

The Understated Dragon Lord

Read Chapter 901 – 950

Chapter 901 No Yelling

Avery seemed to have only one trick up her sleeve, and that was to break Daniel's legs.

"Mom, you've already broken my legs so many times. Medical bills aren't cheap, you know? So maybe next time, when you hit me, don't break my legs. You'd save yourself a lot of trouble and effort," Daniel said, a hint of sarcasm in his voice.

Avery casually grabbed a folder from the table and smacked him with it.

"Smack!"

Even though Avery didn't hit hard, the corners of that folder were pretty solid. So, Daniel's behind felt a slight sting.

He covered his rear end, looking pitiful. "Why are you hitting me, Mom?"

"Now that you're calling me Mom, isn't it only right for me to hit you?" Avery shot back. "If you keep calling me Mom, I'll treat you like my son! I'll smack you when I feel like it, I'll hit you when I'm unhappy, and I'll hit you when I'm annoyed!"

She glared at Daniel and barked, "Country bumpkin, are you still calling me Mom?"

"Mom!"

Daniel refused to change his title, because, well, he was just that shameless.

Avery felt a vein pop in her forehead, utterly speechless. "You're still calling me Mom?"

"Why not?! You are my Mom! For the rest of my life, I will only ever call you Mom! And, honestly, you're the only person I've ever called Mom."

This left Avery puzzled.

"Where's your real mom then? I mean your biological mother?"

"Don't know who she is. I grew up in the mountains with my master. He never told me who my parents were. He just said I was an orphan, a nobody he picked up from a garbage heap."

Daniel wasn't just talking nonsense; this was true. The Old Man did tell him that he found him from a trash pile.

Hearing this, Avery felt a twinge of sympathy.

But then she shook it off and maintained her scowl. "He didn't lie to you; you are indeed something he picked up from a trash heap. You smell like junk and it's disgraceful!"

After a pause, Avery added,

"Honestly, your master shouldn't

have taken you back then; he should

have left you there for the others to throw away. Or better yet, let a pack of wild dogs take you away, so they'd eat you down to the bone. That would've been the best outcome!"

Her harsh words came purely from her character, she was the type who cared deeply but had a sharp

tongue. The more she belittled.

Daniel the more it proved she was

slowly accepting him as her son-in-law.

If she hadn't accepted him, she wouldn't even bother talking to him; she'd just stay silent!

"If the wild dogs took me away and ate me, where would you find another son-in-law as great as me? A guy like me is one in a million!"

Avery rolled her eyes at Daniel's self-praise.

"Ha!"

After her little laugh, Avery looked at him with disdain.

"Yeah, like I'd be wishing for a son-in-law like you. They're all over the street! I could throw a rock out the window while driving to the supermarket and hit a whole bunch!" "A rock? How big would that rock have to be?"

Chapter 902 Divorce

Daniel grinned and gestured with his hands before answering, "I think it shouldn't be a rock; it should at least be a wall! Yeah, a wall! It should be at least ten meters long; otherwise, there's no way you could smash a whole bunch with just a rock."

"Can you stop talking nonsense?"

Avery pierced him with a queen-like gaze and ordered, "I don't have time for your chatter! I'm here to tell you that tonight, you're my driver!"

Daniel quickly stood straight and saluted. "Happy to serve, Mom! Ready to roll twenty-four seven!"

"What did you just call me?"

"Mom! I call you Mom! Dear Mom! Definitely not 'old lady' because you're not old at all!"

With a quick wit, Daniel's brain reacted faster than lightning!

"Six o'clock tonight, you're picking me up at my front door! Don't be late! If you dare to be even a second late, you'll regret it."

"Mom, where are we going anyway?" Daniel asked, curiosity swirling in his eyes.

"What my business is, where I'm going, is none of your concern! I tell you where to drive, you just drive!"

"Mom, you're not heading out to meet an old flame, right?"

"Don't you dare call me that, you brat!"

Avery was furious now, grabbing a feather duster from the corner and giving Daniel a few smacks on the behind.

"Smack!"

He howled at her.

"I'm off! Six o'clock, don't be late!"

After giving her last instruction, Avery clicked her heels and strutted out of the office like a model.

Once Avery was gone, Daniel turned to Jessica with a grin.

"Sweetheart, Mom just asked me to be her driver tonight. Is this her way of testing me?"

"Not in your dreams!"

"Since it's not a test, then what's she up to?"

"How would I know where she's going? But if she's calling you to be her driver, you better do it right and not mess things up! And I'm warning you, don't tell her anything about us."

"What is there to tell? We don't have anything secret! I'd be clueless about it!" Daniel pretended to act dumb.

"Get real! You know exactly what I'm talking about! Trying to play innocent?"

"I admit it or I don't admit it—does it really matter? We're married; we're a legal couple."

"Get lost!!! Who said we were a legal couple? If you keep this up and

make me angry again, divorce

always on the table."

"Baby, do you even know what

divorce means? The word 'divorce' is something a man uses against a woman, not the other way around! So if we're ever going to 'divorce, it should be me divorcing you and not you divorcing me!"

Before Daniel could finish, Jessica grabbed his ear and twisted it hard, making him yelp.

Then, fiercely, she shot back, "You moron, what did you just say? Say it again! Who are you divorcing?"

Chapter 903 Nitpicking

"Honey, you must have misheard! I didn't say anything about wanting a divorce; I meant I'm going to behave myself so you won't want one. I'm going to keep being your husband!" Facing the fierce Jessica, Daniel knew better than to resist; he had to concede!

If he dared to be stubborn now, he'd lose his ear for sure.

At six o'clock, Daniel drove Jessica's red Ferrari to Avery's place.

They agreed on six o'clock, and Daniel arrived right on time-only to find it was already six-thirty and still no sign of Avery.

Just when Daniel was getting impatient, Avery appeared, wearing a stunning dress that highlighted her curves, strutting in her high heels toward the flashy red Ferrari.

"Mom, didn't you say six o'clock? You told me to be on time and not to be late. Just look at the time-it's six-thirty!"

Before Daniel could finish, Avery shot him a fierce glare.

Daniel gulped and quickly said, "I mean, it's only six! You've made it right on time, not a minute late!"

"Want to open the car door for me? What a fool!" Avery snapped at him.

Seeing her, Daniel couldn't help but think of his wife Jessica-it made him feel all sorts of emotions!

Avery's demeanor immediately turned fierce again at the sight of him because every time she looked at Daniel, she felt the anger for him taking her daughter away. So naturally, she was not happy!

She paid attention to Daniel, needing a reason, any reason to vent her anger!

Unaware that a little volcanic eruption was about to happen, Daniel was eager to please when he opened the door of the Ferrari.

"Mom, please get in!"

Once she sat in the passenger seat, the heat was on.

"Country bumpkin, why did you bring this car?"

"Isn't this car nice? It's a Ferrari

worth over a million! The top sports car! thought since I'm your driver, I should at least bring a

"Good car? This piece of junk? This is something you young folks love to

y

play

Look how cramped it is,
and the seats are low! It's so
uncomfortable!"

Avery's complaints were unending.

Sure, the Ferrari drives smooth, but for passengers, it can be extremely uncomfortable.

After all, Avery was not one of Daniel's flings; she was his mother-in-law, and she didn't care for a Ferrari at all!

"I thought I'd take you for a nice
drive. If you don't like this Ferrari

can switch it up for you. Jessica has plenty of cars, all brands and styles. Just let me know what you want!"

Daniel decided to ask first; he didn't want to end up facing Avery's wrath later on.

Because dealing with this mother-in-law could be so difficult! For no apparent reason, he could end up getting a lecture out of the blue.

Read Chapter 904 What a Waste

Chapter 904 What a Waste

"This one will do! There's no time to waste. I see you're not just a country bumpkin but a complete waste, unable to do anything right!"

Avery shot him another glare, yelling, "What are you waiting for? Let's hit the road!"

"Mom, you still haven't told me where we're going," Daniel said.

"Don't you know?"

"I want to know, but you haven't told me yet! How could I know?"

"What a waste! Not knowing this or that! What do you know?" Avery replied. "Capital Hotel!"

"Capital Hotel? Mom, who are you going to meet there?"

"You moron! If you can't keep your mouth shut, then just close it! I don't need you talking!"

Avery smacked Daniel on the shoulder.

"Smack!"

That sound was crisp!

"Mom, unless you're meeting an old flame and need me to keep watch, you should at least tell me why we're going to Capital Hotel! I need some information! If you don't tell me anything and something embarrassing happens once we get there, you can't blame me!"

"Country bumpkin, I'll tell you right now. If you make me look bad tonight, you better divorce Jessica when we get back! You must divorce!"

With Avery's tone, it seemed tonight's trip to Capital Hotel was important to her.

"If you let me know in advance why we're going there, I can guarantee you, I won't let you embarrass yourself!"

