettishly and said, "You naughty dog! Don't you worry, you'll be in cloud nine when we get to your place later!"

Then, they turned and left the BMW showroom.

Charlie was extremely agitated by the disgusting couple. Immediately, he took out his phone and called Douglas.

Douglas's surprised voice could be heard on the line as soon as the call was answered.

"Charlie, how are you? Why did you call me so suddenly?"

Charlie said flatly, "I just want to say hello. What are you doing now?"

"I'm busy at my restaurant, of course. Lunch hour is around the corner and the customers will come anytime soon, so I'm here to lend a hand."

“Do you go to your restaurant every day?”

“Of course! We’re just starting our business and there are many matters for me to handle. Besides, more than half of the restaurant’s capital was Lily’s father’s money. They will look down on me if I don’t work harder.”

“How much did you put in the restaurant?”

“A hundred grand. That is all my savings since graduation.”

“Who is the owner of the restaurant?”

“Me, of course!”

“Was your name written in the business registration?”

“No, Lily’s father’s name is used to register our business. Lily and I are not married yet, so it’s not nice to put in my name since he invested the majority of the capital.”

Then, Douglas continued, “But her father promised that he will change the ownership of the restaurant under my name once Lily and I get married.”

Charlie shook his head in dismay as he listened to Douglas’s remark. This fool didn’t even know that he was taken advantage of!

Lily treated him like a slave. She was letting him get busy with the restaurant’s affairs while she cheated on him with a rich man and was even thinking of kicking him out of the game!

Now, Douglas had no legal attachment to the restaurant since it was not registered under his name. Once Lily betrayed him, he would get nothing! Not only would all his hard work be in vain but he also wouldn’t even get back his hundred grand!

Charlie was getting more and more disgusted with Lily. He asked Douglas directly, “Where is Lily now?”

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Douglas said with a gentle laugh, "She has gone to the hair salon. Why?"

Charlie smirked. "Hair salon? Was that what she told you?"

"Yes!"

"And you believe her?"

Douglas asked in a peculiar tone, "Charlie, what are you trying to say? Just spill it out, stop beating around the bush."

Charlie gave a hum and started, "Alright. I saw Lily at the BMW showroom with a man named Jerome Hunt. They were cuddling and hugging, and she even called the man 'dear'. I think she's cheating on you."

"No way!" Douglas blurted loudly. "Lily is not like that at all! Did you get the wrong person?"

Charlie said firmly, "No, I didn't. It was her."

"No! I don't believe it!" Douglas growled coldly, "Charlie, we are good buddies but you can't say bad things about my fiancée just because we're close!"

"Douglas, wake up! Your fiancée is cheating on you with another man and that piece of crap Jerome even promised to buy her a BMW X6. They've gone back to his house now and she's going to break up with you tonight! As your old friend, I advise you to be prepared!"

Without waiting for Douglas's response, Charlie continued, "You'd better move that painting that I gave you first. Keep it somewhere safe, it will be the capital for you to start over. But if you still don't buy what I'm saying, then my hands are tied."

Douglas was stomping his feet anxiously. He muttered, "Charlie, stop your nonsense! Lily is my fiancée. I know her, she'd never betray me! I'll kick your ass if you badmouth her again!"

Charlie frowned in dismay and said flatly, "Alright then. As your friend, I've already given you the heads-up that I should. I can't do anything if you don't believe me. Good luck!"

Charlie ended the call right away.

He shook his head indignantly as he cursed to himself. "That fool, blinded by love! I should've recorded a video and sent it to him when I had the chance!"

At this moment, the manager of the BMW showroom knocked on the window and asked, "Sir, how do you feel about the car? Do you like it?"

Charlie nodded. "Yes, it's very good, I'll take this one. Get me a new one from the warehouse."

A wide grin was plastered on the manager's face. "Yes, certainly! Please give me a minute, I'll have someone drive the car out front."

Soon, a black BMW 530 stopped at the entrance of the showroom, driven by a salesman. Charlie retrieved his card, swiped and paid for the car, then folded his little scooter, stuffed it into the trunk, and drove away casually.

On his way back, his in-laws kept calling to ask when he would be back.

Charlie found out that his in-laws were waiting outside the gate when he arrived home.

Excited and nervous grins appeared on their faces when they saw Charlie drive back a BMW 530.

Jacob circled the car several times and sighed pleasantly, "Wow, it is a very nice car! Very nice indeed! Wow, I never would have dared imagine that I would ever drive a BMW in my life!"

Charlie said with a smile, "Dad, maybe you can even drive a Rolls-Royce in the future, who knows?"

Jacob chuckled delightedly. "Well, my hope is on you and Claire!"

Elaine was extremely happy too. Her eyes were becoming more gentle and kind when she looked at Charlie.

Jacob hopped into the car and drove around the neighborhood. When he got back, he said, "It's a very nice car and it's very comfortable too, but the car is slightly too long for me to maneuver. Charlie, be my driver in the afternoon. I have some business to attend to and also an appointment to see something."

Charlie nodded. "Alright, Dad."

Elaine added gleefully, "Be my driver too, and send me to have afternoon tea with my friends! I want to show them that I have someone to chauffeur me in a BMW!"

"Alright, Mom!"

Chapter 77

After lunch, Jacob, Charlie's father-in-law, was already dressed up neatly and urging Charlie, "Hey, hurry up and get ready, we're going to drive in our new car and go to Antique Street. A shop there has imported a Tang Dynasty kiln vase and I want to check it out."

Charlie persuaded, "Dad, you're starting with the antique thing again? We don't have much money and it's a lavish hobby to have right now."

Jacob didn't have money-earning skills but he dreamed a lot about get-rich-quick schemes. He loved hanging out at Antique Street for the hope of getting a rare piece of antiquity at a low price but in the past few years, the experiences he gained were nothing but scams and deceit.

He had stopped for a while but now, not only did he pick up the hobby again but he also started to get itchy hands again.

Jacob was annoyed by Charlie's goodwill remark. He snorted in disdain and said, "Stop your nonsense, just drive me there now."

Charlie was helpless; he could not disobey his father-in-law, so he could only succumb to his request and drive the old man to Antique Street.

Aurous Hill was a famous historical city. Antique Street, which was located outside the tourist

attraction spot, was well-known to the local and international antique dealers and shoppers.

Due to its popularity, the local tourism department invested a lot of money to revamp the Antique Street and turned it into another tourist attraction.

When arriving at Antique Street, Jacob went up to the door of an antique shop and told the receptionist by the door that he had an appointment. The receptionist nodded and invited them to the VIP room at the back.

Charlie was already stepping his feet out when Jacob turned around and said, "I think you'd better stay here, you don't know about these things anyway. Just wait for me by the door of the VIP room!"

Charlie nodded. "Okay, Dad!"

Putting his hands behind his back, Jacob entered the VIP room while Charlie sat in the rest area.

A few minutes later, there was suddenly a sharp sound coming from the VIP room.

Immediately afterward, Jacob ran out of the room in a panic. He was muttering, "Oh my god, I'm screwed!"

Charlie marched forward and looked behind Jacob. He saw a tall and thin ceramic vase on the floor, broken into two parts, and many small ceramic fragments all over the floor.

Judging from the size of the fragments, he could see that the broken vase was a Yuhuchun vase from the Tang Dynasty.

When he grew up in the Wade family, he was quite knowledgeable about antiques and the likes due to the constant influence and education. At a glance, he could tell that the vase was genuine and it could make up to several million in the market value.

It looked like his father-in-law was in big trouble this time.

In the VIP room, a middle-aged man said with a gloomy face, “Mr. Wilson, we bought our Yuhuchun vase at five million dollars. Since you broke it, you must compensate for it!”

The man was Raymond Cole, the manager of Vintage Deluxe.

Jacob pulled Charlie to stand in front of him and said in a shaky voice, “This is my son-in-law, do you know how rich he is? Five million? He can even pay you fifty million! You guys go through the compensation thing with him! I have something to attend to, I have to go now, goodbye!”

Jacob shoved Charlie into the room and ran away quickly.

Charlie was in an astonishing daze. This father-in-law of his had the nerve to make him a scapegoat!

Raymond looked at Charlie coldly and asked, “Sir, the bill is a total of 5.38 million. Would you like to pay by card or bank transfer?”

Charlie spread his hands indifferently. “I don’t have any money.”

It wasn’t that he couldn’t afford to pay for it, but he wanted to teach his father-in-law a lesson so that he would stop asking him to come to Antique Street in the future.

“No money?” Raymond gritted his teeth indignantly. “You smashed our shop’s stuff and all you have to say to avoid trouble is ‘I don’t have any money’?”

Charlie shrugged. “I don’t intend to avoid it but honestly, I don’t have money with me. Besides, I didn’t break that vase, so you can’t force me to pay.”

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Raymond stomped his feet furiously. “He’s your father-in-law, isn’t he?”

Charlie nodded. “Yes, he is my father-in-law, but he’s the one who broke it, not me. You go and look for whoever is responsible for the broken vase. ‘Find the real perpetrator, don’t involve their family’—have you heard of that saying before?”

Raymond's blood was boiling, but he pondered upon what Charlie had said and figured that he was right.

If the news of him asking compensation from innocent people spread out, then Vintage Deluxe's reputation would be tarnished.

Hence, he urged his men standing at the side, "You, go and get the old man back here!"

Charlie curled his lips into a silent smirk as he watched the guys chasing after the old man in a hurry.

Actually, he could simply swipe his card and get it over with, but it would be too easy for his shameless father-in-law then, wouldn't it?

It would be better to let the old man suffer and learn his lesson rather than cleaning his ass for him. Otherwise, he might throw him into the dungeon again if he were to stumble upon such trouble in the future.

Everyone in Vintage Deluxe was dispatched to pursue Jacob. Charlie was alone at the shop, so he looked at the broken vase on the floor gingerly.

The vase was about half a meter tall and it had now been broken into two halves and a pile of fragments, which was really a pity.

Suddenly, he noticed a hidden compartment at the bottom of the lower half of the vase.

He hurriedly reached in to grab it and he retrieved a small wooden box!

Never did he expect that the vase had a mysterious secret compartment in it!

The signature spatial feature of the Yuhuchun vase was that it had a small opening with a large body. The wooden box was obviously two or three times larger than the opening of the vase, so it could be concluded that the box was not stuffed in the later stage, but it was built into the vase when the vase was made!

As a result, the box had been left in the vase since the Tang Dynasty!

Putting the box carefully in his hands, he observed it first before popping the box open with a little force.

As the wooden box opened, an extreme breezy fragrance dispersed from the box and Charlie felt very refreshed and soothed when he took a sniff.

Inside the wooden box was a yellowish ancient book that was no larger than the size of a palm!

Charlie took out the pocket-sized book carefully and saw 'Apocalyptic Book' written in ancient script on the title page.

"The name is quite interesting, I wonder what is written inside." Charlie flipped the book and read its contents.

The first chapter was the 'Medical Techniques', which recorded a large number of cases and treatment methods.

