

“Mu-Cheng, I think this country bumpkin is deliberately making things hard for us. He’s just causing trouble everywhere he goes! Aren’t you going to leave?” roared Su Qian furiously.

“Get out now!” the employees from Eight Treasure Hall chased Ye Fan out directly.

The rich folk that had surrounded them to watch earlier were filled with contempt for Ye Fan as well.

Su Yuan-Shan and Su Nan shook their heads nonstop. They were puzzled as to how a woman as capable as Qiu Mu-Cheng could hire someone like this as her driver and bodyguard.

Han Shao-Jie looked on coldly from the side. He looked at Ye Fan like he was a laughingstock as Ye Fan was ridiculed by everyone else.

In just a moment, everyone was hurling insults and reproached Ye Fan. Even Qiu Mu-Cheng blamed him for causing trouble.

At that moment, it was as though everyone in the world had forsaken Ye Fan. He became nothing but a laughingstock to

them. When the light in the showroom fell on him, it left a solitary shadow on the ground.

The security guards then surrounded him.

Just as the security guards were about to take Ye Fan away forcibly, a deep cry suddenly came from behind the crowd.

“Stop it! What’s happened? What's with the commotion?” came the mildly angry voice of an elderly man. He was walking over with a stern expression on his face as he was accompanied by many others.

The man already had a head of white hair. But when he was angry, sternness emanated from him, and it was clear that he had high status in society.

“Pre...President Gu?” When Yang He saw the old man, he was frightened. He put away his arrogant airs and swiftly went over to welcome him.

“Hmm? President Gu?”

“Could this be the deputy president of Yunzhou’s antique association?”

“Isn’t he the visiting professor at Jiangdong University and the eminent appraiser, Old Master Gu Long-En?”

“Damn! This youngster even disturbed the heavyweight of the antique circles. This fellow is done for!”

When Gu Long-En arrived, many people reveled in his misfortune immediately.

Gu Long-En was a master in the antique circles and an expert at appraising. Among the collectors, he was renowned and held a high status.

Apparently Gu Long-En was in charge of setting up the showrooms on the sixth floor, so he was probably not going to go easy on Ye Fan for stirring trouble.

“President Gu, we didn’t mean to make a commotion. It was mainly because someone was looking for trouble, so...”
Yang He clearly respected Gu Long-En a lot, so he quickly explained everything to him in detail.

“This blue and white porcelain can be traced to its origins and was handed down through the generations properly. If I

weren't 100% confident, I wouldn't have put it up for sale. What's more, Young Master Shen got a professional to confirm that it isn't a counterfeit, but this man insists it's fake. President Gu, you know about Eight Treasure Hall's reputation as well. This man has sullied our reputation and purposely made trouble for us," said Yang He furiously.

Gu Long-En frowned, "Is that true?"

Then Gu Long-En glanced at Shen Fei, "Young Master Shen, do you think this piece is genuine? Are you serious about buying this blue and white porcelain?"

Shen Fei nodded, "President Gu, my friend checked the piece and confirmed it originated from the Yuan Dynasty, so yes, I did want to buy it."

Ye Fan immediately burst out laughing, "Shen Fei, if that so-called friend of yours is here, I suggest you break off all ties with him. A friend who claims a fake to be authentic is either bad or foolish. You have to be wary about him causing you harm."

"You..." Han Shao-Jie was instantly livid. He was so furious that he trembled and

was dying to kick this fellow.

Ye Fan was clearly attacking him with those words.

Shen Fei hastily held him back, “Shao-Jie, don’t do anything stupid. You can’t outdo him.”

Shen Fei had witnessed what Ye Fan was capable of firsthand. Even someone as powerful as Wu He-Rong was killed by him with a few moves, so someone as weak as Han Shao-Jie was probably going to die.

“You little brat! When are you going to give it up?! In that case, I’ll slap your face in front of everyone.”

“President Gu, do you mind helping us to do an appraisal on the spot? It will help let those with ulterior motives to see once and for all whether this piece is authentic or not.” Yang He took the opportunity to ask Gu Long-En directly about doing a valuation of the blue and white porcelain piece in front of everyone.

Yang He was indeed a devious man.

Asking Gu Long-En to make an appraisal

was a slap in Ye Fan's face, but more importantly, Yang He could make use of Old Master Gu to publicize Eight Treasure Hall for free.

Of course, Gu Long-En could detect Yang He's intentions. But as an elder in the antique circles and the president of the association, he didn't mind helping Eight Treasure Hall to do some publicity either.

"Sure. Considering the good reputation Eight Treasure Hall held all these years, I don't mind helping out."

Everyone paid careful attention as Old Master Gu walked up and put on his gloves. At the same time, he asked for the glasses he used specially for appraisal to be sent over. He held up the blue and white porcelain and started studying it carefully.

Moments later, Old Master Gu removed his gloves. He seemed to have to come to a conclusion in his heart.

"President Gu, how is it? Is it authentic?" asked Yang He anxiously while the rest looked on curiously.

Gu Long-En didn't reply immediately and

spoke slowly instead.