"Capital Hotel is the grandest and newest hotel in D.C., opening tonight. We're going there together for the grand opening party."

"Opening party? Why aren't you bringing Jessica along or both of us?" Daniel asked, puzzled.

"Do you know who runs Capital Hotel?" Avery asked.

Daniel shook his head, honestly responding, "Nope."

"I knew you wouldn't know! You dumb bumpkin! You don't know anything! How can you match up to my Jessica? With you like this, how can you help her? To me, you're nothing but a waste! An utterly hopeless waste!"

Avery's harsh words kept surfacing!

"Mom, you know I'm a waste, yet you're taking me there? Aren't you just setting yourself up for an embarrassing situation?"

"I'm taking you so you can wake up and see the reality check. I hope you realize the gap between you and successful people! I know you don't even have a regular job right now."

Unable to hold back, Avery started criticizing Daniel again.

Hearing his mother-in-law's lecture was about to start again, quick-witted Daniel decided to change the topic. He laughed and asked, "You haven't told me yet

who's that Grant, running the Capital

Hotel?"

"It's run by my friend Isla Evans's son-in-law. Her son-in-law, Grant Foster, opened the best hotel in D.C. And look at you, a complete failure, a waste!"

Once she said that, Daniel suddenly got the hint and his mind began to hatch a plan. He looked at Avery, his face lighting up.

Chapter 905 Son-in-law

"So you're saying by bringing me to Capital Hotel, you want to compare me to Grant?"

Avery frowned at Daniel's words, looking thoroughly unimpressed, then rolled her eyes. "Are you serious? You think you're worthy of a comparison?" "It's just one Grant! So he opened this fancy Capital Hotel? I couldn't care less about comparing myself to him!"

The Ferrari pulled up to Capital Hotel. After parking, Avery led Daniel to the 88th floor.

This was Capital Hotel's top floor where the banquet hall was located, and tonight's grand opening party would be held there.

As soon as they stepped into the hall, a glamorous lady with lavish elegance greeted them-it was the hostess of tonight's event, Isla.

"Avery, why are you so late? Everyone's been waiting for you! Come on in!" Isla welcomed Avery with warmth.

"This slow driver of mine couldn't find the way and made some wrong turns, that's why we're late."

Avery pointed a finger at Daniel, throwing him under the bus. "You little brat, where's your manners? This is Isla!" "Hi, Isla!" Daniel quickly chimed in with a smile plastered on his face.

"Hello! Hello!"

Isla responded politely, but then her curiosity was piqued.

Because Avery calling this guy a little brat indicated their relationship was much closer than just casual.

She pointed at Daniel and curiously

You're calling him a brat; he can't be

little boyfriend, right?"

JE Z Hery, "Avery, who's this guy?"

"Nonsense! A little boyfriend? Am I that shameless? This brat is the husband of my blind daughter! Looking at him, I feel irritated!"

That was how Avery introduced Daniel's identity.

She knew her daughter well-Jessica was just like her in her youth. Once she made a decision, no one could sway her.

Avery knew opposing her would be futile; even if she had countless complaints, she couldn't change the fact that this guy was now her son-in-law! "Avery, the son-in-law you're talking about, is he this guy?"

Isla stared at Daniel, examining him closely.

After inspecting him from head to toe, she remarked, "This guy looks decent, though he doesn't match up with you Jessica's heavenly beauty, does he? There's still a gap. But believe your son-in-law must have some remarkable qualities! I'm curious, what's his name?"

Isla's question about the name was a way to probe Daniel's background.

After all, she was somewhat familiar with the prominent families in D. once she knew his last name, it would be easy for her to invite further.

Before Avery could answer, Daniel jumped in, saying, "Isla, my name is Daniel Perkins."

"Perkins?"

This name made Isla furrow her brows.

In the D.C. elite circles, there was indeed a prominent family by that name.

Chapter 906 Isla's Cold Laughter

But there was only one Perkins family in D.C.!

That family was the city's first family-The Perkins!

Because The Perkins were well-known and respected, everyone in the circle knew who their descendants were.

In Isla's memory, no one from The Perkins was named Daniel.

However, to confirm, Isla straightforwardly asked, "Are you from The Perkins in D.C.?"

"Um..."

Daniel hesitated, giving a soft "um."

After that, he thought about his identity as the second heir of the Perkins family in D.C. He believed it was true, but he wasn't completely sure.

So, finally, he shook his head and said, "I'm an orphan and grew up in the countryside."

"An orphan? Grew up in the countryside?"

Isla looked incredulously at Avery and asked, "Is your son-in-law really an orphan? No parents at all, with no background?"

"Yup!"

Avery nodded and replied with a look of disdain.

"He really is an orphan. No parents, no background, and he has no skills-he's basically useless!"

After hearing this from Avery, Isla was stunned.

"Avery, your daughter Jessica is such a good girl and so beautiful. How could you agree to let her marry someone with no parents and no background? Isn't that pushing her into a pit?"

"My daughter is so stubborn. I don't know what she's thinking, and I can't change her mind. So, I brought this loser here tonight to show him the gap between them. Hopefully, he'll realize he should back off from my daughter!"

Avery's words were half-truths.

If Daniel turned out to be too incompetent compared to Grant, she could use that as an excuse to say he embarrassed her and get him

away from Jessica.

If Daniel somehow won, that would also be an impressive feat for her since it meant someone she deemed unworthy managed to best her good son-in-law!

In any case, whether Daniel won or lost, it would be advantageous for Avery.

However, weighing her options, she hoped Daniel would win.

After all, women love their vanity, especially when showing off in front of their best friends!

Upon hearing Avery's words, Isla let out a cold laugh.

"Ha!"

After her laugh, Isla disdainfully said, "Avery! If you want that hick to leave your daughter, why compare him to my son-in-law? You could just find anyone outside to compare him with My son-in-law compared to him is like comparing the sun to a firefly!"

At that point, Isla pointed at the original stones displayed on stage.

With a mischievous smile, she looked at Daniel and asked, "Hick, do you know what these are?"

"What else could they be? They're just stones! A bunch of big rocks!"

Daniel's answer got another cold laugh from Isla.

"Ha!"

After laughing, she smugly said, "Hick, these aren't just big rocks. They're original stones!"

"Oh! Original stones!" Daniel nodded.

Chapter 907 The Ignorant Hick

Seeing that the hick only responded with that, Isla immediately asked with a sneer, "You really don't know what original stones are, do you?"

Daniel knew very well what original stones were, but he pretended not to know, shaking his head with a puzzled look, "No idea!"

"Ha!"

Daniel's answer only earned him another derisive laugh from Isla.

After laughing, she exaggeratedly said, "Wow, hick, you really are a genuine hick! You're so clueless that you don't even know what original stones are? That's just too ignorant!" Then, to further mock him, Isla continued, "So, hick, do you know what's inside these original stones?"

"A pile of broken rocks? Since they're stones, there's probably just some coal or something in them! You're not telling me they can produce gold, are you?"

Daniel meant to say this on purpose; he wasn't wrong either. After all, these were original stones, and they couldn't produce gold.

However, some of the stones contained jade.

But even if jade were contained within those stones, breaking them to get the jade would simply make it a mineral! So, Daniel's description of the original stones wasn't wrong.

"Coal? Ha!"

Isla laughed coldly again, then turned to Avery, saying, "Avery, listen to your son-in-law's ignorance! He actually thinks these original stones can only yield coal? He has no idea that the things taken from these stones could be more precious than gold!"

Daniel jumped in, "Isla, what do you mean? What could be more precious than gold?"

He was playing dumb on purpose, so it would be more satisfying when he proved these people wrong later.

"There's a saying, I wonder if you've heard it?" Isla teased, leaving a cliffhanger.

"A saying?"

Daniel had a good guess about she wo

say-it was probably

something like "gold has a price,ne

jade is priceless."

But pretending to be curious, he asked, "What saying?"

"Gold has a price, but jade is priceless!"

Isla indeed recited the very saying Daniel had suspected.

"I've heard that saying! My

second-grade teacher told us a story about how his ancestor found a

piece of jade in the East, and that piece of jade allowed him to buy a castle. Is that the kind of jade you're talking about?"

"Pfft..."

Daniel's question made Isla burst into laughter because this hick was just too ignorant.

"Hick, which university did you graduate from? You don't even know what jade is?"

"I never went to college! I only went

to an elementary school in my village. But in second grade, I was expelled from school. So, I never finished the second grade!

As Daniel said this, Avery's face turned dark and stormy, changing into a deep shade of blue.

Chapter 908 You're Nuts

This idiot was completely delusional!

No, this idiot is doing this on purpose! He's trying to embarrass me and make me mad on purpose!

When all this is over, I'll make him understand the consequences of his actions by making my daughter divorce him!

He's such a complete jerk!

Daniel's words left Isla shocked again.

Initially, she thought he came from a poor background but was somehow educated enough to marry Jessica.

