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Instead of answering her, Alexander glanced at the rocks she was holding and said, "Let's find a place to cut them open."

And so, Elise followed him into a store, and when people heard that they wanted to cut their stones, many people in the store gathered around them. "You didn't buy the stones from me, so there will be a charge for the labor fee. For every stone we cut, it will cost 1,000 USD," the owner of the store said.

Rich people really know ways *to spend mon*ey, Elise thought in sarcasm and asked, "Do you still want to cut the stones here, Mr. Griffith?"

The next second, Alexander took out his credit card and swiped it. Since this was how the situation had turned out, the only thing left for Elise to do was pass the stones in her hands to the craftsman. At the same time, the crowd in the store stared at the stones which were about to be cut open and moved in closer.

The craftsman studied the first stone, and he reckoned that it wouldn't show any signs of jadeite judging from the pattern and the color of the stone, so he asked Elise, "How would you like to cut it?"

Before she could translate, Alexander interjected, "Start cutting from the left side and then cut it into half."

After she conveyed his message, the craftsman brought the stone to the machine straight away. People in their line had very steady hands, and they were incredibly meticulous. Therefore, the cutting process was a little slow, and as everyone watched in anticipation, the first stone proved to be a waste.

Everyone sighed, and even Elise felt that it was a pity. *Tens of thousands of dollars is gone just like that!* she thought.

"Miss, are we going to continue cutting?" the craftsman asked, whereupon she turned to Alexander

"Continue cutting the others!" she answered. Well, I don't feel the pinch since it's not my money, anyway!

Immediately, the craftsman cut another of Alexander's stones, but after cutting three stones continuously, not a single shard of jadeite could be seen. The crowd were beginning to lose their interest, and amongst them, Elise sighed helplessly. On the other hand, Alexander peered at the last stone composedly and said, "There's still

one stone left. Cut it as well."

After hesitating for a couple of seconds, Elise advised in a whisper, "Mr. Griffith, let's not cut that last one. We haven't had any luck yet so far, and we'll only make a joke out of ourselves if we continue with the cutting."

At her words, he looked around and asked, "Do you know anyone here?"

*We're in a foreign country. How could we know anyone her*e? she thought in confusion and shook her head in reply.

Unexpectedly, he said, "Since we don't know anyone here, we don't have to be afraid of being embarrassed. Furthermore, even if we do make a joke out of ourselves, it won't affect us because nobody knows us."

His words seem to make some sense! Elise thought to herself and realized that she could learn a thing or two from him about being shameless.

The craftsman had nothing to say to their decision of cutting the last stone and simply brought the stone to the cutting machine. This stone was about the same size as the ones before, but it felt a little heavier in his hands. *Could this one contain jadeite?* he wondered as he started to work on the stone. Carefully, he ground the surface of the stone with the machine. Barely three minutes had passed when Alexander suddenly shouted for him to stop. "Wait a minute!"

"What is it?" Elise asked.

Looking at the stone, he said, "Tell him to start cutting from the bottom right, but it has to be done slowly."

Elise translated his words, and the craftsman did as he was told, changing the direction of the cut hurriedly and began cutting from the bottom right. But with this cut, sporadic green started to appear on the stone.

With sparkling eyes, the onlookers exclaimed, "It's green!"

Immediately, all eyes turned to them as someone said, "This stone is not bad and looks like it will have a good jadeite."

Hearing that, Elise glanced at the stone nervously, and slowly, the amount of green surface began to increase, but the color looked much better than regular jade.

"It's the imperial jade!" someone exclaimed out of nowhere, and an uproar burst out amongst the crowd.

I've been in this trade for years, but I've never seen an imperial jade being cut. I can't believe I actually got to witness it today!".

"Only one inch has been cut, and nobody knows how big it will end up. If it's only that small part, then it's worthless."

Listening to their discussions, Elise watched the stone without blinking. It's just a regular–looking stone, but it has the imperial jade inside. While gold has a price, jadeite is priceless. If there's really a good piece of imperial jade in side, then he'll make a lot of money.

"Miss, does this stone belong to you?" a European middle-aged man asked, whereupon she hurriedly shook her head.