“First of all, judging from its appearance, the porcelain body is thick, heavy, large, and strong. Also, due to its dense patterns, there are as many as ten layers. This is the most prominent characteristic of porcelain from the Yuan Dynasty. Secondly, the porcelain’s enamel has a green tint and turns light green upon layering. This was probably due to the introduction of glaze stone, which made it thick and heavy...” Gu Long-En spoke eloquently as he shared some professional theory. Even those who had been enthusiasts for decades found it hard to understand, much less someone like Su Qian.

But after saying so much, the only thing everyone cared about was whether it was a fake or not.

“So based on my these points and my experience, this blue and white porcelain should be from the Yuan Dynasty.”

It went as Yang He had expected.

No one was surprised by this at all.

“What do you think now, brat? Is there

anything else you'd like to say? If you go on saying nonsense and disturb my business by ruining our reputation, how are you going to compensate me?" said Yang He coldly to Ye Fan as he straightened his back.

Han Shao-Jie smiled even more brightly as well. He looked at Ye Fan scornfully, "It looks like this joke is finally over.

Su Yuan-Shan and the others all shook their heads. They thought Ye Fan would finally give up now.

Only Qiu Mu-Cheng turned awfully pale as her anger towards Ye Fan intensified.

Su Qian shouted furiously, "Now you're a disgrace. Are you happy now, you stupid idiot? You dragged Mu-Cheng down with you!" This country bumpkin really drove Su Qian mad.

But Ye Fan wasn't anxious at all as he said to Gu Long-En mildly, "President Gu, can I suggest that you look carefully at the part where its body joins the base?"

"Damn this little brat! When are you going to give up? Are you tired of living?" Yang

He was completely outraged. He didn't expect Ye Fan to continue spouting nonsense.

"Hmm?" But when Gu Long-En heard Ye Fan's words, he was froze for a moment, quickly called out like he had discovered something, "Quickly, bring me a light!"

Gu Long-En's reaction made everyone else freeze while they wondered what was going on.

Old Master Gu picked up the blue and white porcelain piece once again. This time, he observed it even more cautiously and looked again at the spot Ye Fan suggested.

After a long time, Old Master Gu finally sighed somewhat guiltily as he shook his head and said, "I'm sorry my friend, I did make the wrong judgment earlier. Just as this young man has said, this porcelain piece is indeed a fake."

What?

Old Master Gu's words were like huge rocks that tumbled into the ocean and raised a tsunami.

Chapter 204 A Shocking Turn of Events



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Yang He's face turned pale immediately.

Han Shao-Jie was gloating gleefully earlier but now the smile on his face instantly froze. As he stood dumbstruck from the shock, his eyes were filled with disbelief.

"That's impossible! President Gu, how can this be? I carefully studied this blue and white porcelain and knew it couldn't be a fake," said Han Shao-Jie angrily.

He was the one who recommended Shen Fei to buy the blue and white porcelain piece after all. If it turned out to be a counterfeit, wasn't it as good as a slap on his face?

Also, Shen Fei would probably suspect he was colluding with the shop owner to defraud him.

It not only proved his incompetence but also made him look like a betrayer!

So Han Shao-Jie couldn't agree with Gu Long-En's explanation and did his utmost to prove the authenticity of the blue and white porcelain.

"Old Master Gu, didn't you say that the blue

and white porcelain body is thick, large, and strong? It has good proportions and is full of energy. This kind of high-quality product is definitely a treasure and intended for use by royalty, even in the Yuan Dynasty. And look at how powerful and lively this dragon pattern is. The dragon's claws look ferocious while it looks down on everything. How can a dragon as vivid as this be a fake? President Gu, don't listen to his nonsense. He knows nothing about appraising antiques. It's probably his first time getting involved with antiques and he's just saying all that nonsense as a ploy to confuse us all," he went on and on in a deep tone. His voice was filled with contempt and despise for Ye Fan.

There was no way he could believe that his skills were incapable of surpassing even a clueless rookie appraiser.

Yang He stood by the side and chimed in as well, "Exactly, Master Gu. This brat is here to make trouble. How can you get confused by him? I'm going to get someone to chase him out now!"

Yang He and Han Shao-Jie kept commenting one after another, but Gu

Long-En shook his head instead.

“I didn’t get confused by him. This blue and white porcelain is really a fake.”

What?

Han Shao-Jie shuddered as his heart turned even colder. But he continued to insist, “That’s impossible. I carefully appraised it according to the appraisal books I studied.

“President Gu, if you didn’t get deceived by him, then you must be mistaken somewhere!”

Gu Long-En looked at Han Shao-Jie and laughed gently instead, “I was mistaken somewhere?”

“You’re young and lacking in ability, but you’re really confident of yourself. Okay, in that case, I’ll shed some light on what’s going on.”

“The evidence you raised were valid. But your biggest mistake was that you only looked at it partially without considering it as a whole! You merely scraped its surface without thinking more deeply!”