She never expected this hick didn't even finish elementary school! He only went through second grade.

That was unbelievable!

That was just inconceivable!

Even though Daniel said it himself, Isla still found it hard to believe.

So, she looked at Daniel and confirmed, "Hick, are you serious? You really didn't graduate from elementary school, just finished second grade, and got expelled?"

"Yeah! I got expelled after the second grade. Mainly, I thought school was pointless, so I didn't continue."

"Second grade means you were only seven or eight, right? What were you doing instead of studying? You weren't raising cattle in the countryside, were you? You were a cattle herder?"

"My master was too poor to afford cattle. So I didn't have any cows to raise. But my master is a doctor who treated people in my village, so I followed him around, helped him out, and learned a lot in the process."

Hearing this, Isla finally understood.

"So, you hick are pretending to be a doctor? Are you just scamming

from

PS elderly from your t

Swoo

village?"

"A rural doctor is still a doctor! We heal people, not con artists!"

Daniel looked at Isla's face and then calmly pointed out, "Isla, you're the one who's crazy!"

This nearly made Isla spit out her drink in shock.

"What did you just say? You think I'm crazy? You must be the one! Your whole family is crazy!"

Isla scolded angrily, completely disregarding her image as a refined lady.

"Isla, I'm not insulting you. You're genuinely unwell. While your condition isn't life-threatening, it does flare up every month, and each time it'll leave you rolling on the floor in pain."

Daniel's words left Isla stunned.

She looked at him, confused, asking, "Hick, what are you talking about? You mean I get sick every month? What kind of illness are you talking

ua

"

"What else could it be? It's menstrual pain!"

As soon as Daniel said "menstrual pain," Isla's beautiful face turned dark and stormy.

She felt like she was being teased by this hick.

So, she pointed a finger at Daniel and shouted, "Hick, you have some nerve to tease me!" This response left Daniel bewildered!

Chapter 909 Isla Was Stunned

He didn't understand.

"Isla, I'm just stating the facts. You really are unwell! Everything I said is true! Why are you interpreting it as me teasing you? Plus, you're the same age as my mother-in-law; you're too old!"

Even if I wanted to tease someone, I'd find someone younger! Why would I target you? Even if all the women in the world were gone, you wouldn't be on my radar! I'm a young, handsome guy-if teasing were to happen, it would be you teasing me!"

Daniel's remarks made Isla's face turn even redder.

However, as a woman, her flushed cheeks only added to her unusual allure.

"You little rascal! You scoundrel! You dare tease me and then accuse me of teasing you? You're utterly shameless!"

Seeing Isla so worked up, Daniel remained calm, actually having a smile on his handsome face.

"Isla, don't get so worked up. If you're this fired up, you're going to bleed too much. Not only you, but you'll also be writhing on the floor in pain!"

Daniel wasn't just joking; he was genuinely trying to warn Isla.

"Hick, stop making nonsense! How could I bleed out? I just finished my period last week!"

What Isla said was true.

Her cycle wasn't today, but last week. Since it ended last week, it wouldn't return for more than twenty days.

If her period started today, that would mean she had two in one month!

"I know, Isla, that it just ended for you last week, which is why I said you're unwell!"

Daniel's words caught Isla off guard as she asked, "What do you mean? How do you know my period just wrapped up last week?"

"I can tell! My doctor skills tell me! All

I had to do was look at your face, and since you're not hideous, just slightly above average, I could see you finished your period last

noweek. If

I'm not mistaken, it ended

Wednesday night at eight?"

Daniel's statement left Isla shocked.

Because her period had indeed ended at eight last Wednesday!

How did this hick know?

This was something her husband didn't even know!

But the more she thought about it, the more uneasy Isla felt.

"You ended your period last Wednesday at eight"?

That sounded like she was dead!

"Hick, if you can't speak properly, just close your mouth! What do you mean I ended my period last Wednesday? I'm still alive! What kind of nonsense is that? You're a hick from the countryside, only barking nonsense!"

After berating Daniel, Isla suspiciously asked, "Hick, how do you know my period ended last Wednesday at eight? Were you stalking me? Did you install cameras in my house? Or are you using a drone to spy on me?"

"Isla, there are many things I might spy on, but when it comes to when your period ended, there's just no way! There's no camera capable of fitting in your underwear!" While Daniel spoke seriously, it only made Isla's complexion turn bright red.

Chapter 910 You Better Shut Up

Her face bloomed in a vibrant red, resembling an apple, as if she had instantly returned to her teenage years at eighteen! But Isla quickly regained her composure.

She glared at Daniel in anger and shouted, "Hick, don't you dare talk nonsense! Where would you even put a camera?"

"Isla, you must've misunderstood. I'm not a pervert; why would I put a camera in your house? That's a scoundrel's thing to do, not something a decent man like me would do."
"Pfft!"

Isla scoffed at Daniel's response.

"You little rascal, a stinky toad from the countryside, a 'decent man?' If you're a decent man, then there wouldn't be any indecent men left in this world. Just be honest with me; how do you know such private information about me?"

"I already told you! I'm a doctor; I have special abilities! I can just look at your face and gauge your physical condition. If I'm not mistaken, within three seconds, Isla, you're going to have a serious situation. So hurry to the restroom; otherwise, with all these people around, it's going to get awkward!"

"That's nonsense! I'm not going to have a serious situation!" Isla obviously didn't believe it and thought the guy was just spewing rubbish.

Daniel ignored her and started counting down.

"Three!"

"Two!"

"One!"

As soon as he said "one," Isla suddenly felt warmth below; it was a slippery sensation.

"Ah..."

She screamed as she covered her stomach and dashed into the restroom.

Avery knew Daniel was skilled in medicine and realized this jerk had actually deduced the situation correctly.

However, she shot Daniel a glare and scolded, "Jerk, can you not act so creepy?"

"Mom, I'm not being creepy! I'm

tring the facts! Now that Isla's iet

in the restroom, you

go help her with something!

"That's just typical of you!"

Avery shot Daniel another glare, annoyed. "Wow, you're suddenly caring? Where's this concern when it comes to me?" "Mom, you're just fine! Your good health surely comes from you being a decent person and not misbehaving out there." "I'll... I'll kill you!"

Avery, infuriated, raised her hand and slapped Daniel.

Since they were in a public place and even though there was a bit of flesh, it wasn't right to slap him awkwardly

she ended up hitting his

back.

At that moment, Isla emerged from the restroom.

She came out hunched over, clutching her stomach.

Although she had dealt with things in the restroom, her stomach still hurt!

Could it be she really was unwell?

Daniel looked at Isla and cheet

said, "Isn

I told you that you were

unwell! You didn't believe me

but I bet you do now!" Contentore,

"What do you mean by 'unwell'? What do you think I have?" Isla asked.

"Isla, the source of this 'illness' goes back eighteen years. It likely stems from a stormy night in some secluded little grove."

At this point, Daniel's voice trailed off, and he didn't continue.

Hearing that, Isla panicked and quickly snapped, "You hick, shut your mouth!"

Chapter 911 Not Heeding Good Advice

"Isla, are you telling me to shut up because I hit a nerve? You don't want me to talk about what happened that night?"

Daniel was playing the role of a fortune teller, and he could clearly see that Isla was hiding something.

"You... you better shut your mouth! If you keep babbling nonsense, I'll have your mother-in-law sew it shut!"

Isla winced, clutching her stomach as she glared at Daniel.

Seeing Isla like this made Daniel chuckle.

"Isla, it looks like your stomach is really giving you a hard time. Do you want me to help you? I could just give you a shot, and your pain would go away in no time!"

"You think a shot from you could cure me? What a joke! Ha!"

With a cold laugh, Isla scoffed at him.

"With your countryside background and no medical license, what qualifies you to stick me with a needle? You know that's illegal, right? If you keep this up, you might end up in jail!" After she said that, Isla's stomach suddenly twisted with pain again.

"Ow! Oh no! It hurts so much!"

Isla cried out in agony, beads of sweat forming on her forehead, dripping down like rain.

Just then, a sharp-dressed man in an Armani suit rushed over.

It was Isla's son-in-law, the successful businessman and owner of the Capital Hotel-Grant!

As soon as Grant approached and saw his mother-in-law in distress, he immediately asked, "Mom, what's wrong?"

"My stomach hurts!" Isla replied.

"Mom, let me help you sit on the couch for a while."

Grant supported Isla and guided her to the sofa.

Daniel, seeing the situation, chimed in with his good intentions.

"Isla, you really shouldn't sit right now. If you do, you'll only be able to sit on a hard bench because sitting on a softcouch will actually make your pain worse. Once you sett

that sofa, your pain is going

on

increase tenfold-it'll hurt more than

giving birth!"

"Dumbass You little scam artist! Don't come here with your nonsense! No matter how bad hurts, sitting is still better than standing!"

"Well, I

to sit on that you, Isla. If you want

couch, that's your

But just know, the pain s
going to be all yours, not
me!"