"It's not mine; it's my boss" she explained.

Then, the man turned to Alexander and asked in fluent English, "Sir, will you sell your stone to me? I'll offer you three times the price you paid."

Three times the price! Dumbfounded, Elise remembered that this stone was bought at 20,000, and now, he could get 60,000 by selling it!

However, Alexander merely answered, "I'm sorry, but I don't plan to sell this stone."

Still, the man refused to give up as he added, "Sir, your stone has only shown one inch of green for now, and nobody knows what lies inside. You won't make a loss if you sell it to me now, but if your stone really only has one inch of jadeite, then it will be worthless. Not even the jade it has now would be worth anything then."

Regardless, Alexander was unmoved and was determined not to sell his stone!

Seeing how unwilling he was to sell his stone, the man couldn't help but say, "Young man, you should stop while you're ahead. It's not easy to run into imperial jade, and you're simply lucky to have one inch of it. Judging from your stone, that's probably how much it contains. In the end, it will just be a worthless stone." Annoyed by his words, Elise retorted, "Since you already called it a worthless stone, why are you willing to spend so much money to buy it from us? Are you an idiot knowing that it's a bad deal but still decided to go ahead with it?"

Her words made him flush angrily, and he glared at her before leaving in a huff.

While Elise was unbothered by him, Alexander couldn't help but glance at her and commented, "I didn't know you had such a sharp tongue, Miss Sare."

"I was merely speaking the truth. Clearly, he was trying to take advantage of us. Does he really think that everyone else is as dumb as him?" Then, she turned to the stone. "Do you think there's more jadeite in this stone?"

He didn't answer her, and they looked at the stone intensely. As the cut got deeper, the amount of green grew, and the crowd cheered.

For the first time, Elise felt what it was like to take part in stone gambling adrenaline pumped through her veins, and she didn't even dare to blink as she kept her eyes fixed on the stone. When one surface of the stone was completely ground away, a piece of imperial jade with a deep green color appeared before everyone's eyes. The craftsman stared wide-eyed at the stone in his hand because this was the first time after years of being in this trade that he had encountered such a good piece of imperial jade.

"Sir, could you please sell this stone to me?" another European man stepped forward and asked.

This time, Alexander didn't keep him hanging and asked instead, "How much are you willing to pay?"

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The man contemplated for a moment and said, "5 million!"

Dumbstruck at hearing the figure, Elise thought, *The stone which he bought for 20,000 has a price of 5 million now!*

However, Alexander rejected the offer directly. "This price doesn't reach my expectations. I'm sorry."

The other party wasn't expecting that Alexander would be unwilling to sell it, and he continued, "8 million. That's my final offer."

Still, Alexander didn't seem interested, and the craftsman stepped in to speak to Elise. "Miss, this stone has a very good color after cutting one side, but I'm afraid the depth of the color might not be what you would expect. If you sell it now, you can still make a killing. However, if you continue with the cutting and find out there's no more jadeite inside, I don't think you can fetch a high price for your stone anymore."

Looking at Alexander, Elise asked, "Mr. Griffith, do you want to sell your stone now?"

After a moment of consideration, he answered, "I think I've always been rather lucky, so I don't plan to sell it for now."

After receiving a reply from him, Elise interpreted it to the craftsman, who decided to stay out of it seeing that Alexander had chosen not to heed his words even though he was just being kind. His years of working here had shown him all types of stone gambling scenes-some became rich overnight because of this sport, while there were also others who lost every single penny.

The former were usually people with better luck, while the latter were mostly people who didn't know when to stop. Hence, he returned to his work place without another word and continued cutting the stone with the machine.

As the commotion over here was too huge, more and more people started to gather, with the majority of the people watching in anticipation.

"Wow, there's more jadeite!"

"Imperial jade! It's *really* the imperial jade!"

"I've been around for so long, and it's been years since I last saw such a fine piece of imperial jade."

"This guy is really lucky to have gotten such a good piece of stone."

The comments from the crowd came one after the other, with the most being cries of excitement, and even Elise was stunned by the scene unfolding in front of her eyes. About half an hour later, the cutting of the stone was completed, and it turned out that two thirds of the stone was top-grade imperial jade. Based on

the color and look, it was estimated that it would worth at least hundreds of millions if made into a complete jewelry set.