Charlie frowned curiously. He had studied medicine briefly before and knew some basic theories, but the content in the books was obviously much better and advanced than the methods used in the medical industry nowadays.

Some methods of diagnosis and treatment were unheard of even. In fact, at the end of the 'Medical Techniques' chapter, he saw a content about alchemy and the effect of some medications, which was beyond the imagination of today's world.

Intrigued, Charlie sat on the floor and constantly flipped the book.

As he read on, he realized that the book had covered various kinds of topics, including fortune-telling and mysterious methods such as treasure inspection and restoration. There were many other weird things written in the book.

Charlie looked at it for a long time, scrutinizing each word in the book. He felt that the words were finding their ways into his brain and sticking themselves in it. His heart was thumping quickly as if it was hit by a massive wave.

He had found a treasure!

This was the ultimate treasure!

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Thrilled and overjoyed, Charlie quickly stuffed the Apocalyptic Book into his pocket, but the book instantly turned into powder and disappeared into thin air.

Miraculously, every word in the book was clearly imprinted in Charlie's brain.

At this moment, Jacob, who ran away like a coward, was brutally apprehended by several big and strong men and was hurled back to the shop.

Looking at his puffy and swelling cheeks, Charlie figured that he must have been beaten vigorously before he was carried back here.

Charlie found Jacob's piteous look very funny and amusing.

How dare this old coot label him as a scapegoat after getting into trouble! It was outrageous! A little beating was necessary as a punishment for him to learn his lesson.

Jacob was in a particularly dreaded and shaky position right now. Due to his desperate escape earlier, he was panting profusely like a dog, trying to catch his breath.

His chubby and fragile body made it impossible for him to outrun those young people. Besides, he didn't have the car key, how did he expect he could escape from this place?

Thus, it only took those guys a short while to catch him. His hands were tied behind his back, his face was swollen from a few slaps. It was extremely embarrassing and miserable to see.

As Jacob was taken back to the shop, Raymond, the manager, gritted his teeth in dismay and said, "Old man, do you think you can run away after smashing our things? Learn about our Vintage Deluxe's background before you do something so stupid!"

Jacob stuttered in horror, "I didn't mean it, the vase was too slippery..."

Raymond growled coldly, "Shut the fuck up! I'll give you an afternoon to get your money ready. If you can't afford it, I'll sue you for deliberately damaging my property! The case value of five million dollars is more than enough for you to stay in prison forever!"

Jacob trembled in fright. He turned to Charlie and clung on him like he was a life-saving boat. "Charlie, my good son-in-law! You must help me! You can't let them do this to me!"

Charlie shrugged helplessly. "But, Dad, I don't have that much money."

Jacob blurted anxiously, "Go to prison on my behalf, then! The Wilson family has supported you for so long, it's time for you to repay us!"

Charlie stared at his shameless father-in-law and wondered how he had the nerve to say such things now.

Before he refused, Raymond interjected, "Stop. At Vintage Deluxe, we do business in an honest and trustworthy way. Whoever commits the mistake takes the blame. Old man, you broke the vase, so you have to pay for it!"

Then, he said to Charlie, "You can go now, but I advise you to help him get the money. Otherwise, if I don't have the money by the evening, I'll send him to the police station!"

Charlie nodded lightly.

Jacob wailed loudly, "My dear son-in-law, you can't leave me here! What should I do if you're gone?"

He wanted to laugh seeing his father-in-law so frightened and scared, but of course, he couldn't smile for real.

He was about to leave this place with the excuse of getting the money and left his father-in-law here to suffer a little, but suddenly, it occurred to him that there was an ancient method for the restoration of porcelain artifacts in the Apocalyptic Book. Hence, an idea struck his mind as he said, "Mr. Cole, if I can repair the vase, will you let the old man go?"

Raymond smirked, “Repair the vase? Who do you think you are? To tell you the truth, I’ve sent the photos to the experts of cultural relics appraisal in Aurous Hill and they said it is beyond repair after such damage.”

Charlie shook his head in doubt. “Your vase is broken anyway, what’s the use of keeping around, right? Why don’t you let me try?”

The disdainful smirk widened on Raymond’s face. “Oh, okay, you’re an overly stubborn and confident young fella, aren’t you? Alright! Let’s see what you can do!”

Charlie said firmly, “Give me a sheet of Chinese rice paper, a brush, and five raw eggs. Raw.”

Raymond complied with his request without hesitation since he was looking forward to seeing what kind of ridiculous show Charlie would perform. Soon, his man brought back a basket of raw eggs for Charlie.

However, he still found it bewildering that he couldn’t help but tease, “Restoring artifacts using eggs, huh? Seriously, I’ve never heard anything so absurd before. I warn you, don’t you try any tricks. You can either pay compensation or we’ll sue your father-in-law. Five million—it’s enough for the old man to stay in prison until he dies.”

Chapter 80

Charlie nodded. “What if I fix it?”

Raymond snorted. “I’ll need to check with the appraisers. If they verify that you’ve fixed it and recovered most of the damage, I’ll let both of you go!”

“Alright!” Charlie nodded. “It’s a deal!”

He quickly turned back to the workstation and quietly started his work. He took the brush and sketched the outline of the vase on the Chinese rice paper.

Then, he knocked the egg lightly to crack a small opening, dipped his index finger into the

egg to get some egg white, wiped it on a fragment of the vase, and pressed it against the paper model. Then, he repeated the same process for the next fragment, and another, until the paper model was gradually covered with the vase's pieces...

Everyone watched silently while holding their breaths in for fear of interrupting his restoration process.

Half an hour passed very quickly.

When Charlie stood upright again, what appeared in front of everyone was a Tang Dynasty Yuhuchun vase that seemed to be rejuvenated with new life.

He smiled at Raymond and said, "Take a look and see if there are any flaws."

Raymond picked up the vase and looked at it a few glances before he grimaced disdainfully. "You're kidding me, right? Do you fucking think that you've repaired it after putting some egg liquid on it? Fuck you! Why don't I break your leg and glue them back together with egg liquid, huh?!"

"Don't touch the vase!"

At this moment, a crisp and anxious voice resonated from the door abruptly.

A glamorous young lady in a white casual suit stepped in immediately afterward.

The lady had a very beautiful face paired with her tall and perfect figure, who looked about 1.7 meters tall. Standing by the door, she was scanning the room with her cold and arrogant gaze, radiating an elegant and radiant aura just like a snow queen.

Raymond's expression shifted drastically when he saw the lady. He bowed his head respectfully and said, "Miss, why are you here?"

The lady was Jasmine Moore, the owner of Vintage Deluxe and the young missus of the Moore family, one of the prominent families in Aurous Hill.

Jasmine growled angrily with a furious blush on her face. "If I hadn't come, I'm afraid that you would've single-handedly ruined this shop! What is going on?"

Raymond smiled sheepishly and answered, "A customer accidentally broke the vase while looking at it. His son-in-law repaired it with eggs, which is utterly ridiculous. I am about to discuss the compensation with them."

Jasmine leaned towards the vase and observed it closely. Then, there was a dash of shock on her face!

She immediately growled at Raymond, "Put it down, you fool! Don't touch it if you don't know anything!"

Raymond was stunned by her sudden reaction. "Miss, what are you..."

"This is an artifact that has just been restored. No one is allowed to touch it with their bare hands except for the restoration experts! Don't you know the rule?"

Raymond stuttered hesitantly. "... he simply used some eggs to glue it together, it doesn't count as restoration, does it?"

There was the wrath of fury burning on Jasmine's eyes. She scolded indignantly, "You dumb fool! After the restoration, the price of the vase will at least double but because you've touched it with your bare hands, it'll lose at least two million of its value! Pack up your things, you're fired!"

She had seen a porcelain plate in the same period as the Yuhuchun vase at an auction in Shipton.

The history of the porcelain plate was very interesting. It was a relic of the Tang Dynasty but it had broken into pieces a few decades later during the Song Dynasty. A skilled craftsman in the Song Dynasty had restored the relic using the same method.

Due to the rarity of the restoration method that had long been lost in time, the final auction price of the porcelain plate was 13 million dollars, which far exceeded the actual value of the plate.

Right now, the Yuhuchun vase had been restored by Charlie with the same rare method, so the value of the vase would undoubtedly rise!

Blood drained from Raymond's face upon hearing Jasmine's order. He didn't expect that a simple touch of the vase would have caused such a big loss as well as his job.

Then, Jasmine asked, "Who is the master who repaired this vase? Take me to see him now!"

Chapter 81

Raymond was dumbstruck!

He never would have imagined, not even in his wildest dreams, that the vase would transform into a more precious treasure after being restored by a few eggs!

He pointed to Charlie and said, "Miss, this is the man who fixed the vase..."

As Jasmine glanced at Charlie, she couldn't help but wonder how such a young man would know the long-forgotten cultural relic restoration technique!

Despite her doubt, she managed a polite smile and asked, "Hi, I am Jasmine Moore. How should I address you? May I know from whom you have learned the relic restoration technique?"

Jacob, who was still shivering at the side, was dumbfounded when he heard Jasmine Moore's name!

The Moore family!

The Moore family was the most elite family in Aurous Hill! Their influence was not comparable to those of Eastcliff's elite families, but in Aurous Hill, they were at the top of the pyramid where no one could ever reach!

He didn't expect that he would meet one of their family members here!

Meanwhile, Charlie had a lukewarm reaction towards Jasmine's status. The Moore family was powerful, but their net worth was valued at hundreds of billions. They paled in comparison to the Wade family with their net worth of a trillion dollars.

He said flatly, "My name is Charlie Wade and I don't have any masters. You can say that I'm self-taught."

Then, he continued, "I have repaired the Yuchunhu vase that my father-in-law broke, Please appraise it for its specific value on your side and let us know if we still need to compensate for it."

Jasmine shook her head with a smile. "After the restoration, this vase has far exceeded its original value. So, it's the other way around—we owe you instead."

Charlie smiled faintly. "It's my pleasure. Since we've resolved the matter, we shall get going, then."

Jasmine's eyes shifted mischievously, not wanting Charlie to leave so soon. She said with a smile, "Sir, your name skips my mind. May I know how I should address you? Could you leave a contact number so we can keep in touch in the future?"

She retrieved her own card and said as she handed it over. "This is my card, you can call me at the number above."

Charlie nodded as he accepted the card. "My name is Charlie Wade but I don't have a name card."

"It's okay," Jasmine said, "Could you please leave me your phone number, then?"

Charlie eyed her cautiously. He felt that it would be good for him to have his own connections. Besides, this lady, Jasmine Moore, looked very polite and humble, unlike an arrogant and dominating person. It would bring no harm if he made friends with her.

Hence, he exchanged phone numbers with her.

After the exchange, Jasmine said, "Mr. Wade, would you like me to send you home?"

Charlie waved his hand and said, "Thanks but no thanks, I came here by car."

Jasmine nodded. "I'll see you off then!"

Jasmine escorted Charlie and Jacob to the BMW 530. She watched them drive away before heading back to Vintage Deluxe.