As soon as Daniel finished his sentence, Isla plopped down on the couch.

The moment she sat down, she screamed again.

"Ow! Oh no!"

She immediately began rolling around on the couch, clutching her stomach like it was being twisted by knives.

The pain felt worse than childbirth; it was not something an ordinary person could endure.

"How are you feeling, Isla? You didn't listen to me, despite my warnings. Now you know what kind of pain you're in, don't you?"

Chapter 912 The Fraud

Daniel stepped closer to Isla with a smirk, asking, "Is it so bad that you want to smash your head against the wall?"

"Country bumpkin, shut up!"

Isla's reprimand clearly didn't deter Daniel.

He looked at her with a grin, "Isla, are you sure you don't want my help with a shot? Just one would guarantee to ease your pain and stop the bleeding!"

Daniel wasn't lying; he was indeed skilled at acupuncture. But Isla would never believe him.

"You hick, you dumbass, trying to pull one over on me?"

"Isla, I'm not scamming you. I honestly know acupuncture. Just one quick shot will make you feel so much better. If you don't believe me, just ask my mother-in-law!" Daniel then turned to Avery and cheerfully asked, "Mom, I'm not lying, right? You know I'm good at this?"

"Be serious! Don't talk so frivolously!"

Avery chided Daniel before turning to Isla, saying, "Isla, this rascal may be a nuisance, but he did learn medicine from his master. His skills are indeed impressive."

"With his master? You're talking about that rural doctor? A simple country doctor is just an old fraud! What real skills does he have?"

Isla shook her head dismissively,

"Avery, my health is delicate, and et

only a renowned doctor can treat me. This hick, this dumbass, is

unworthy!"

Just as Isla finished her sentence, Grant suddenly remembered something.

Excitedly, he exclaimed, "Mom, wait! I invited Damian to tonight's grand opening party. I'll go get him!"

"Damian? You mean Eternal Spring's Damian?" Isla asked.

"Yes, that's him! Just a moment, I'll go get him."

Grant hurried off, and Isla couldn't help but feel smug, knowing her son-in-law had brought Damian over.

She turned to Avery proudly and

said, "Avery, good thing I didn't listen

to you, you little fraud! What if

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actually let that hick treat me? He might have messed up my body!

Damian is the real deal, one of the four top doctors in D.C. Although he's ranked second, the first, Joshua, only holds that position thanks to The Grants' influence, not entirely due to his medical skills.

If we're judging by skill alone, Damian far surpasses Joshua! He's the best doctor in D.C., maybe even the best in the entire U.S.!

Chapter 913 Diagnosis

At that moment, an older man in a white coat approached, led by Grant.

He was Damian, the head of Eternal Spring, and ranked first among D.C.'s four top doctors!

Beside Damian was his assistant, Silas, who was carrying a medical bag.

"Damian, this is my mother-in-law. She suddenly has a terrible stomachache. Please take a look at her," Grant said.

"Don't worry, Grant. Whatever illness your mother-in-law has, I'll be able to treat her," Damian reassured, then turned to Silas, saying, "Let me check her symptoms first!"
"Yes, Master!"

Silas opened the bag and pulled out a fine golden thread, turning to Isla, "Isla, please extend your right hand."

Isla didn't know what he was doing, but she obediently held out her hand.

Silas skillfully wrapped the golden thread around her wrist.

Curious, Isla couldn't help but ask, "What's this for?"

"This is to check your symptoms. My master uses this method for female patients because he values their privacy!"

Hearing this made Daniel chuckle, and he chimed in.

"What privacy? It's just for show! While it might check symptoms, using a golden thread leaves room for error. Healing isn't about

showing off-it's about saving lives. Just use your hands!"

"Country bumpkin, shut up, you cad!" Isla couldn't hold back from scolding Daniel.

Based on Daniel's words alone, she could tell he was a rogue, and his character was far from suitable in comparison to Damian!

"Isla, I'm not a rogue! I'm a decent man! Every word I say comes from my heart!"

Before Daniel could finish, Isla cut in, scolding, "Your heartfelt words? That's why you're a rogue!"

"I'm only speaking from my heart! To

treat illness properly, accurate diagnosis is crucial. If you want to understand symptoms, you should use a doctor's hands! What he's doing is completely pointless!"

Feeling that she had seen through him, Isla loudly challenged, "Use a doctor's hands? Are you trying to take advantage of me?"

"Isla, you're old enough to be as old as my mom. How could I aim to take advantage of you? If anyone's being taken advantage of, it's you taking advantage of me!"

"You... you're driving me crazy!" Isla stomped her feet in frustration.

She felt like she was being exploited by this hick, only for the whole situation to flip, as if she were the one getting the better end of the deal. How did it get to this?

Meanwhile, Silas had already handed the other end of the golden thread to Damian.

At that moment, Damian held the thread between his thumb and forefinger, gently closing his eyes as he felt Isla's pulse.

Chapter 914 Damian

To ascertain Isla's condition, Damian took over three minutes.

When he finally opened his eyes, he handed the golden thread back to Silas.

"Put this away! I've figured it out!" Damian remarked.

Silas immediately undid the thread from Isla's wrist, carefully rolling it up to store it back in the medical bag.

"Damian, what's wrong with my body?" Isla eagerly asked.

Damian didn't respond right away. Instead, he replied with a question, "Isla, have you eaten anything you shouldn't have in the past few days?" "Eaten something I shouldn't have?"

Isla didn't answer right away. Instead, she racked her brain to recall what she may have eaten that could be an issue.

After contemplating for a time, she shook her head, "Damian, I haven't eaten anything that I shouldn't!"

"Nothing you shouldn't have?"

Damian stroked his goatee thoughtfully, then nodded. "I see!"

Isla looked puzzled and curiously asked, "Damian, what do you mean?"

"Isla, the truth is, you may not have eaten anything bad, but after consuming certain things, you might not have realized they were wrong for your body!"

Daniel couldn't help but interject, "What's wrong with eating what's consumed normally?"

Isla's puzzled expression deepened as she straightforwardly asked, "Please clarify, what did I eat that I shouldn't have?"

"Isla, if you had eaten those items

one by one, there wouldn't have

been any problem. The issue is a net

because you ate them almost simultaneously."

"Damian, what are you talking about?"

Damian stepped closer to Isla, staring intently at her face.

Feeling uncomfortable under his gaze, he withdrew his eyes and asked seriously, "Three days ago, did you eat sea cucumber, the kind from 3000 meters deep in the ocean?"

At this question, Isla was shocked.

She quickly nodded, "Yes!"

"Two days ago, did you eat camel meat from camels raised in the desert, pure wild camels?"

This second question left Isla even more shocked.

No wonder he was the best doctor; he was correct about everything.

"Yes!" she confirmed eagerly.

What Isla didn't realize was that Damian knew these details not because of any supernatural powers but because he had asked Grant earlier what his mother-in-law had eaten recently.

Of course, Grant had no reason to conceal the truth and told Damian everything.

Grant, upon hearing Damian's lines, suddenly realized the intent behind those earlier questions, but he wouldn't call Damian out.

After all, he was on the same team now. If Damian managed to treat Isla's stomach pain, it reflected well on him too.

That's how the Capital Hotel was built!

In reality, he hadn't invested a penny of his own. All the hotel's funding came from various capital operations he had borrowed from others.

Chapter 915 Treating the Illness

Grant wanted to marry Isla's daughter, Skylar, primarily because of the family wealth. He aimed to use Isla's fortune to fill the financial gaps in his Capital Hotel.

Damian stroked his goatee again, presenting himself coolly, and said lightly to Isla, "Isla, you first ate the sea cucumber from 3000 meters deep and then the camel meat from the desert, which is what caused your body to react poorly."

Isla felt a little confused at Damian's words.

She looked at him, puzzled, and asked, "Damian, I've eaten the sea cucumber and camel meat multiple times before, and I've never had a problem. Why is it an issue this time?"

"The sea cucumber from 3000 meters deep is considered ice, and the camel meat from the desert represents fire. Ice and fire together in your body disrupt your endocrine system, leading to your symptoms. Given your current condition, even the best hospital in D.C. would have no treatment to offer. Luckily, you've met me. With acupuncture technique, I can guarantee a quick recovery!"

Damian paused, taking a breath before continuing, "My acupuncture skills have been passed down through generations for over two thousand years in my family, saving countless lives! Since reaching my hands, I've personally treated fewer than five people. Today, your receiving my acupuncture is a stroke of luck! And it's also because you're a good person and due to your son-in-law's influence." "Thank you, Damian!" Isla quickly expressed her gratitude.

"Isla, my family has a motto. We help others without regard to their status or influence, but we care about the patient's sincerity. If sincerity is lacking, then I cannot help!"

Damian's words left Isla momentarily speechless.