"Congratulations, sir. Your stone is the prettiest imperial jade I've seen in my years of experience in this business. I know a few jewelry companies, and I wonder if you'll be interested to know them."

Elise interpreted this gentleman's words to Alexander, who replied, "If the price is good, I can consider selling it."

When Elise had translated his intentions into Arisian, excitement washed over the crowd, and a few interested buyers came forward to ask about the price.

"30 million! I'm paying 30 million for this stone. Will you sell it to me?"

"I can offer 35 million!"

"38 million! I hope you'll consider our jewelry company," someone offered and passed a business card to Alexander. daily new latest chapters update only Peering at the card, Alexander saw that the man was from the third largest jewelry company in the world, and he announced his lowest price. "50 million. If you're agreeable, I'll sell this jade to you."

The man contemplated for a moment and answered, "Please wait a moment while I make a call to ask for permission."

When the onlookers heard the astronomical price of 50 million, all of them were stunned; it was simply unbelievable that a stone could be sold at such a price–50 million!

Meanwhile, Elise gawked at the stone. Just two hours ago, it was still a regular mineral rock, but it was now worth 50 million, and she was actually there to witness the historic moment of how this came to be.

"Sir, let's make the deal and sign the contract now! After signing the contract, the accountant from my company will immediately send over the money."

Turning to Elise, Alexander said, "Miss Sare, I'll need to trouble you to draft the contract for me."

This was not an issue to her at all. Hence, both parties drafted the contract, and after negotiations, they signed the agreement without any problems. Within a few minutes, Alexander received the notification of the money transfer.

After all was said and done, Elise left together with Alexander, but she was so shocked speechless that it took her a while before she spoke again. "Mr. Griffith, I think you kinda have a little of my admiration."

Hearing that, he turned around and cast a look at her with a soft smirk on his face. "You flatter me, Miss Sare. I just got lucky." Acting as though she had just discovered America, Elise chased after him hurriedly and asked, "Mr. Griffith, will you teach me how to pick out stones?"

"Huh? You're interested, Miss Sare?" he asked with raised brows.

Elise bobbed her head eagerly; her interest was in anything that could make money!

"We're unrelated in any way, so there's really no reason for us to discuss this topic. In addition, I paid a high price to hire you as my interpreter; shouldn't you pay me some fees as well if you would like to pick up stone gambling from me?"

I knew it—nothing comes free in this world! she thought to herself, then asked through gritted teeth, "So tell me: How much are you charging? It's not a problem if it's within my ability."

Instead of answering her, he asked, "Do you think I'm in need of money?"

Of course Elise knew that he wasn't, but what would he want if not money? Suddenly, she cast him a wary look and asked, "What do you want?"

Amused by her reaction, he asked, "What do you think?"

She paused and shook her head, then he told her honestly, "I can teach you stone gambling, but you'll have to teach me Arisian as the tuition fees."

"That's all?" she asked with sparkling eyes.

Alexander gave her a knowing nod, whereupon her face lit up beautifully. "That's easy. It's not a problem at all!" *This is much better than paying him in cash!*

"Alright. So you'll give me a lesson every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday until I master the language," he said.

Dumbstruck, she thought, That means I'U have to dress up as Sare every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday to meet him? That's too nisky. What if I'm exposed "What if I have something on? New latest chapters uploaded only Adjust the time a little and make it two times a week at most. Also, I'll only teach you online and won't meet you in private."

This was a point which Alexander didn't refuse. "That's fine, but at least one hour each session."

With the agreement achieved between ther, Elise immediately said, "Since we've already agreed on it, why don't you start teaching me stone gambling now? We're already here anyway; let's not let this amazing learning opportunity go to waste."

After hesitation, he replied, "Not today. We'll stay another day and come back again tomorrow."

Elise was about to ask him for the reason, but when she saw his face, she stopped herself from saying anything. *Since he's said so, so be it,* she thought. "What are we doing now, then? Are we going back?"

Looking at her skeptically, he asked, "Aren't you hungry?"