On their way home, Jacob asked curiously, "Charlie, where did you learn the craft of cultural relic restoration?"

The content of the Apocalyptic Book was running through Charlie's mind like violent waves. Of course, he couldn't tell his father-in-law that he had found the magical and mysterious book inside the broken vase. He needed time to slowly digest all the amazing content in the book. In fact, he couldn't tell anyone about it.

So, he simply blurted a lie. "I learned it from the cleaner at the orphanage."

Jacob nodded. "Thank god you were there, or else, I may be in prison now..."

Then, he quickly said as if a thought suddenly struck his mind, "Oh yeah! Don't tell Claire and your mother-in-law about this, do you understand?"

Chapter 82

Charlie nodded. "Understood."

The old man let out a deep sigh. Rubbing his face, he grumbled, "If I knew that you had such skill, I wouldn't have rushed to you! Now, I'm not just tired to the bone, I was even slapped multiple times! Damn, how unlucky!"

He then continued, "Is my face still red?"

Charlie replied, "A little."

The old man grumbled once more. "Tell your mother that I ran into a pole if she ever asks."

Upon reaching home, Charlie immediately rushed to the supermarket to get some groceries and make dinner for the family.

He then called his wife, Claire, in case she was craving for something. However, it turned out that she had to plan an upcoming project with Doris Young that night and so, she had invited Claire to have dinner at Emgrand Group.

Upon hearing those words, Doris had tested him at the same time as well by saying, "Sir, the project is in progress, so your wife might be quite busy from now. I hope you don't mind."

Charlie was an understanding person, and knowing that the project was important to her, he replied, "The company had better serve good food and treat her well."

Doris immediately replied, "Don't worry, I'll treat her to the best dinner the company has to offer."

"Okay, good." Charlie texted back. If his wife wasn't going to be home, Charlie didn't need to be too specific with the menu, thus, he randomly chose some ingredients and made a simple dinner for his in-laws.

After dinner, the old couple went out square dancing while Charlie, on the other hand, stayed at home and indulged in the wondrous world of .

Suddenly, he received a call from Douglas Adams.

Charlie was reluctant to take the call. This little brat was just so stubborn. Charlie had once given him advice out of good heart, but Douglas had just started yelling at him like a maniac. It had been rather infuriating.

However, on second thought, he was but a pitiful man. Hence, Charlie decided to pick up the call and asked, "What's up?"

On the other end of the phone, Douglas was sobbing uncontrollably. "Charlie, my dearest brother! I'm so sorry, I have wronged you!"

Upon hearing his crying, Charlie's expression softened and he asked, "You found out about the truth?"

Douglas cried, "After our fight, I felt more and more uneasy about it, so I followed the tracking system in her iPhone and ended up at a villa in the suburban areas. However, when

I knocked on the door to catch the cheater, I was beaten up by the man's chauffeur and butlers, and then I was sent to the hospital by 120..."

At this moment, Douglas broke down crying again. "Charlie, it was my fault for being so blinded, I was wrong! Please don't be angry with me, you're my best friend, my only friend! If you cut ties with me too, I won't have anyone here in Aurous with me anymore..."

Charlie let out a sigh and said, "I don't blame you. Which hospital are you admitted in right now?"

"I'm in Silverwing Hospital," Douglas sobbed. "He fractured my legs with a baseball bat. The doctor said I wouldn't be able to walk for a few days. Can you please help me sell the drawing you gave me the other day? I brought it along when I went to catch that cheater. I spent all of my money on the restaurant, I'm completely broke now, so I don't have any money on me to pay for the hospital bills..."

As soon as he heard this, Charlie asked, "They didn't give you any money for medical bills?"

"No..." Douglas let his words trail off.

"Did you call the police?"

"I did, but the police said that I was the one who broke into their house, they were just defending themselves..."

"How dare they!" Charlie was extremely infuriated. "Wait for me, I'll be there in just a few minutes!"

Chapter 83

Upon arriving at Silverwing Hospital, Douglas could be seen lying on one of the beds in the ward, covered in wounds and bruises. There was a cast on his right leg as well, and he looked miserable. Charlie couldn't help but sympathize. This fully grown man had been cheated on, had his heart broken, and was now covered in wounds.

At the sight of Charlie's arrival, Douglas's swollen eyes began to tear up, tears flowing down

his cheeks like a river stream.

“Charlie...” Douglas broke down crying.

Charlie approached him slowly and said softly, “It’s okay, she’s just a bitch, she’s not worth it.”

Douglas continued, “I pursued her for three years, basically throwing my dignity into the dumpster for her! I feel like a lowly dog trying to latch on to everything I could, but now, I realize that I’ve never had anything in the first place...”

Douglas seemed to be choking on his tears. “That bitch didn’t just break up with me, she wanted me to lose absolutely everything! I’ve spent every penny I’ve earned over the past few years, even using up all my savings of ten thousand in that restaurant, yet now, she’s refusing to pay me back! I was so blinded, how could I have possibly fallen for such a wicked woman!”

Charlie comforted him. “Douglas, as a man, you have to know how to let go. You can just start over! What about the painting I gave you? It is worth at least 200 thousand dollars, that would be sufficient for you to start a small business.”

Douglas nodded. “It’s with me. Thank you for reminding me to bring along the painting, otherwise, she would’ve taken that away from me too!”

Charlie sighed. “That settles it then. You should get some rest and forget about all this. I’ll get you something to eat and pay for your hospital bills.”

Tears streamed down Douglas’s cheeks again. “Charlie, my dearest brother! Thank you so much... Don’t worry, I’ll be sure to repay your kindness!”

“Yeah, yeah. We’re brothers, there’s no need to thank me,” He replied softly as he left the ward.

He hadn’t been able to buy anything when he was on the way to the hospital because he had been in a rush earlier, however, seeing Douglas’s pitiful face, he couldn’t bear to leave him in that state. Hence, he went to buy some fruits and paid the ten thousand dollars worth of medical bills for him in advance.

When he got back to Douglas's ward, Charlie realized that the door was wide open. Upon entering, Lily Lewis, who was clinging to Jerome Hunt, was standing in front of Douglas's bed.

Douglas yelled at the sight of them. "What are you doing here? To laugh at me?"

Lily laughed sarcastically. "Who has the time to do that?"

Lily spat on the floor in disgust before adding, "I'm here for that painting! Where have you hidden it? Hand it over now!"

Douglas shouted angrily, "Lily Lewis, that painting was a gift from my brother, who are you to take it from me!?"

"A gift?" Lily scoffed. "Use that puny little brain of yours for once. Why would Charlie give that painting to you? It was to celebrate the opening of the restaurant! And who owns that restaurant? News flash, my dad does!"

Douglas hadn't expected Lily to be so shameless, and his voice trembled in anger, "Lily Lewis, don't you dare cross that line! I have still invested ten thousand dollars in that restaurant as well, but you still have yet to pay me back! As for the painting, it was gifted to me by my brother. Do you need me to repeat that? It was gifted to me!"

Chapter 84

Lily scowled. "Stop this bloody nonsense. The restaurant has nothing to do with you. Don't go hoping that I'll pay you even one penny! That painting belongs to the restaurant, if you don't hand it to us now, I'll have to call the cops and report you for theft!"

Jerome, who was standing next to Lily, scoffed as well. "Listen up, kid. I'd advise you to cooperate with us. My connections within Aurous Hill are not something you would like to challenge now, is it? If you don't hand over the painting, I will just have to pay a visit to the public security bureau and they'll lock you up immediately! With what it's worth, you will be sentenced to at least ten years of jail-time!"

Douglas's tears poured down like rain, and he questioned Lily, "I've been nothing but good to you for the past few years, I gave you everything I had! It's fine if you don't really love me, but why do you have to do this to me!?"

Lily let out a cold chuckle. "Love you? Who are you to expect such a thing? Listen up dumbass, I've never loved you! You don't deserve it! I would only fall for a man like Jerome darling, a man who actually deserves my love!"

Jerome smiled sarcastically. "I forgot to mention this as well. We are very much capable of satisfying each other's needs in bed!"

Lily blushed. "Aww, come on, Jerome, why are you mentioning this? I'm so embarrassed..."

"Embarrassed?" Jerome chuckled. "Why don't we shut the doors and show this useless piece of trash how it's done? Show him how you usually satisfy me."

"Jerome darling, no! That would be so embarrassing!" Lily gushed.

Douglas couldn't bear to watch the scene in front of him any longer and threw a pillow in their direction as he yelled, "You maniacs! Get out!"

However, Jerome caught the pillow and scoffed. "I'm warning you, hand over the painting. Otherwise, I'm breaking your other leg and sending you to jail!"

Charlie, who was at the door listening in on everything that was said, immediately walked into the ward and yelled, "You dare to hurt my brother? Do you have a death wish?"

Jerome turned his head and looked Charlie dead in the eye. "Who are you?"

Lily replied, "He's Charlie Wade, the one who gifted the painting."

Jerome laughed out loud. "Ah, it's just the useless toyboy! You are indeed quite famous for that, you know? Everyone in Aurous Hill knows who you are!"

Jerome then stared at Charlie coldly. "I'll give you three seconds to get out of my sight. I'll pretend you were never here, and I won't lay a finger on you."

Annoyed, Charlie scoffed. "Get out of your sight? Who do you think you are?"

Jerome clenched his teeth. "Are you trying to challenge me, kid?"

Charlie replied in a cold tone. "I don't care who you are, but you've pissed me off today. I'll give you a second chance, though. Apologize to my brother this instant and let him break one of your legs as an apology for what you did to his leg. If you don't, you'll die the most painful death!"

Upon hearing this, Jerome began laughing like a maniac, his expression suddenly turning dark as he scowled. "What did you just say, punk? Me, Jerome, apologizing? Do you have a death wish?"

Chuckling, Lily also added, "Charlie, are you an idiot? Challenging my darling Jerome? Do you really want to die that badly?"

Charlie spoke coldly, "Keep your mouth shut, bitch!"

"You..." Lily's blood boiled, and she turned to Jerome. "Jerome darling, he just called me a bitch! Have someone rip him into shreds!"

Jerome clenched his teeth once more. "Just you wait, you incompetent swine! I'll have someone kill you this instant!"

Charlie smiled coldly upon hearing those words. "Sure, but remember. If you fail to kill me, both you and this bitch will have to pay a great price later on."

Chapter 85

Jerome immediately punched in a number on his phone and yelled into it, "Zaz, I'm in Silverwing Hospital right now. Bring along a few of your underlings, we have a brat to kill!"

Charlie, on the other hand, didn't bother calling anyone. Instead, he texted Albert Rhodes: [Come to Silverwing Hospital, someone is trying to kill me.]

Don Albert immediately called him.

“Mr. Wade, who is this son of a bitch?”

Charlie then replied dismissively, “Less talking, just come over.”

Don Albert replied, “Don’t worry Mr. Wade, I’ll be there in a few minutes.”

When Jerome realized Charlie was talking on the phone as well, he scoffed. “Hah, don’t tell me you had someone to come over as backup. What a joke!”