However, instead of asking directly she turned to Grant with to Grant with confusion in her eyes, hoping her

could clarify. Content, Sion

Considering that Grant had managed to gather a significant sum to create the Capital Hotel, he was certainly clever!

When Isla glanced at him, Grant immediately understood her silent plea.

"Damian's treatment comes with a fee," he quickly clarified.

"A fee?" Isla turned to Damian and asked, "How much is the treatment fee?"

Upon hearing this, Damian stroked his goatee again, adopting a casual demeanor as he replied, "My family

doesn't seek to profit from Net

others. However, for the

acupuncture, I must use the family's ancestral golden needles, crafted by our forefathers and passed down through the generations.

These golden needles aren't ordinary silver needles; every use requires special medicinal concoction for soaking and disinfecting. Just the cost of the solution alone is Over a million each time!"

Chapter 916 Big Price Tag

What Damian said was, of course, a load of nonsense. His goal was clearly to squeeze more money out of Isla!

As soon as he mentioned the exorbitant cost for the "medication," Isla's brows furrowed.

She was a smart woman and could tell that Damian was going to quote an outrageous price!

What medication could possibly cost millions? Even if the treatment involved liquid gold, it shouldn't cost that much!

If this so-called medication needed to run into the millions, who knew how much he would charge for other expenses?

Although Isla was wealthy and spent tens of thousands, even hundreds of thousands, at beauty salons each month, she didn't want to waste money unnecessarily!

After all, going to a beauty salon was about enhancing her beauty. But this was just a stomachache-spending so much for that was not worth it!

Even at the best hospital in D.C., a visit for a stomachache, including a few painkillers, wouldn't cost that much!

Not to mention Isla had full insurance coverage; even without that, it would be at most a few hundred dollars-definitely not more than a thousand.

And for a simple stomachache, he was starting off with a price tag over a million?

This wasn't about treating her; this was pure robbery!

Isla was not a woman to be pushed around; she spoke directly.

"Damian, a million bucks just for the medication? Isn't that a bit steep? If I had some terminal illness, spending that money would make sense. But just fona stomachache because I ate sea cucumber and camebmeat, asking for that much is ridiculous!

Besides, for such a minor issue, why would I need any golden needles or special skills? If I went to the hospital and had tests run, they'd just prescribe some painkillers It wouldn't cost more than a few hundred dollars!"

Initially, Isla thought that since her son-in-law invited Damian, it would be free!

Yet, here was Damian quoting millions right off the bat. Was he taking her for a fool?

How could she accept a price like that?

This was blatant disrespect for her intelligence!

So, Isla naturally objected outright!

Daniel, hearing Isla speak this way, immediately chimed in with a grin, "Isla, come on! Damian is after all a doctor. Yes, he may claim two thousand years of family tradition, but he's known for something. Regardless of whether he can actually cure your stomachache, with his doctor reputation, charging you hundreds of thousands isn't unusual!"

But before he could finish, Isla interrupted with irritation, "Hick, stop talking nonsense and shut your mouth! You annoy me!"

"Isla, I'm not being silly! I'm actually helping you!" Daniel replied cheerfully.

"Isla, Damian just quoted you a price in the millions. You even admit that spending that much for a stomachache is not worth it. So, I could probably offer you a much cheaper option!"

"Helping me? How exactly?" Isla questioned.

Chapter 917 Malicious Slander

As soon as Daniel finished speaking, Isla couldn't help but laugh coldly.

"Ha!"

After her scoff, she asked, "You want to charge me less for your treatment? How much are you talking about?"

"I already mentioned it! Isla, if you let me treat you, I can fix your stomach pain in just one minute! I'll only charge you a hundred bucks! Just to earn a bit of pocket money!" With Daniel's statement, Damian immediately couldn't take it anymore.

He stood up, pointing a finger at Daniel's nose, "Who are you?"

"I'm Daniel!" Daniel replied.

"I'm asking what you do!" Damian pressed.

"Damian, are you deaf? Didn't I just say? I can treat Isla's stomach pain. Since I can treat her, especially with acupuncture, it naturally means I'm a doctor!"

"You? You're a doctor? What kind of doctor are you?" Damian challenged.

"I dropped out of the second grade and then followed my master in the countryside, treating people. My master is a country doctor, and naturally, I'm a country doctor too!" Daniel responded. "A village doctor dares to treat people here? Do you even know where you are? This is D.C., not your countryside!"

"What's wrong with D.C.? Do people

here not get Sick? Do they not need

doctors to treat them? Are D.C. residents all millionaires requiring hundreds of thousands to treat a stomachache? Can't I charge just a hundred bucks to treat a D.C. person's ailment?"

Daniel's rapid-fire questions left Damian momentarily stunned.

Once he regained composure, he sneered dismissively.

"Ha!"

After his laugh, he turned to Isla, asking, "Isla, do you really believe this hick? Are you really going to let him use his shoddy methods to treat you?"

Pausing for dramatic effect, Damian continued slandering Daniel, "Isla, let me warn you ahead of time, this hick, this so-called country doctor, is definitely a fraud! He will take your money! you let him treat you, while the fee is cheap, just a hundred bucks, I guarantee that after his treatment, not only will your stomach pain not ease, but it may worsen. Worst-case scenario, you may even die from the pain! Next year this time, it could be your

memorial day!"

Of course, Damian didn't believe a country doctor's apprentice could treat Isla's stomach pain. But he was also acutely aware that his words were exaggerated.

He knew that no matter where Daniel learned his craft, sticking a needle into Isla wouldn't kill her unless he was genuinely stupid.

The worst it could possibly do was create a little puncture or make her bleed a bit.

By framing things so seriously,

Damian aimed to intimidate Isla to create a sense of urgency, making her believe her stomach pain was severe, thus justifying his outlandish fees!

Chapter 918 Not a Good Person

Grant, being the smart guy he is, quickly understood what Damian meant.

So, he jumped right in and asked, "Damian, is it really just food poisoning with my mom?"

With Grant raising the question, Damian didn't waste any time and began his little performance.

"If it's food poisoning, even if she has a stomach ache, it would be because of diarrhea. But does your mom's condition look like it's caused by diarrhea?"

Damian's question left Isla stunned.

As she thought about it, she realized Damian was right! If she was suffering from food poisoning, then her symptoms should involve diarrhea, right? But she wasn't experiencing that at all! She was on her period! She was losing too much blood!

The more Isla thought about it, the stranger it seemed, so she asked Damian directly, "Wait, didn't you just say I had food poisoning? You even mentioned some special skills to fix it! How did your theory change so quickly? Now you're saying my symptoms aren't related to food poisoning?"

You did all those so-called checks. Are you trying to fool me? You couldn't find anything after all those tests you ran? If that's the case, you might as well be a country doctor rather than one of D.C.'s top doctors!"

Isla's words hit Damian like a slap to the face, making his cheeks burn bright red.

His anger turned his face darker than ever. With eyes as wide as saucers, he shot back at Isla, "Isla, what did you just say? You think I'm worse than some country bumpkin? You think I'm just a fraud?"

"Yes! You're definitely worse! At least this bumpkin claims he can fix my stomach pain in three minutes for just a hundred bucks. And you? You want over a million!"

This bumpkin can cure my stomach pain for a hundred bucks, and you're asking for millions! Based on your pricing, you're definitely not equal to this rural doctor. It's like comparing apples to oranges!"

Isla wasn't one to hold back. The moment she realized what Damian was trying to do, she had no intentions of being polite!

Damian was furious, and his neck seemed to swell with anger. His face, already red like a cherry, was now almost glowing. Even the most classic redneck would agree he was looking pretty ridiculous!

"Ha!" Damian chuckled coldly, trying

to shake off the awkwardness. He took a breath and spoke gently, "Isla, you're a big deal, right? You're smart! You're really going to believe this guy who says he can cure you for a hundred bucks? And, if you think he can help, why even come to me?"

"Damian, I didn't come looking for you; my son-in-law said you were great. But honestly, I'm really disappointed!"

Chapter 919 Try It

Isla had no respect for Damian.

At the end of the day, he was just a doctor, and not even from a well-off family. Isla's family and her husband's family were both second-tier families in D.C. with real power.

Damian, being just a doctor from a small clinic, didn't warrant any respect from her!

Her disregard for him made Damian's face feel like it was on fire. But there was little he could do because Isla's family was influential in D.C., a place where he couldn't afford to make enemies.

Despite being one of D.C.'s top doctors, it was all just reputation; he was basically an outsider with decent skills. He'd spent decades building his reputation, and if he ticked off Isla, she could easily ruin his hard work overnight.

If he ended up in bad terms with her family, he might lose everything, even face jail time for fraud!

Damian knew he had to tread carefully. He couldn't confront Isla directly, but he had to make sure Daniel, who was also a country doctor and younger to boot, didn't outshine him!

If Daniel actually treated Isla's

stomach issue successfully, he

might become quite the sensation in

D.C. That was something Damian

simply couldn't let happen. He

couldn't allow such a thing!