“You only saw that it has vivid and lively patterns. But did you see the irregularity in its pattern where its body converged at its base? You merely considered whether the porcelain had good proportions. But did you notice how the vase was not aesthetically pleasing as a whole? And how it completely lacked smoothness and roundness?”

“You only applied the knowledge you learned from books but failed to use them flexibly. Despite the shortcomings in your abilities, you were arrogant, disrespectful to elders, and stubborn. You were unknowledgeable, overbold, and incompetent! And nothing but an ignorant man.”

After being doubted by a younger man like that, it was little wonder that Gu Long-En was annoyed.

He ended up shouting with a stern look on his face.

The waves of angry shouts came like a shocking thunderclap that exploded repeatedly.

His continuous berating made Han Shao-

Jie's face flush crimson in shame. He was almost too ashamed to show his face.

Old Master Gu's final shout was practically earth-shattering and Han Shao-Jie couldn't even stand up straight out of terror. In the end, he staggered, retreated a few steps, and almost fell onto the floor.

Gu Long-En disregarded Han Shao-Jie's reaction and went on.

“This blue and white porcelain undoubtedly hails from the Yuan Dynasty, but it was clearly spliced together. And from several pieces of porcelain no less. At the most, it's considered a reconstruction and not a true Yuan Dynasty artifact at all. It's worth less than a thousandth of the original. If any of you have doubts, you can shine my light into the vase and see if you can detect the signs of bonding! But the person who reconstructed it was clearly an expert. If this Little Teacher here didn't point it out, even I might have been tricked too.”

Gu Long-En sighed, then he turned and walked up to Ye Fan with remorse written all over his face as he apologized, “I almost got Little Teacher humiliated

because of my carelessness. Please forgive me, Little Teacher.”

In the antique circles, masters were addressed as teachers.

After learning of Ye Fan’s talent, Gu Long-En clearly had a whole new level of respect for him. He even called him ‘Little Teacher’ now.

At the sight of Old Master Gu apologizing so respectfully to Ye Fan, Su Qian was astonished, while Qiu Mu-Cheng was completely caught by surprise as well. The two young ladies covered their red lips with their little hands in shock. Their chests rose and fell hard in disbelief.

“Was...Was it really a fake?” The two pretty girls looked at each other. They were in such shock that they looked like they had seen a ghost.

“Mu-Cheng, this hubby of yours actually knows how to appraise treasure?” Su Qian felt her heart was as turbulent as waves and couldn’t calm down.

Qiu Mu-Cheng was at a loss herself, “I...I don’t know either!”

Qiu Mu-Cheng and Su Qian weren't alone. All the people who ridiculed Ye Fan were shocked into speechlessness while their faces were overwhelmed with shame. But they couldn't bring themselves to say a word.

Su Yuan-Shan and Su Nan laughed bitterly too. They didn't expect to get slapped in the face in the end.

"I underestimated Miss Qiu's driver," Su Yuan-Shan shook his head and sighed.

"It must have been a wild guess. What would a country bumpkin know about doing appraisal?" said Su Qian softly. After she calmed down, she pondered the matter and decided not to believe Ye Fan was that capable.

After all, it required strong finances to enter high society. A man who fretted over his livelihood neither had the time nor funds to learn new skills. How could he get involved in appraisal of curios, which demanded a lot of money?

But of course, only someone who knew nothing about the industry like Su Qian would say things like that. A true

connoisseur like Gu Long-En would never believe Ye Fan merely got lucky.

It took an extraordinarily keen eye to detect something amiss with the blue and white porcelain.

Hence Gu Long-En admired Ye Fan's talent. After he apologized, he invited him to join the city's Antique Association.

"Little Teacher, you've got such a keen eye at such a young age, so I'm sure you'll shine brilliantly in the antiquity community in the future. I hereby sincerely invite you to join the Yunzhou Antique Association. You can stay for a few years and earn some experience first. Then after three years, I'll recommend you to be president and you can lead the Yunzhou curio circles. We lack young talent like you the most among the Yunzhou collectors these days," said Gu Long-En eagerly. Su Qian and the others went stunned when they heard these words.

He wanted Ye Fan to be the president of the association?

Were the tables truly going to turn for this country bumpkin this time?

Qiu Mu-Cheng too stared wide-eyed. Did her...her husband meet his fairy godmother?

But when Han Shao-Jie and Yang He heard this, their eyes turned red.

“Master Gu, you can’t do that! This brat clearly got lucky just now. He wouldn’t know anything about appraisal! If you want to make him the president, you may as well choose a pig! Also, he probably doesn’t even have the right to be a member of the association. President Gu, please think twice!”

Yang He had been a member of the association for ten years and he was still merely a senior member. How could a brat like Ye Fan be fit to become the president?

Ye Fan was unaffected by Yang He’s scorn and just smiled coldly, “Mr Yang is right. I, Ye Fan, am just a boor and know nothing about appraisal. But no matter how lousy I am, I’m still better than how you couldn’t even tell a real antique from a fake and sold trash as though it was some treasure, right?”

Chapter 205 Were Ye Fan's Fortunes going to Change?



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