Charlie ignored his remark and smiled. “As I said earlier, I’ll have the both of you die the most painful death.”

Jerome laughed as though he had just heard the funniest joke on earth. “Who the hell do you think you are? No one in Aurous Hill dares to defy me!”

Douglas, who was struggling to sit up straight on the bed, panicked and said, “Charlie, just leave. You can’t win with this bastard, just don’t.”

Charlie walked up to him and tucked him back into bed. “Just lie down.”

Still panicking, Douglas insisted, “You don’t know how powerful he is! His family is very well-known in Aurous Hill...”

Charlie peeled a mandarin and shoved a piece into Douglas’s mouth. “There is no one whom I don’t dare to defy just yet.”

Lily laughed. “Really, now? You’re so deluded! Do you even know who you’re dealing with?”

Charlie interrupted her before she could continue. “I don’t care who he is, I just know that he’s going to be disabled for the rest of his life!”

He paused before continuing, “Oh wait, your fate will be the same as his!”

Lily’s expression immediately darkened. “Fine! If you want to die that badly, just you wait!”

Charlie then turned to Douglas. “Did you inform her father, Lawson Lewis, about this?”

“Yeah,” Douglas replied. “I called him.”

Charlie nodded. “Well, what did he say?”

Douglas furrowed his eyebrows. “He said that this was none of his business! He just wanted to find an excuse so that I wouldn’t go looking for him anymore!”

Charlie pressed on further. “What about the ten thousand dollars you invested in the restaurant? Did you ask him to pay you back?”

“I did!” Douglas grew even more frustrated and clenched his teeth. “That old bastard... he told me that the money wasn’t an investment, it was a gift from his future son-in-law! He said that I didn’t have the right to get it back, so he’s not going to give it back to me!”

“How dare he!” Charlie huffed. “No wonder he has such a bitch of a daughter seeing as he himself is the scum of the earth!”

“What did you just say, Charlie?” Infuriated, Lily yelled, “How dare you speak ill of my father! Death is just at your doorstep if you don’t watch that mouth!”

She then immediately clung to Jerome and pleaded, “Jerome darling, look what he said about my father! Beat him up for me!”

Jerome was nothing but a mere player. He wasn’t tall, nor was he built. He was at least half a foot shorter than Charlie, and moreover, Charlie handled everything around the house, even living a healthy lifestyle. If Jerome were to pick a fight with Charlie, it was clear as day as to who would win.

Not only that, but Charlie’s father had also taught him Wing Chun ever since he was a young child. Even after the death of his parents, he had not missed a day of training in the orphanage. It was because of how much he trained that no one in the orphanage had dared to bully him.

Hence, if they were to engage in a fight, Jerome definitely didn’t have a chance. Even if there were to be five of him, Charlie would still easily win the fight.

Jerome understood the situation that he was in. He knew that if he fought him now, only defeat awaited him. Therefore, he held Lily's hand and comforted her. "Don't worry, babe. Zaz is already on his way with his men. When he arrives, we'll have him dead in a ditch!"

Chapter 86

Charlie then texted Isaac Cameron from the Shangri-La: [Who is this Jerome Hunt?]

Isaac replied almost immediately: [His family runs a business, they're mostly involved in the jade industry. They buy stocks or put them up for bidding. His power within the area is just as everyone claims as well. Why do you ask? Did he piss you off?]

Charlie responded: [Yeah. I've already asked Albert to handle this. But I do need a favor from you.]

Isaac replied: [Anything, young master!]

Charlie ordered: [I need you to bring Jerome's father to the hospital. Oh, and another old man who identifies antiques, his name is Lawson Lewis. Bring them to me.]

Isaac replied: [Yes, young master, I'll have them brought to you this instant!]

Charlie then responded: [You don't have to, just have someone else do it. I don't want people to notice that we know each other.]

Another text from Isaac showed up on his phone: [Alright then, young master. Do they need to be taught a lesson?]

Charlie texted back: [Give them a good beating first, then have them tied up and sent to me.]

Isaac complied instantly: [Yes, young master! I'll have someone carry out your orders right this instant!]

Shoving his phone back into his pocket, Charlie turned to Jerome and Lily, speaking in a cold tone. "The parent would need to take the blame of a child's fault. I'll have both of your fathers brought here, let's see what they have to explain about your behaviour!"

Jerome's expression was grim. "I would advise you to not cross certain boundaries, punk, otherwise you'll really end up dead in a ditch once my men arrive!"

Charlie huffed. "Have you men hurry up, I'm very much impatient."

Just as Jerome was about to yell at Charlie, the door to the ward was flung open to reveal a beef-faced man with seven to eight underlings standing behind him.

Upon seeing Zaz, Jerome immediately pointed at Charlie. "Zaz, it's this little brat! Teach him a lesson!"

The man named Zaz furrowed his eyebrows, speaking in a cold tone. "So, you're the one who pissed my brother off?"

Charlie smiled coldly and nodded. "So what? Are you going to beat me up like he asked you to?"

Confused, Zaz stared at him. It was an unfamiliar face. He had never seen Charlie before let alone know anything about him, and so, he didn't understand why Charlie did not fear him.

After a long pause, he asked cautiously, "Hey punk, where are you from?"

Charlie replied dismissively, "I'm from home."

Jerome then added, "Zaz, this brat is a boytoy. He lives off of women!"

Subsequently, Jerome whispered into Zaz's ear, "Zaz, this brat has no background, you can beat him up as much as you want. If anything happens, I'll take responsibility."

"A boytoy?" Zaz laughed sarcastically. "Sure! Let's see if he'll still be able to live off women after I break his penis off!"

Without waiting for a reply from Charlie, Zaz gestured to his underlings. "Let's kill this punk, damn it!"

Jerome shot Charlie a cold smirk. "Hey, Wade, any last words?"

Charlie ignored him, merely staring at Zaz and finally, he said coldly, “Kneel down and I’ll consider forgiving your sorry ass.”

Stunned, Zaz dug his ear and furrowed his eyebrows. “What did you say? Repeat that and I’ll promise you a swift death!”

At that very moment, a loud yell came from outside the door. “Zaz, Mr. Wade told you to kneel down, are you freaking deaf?”

Zaz was startled. Don Albert had arrived!

Chapter 87

Just as the voice echoed through the room, Don Albert, followed by Bill and a large group of men, entered the room.

Upon entering, he ordered Bill, “Shut the doors, don’t let others in this room!”

Bill nodded. “Understood, Don Albert!”

zaz stared at Don Albert, still in shock. It was as if his brain had been short-circuited.

It was Don Albert Rhodes!

The underground overlord of Aurous Hill!

zaz was just one of the mere leaders within the area. However, Don Albert was the overlord of this very area! Everyone within the city knew that Don Albert was the absolute power!

He would never have expected that he would meet Don Albert just because he had been asked to handle such small matters for Jerome!

Jerome didn’t know who Don Albert was, however, seeing how shocked zaz was, he furrowed his eyebrows. “Zaz, what is going on? Who is this old man?”

As soon as he heard those words, Zaz was so scared that he started trembling.

In the next second, Zaz had grabbed Jerome by the hair and smashed his face to the ground, fracturing the latter's nose from the impact. As the blood was flowing out of Jerome's nose, zaz clenched his teeth and yelled, "If you have a death wish, Hunt, don't bring me into it as well! This is Don Albert!"

"What?!" Jerome was shocked to his core.

Don Albert?!

The underground overlord of Aurous Hill?!

Why was he here?!

Don Albert approached them with a grim expression and then kicked zaz in the crotch. Immense pain shot up zaz's body, forcing him to his knees on the ground, the color slowly draining from his face.

Don Albert stared at him and said coldly, "You're just asking for it, aren't you? How dare you piss Mr. Wade off?"

He then turned to Charlie and bowed in absolute respect as he apologized. "Sorry I was late, Mr. Wade. Please punish me!"

Upon seeing Don Albert's respectful attitude toward Charlie, everyone's jaw dropped. Jerome finally realized that he had pissed off such an influential figure, and his body started trembling.

Charlie nodded before at zaz. "You know this man?"

Don Albert replied, "Yes. He is merely one of the smaller leaders in the area, but he dared to have pissed Mr. Wade off. Just give out the order on how you would like him punished, Mr. Wade! We will do everything as you say!"

Charlie nodded. "What a tyrant. He claimed he would have me disabled as soon as he

entered the room. Such a person is a danger to society. I say we should break his kneecaps so that he will need a wheelchair from now on.”

zaz’s soul immediately left his body. He was a man who was used to earning his living by fighting. If he were to become disabled, how could he continue to lead this area? Wouldn’t that mean that this was over for him?

zaz kneeled to the ground and crawled to Charlie on his knees. He cried, “Mr. Wade, this is all my fault! Please give me another chance! I will never dare to offend you ever again!”

Charlie stared at him coldly. “I gave you a second chance. You were the one who didn’t accept the offer.”

zaz was then reminded of what Charlie had told him earlier.

“Kneel down and I’ll consider forgiving your sorry ass...”

He had thought that that was just a mere bluff, but now, he realized that the one who had had a death wish wasn’t Charlie... It was Zaz himself!

Fearing for his life, zaz groveled at Charlie’s feet and cried, “Mr. Wade, please just give me another chance, please spare me!”

Charlie ignored his pleas and turned to Don Albert. “Well, what are you waiting for? We don’t have all day, do we?”

Don Albert stiffened and immediately ordered his men, “You guys! Break his kneecaps this instant!”

Without warning, a few of his men rushed toward Zaz and pinned him down to the ground.

Chapter 88

Right then and there, Bill took a metal rod out and approached zaz. Although the latter tried to beg for his life, Bill did not hesitate to raise the metal rod above his head and swing it down at a great speed.

Crack!

zaz's right kneecap was smashed into pieces instantly. Such a comminuted fracture was almost impossible to recover from!

zaz yelped in pain, but Charlie did not stop there. "We're not quite done yet. We have only broken one leg, he would still be able to limp with the other. I want him crippled forever!"

Bill nodded and raised the metal rod once more, and in no time, another loud crack came from zaz's left knee. zaz rolled on the floor, screaming for help, his body about to go into shock.

Don Albert barked out an order. "Bill, shove something into his mouth. His loud whining is going to annoy Mr. Wade!"

"Yes, Don Albert!" Bill complied and shoved a few pieces of gauze pads into zaz's mouth as the latter was already curled up into a ball on the ground.

Jerome's face was pale-white as he kneeled to the ground and groveled. "Charlie... no, I mean, Mr. Wade. I was wrong! I shouldn't have let my stupid mouth run, please forgive me!"

Lily was scared to death as well. As soon as Jerome started begging for his life, she immediately got on her knees and apologized profusely as well.

However, Charlie merely scoffed. "Do you really think that begging is going to do you any good? You guys are just so cute!"

The two of them were frightened to the core. Suddenly, a few men dressed in black entered the room as well, bringing along with them two middle-aged men who had been tied up.