So, he began plotting. His goal? To take down Daniel, if not literally, then by tarnishing his name and driving him out of D.C. once and for all!

After thinking about it, he decided to make Daniel perform the treatment, and then he'd set him up for failure, making sure Daniel knew his pain!

"Isla, if this country doctor says he can help treat your stomach pain let's all be witnesses and have him do it right here! I want to see if this scam artist can actually cure you in three minutes!

If he succeeds, I'll pay the

dollars for your session. But if he fails, how should we deal with him? After all, he's the one treating you and wasting your time!"

Damian, playing the clever fox, knew if he wanted to hurt Daniel, he'd have to let Isla decide the punishment.

He could see she didn't trust Daniel and only got mad when she heard the quote for treatment.

Chapter 920 Waste

So, Damian aimed to direct Isla's anger toward Daniel.

If Daniel attempted anything and failed to help Isla, she would definitely blow up!

Isla didn't actually want Daniel to treat her, but she was in a tight spot now. If she let this bumpkin treat her and he messed up, it could lead to even bigger issues!

Just then, Avery spoke up.

"Isla, this guy may not have much else, but his medical skills are really impressive. If he says he can cure your stomach pain with one shot, then he probably can! Think about it; he was the first one who warned you about losing too much blood and that you would have a stomach ache!"

Avery's words made Isla think, and she realized it was true! [Search The website](#) to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

This was indeed the bumpkin who first mentioned her possible blood loss and stomach pain! He even blurted out some of her private matters without hesitation! Could this guy actually be good at what he does?

With that thought, Isla, who was already feeling conflicted, began to wonder if she should let him give it a try. However, she wasn't about to let him take her as a test subject without any conditions!

So, with a steely glare directed at Daniel, she asked, "So, bumpkin, you say you can cure me with a single shot Are you serious? This isn't just a joke?"

"Yep!" Daniel nodded with a big smile. "I'm a doctor, and I never joke about treating patients. If I do joke, it'll be about something else!"

"You said you'd fix me with one shot, but what if you fail? If I let you treat me and your shot doesn't work, what happens then?"

Isla wanted Daniel to set some conditions so that he could accept his punishment gracefully later!

"What do you think? If I can't help you with one shot, I can always try again!"

Daniel's answer almost made Isla furious.

"Bumpkin, do you even know what shame is? You said you could treat me with one shot. And now you're saying if it doesn't work, you'll just try again?"

What if you fail again on the second try? Are you going to keep on trying endlessly? How long will that take? You might never be able to help me! If that's the case, my skin would be full of holes!"

Daniel grinned at Isla and replied, "Isla, you got it all wrong. I wouldn't let your skin turn into Swiss cheese! You're beautiful, and your skin is so fair and smooth. If I ruined your skin, that would be such a waste!"

Chapter 921 Let's Make a Bet

Daniel's response made Isla scoff coldly.

"Ha!"

After her laugh, she cut to the chase. "If you don't want to ruin my skin, how many needles do you really need to cure me?"

"I can cure you with just one!" Daniel replied with a grin. "But I bet you'll be begging me for a second one!"

"Ha!"

Isla sneered again, "Begging you for a second? Do I look that pathetic?"

"Isla, begging for a second needle doesn't mean you're pathetic. It's because my treatment will feel really good!"

"Nonsense! No way! I wouldn't beg some hick like you for a second needle! Who ever thought acupuncture was pleasant? Do you think I'm an idiot?"

Isla hated needles. Just seeing one made her anxious. If she could, she would avoid any shots for the rest of her life. There was no way she would ever ask him for a second one.

"That's not true, Isla! You really will beg me for a second one," Daniel said with a chuckle, then he changed the subject. "How about we make a bet?"

"A bet? What kind of bet?"

Isla's bright eyes showed some suspicion as she looked at Daniel and asked, "Hick, do you have some dirty plan?"

"Isla, you're my mom's best friend! I wouldn't dare do anything bad to you! If I did, she'd kill me!"

As soon as he said that, Isla looked over at Avery.

"Avery, this hick son-in-law better not

do anything unreasonable to me! You have to beat him up! Make him cry so he knows what happens when he messes up!"

"Don't worry, Isla, I got you! This hick will be on his best behavior; he won't dare do anything against you!"

Even though Avery said that, she

knew deep down that Daniel was far from innocent. What exactly was on his mind, she couldn't guess, and it made her curious about what would happen next.

After getting Avery's confirmation, Isla turned back to Daniel.

"Hick, what are we betting on? What are the details?" she asked.

"Isla, didn't I just say? I can cure you with one needle, but you'll definitely want a second one. So let's bet on that!"

Daniel's words left Isla stunned.

With a puzzled look, she asked, "Just that? How?"

"The first needle will be to treat you, and I'll only charge you a hundred bucks. After all, I'm a doctor, and I'm not here to make money. But if after my first needle, when your stomach pain is gone, you still want me to give you a second one, then that second needle will cost you a million!"

As soon as Daniel finished speaking, Isla laughed coldly.

"Ha!"

After her laugh, she said, "Hick, don't worry. There's no way I'm asking you for a second needle, so you won't make that million."

Chapter 922 Do as You Wish

Smart Isla clearly understood Daniel's meaning.

She shifted gears, asking, "So you're saying if I don't ask for a second needle, you lose?"

Daniel nodded and answered, "Exactly!"

"Well, what happens if you lose?" Isla asked playfully.

"If you don't ask for a second needle, then I lose, and I'll give you a million!"

This left Isla speechless.

She looked at him incredulously and asked, "Hick, what did you just say? If I don't ask for a second needle, you'll give me a million? Do you really have that kind of money?"

"I definitely don't have a million in my pocket, but it's okay! I might not have it, but my mother-in-law does! If I lose, I'll have her give you a million!"

When Daniel said that, Isla laughed coldly again.

"Ha!"

After her laughter, she asked with a hint of disbelief, "Hick, did you just say that if you lose, your mother-in-law will pay? Does she really have that kind of cash for your gambling debts?"

"Of course she would! Isla, you're my mother-in-law's best friend. You know she's all about making money! So if I win, she wouldn't mind paying up. After all, if I win the million from you, I'll split it with her!" As soon as Daniel finished speaking, Avery shot him a glare.

"What is that supposed to mean? You want to make money off my funds?"

"Mom, I'm not! How did that even come up?" Daniel replied.

"Are you kidding? Do you think what you just said was nonsense? By saying that, you want to use my money to make money! If you win, you'll split it with me, but if you lose, I'm the one who pays the million. That means you're walking away with nothing!"

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"Mom, I am doing something! Don't have to treat her? I'm definitely going to win against Isla! And if I lose I'll accept any punishment you want!"

Avery couldn't help but laugh at his answer.

give

Because she had already devised a plan for punishing this hick.

"Fine! If you're so confident, I'll put up a million! But I'm warning you you said that if you can't beat Isla, I get to decide what happens next! That means whatever I say, you have to do it! No backing out!"

"Don't worry, Mom. Even though I'm not a decent guy, I'm a man of my word! So if I lose, I'll accept whatever you throw my way!" "Good!"

Avery nodded, saying, "I trust you won't try to back out! If you dare to pull a fast one on me, just wait and see how I'll punish you!" Once the terms were set, Avery turned to Isla. "Isla, this hick wants to bet against you, and I'll cover his wager!"

Chapter 923 A Confident Woman

"Avery, do you actually think this hick can win?" Isla asked curiously.

"There's no way he can win! Just wait till he loses he'll see how I punish him!"

The reason Avery agreed to cover the million was that she had more confidence in Daniel losing. Once he lost, she would make him divorce Jessica.

Her daughter can't marry a hick like that! She can't let this hick mess up her daughter's life!

Jessica is such a great girl; it would be a shame for her to get tied down to a fool like him! Hearing Avery's response, Isla couldn't help but smile, her eyes sparkling.

She knew her friend too well.

A million bucks was just pocket change for Avery; she didn't care about it at all.

So Isla believed what Avery said, hoping this hick would lose.

The plan was to make sure that after he lost, she could punish him thoroughly!

Isla looked at Daniel, smiling sweetly. "Hick, even though my friend agreed to lend you a million, she doesn't really believe you can win. So, are you still sure you want to bet against me? If you lose and owe me a million, how are you going to pay? If my mother-in-law gets angry, can you handle her wrath?"

"Your words make it sound like if I don't lose a million, my mother-in-law won't punish me. She could use any excuse she wants to punish me!

If punishment is inevitable, my goal

is to cure your stomach pain with one needle so you'll be begging for a second! That way, I can win that million Who knows, maybe she'll be so happy she won't even punish me!

"You winning? That's impossible! Even if your skills are impressive and you somehow treat my stomach pain with one needle, there's no way I'd even beg you for a second needle! Not happening! You'll lose-100% guaranteed!"