The two middle-aged men looked as though they were just one step away from hell.

As the men-in-black flung them onto the floor, they bowed to Charlie and said, "Mr. Wade, we've brought who you've asked for!"

Jerome and Lily almost fainted at the sight of this. The two middle-aged men were none

other than their fathers, Dylan Hunt and Lawson Lewis.

Charlie took a bucket of cold water and dumped it over their heads. Once they had recovered their consciousness, Charlie then questioned Lawson. "Mr. Lewis, were you aware that your daughter was being a whore and that she was cheating on her fiance?"

Lawson was terrified. Having been beaten up just a while ago, he knew that his daughter had gotten into trouble. To protect himself, he shook his head. "I didn't know, I didn't know....."

Charlie nodded. "You didn't know? Then, isn't that your fault as a father? Bill, break his left kneecap! Just like what you did to that other son of a bitch!"

"Understood!" Bill immediately turned to his men. "Hold him down!"

Lawson cried out of fear, "No! Someone please help me!"

Lily screamed for him as well. "Dad!"

However, without faltering, Bill smashed Lawson's kneecap as soon as he had been held down.

"Ah..." Lawson would have rather died a swift death. Instead, his kneecap had been shattered, it was impossible for him to heal from this.

Charlie then repeated his question. "Let me ask you again, were you aware that your daughter was being a whore and that she was cheating on her fiance?"

Lawson sobbed uncontrollably. "I was aware, I was. It's my fault, I'll be sure to discipline her from now on..."

Charlie huffed. "So you did know. In that case, why didn't you stop her? You knew that your daughter had caused trouble and yet, you didn't do anything. Doesn't that show how big of a failure you are as a father?"

He then ordered Bill, "Bill, cripple his other leg!"

Chapter 89

Lawson had not expected that admitting to his faults would not do him any good either. He had just fainted out of shock, however, the pain from the impact woke him up in a mere second.

“Ah!!!” Lawson had never experienced such torture in his entire life.

Tears streamed down the wrinkles on his face as he cried out desperately, “Mr. Wade, it’s all my fault! I’ll never overlook her faults ever again, I won’t let her do such vile actions.”

Disgusted, Charlie said, “Well, aren’t you good at blaming others for your faults?”

Just this sentence was enough to send chills down Lawson Lewis’s spine.

Charlie then demanded, “Lawson Lewis! Regarding the ten thousand dollars that my brother invested in your restaurant, why did you refuse to pay him back? Why did you claim that it was a gift?”

Lawson’s face drained of color, and he tried to explain. “I was wrong, I was wrong for doing that! I was greedy, and I was shameless, I’m so sorry!”

He then looked over to Douglas, who was enraged. Lawson begged, “Douglas, I was blinded by greed. Don’t worry, I’ll pay you back the ten thousand dollars, please tell Mr. Wade to let me go! My old bones can’t handle this anymore...”

Charlie stared at Douglas. “Are you going to help him?”

Douglas immediately shook his head. “No! I will not help anyone here!”

“Alright!” Satisfied, Charlie nodded. “That’s my man!”

Charlie then turned to Lawson who was drowning in despair. “Not only are you a terrible father, you even tried to take my brother’s life savings. What’s the difference between you and a lowly thief?”

Lawson cried and stumbled over his words. “Mr. Wade, I’m a bastard! I’m inhumane! I should go to hell! Please let me go, please! I’m begging you! I’ll do anything! I’ll call you Boss! Boss

Wade, please let me go!”

Charlie let out a cold laugh. “Let you go? Hah! In your dreams, you ugly bastard!”

After that, he turned to Bill. “Cripple his right arm! See if he can steal from others after this!”

Desperate, Lawson cried out, “No, Mr. Wade! Please, no...”

Bill smashed Lawson’s arm in one swing.

“Ah, my arm... my arm!!!” Lawson yelled.

Charlie turned to Bill. “Shut him up and throw him aside!”

“Yes, sir!” Bill shoved a ball of gauze into his mouth and threw him toward Zaz.

Lily was on the verge of insanity, as was Jerome.

His father, Dylan Hunt, was going insane as well! He turned to Jerome and slapped him angrily. “You piece of shit! Who told you to fuck around with someone else’s woman! Why did you pull me into this!”

Charlie smirked. “Why? Didn’t you know that your son was fucking my brother’s fiance? Aren’t you his father?”

Fearing for his life, Dylan was tearing up, completely clueless as to how to answer that question. Lawson was already an excellent example of what his fate would be.

If he said that he knew, his right leg would be shattered; if he said that he didn’t, his left leg would be crippled...

Chapter 90

After a long pause, Charlie turned to Bill. “This old man seems to be quite sharp. He thinks that he won’t be punished as long as he doesn’t answer. Bill, shatter both of his legs!”

“Yes, Mr. Wade!” Bill obeyed.

Looking at Dylan, who was now panicking, Charles spoke in a cold tone. “You only have your son to blame.”

Following two horrifying screams, Dylan Hunt was now crippled as well. At the sight of his father being beaten up, Jerome felt as though he had lost control of his body. In just a few moments, he was sitting in a pool of liquid that had a strong and unpleasant smell.

He had actually wet his pants!

Charlie chuckled. “Well, won’t you look at that? It looks like you can’t control that thing of yours! It’s the main cause of everything that has gone down up till now! I’d say that you would no longer be needing it anymore!”

He then ordered, “Since that’s the case, destroy the one thing that makes him a man!”

Bill seemed to hesitate. As a man himself, upon receiving such an order, he couldn’t help but flinch.

Don Albert then grumbled, “What are you doing just standing there? Do as Mr. Wade says!”

Bill snapped back to reality and ordered his men, “Spread this bastard’s legs!”

Jerome begged Charlie in desperation. “Mr. Wade, Boss Wade, please spare me! You can cripple me, but please don’t destroy my...”

Charlie laughed. “Do you think this is a multiple-choice question? To let you choose if you’d like me to take away your arms and legs or that thing of yours? Wrong! You can’t escape both of these fates!”

What came next was a hard stomp from Bill...

... and Jerome was now a eunuch!

However, that was not the end of his suffering just yet!

Bill carried out Charlie's orders and crippled all of his limbs as well!

Hooking up with someone else's fiancée and beating them up afterward, Jerome, who was once an arrogant jerk, was now a completely useless piece of human garbage! No one would sympathize with him, he deserved this!

All that was left to deal with was Lily Lewis alone.

On the verge of losing it, Lily crawled over to the bed and latched onto Douglas's hand. Crying, she begged, "Hubby, I'm so sorry hubby! I shouldn't have cheated on you! I really did love you! It's just that Hunt raped me! He even took pictures of me, and there wasn't anything else I could do! He manipulated me!"

Jerome yelled angrily, "Lily Lewis, you whore! How dare you blame it on me! You were the one who came to my pawnshop with your father! You approached me because of my wealth and slept with me out of your own will! Otherwise, I would have never hooked up with you!"

Jerome then turned to Charlie. "Mr. Wade, please don't believe a word this bitch has said. I have receipts! She was the one who added me on WeChat, and she was the one who told me that it was love at first sight! She even sent me quite a number of nudes and explicit photos to seduce me! All of those pictures are still in my phone's gallery, you can take a look!"

Lily's face turned pale. "Hunt, you bastard! Didn't you promise to delete them right after?"

Jerome clenched his teeth. "You evil bitch! Thank god I didn't listen to you and saved them on my phone, otherwise, I would've been killed because of you!"

Lily then tried to explain. "Hubby, I was an idiot for doing this! Can't you spare me? After all the years we've spent together? Can't you just spare me?"

Charlie asked Douglas, "What do you think?"

Douglas glanced at Lily before pushing her aside. "I don't know this woman."

Upon hearing those words, Lily Lewis broke down crying.

Charlie ordered, "Well then, why don't we break both of her legs and leave a scar on her face? Let's see if she'll be able to seduce any more men from now on!"

Charlie was not sympathetic toward wicked women like Lily Lewis, not even one bit.

Following Charlie's order, Bill then crippled Lily and scarred her face, even going as far as to cut her hair off with surgical scissors.

In the end, the five of them had paid the great price that Charlie had promised them.

Chapter 91

Charlie then had his men carry the five of them out, adding before they left, "I'll spare your lives for now. However, if any of this is leaked to anyone else, I'll kill all of you, understood?"

The five of them nodded without hesitation. It was pure luck to be still able to leave alive after this, how could they dare to defy Charlie even further?

Knowing that the five of them no longer dared to defy him, Charlie nodded in satisfaction and turned to Lawson Lewis. "Trying to manipulate my brother comes at a great price. I want you and your daughter out of the restaurant and for it to be transferred under my brother's name by tomorrow, understood?"

Lawson nodded repeatedly. "Understood, I'll be out of the restaurant by tomorrow for sure!"

Charlie then turned to Dylan Hunt. "Your son hooked up with my brother's fiancée, even going as far as to beat him up this badly. You'd better prepare two million dollars as a compensation fee to him, and don't you dare try and cut corners, understand?"

Dylan agreed immediately. "Mr. Wade, I'll have the money transferred to your brother by tomorrow!"

Satisfied, Charles turned to Don Albert's underlings. "Okay. You can take the trash out now."

Thus, the whole group of men carried the five of them out of the room.

As they were being disposed of, Charles turned to Bill. "Bill, you have done a great job this time around."

A smile was plastered on Bill's face. "I was just following orders, Mr. Wade!"

Charlie then spoke softly. "I'll have two million transferred to your bank account, take it as a reward."

Bill was overwhelmed with joy, and he bowed. "Thank you, Mr. Wade!"

Although he had been following Don Albert for quite some time, Don Albert was not as generous as Charlie. He would never have given Bill that grand of an amount.

At the same time, Charlie texted Isaac and asked him to transfer the money to Bill. Although his debit card had plenty of money, it was inconvenient for him to use it in this case.

In just a minute, the money was transferred into Bill's bank account. Overjoyed, Bill bowed to Charlie repeatedly.

Charlie then turned to Don Albert. "Albert, you must not be interested in money, I suppose?"

Don Albert replied, "Mr. Wade, it is my honor to tend to your needs."

Charlie responded dismissively. "I'll keep this favor in mind. I'll be sure to promote you once the opportunity arises."

Upon hearing those words, Don Albert immediately knelt on the ground and kowtowed to Charlie. To Don Albert, money was not his ultimate goal. What he wanted was more power. However, people like him didn't get many opportunities to be promoted.

He had been dreaming of working with Isaac Cameron, but Isaac looked down on him. He was just a man from humble beginnings. To Isaac, he was of a lower class. However, now, with Charlie's help, Isaac Cameron might promote him greatly. His future was nothing but bright, he would be one step closer to success!

After rewarding everyone, Charlie turned to Douglas. "So, are you satisfied with this outcome?"

Douglas was still in deep shock. He couldn't understand how Charlie had become so powerful overnight to the point that even the underground overlord was kneeling by his feet!

He was stunned for a split second but managed to return to reality. "Yes! Yes, I am!"

Charles continued, "I've dealt with those people and got the restaurant back for you. As for fees for the damage, I've asked for two million dollars for you as well. But now, you have to walk on your own two legs!"

Douglas replied, "Charlie, I will be sure to repay this favor no matter what! I'll do anything you say without hesitation!"

Chapter 92

Charlie nodded. "Just get some rest. Once you've recovered, you can then run the restaurant. If I need anything, I'll be sure to find you."

Douglas exclaimed, "Whenever you need me!"

Charlie then added, "Oh, by the way, don't tell anyone about what happened today. I don't want people to know who I am, understood?"

Douglas nodded. "Understood. Don't worry, I'll be sure to take this secret with me to the grave!"

Charlie smiled. "I'll have two caretakers to take care of you, just get some rest. I'll be off."

Upon reaching home, Charlie didn't plan on telling Claire about what had happened since he didn't want her to know too much. It was safer if she didn't know anything about his identity.

The next day, as he was buying groceries, Charlie received a call. When he picked up the phone, he realized it was the daughter of the boss of Vintage Deluxe, Jasmine Moore.

Confused, Charlie couldn't help but wonder what Jasmine wanted from him.

As the call went through, Jasmine spoke, "Mr. Wade, I'm so sorry for disturbing you like this."

Charlie asked, "Are there any problems with the Yuhuchun Vase that I fixed?"

Jasmine replied, "Oh no, not that. I'm calling Mr. Wade for other matters."

Charlie responded, "What is it?"

Jasmine then revealed her intentions. "Well, it's just that something has caught my eye lately, however, I'm not quite experienced in this field, but I heard that Mr. Wade was. Would Mr. Wade fancy helping me identify these antiques?"

Charlie was not particularly interested in antiques, but he was indeed lacking some unique collectibles, hence, he probed further. "And might I ask, what type of antique has caught your eye this time?"

Jasmine replied, "It's a jade. According to the sellers, wearing it can help to calm your soul and success will come your way as well."

Suddenly, it was as if a lightbulb had lit up in Charlie's mind. In the , such mythical relics had been mentioned.

These mythical relics had the utmost benefits for the one who possessed them. Charlie wanted to know if he would be able to find such a treasure, and so, he accepted the offer. "Okay, I'll go with you."

Jasmine replied, "Thanks, Mr. Wade. I'll pick you up at 8 am sharp tomorrow."

"Sure." Charlie hung up and lost himself in his thoughts.

Rich men like him were incredibly attracted to collecting such mythical relics that were said to have the ability to bring you prosperity and calm the soul. Charlie had decided to dive into this world of collectibles so that he might find what he was looking for all this time.

The next morning, Jasmine arrived at Charlie's doorstep just as scheduled.

As soon as Charlie got into the car, Jasmine began to brief him. "Mr. Wade, there will be

quite a competition to obtain this piece of jade. I've heard that quite a few people from Aurous Hill are going to be bidding for it as well!"

Charlie nodded. "It doesn't matter how many competitors we have, it depends on the item itself. If it really is worth the price, I'm sure Miss Moore will be able to obtain it without fail."

Jasmine smiled. "Thank you, Mr. Wade, but we don't know what kind of people we are up against. There might be several powerful figures hiding in plain sight in Aurous Hill."

Pretending to be surprised, Charlie asked, "What? How could that be? Isn't the Moore family the most powerful family in Aurous Hill?"

Jasmine smiled once more. "That's just what everyone says. Let's see, for example, the new chairman of Emgrand Group alone can overpower the whole of the Moore's, hence, let us not underestimate the power a person can hold."

Jasmine then sighed. "Well, to be honest, I really do want to get to know this powerful figure. However, he's too secretive. For some reason, no one has been able to reveal his true identity."

Chapter 93

Jasmine had only told the truth. She really did think that the new chairman of Emgrand Group was a mysterious man.

After all, he had been able to acquire a group that was worth over a hundred billion just because he wanted to. Moreover, he hadn't shown his face at all throughout this process. It would seem that his net worth was much grander than that of Emgrand Group.

In comparison, the Moore family would seem quite insignificant.

However, she had not realized that the chairman of Emgrand Group was currently sitting in her passenger's seat.

Charlie, on the other hand, was a man who liked to keep things as low-profile as possible. Although he would dismissively respond to Jasmine, he never once revealed any information

about his identity to her.

In a fast but steady speed, they had arrived at a small garden near the river in just a few minutes. The garden was elegant and tranquil. On the outside, it seemed quite worn and crude, however, it was extremely grand on the inside.

From a small bridge over crystal clear water to a Suzhou styled garden and even to the elegant pavilions, it was everything a man would dream of.

After parking the car, a butler greeted them and led them inside. Walking past the garden, they walked into the lobby which was decorated in traditional Chinese furniture. A crimson round table was set in the middle of the area where several fauteuils were arranged around it.

Upon entering the lobby, a white-haired old man stood up and greeted Jasmine. "You have arrived, Miss Moore."

A look of awkwardness flashed across Jasmine's face, but she nodded at the man. "Uncle Quilt, you're here as well."

The old man smiled. "Master said you would be coming, so I decided to come over and check up on you!"

Jasmine nodded and turned to Charlie. "Uncle Quilt is the appraiser of the Moore family. I'm guessing someone from my family sent him here just in case something goes wrong."

Charlie nodded, fully acknowledging that he was too young and inexperienced. It was understandable for them to take precautions.

Quilt glared at Charlie. "This is the appraiser that you hired? Isn't he a little too young to be an appraiser?"

A middle-aged man who was standing next to Quilt snarled, "You hired a little brat to appraise? Do you not have enough hands back in the Moore family? Do you need me to introduce some appraisers? Hahahaha!"

Jasmine's expression turned cold. "Travis Lane, this is Aurous, not Lancaster. Don't you dare

run your mouth here.”

Travis shrugged. “Guess the Moore’s have quite the temper.”

“Now, now...” A middle-aged man who was sitting at the round table furrowed his eyebrows. “We’re just here for business, not to start a fight, let’s all calm down. You too, young man, sit down.”

Jasmine huffed and sat down at the round table.

As Charlie sat down as well, Jasmine leaned toward him and whispered, “That’s Travis Lane, the richest man in Lancaster. The guy next to him is Matthew Gibson, a powerful geomancer. The one who just spoke up is Graham Quinton, the head of the Quinton family in Aurous. His family has been...”

Charlie then noticed that there was an old man in green traditional Chinese clothing sitting next to Travis. The old man had a full head of gray hair and he looked unworldly, carrying an unapproachable aura. His eyes were closed shut, and even when Charlie and Jasmine had arrived, it didn’t seem to catch his attention.

Suddenly, Jasmine let her words trail off and stopped talking. Charlie was still curious about what she was going to say next, but he decided not to push her.

As everyone finally sat down, a fat man in glamorous clothing chuckled. “Since we’re done with the fighting, why don’t we get down to business? Take a good look at this beauty! All of you are from wealthy families, I’m sure a billion is just mere pocket change, so let’s now dwell on it for too long.”

Travis scoffed. “If it really is what you claimed it to be, that it can regulate geomancy and calm our soul, a billion really isn’t a big deal.”

Chapter 94

The fat man glanced at Travis before placing a simple wooden box onto the round table. Inside the box was a crimson red jade, seemingly an ancient treasure. As soon as the box was opened, everyone present felt as though the lobby had been filled with a hint of warm

energy.

Everyone's eyes lit up.

Jasmine turned to Quilt. "Uncle Quilt, what do you think?"

Quilt stared at it and nodded. "I think it's the real thing. It seems to be the Bloody Jade from the Zhou dynasty. It also appears to have been blessed by a very powerful monk!"

Jasmine nodded and then turned to Charlie. "What do you think, Mr. Wade?"

Charlie, on the other hand, scowled in disgust. "It's a fake....."

Quilt glowered at him. "You're just a youngster, who gave you the right to lie through your teeth in front of this many people?"

Matthew Gibson, the elderly man who was sitting next to Travis, opened his eyes and stared at the piece of jade. "May I hold it?"

The fat man let out a cold laugh. "Mr. Gibson, are you kidding me? Don't you understand the rules of an appraisal? Jades should never be touched, let alone this piece of Bloody Jade from the Zhou dynasty. Who would be the one to blame if it were to break?"

Startled, Matthew flinched. "Ah, pardon my recklessness..." He then leaned toward the jade and scrutinized it. Closing his eyes once again, he nodded. "I can't say for sure that the jade is from the Zhou dynasty, but I can assure you that the rumors of it being able to regulate geomancy and calm souls is true."

Upon hearing this sentence, everyone was fired up. To them, the history of this piece of jade was not significant. It was what it could do that mattered to them.

Quilt smiled. "Mr. Gibson has quite a sharp eye, unlike those who are inexperienced and nothing but a sham."

When she heard this, Jasmine couldn't help but feel slightly disappointed in Charlie. He indeed seemed to be too young for such delicate work. Although he was quite skilled in restoring antiques, he was clearly far more inexperienced as compared to these old men.

Charlie decided not to interfere with this. It was clear that these people were willing to be scammed, and he didn't want to be nosy.

The fat man then closed the lid of the box after the appraisal and smiled. "Well, since the jade has been appraised, isn't it time to bid for it?"

Graham immediately responded, "I'll bid one billion..."

"One billion and three thousand." Travis proposed.

The fat man had noticed that Jasmine had yet to make a bid, and so, he asked, "What about Miss Moore?"

Realizing that Jasmine still had her doubts, Quilt whispered into her ear. "Miss, this really is a rare treasure to find. This jade is worth around three billion. If you manage to get it within two billion, the benefits will outweigh its cost!"

Jasmine was almost persuaded, but then, she turned back to Charlie. His expression was calm, almost as if he didn't have a care in the world, and this made her doubts arise again.

Quilt shot Charlie a cold glare, knowing that Jasmine was under his influence, causing her to have yet to make a bid. Hence, he suggested, "Well, since Mr. Wade mentioned that this jade was a fake, I'd like to know how he came to that conclusion. Let's see what you've got!"

He knew that if Charlie tried to bluff his way through this, Jasmine would realize that he was just pretending and would then make her bid without further hesitation.

The others murmured in dissatisfaction as well, "He's just a good-for-nothing brat, what would he know..."

"Yeah, who gave him the right to bluff like that?"

"If you guys aren't interested, don't waste our time."

Facing everyone's insults, Charlie merely stared at Quilt in amusement. "Are you sure you would like me to explain?"

Chapter 95

“Of course! Just speak your mind!” Quilt chuckled. “I would also like to see how you con artists lie to others!”

Charlie shrugged. “I didn’t want to expose you guys, but if you insist, it would be rude for me to ignore you.”

“Expose? So you’re saying that we have overlooked something?” The calm and collected Matthew Gibson laughed.

Charlie took a glance at him and laughed. “He is the most idiotic one out of all of you...”

“Do you have a death wish, you brat?” Matthew was infuriated.