Isla was so confident.

After all, whether she asked Daniel for a second needle was entirely up to her; she held all the power in this situation.

"Then, Isla, where do you want to start? Here, or somewhere else?"

Daniel's question made Isla raise an eyebrow, intrigued.

What did he mean by that?

"I mean, treating you can be a private affair. I'd feel more comfortable not doing this in front of everyone. I'm a doctor, so it doesn't bother me, but I'm just worried about you feeling awkward."

Daniel's suggestion was undoubtedly well-intentioned and sincere.

He only needed to give Isla one needle, but afterward, her reaction could be quite dramatic.

In a public space, making strange noises wouldn't be too classy.

So, it was better to find somewhere more private.

Chapter 924 Awkward Moments

"Me awkward?"

Isla looked at Daniel suspiciously and asked, "Hick, are you planning something sneaky?"

"If I did anything sneaky to you, even if I could escape your punishment, I wouldn't dare! If I did something to you, my mother-in-law would beat me to a pulp! I'd be stuck drinking soup for the next month!" As soon as he said that, Avery's face darkened.

"Did you just call me old? Do I look that old to you?"

Seeing his mother-in-law angry, Daniel quickly explained with a sheepish grin, "Mom, you're pretty much an old lady at this point, so you can't be mad at me!"

"You little brat! I'll knock you out!"

Avery had no intention of holding back. She grabbed a decorative stick and swatted Daniel with it, making a loud sound.

But because the stick was made from a balloon, even if Avery hit him hard, it didn't hurt one bit.

Still, Daniel had to pretend to be in pain.

"Ah... ahhh..."

He acted in dramatic fashion, grabbing everyone's attention around them.

"Shut up and stop making a fuss!"

Avery scolded, and Daniel promptly zipped his mouth shut.

This son-in-law was quite obedient which made Avery feel a bit better. Still, she thought about how having a son-in-law to punish like this seemed kind of fun.

After all, she only had one daughter in her life.

She had never felt the need to punish Jessica for anything, so over the twenty-plus years, she had missed out on some of the authority that moms should have.

Now that she had this opportunity, she felt the itch to find a son to discipline.

Daniel was resilient; after being swatted, he wouldn't hold a grudge, and it was kind of entertaining.

This trait was likely Daniel's biggest strength in Avery's eyes, and it was what she liked most about him.

Once it was over, Avery looked at

Isla and suggested, "Isla, you have a

higher status; it wouldn't be

appropriate to get acupuncture in

public Let's find a private room

instead. I'll stay nearby to make sure

he doesn't do anything weird!"

"Mom, even if you're not around, I wouldn't dare do something weird! I'm a decent guy; I'm always honest! Why would I do anything strange?"

"You better behave! If you do anything weird, I'll make sure you regret it!"

Avery's glare was fiercer than a tiger's.

Isla thought about it and realized Avery was right, so she agreed.

"Getting acupuncture out here is definitely not convenient. Let's go to the inner room."

With that, Isla clacked her high heels and headed to an empty room.

Chapter 925 The Mysterious Needle

In addition to Daniel and Avery, Damian and Grant followed them inside.

Isla shot them both a look and demanded, "You two get out!"

Her words shocked Grant.

"Mom, if I don't keep an eye on him, what if this hick does something to you?" he asked.

"Avery will keep an eye out! You need to go! Make sure no one else comes in here! Your job is to guard the door!"

Isla commanded, and Grant had no choice but to comply and go out to guard the door.

With Grant and Damian dispatched, only three people remained in the room: Daniel and two beautiful women!

Isla looked at Daniel coldly and asked, "Hick, how do you plan to treat me?"

"Since I'm treating you, even though I'm only charging a hundred bucks, I have to show my sincerity and my best skills! So, I'm going to use my Needle of Seven Dragons to treat you!" Needle of Seven Dragons?

That name caught Isla's attention.

She looked at Daniel with a smile and said playfully, "Needle of Seven Dragons'? That sounds impressive! Let's see if this hick is just trying to pull a fast one!"

Daniel pulled out a small, worn bamboo tube. Inside was his Needle of Seven Dragons.

He opened the tube and revealed the needles inside.

As soon as Isla saw the black, rusty needles, her brow furrowed.

She had held on to some hope about this Needle of Seven Dragons, but seeing them now crushed her fantasy.

Pointing at the small, dirty needle, she asked Daniel, "Hick, is this really the Needle of Seven Dragons? You're planning on using this dirty, rusty needle for acupuncture?"

"Isla, my Needle of Seven Dragons

may look dirty, but it's a sacred

object from Asgard. Not everyone is qualified to use it. Because you're my mother's best friend, I'm giving it to you."

Daniel's words earned him only a scoff from Isla.

"Ha!"

After her laugh, she looked at him with disdain and casually replied, "Hick, I thought you might be a straightforward guy since you're

from the countryside. But now it net

seems you're not as innocent

thought! I can tell just by looking at these needles that they're junk. You say they're from Asgard? You're not claiming to be a god, are you?"

"I'm definitely not a god right now, just an ordinary guy. But who knows what the future holds? I might actually become one!"

Daniel wasn't boasting; he just didn't want to lie to his mother-in-law, so he decided to speak the truth.

Naturally, his comments earned him another derisive laugh from Isla.

"Ha!"

After her laughter, Isla said dismissively, "Hick, if you're going to brag, at least act normal while doing it! What are you saying? You think you're going to become a god? Did you even hear what you just said? You think anyone would believe you?"

Chapter 926 Punishment

Daniel didn't want to waste time arguing with Isla; he'd already figured out she wouldn't understand anyway.

So, he shifted the topic. "Isla, let's take care of that stomach pain first. Otherwise, you might end up bleeding again!"

Isla glanced at the Needle of Seven Dragons in Daniel's hand and grew increasingly disgusted. Finally, she frowned and said, "That Needle of Seven Dragons doesn't work for me; it's too dirty and gross. If you're going to give me acupuncture, you need to use a cleaner needle. So, I'll have someone bring in a set of new needles!"

Isla was a bit of a neat freak, and that Needle of Seven Dragons looked filthy. Who knows how many people had used it before?

The thought of that needle having touched so many people before being stuck in her body was unbearable. That absolutely couldn't happen!

So yes, she could accept Daniel giving her acupuncture-just a small prick in her skin wouldn't be the end of the world. But she specifically insisted on using a clean, brand-new silver needle that no one had ever used.

Before long, Isla summoned someone to bring in a new set of silver needles.

She pointed to the pristine, high-quality, freshly sterilized silver needles and said, "Use this, hick."

Daniel looked at the silver needle and smiled, reminding her, "Isla, this silver needle is indeed new and looks clean. But it's just an ordinary needle. I can use it to cure your stomach pain with one prick, but it might hurt a bit because the needle head is quite large. You'll need to endure it!"

As soon as Daniel finished speaking, Avery had already reached for his waist and gave it a hard pinch.

"Ah... Ahhh..."

He yelped in exaggerated pain!

"Mom, why are you pinching me? That hurts so much! You're gonna kill me!" Daniel exclaimed, clutching his side.

"What do you think? If you keep

talking nonsense, you'll face

consequences!" Avery scold

him.

What an idiot! How could he make such ridiculous comments?

"Mom, I'm not talking nonsense! Every word say is true! I'm not lying to Isla. The needle head really is big. If I stick it in, it's going to hurt a bit! You know that the bigger the needle, the more it hurts when you first stick

it in!"

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Before he could finish, Avery pinched him again.

"Ah... Ahhh..."

This time, she pinched harder, making his yelps even louder!

"Mom, I'm sorry!"

"Mom, I promise I won't do it again!"

"Please just let me off this time! I swear I'll shut up and just treat Isla!"

When it came to giving in, Daniel was quick.

After all, surrendering to a woman doesn't feel like surrender!

"Keep

mouth shut! If you dare

talk onse again, you

will happen!" Content bo know what

Avery snapped at Daniel and then began to boss him around.

Chapter 927 Misunderstanding

"Stop stalling! Get on with treating Isla! If you can't cure her, just wait and see how I punish you!"

Deep down, Avery actually hoped Daniel could cure Isla's pain with just one needle.

After all, even though she looked down on him as a son-in-law, it'd be quite amusing if he did manage to cure her friend's stomach pain with one shot!

Daniel picked up a needle and asked Isla, "Are you sure you want me to use this silver needle?"

"Absolutely!" Isla replied.

"All right!" Daniel pointed to the large sofa and said, "Isla, please lie down comfortably!"

"Lie down?" Isla looked skeptical and asked, "What do you mean by that?"

"To give you acupuncture, I need to treat your stomach pain, so you have to lie on your stomach. That way, I can target the right area for treatment!" Daniel said earnestly.

Every word he spoke, every look he gave, not a hint of mischief was in sight!

"What area are you talking about?" Isla asked.