“The jade is real, don’t get me wrong.” Charlie then added, “But it’s not some bloody jade from the Zhou dynasty, nor was it blessed by a powerful monk. This is just a high-quality nephrite, but it is worth around fifty thousand maximum.”

“Bullshit. Can’t you see that the jade is red in color!?” Quilt scowled.

Charlie continued as if he had never been interrupted. “The red color of the jade is due to it being corrupted by potassium permanganate minerals. Did you really think that it was doused in the blood of some powerful monk?”

“What about the warm aura that it just radiated?” Graham asked, his eyebrows furrowed tightly.

Charlie shook his head. “This little thing doesn’t have any power of that sort. One merely has to saturate the jade in a solution made from the African Gholag Weed for half a year for it to possess such an effect. Plus, it’s not that it radiates a warm aura, it’s just a hallucination caused by the drug. It’s fairly easy to get rid of it. You’d just need to burn the jade.”

“You brat! How dare you speak such foul lies!” The man slammed his hand on the table and stood up.

Travis’s expression darkened as he glared at the fat man. “Then, why don’t we test it out?”

The fat man began sweating bullets. “What do you mean ‘test it out’? This brat is obviously lying! Why are all of you buying into his crap?!”

Graham tapped his finger impatiently. “If it still radiates a warm aura after burning, I’ll buy it from you immediately. However, if the effect wears off, you know what’s coming for you... Although us Quintons are facing certain problems right now, we will never let anybody walk all over us!”

Jasmine nodded in agreement. “If what Mr. Wade says is false, carrying out the test won’t be much of a problem. After all, jades are inflammable. However, if it turns out that he was right, you would owe us an explanation!”

The fat man was now panicking, cold sweat running down his chubby forehead. All three of these families were not people he should ever piss off. He had only agreed to set this up because Quilt would be there to convince Jasmine. That way, they could split the money from this scam. However, he hadn’t expected Charlie Wade to expose this set-up!

In actual fact, Charlie had absolutely no clue on how to appraise jades. However, being able to spot the problem in this piece of jade was all because of the . He didn’t understand why, but the answer just came to his mind naturally when he saw this piece of jade. It would seem that appraisal was one of the abilities listed in the apocalyptic book.

Noticing that the fat man had not said a word, Charlie smirked. “Well? Are you guilty? Why aren’t you defending yourself?”

The fat man’s face was pale, but he refused to speak up about carrying out the flame test.

Chapter 96

Charlie was now furious. “Do you think you can get out of this by not talking, fatso? I’ll have you know, this is Aurous! Don’t you know that the people in this room are all just as powerful within this area? They can have you die in a ditch as long as they say so! I’d advise you to tell us the truth this instant, otherwise, you won’t even be able to save yourself!”

Jasmine knew that Charlie was trying to manipulate him, hence, she put on a stern expression and played along. “The Moore family is fairly powerful. If anyone intends to scam any of us, we will surely teach him a good lesson. After all, if we were to spare them, our

reputation in the public's eyes would certainly be damaged!"

The fat man was shocked to his core. He knew that the Moore's indeed held extreme power in this area. If he were to piss Jasmine Moore off, he would surely die in Aurous!

Panicking, he turned to Quilt in desperation. "Quilt, help me out! This isn't what we agreed on!"

Quilt's facial expression changed. "You... What are you talking about? Scamming the Moore's and wanting to put the blame on me?! I'll kill you!"

Pulling a dagger from his pocket, Quilt's stare was cold and chilling as he rushed toward the fat man's direction.

The fat man glared at him. "Fuck, you backstabbing bastard! You were the one who told me the Moore's trusted your appraising abilities fully! You were the one who said this piece of shit would be sold as long as you said so! You've framed me!"

Jasmine stared at the two coldly as they fought before turning toward Charlie. "Please excuse me, Mr. Wade. Thank you for accompanying me here, let's leave now. My family will send someone here to clean up this mess."

Charlie nodded. "Okay, let's go then."

The two stood up and prepared to depart. As Jasmine walked out of the lobby, Quilt groveled at her feet, visibly terrified. He didn't even bother trying to kill the fat man anymore. "Miss, please spare me! For the sake of all the years that I have served your family, please just spare me this one time..."

Before Jasmine could respond, Travis stood up and scoffed. "Hah, do you have a death wish, you old fart? You wanted to scam me, and you wanted to scam your master! Even wanting to scam as much as two to three billion dollars! Do you really think the Moores will spare you?"

Quilt's face drained of color and he froze in shock, paralyzed on the ground.

Travis then added, "Even if they did, I, Travis Lane, will never let you off this easily!"

Quilt immediately broke down into tears as his body fell to the ground.

At the sight of this mess, Jasmine shook her head in disappointment. "Pardon me, Mr. Wade. It was our mistake to have hired such an incompetent bastard, how embarrassing."

Charlie replied, "There's always darkness as long as there is light, you don't have to blame yourself, Miss Moore."

Right then, Travis and Matthew, who were from Lancaster walked out of the lobby, followed by Graham from the Quinton family in Aurous.

Upon seeing Charlie, Travis rushed up to him and grabbed his hands, pumping it up and down. "Thanks to you, Mr. Wade, I've avoided being scammed by that bastard!"

Ashamed, Matthew, who was standing next to him, exclaimed, "Mr. Wade is certainly a prodigy! I truly didn't notice that they had made any changes to the jade at all! I am very much ashamed of myself..."

Graham then saluted him as well. "This is all thanks to you, Mr. Wade. If it weren't for you, the three of us would be at each other's necks to bid on this faux. Not only would we be sustaining a huge loss, but our families' reputation would also be at risk!"

Charlie smiled. "Don't sweat it. I was invited by Miss Moore to appraise the jade anyway. I was just doing my job."

After having a short and polite conversation, Charlie and Jasmine then got into the car, and the garden reverted to its tranquil state.

As they were leaving, Charlie noticed that there were a few men who were dressed in black attire that rushed in. It would seem that Quilt and the fat man's fate had been decided.

Chapter 97

Jasmine had a very indifferent expression on her face as they sat in the car.

For her, the fact that there was such a useless scumbag in her family was extremely frustrating. Moreover, what was even more vexing was the fact that Uncle Quilt had tried to set her up in front of so many outsiders.

If he had fooled her into giving him the money today, Uncle Quilt would have escaped with all that money. Jasmine would have been really embarrassed if she had discovered the fact that she had been cheated only after losing a vast fortune that belonged to the Moore family!

Fortunately, Charlie was present at that time and had saved her, helping her avoid losing her family fortune.

Jasmine took out a bank card from the glove box in her car before she handed it over to Charlie. "Mr. Wade, there is about one million dollars in this card. The passcode is six 'eights'. Please accept this as a form of my gratitude."

Jasmine could not help but sigh as she spoke. Why had Charlie chosen to join such a small family when he seemed to be so professional and skillful? If he had come out and started his own antique appraisal business, he would have been able to create a massive career for himself after a few years.

Charlie hesitated for a moment as he looked at the bank card in her hand.

One million dollars was not a small amount, but it was nothing to the Moore family.

At first, Charlie had no care for the one million dollars at all. After all, he had more than nine billion dollars in his own bank card, so to him, one million dollars was just a drop in a bucket of water.

What was the point of accepting it?

However, when he thought about it, he was just not a trillionaire. He was merely the son-in-law of the Wilson family.

He was simply someone's son-in-law. If he turned down the offer of one million dollars as a reward, this would definitely seem suspicious to Jasmine. Hence, Charlie took the bank card from her and said, "Thank you, Miss Moore."

Jasmine smiled before she replied, "Mr. Wade, you are way too polite."

After speaking, Jasmine asked again, "Where are you heading to, Mr. Wade?"

Charlie smiled as he replied, "Can you drop me off at the vegetable market? I have to buy some vegetables so that I can go home and cook."

Jasmine was stunned upon hearing his reply and could not stop herself from asking, "I have heard about you in the past, but Mr. Wade, in my honest opinion, you have a very good set of skills that you should put to good use. There is no need for you to be a stay home son-in-law. Why don't you come and work for me instead? I promise to give you a basic salary of one million dollars a year. What do you think of my offer?"

Charlie quickly waved his hand as he smiled and said, "I am already used to living like this."

Jasmine was startled at his reply, but she could only sigh in response.

It seemed as though the rumors were true. She had already heard the rumors stating that Charlie was a son-in-law who lived off his wife.

In the past, Jasmine used to think that this was simply a rumor. She had initially thought that he had not been given the opportunity to prove himself.

However, now, she finally understood that Charlie was the one who chose to waste his life away, and she found this truly unacceptable.

Therefore, her attitude and impression of Charlie changed immediately.

Charlie knew that she would definitely look down on him. However, that would be best for him. In fact, it would be better if everyone around him had the wrong impression of him. That way, he would be the one to have the last laugh in the end.

When they finally arrived at the vegetable market, Charlie got out of the car after bidding farewell to Jasmine. After that, he bought some vegetables before heading home.

As soon as he stepped into the house, Charlie could hear the old man laughing wildly as he shouted out loud.

“Hahaha... come, come. Come and look at what I’ve found!”

At this time, Claire had already gotten off work, and she was sitting on the sofa while reading some documents. She turned around to look at her father as soon as she heard Jacob shouting. “Dad, you almost scared me to death.”

“Hurry up and take a look at this!” Jacob did not notice the expression on Claire’s face at all. Instead, he held out a pair of palm-sized celadon cups, as though he was trying to show them off. “These are the blue and white celadon cups that I found in the antique market today! I heard that they found it in the late emperor’s coffin and it is worth more than five hundred thousand dollars!”

“More than half a million dollars?” Claire stood up as she blurted out immediately. “Dad, where did you get so much money?”

Chapter 98

Charlie felt completely helpless at this time. Jacob had just broken the Yuhuchun vase in the morning, and yet, as soon as he had stepped out of the house, the old man had actually taken advantage of his absence to sneak out and explore Antique Street again.

That was just so typical of him. He would never learn from his mistakes.

Jacob laughed as he asked them in a mysterious manner, “I meant that these celadon cups are worth more than half a million dollars! Why don’t you guess how much I bought them for?”

Claire hesitated for a moment before replying, “Three hundred thousand dollars?”

“No! Guess again!” Jacob replied as he waved his hand.

“Two hundred thousand dollars?”

“That’s not right either!”

Charlie glanced at the pair of celadon cups in his father-in-law's hand and he instantly knew that the cups were fake and only worth a few hundred dollars.

Just then, Jacob smiled as he exclaimed excitedly, "Haha! I bought it for only three hundred dollars! Isn't that amazing?"

Claire's eyes widened in surprise as she looked at him in disbelief. "Are you serious?! These cups only cost you three hundred dollars?"

At this time, Elaine walked out of the kitchen, attracted by Jacob's excitement and joy. "Are you sure these cups are so valuable and that they are not fake?"

Jacob patted his own chest as he replied, "Don't worry! The person who was selling these cups was not an expert in this field. Therefore, I already got someone to check and verify the cups for me. He said that it was a genuine and authentic product!"

"Is that true?" Elaine asked as she picked one of the cups up in her hand, smiling from ear to ear.

Charlie stood aside as he nodded with a calm expression on his face.

He knew that the cups were fake, but he did not want to expose the truth since it was rare for the old man to be so happy.

Jacob was overjoyed and looked like a cat that had just stolen a fish! As he continued to celebrate, Jacob spoke once again, "The seller also told me that this is not the complete set. In fact, he said that his boss would bring the rest of the cups to the shop tomorrow. I will head over to his shop to have a look again tomorrow. I want to try and buy the whole set! If I have the whole set of celadon cups in my hand, the value of the cups will be multiplied several times! If we are lucky, we can even sell the whole set for six million dollars!"

Charlie frowned before he quickly stopped Jacob. "Dad, you should not be too greedy when you are trading in antiques. I think that it is enough to own two of these celadon cups. Let's talk about this..."

Jacob glared at Charlie before reprimanding him. "What gives you the right to teach me

anything about antiques? Are you trying to stop me now?"

Charlie quickly replied in an apologetic manner, "No, no, you can do whatever you like."

After saying that, Charlie could not be bothered anymore.

After all, even if the old man was cheated, it was not his personal money anyway.

Claire also spoke up and said, "Dad, why do you want to buy so much? We can't eat or drink with these cups anyway. Besides, there is such a huge difference between the price of the cup and the value of the cup. We have yet to determine whether the cups are authentic."

Claire did not believe that a pie would just fall from the sky. If her father could just buy the cups for three hundred dollars and sell it for five hundred thousand dollars, wouldn't everyone be rich?

When Jacob saw that they had doubts about his purchase, he said contemptuously, "You guys do not understand this at all. This is definitely an antique, and only a person with insight would be able to pick it up!"

Jacob then continued admiring his celadon cups as he spoke to Claire, "Don't worry too much about this. There were also several other people who were fighting with me to buy the cups today! I might not even be able to buy the cups tomorrow."

Elaine hurriedly cut in, "If the cups are so valuable, you have to make sure that you find a way to get them tomorrow!"

The two elders continued admiring the cups while Claire quietly pulled Charlie to the side.

"I don't think that this seller is very reliable. Somehow, it feels like a scam to me. Dad will definitely try to go back there tomorrow, can you accompany dad to Antique Street tomorrow to make sure that he does not get scammed?"

Charlie nodded immediately. Honestly, if Claire had not said anything, he would not be bothered at all. However, since his wife had already spoken up, he could not just sit by and watch his father-in-law get scammed.

Chapter 99

The next day was already the weekend.

Jacob dragged Charlie out of the house and they drove to Antique Street early in the morning.

The old man looked very refreshed and energetic, and upon stepping out of the car, Jacob waved his hand at Charlie as he said, "Come! Let me show you how you can pick up a good product!"

After that, both of them started walking down Antique Street.

Charlie had to walk quickly to keep up with Jacob. Regardless, he continued to look around him as he walked along the street.

Since it was the weekend, there were a lot more people on Antique Street as compared to usual.

Antique Street was very dense on both sides of the street as there were many vendors who came out to set up their stalls during the weekend, and so, the whole street was very packed.

Many vendors simply placed a plastic sheet on the ground as they welcomed guests and customers to check out all the various kinds of antiques and jades placed on the ground.

Charlie looked around casually and realized that there were barely any genuine products in the entire market. In fact, most of the vendors here set up their stalls to trick laymen, tourists, and foreigners.

Most of the tourists who bought the antiques did not know the value of the item, and they would often be grinning as they held the imitation product in their hand, thinking they had gotten a good bargain for themselves.

"Over here!"

Jacob stopped in front of a simple stall, his face filled with excitement and expectations.

A few tourists were standing around the stall at this time, looking through the variety of antiques. Jacob quickly joined the crowd because he was afraid that he might lose out on a good deal.

Charlie took a good look around the stall. The stall was nothing more than a piece of oiled paper that had been spread over the ground with several dozen mud-stained antiques placed on it. There were blue and white horses, some copper coins, copper wine cups, jade bracelets, and yellowed calligraphy paintings.

Even though there was a dazzling array of items, Charlie could tell that it was all fake just by glancing at the items.

The owner of the stall was a skinny and dark-skinned man who was dressed in a simple and casual dark blue t-shirt. His hair was very greasy and disheveled, and yet, he had a straightforward and honest appearance.

“Look at this!” Jacob said to Charlie excitedly as he pointed at a colorful bottle that had a big mouth. He then spoke in a low voice, “This is the wine bottle that will complete my celadon cups! If I buy this wine bottle today, I can make my celadon cups a set so that the price can be doubled!”

Charlie glanced at the wine bottle before picking it up and turning around to face the owner of the stall.

“How much is this?”

The owner of the stall stared at the wine bottle before replying, “Well, my father said that I could only sell that for at least twenty thousand dollars and not a cent less!”

Jacob almost laughed out loud when he heard the price of the wine bottle. Subsequently, he quickly said to Charlie, “The owner of the stall does not even know the value of the antiques that he is selling! Let’s hurry up and buy it before anyone else does.”

After he was done speaking, Jacob hurriedly took some money out from his pocket.

At this time, Charlie quickly stopped Jacob before he smiled and said, “Dad, this thing is

definitely not worth twenty thousand dollars. We are not buying it.”

“What?” Jacob was taken aback. “Then... how much do you think it is worth?”

Charlie stretched out his hand before shaking his hand in front of the owner. “This number.”

“Five thousand dollars?” The boss asked as he stared at Charlie.

Charlie shook his head. “No. Fifty dollars at most.”

The owner of the stall stared at Charlie as though he was looking at an alien before he suddenly shouted, “Do you even know the value of antiques? This is an antique that was left behind by my grandfather! It is a rare piece of treasure that you cannot find anywhere else today. Are you trying to bully me just because you are from the city?!”

Jacob became anxious and tried to stop Charlie from challenging the owner of the stall.

“Charlie, don’t talk nonsense. You are interfering with his business.”

Charlie smiled before raising the wine bottle and turning it around. After that, he wiped the yellow mud stain from the bottom of the wine bottle with his hand and pointed to the wordings at the base of the wine bottle. “Dad, take a look at this.”

The wordings were very small, and an ordinary person would not have noticed it if Charlie had not pointed it out. There were a few words written in English at the bottom of the wine bottle.

“Made in China.”

Jacob was so stunned that he froze in place for a brief moment, at a loss for words.

After a short while, he regained his composure and his face flushed red as he yelled and pointed his finger at the owner of the stall.

“You... you cheater!”

Charlie took the wine bottle and waved it in front of the owner of the stall before saying, “The manufacturer will not blatantly allow the sale of fake antiques, and that is the reason why

they printed this in the fine print. You are quite clever to cover everything with mud. Will you sell this for thirty dollars now?"

"This..."

The owner of the stall was stunned for a moment before the smile on his face disappeared completely.

Chapter 100

"Boss, I think I must have brought the wrong wine bottle out since I rushed out of the house in a hurry today."

"So, you brought the wrong bottle out today?" Charlie smiled as he picked up another wine bottle that was covered in mud. He wiped the mud off with his hand before looking at it under the sun. After inspecting it, Charlie said, "What about this bottle, then? It seems as though this wine bottle was made in Suzhou."

Sure enough, there was a row of small characters written below the bottle.

"Made by Suzhou Craft Factory."

"I don't know what is written on it since I am illiterate," The owner of the stall smirked as he replied. After that, he rubbed the sole of his feet against the oil paper, making it seem as though he was not interested in doing business with them at all.

Jacob became angry and annoyed when he saw that he had been fooled.

Grabbing hold of the owner of the stall, he shouted angrily at him.

"You liar! Give me back my money!"

"What money are you talking about?! I have never seen you before in my life!" The owner of the stall shouted back as he struggled to set himself free. Just then, the fake copper coins and jade horses that he had put on display fell to the ground.

However, when the jade horse fell to the ground, it did not break at all! In fact, it seemed to be made out of hardened plastic.

“I will call the police if you refuse to return my money to me!” Jacob yelled as he exploded in anger.

Both of them continued struggling, and during their tussle, something fell from the owner’s sleeve.

Charlie frowned when he saw the fallen item.

Staring at it, it turned out to be a fist-sized white pebble that looked just like any regular pebble that could be found by the river or beach.

However, the only difference was the fact that there were a few words carved on the pebble—Peace and Wealth!

The font was very crude, and at first glance, it was evident that these words had been manually carved onto the pebble.

This kind of pebbles with engravings could be found anywhere in the city, therefore, it was usually not worth any money at all. It was no wonder why the owner of the stall did not display the pebble along with the other items.

Charlie walked up to the pebble before picking it up. As soon as he touched the pebble, he could feel the blood boiling within his body.

He could feel a completely different vibe exuding from this object!

It was not just a vibe, it felt more like some kind of energy and magnetic field that was producing a very powerful attraction force, attracting Charlie to it.

Charlie knew that this must be the spiritual energy that was recorded in the , also known as reiki.

Reiki was a mysterious energy that had already been lost for a long time. Even though it could not completely transform a person’s physical body, it could cultivate and produce many

incredible effects on the human body.

Charlie was thrilled. He weighed the pebble in his hand before asking the owner of the stall calmly, "Does this belong to you?"

The owner of the stall was taken aback. Then, he nodded subconsciously.

"How much are you selling this for?"

Jacob was also surprised, and he quickly asked, "Why are you buying this useless pebble from him? Don't you know that everything he is selling is fake?"

"It's just a pebble, anyway. It should be fine to buy a pebble so that I can ward off some of the bad energy," Charlie replied as he smiled.

The owner of the stall quickly took advantage of the situation to break free from Jacob before sneering at Charlie. "Are you really interested in buying the pebble?"

Charlie nodded. "Yes, I want to buy the pebble."

The owner of the stall suddenly became very energetic as he spoke eloquently. "Brother, you are really very insightful. Even though this looks like an ordinary pebble, it comes from a rather extraordinary origin. It was initially used as a paperweight in a wealthy lord's study room..."

Charlie interrupted him impatiently as he did not have the time to listen to his rubbish.

"Don't waste your time explaining its origins to me. I just want to know the price of the pebble."

The owner of the stall smiled as he replied, "Since you have such good taste, I will charge you... twenty thousand dollars for this!"

Charlie stared at the owner of the stall in disdain before replying, "Are you really crazy over money? I will give you three hundred dollars for this pebble. If you refuse to sell it to me for this price, I will call the police to arrest you for selling fake imitation goods!"

“Three hundred dollars?” The owner asked as he smiled. “Brother, since you are someone who knows the value of antiques, I will sell it to you for three hundred dollars.”

Charlie smiled before he pinched the pebble that he was holding in his hand.

Jacob, on the other hand, was very puzzled because he could not understand why Charlie would buy a useless pebble. Just as he was about to question Charlie regarding his purchase, a voice came from behind him.

“Well, that pebble looks perfect. I want to buy it!”