Fearing she wouldn't understand if he described it, he pointed back at himself, saying, "Right here."

That gesture shocked Isla, and she yelled, "Hick, are you crazy?! You actually want to stick a needle near my... you know?"

From her reaction, Daniel instantly realized she had misunderstood his intentions, and it was a huge misunderstanding at that.

So he quickly clarified with a laugh,

"Isla, I'm not being lewd! I genuinely

want to treat your stomach pain. You see, this is a serious issue-it's an old problem that has built up and exploded tonight. To solve it all at once, I really need to work around that area."

At that moment, Daniel paused before adding, "Of course, if you really don't want me to do that, I have an alternative solution. But that one will only relieve the pain temporarily, which means in a few days, you'll still have stomach pain

and lose blood."

"Then let's just stick with the alternative!" Isla said, not holding back. "You're such a dumbass-you really are a pervert! I can tell you can't cure anyone; you're just trying to pull a fast one!" Avery couldn't help but raise an eyebrow as she listened to the exchange.

"Fine, if you won't accept the first plan, I'll just stick a needle in your fingertip it might hurt a bit, but it should still help. At least the pain from your finger won't compare to your current stomach pain!"

As soon as Daniel said that, Isla shot him another icy glare.

"Ha!" After her cold laugh, she asked, "Hick, are you admitting you've been lying?"

Daniel looked dumbfounded. "Lying? What do you mean?"

"You just said you would stick a needle near my... you know you're just trying to take advantage of me! Because you could simply fix this stomach pain by pricking my fingertip instead!"

Chapter 928 Exposed

Isla crossed her arms and glared at him, expecting an explanation.

"If you think that way, then so be it! I don't care!"

That was Daniel's response.

Isla's jaw dropped in shock.

"Hey..."

After saying that, she coldly continued, "Hick, what do you mean by that? Are you just giving up? You've been caught, and now you can't even be bothered to explain?"

"Honestly, what's the point in explaining to someone as foolish as you? No matter how much I explain, you'll just think I'm covering up and lying. You wouldn't believe me, so I might as well not say anything!"

"Oh please! You hick who probably never even graduated elementary school, you think I wouldn't see through you?"

"Isla, you're talking too much. Seems like your stomach isn't hurting enough! If it's not hurting enough, there's no need for me to treat you! So just deal with it!"

"What do you mean by that?"

"Nothing specific! Just a reminder that in three seconds, your stomach will start to hurt, and you'll feel pain like never before!"

After speaking, Daniel started counting down.

"Three!

"Two!

"One!"

As soon as Daniel counted to "one," Isla's stomach suddenly exploded with sharp pain.

"Ow... Ow ow..."

She clutched her stomach and curled up on the sofa like a shrimp.

Intense pain caused beads of sweat to form on her forehead, dripping down like raindrops.

"Ow! It hurts so bad! I think I'm dying!"

Isla cried out dramatically. Although she wanted to scream louder, the agony made it hard to do so.

Daniel walked over with a smirk,

asking, Isla, how do you feel?

Iş

your stomach pain worse than net

childbirth?"

"Ow! You hick, hurry up and treat me!"

In her pain, Isla was losing her composure.

Daniel clasped Isla's hand, and her fingers were truly beautiful, reminiscent of delicate soft flesh.

Of course, Daniel wasn't a creep and didn't take advantage of the moment.

Instead, he swiftly grabbed the silver needle and proceeded to treat her.

With a quick prick, the needle went into Isla's fingertip.

"Ah! Ahhh!"

She cried out in pain as if a pig was being slaughtered, making Daniel raise his eyebrows.

As the needle went into her

finger, she was genuinely

scared because the finger knife

was going through her

finger. However, after the brief agony, Isla felt a warm sensation enter her fingertip.

That warmth quickly flowed through her veins, bringing her a sense of comfort.

At the same time, her stomach pain also began to ease.

But soon, the comforting sensation vanished from her body, leaving her

with nothing but the lingering

memory of relief.

Chapter 929 One Million

Just as Isla was enjoying that warm feeling, it vanished in an instant, leaving her with a hint of resentment in her eyes. She glared at Daniel and asked irritably, "Is that it?"

"Yep! That's all!" Daniel replied cheerfully.

"Is that really how it works? You treat me and just stick me with one needle? Is it always this quick? You're so irresponsible!"

Isla's expression was one of disappointment, as if it were her wedding night and her husband had finished way too soon.

Her frustration was almost suffocating to Daniel. He knew exactly what she wanted. He understood that the treatment had made Isla feel good, but the effect was short-lived, leaving her wanting more. That old woman was full of complaints now!

Daniel looked at Isla and asked, "So, does your stomach still hurt?"

"It doesn't hurt anymore," Isla replied automatically.

"Well, since your stomach isn't hurting, I've cured it already! No need for further treatment!" Daniel said.

"I still feel uncomfortable! Sure, my stomach doesn't hurt, and it seems like I'm not bleeding anymore, but I still feel weird!" Isla insisted.

Her cheeks were flushed, reminiscent of a newlywed bride. She felt shy yet bold at the same time. After all, she had tasted the sweetness of intimacy!

Any grievances or complaints she had now could be shared freely without hesitation.

"Isla, you're saying you feel uncomfortable-where exactly?" Daniel asked.

"I feel uncomfortable everywhere! My whole body doesn't feel right. You might have fixed my stomach pain with that last needle, but now I'm uncomfortable; you've given me side effects, and I need more treatment!"

At that moment, Isla couldn't shake the itching urge in her heart; she really wanted Daniel to give her a second needle. Otherwise, it felt like she had an itch that couldn't be scratched, leaving her utterly restless!

"I'm telling you, Isla! We made a bet! If you want me to give you a second needle, you owe me a million. So if you want me to treat you again, that's perfectly fine, but you need to pay up first. One million for the

second needle, and if you wer

a

third, that'll be another million. The first needle is a hundred bucks, but every needle after that will cost you a million."

No sooner had Daniel spoken than Avery's hand was already at his waist, twisting him hard.

"Ah... Ahhh..."

With her motherly strength, Daniel couldn't help but squeal in exaggerated pain.

Afterward, he clutched his side and looked at Avery with pitiful eyes, "Mom, why'd you twist me again?"

"Are you charging Isla for treatment? A million? Are you an idiot? Isla is my best friend! Hurry up and treat her. If you bring up money again, I'll make you regret it!"

Chapter 930 Needle of Seven Dragons

Avery wouldn't bat an eyelash at a million bucks; she wouldn't let something trivial like money come between her friendship with Isla. So she swiftly put an end to Daniel's absurdity!

After being reprimanded by Avery, Daniel had no choice but to comply! Rubbing his sore side, he cheerfully admitted, "Sure thing! Mom calls the shots! If you say I'm supposed to treat Isla for free, then I'll treat her for free!"

With that, Daniel pulled out his Needle of Seven Dragons again, grinning at Isla. "Isla, that silver needle you had brought, although it's new, will hurt when it goes in. I know you felt that pain when I gave you the first needle. Sure, once it's in, you'll feel good! But at the moment of insertion? You'll have to bear some serious pain!"

Daniel wasn't lying; every word was true.

Isla had experienced it firsthand and understood all too well. Originally, she had doubted Daniel's skills and turned her nose up at that dirty needle. Now, she had come to trust Daniel's abilities, but that Needle of Seven Dragons still looked kind of grimy. She was still somewhat reluctant.

After a moment's thought, Isla suggested, "Hick, can't you wash that Needle of Seven Dragons? Maybe sterilize it with some alcohol or something?"

"If

f you think my Needle of Seven Dragons is dirty, then I guess I won't treat you! This needle isn't for everyone to use! I can use it on you because you're lucky, Isla. Otherwise, you're not worthy of it!"

"It's an honor for you to treat me!" Isla shot back at Daniel, a little annoyed.

Then, with a glare, she urged, "Hick, don't waste time. Hurry up and treat me! That last needle cured my stomach pain, but I still feel lousy. If you can't make me feel better today, I won't let this go!"

Isla, the older woman, was insisting on her demands with Daniel.

"Fine, since you're complaining about my Needle of Seven Dragons being dirty, I use the silver one instead! But you'll have to know the second needle still needs to be

applied near your... well, you know. So you'll need to lift your backside." Daniel said seriously.

In his eyes

there was not a trace of mischief. He was simply trying to administer the needed treatment; he

wasn't trying to take advantage of

her.

Even if the older woman was stunning and had a magnetic presence, Daniel wasn't interested in taking any advantage from her.

Isla felt a bit embarrassed by his request. After all, that was a position she had only used with her husband.

To do that in front of a kid felt utterly awkward!

Although Isla was a seasoned woman, she still felt a bit shy and hesitant about the whole idea.

Chapter 931 The Troublesome Woman

After pondering for a while, Isla turned to Avery.

"Avery, what do you think?" she asked.

Isla's question left Avery a bit taken aback. After a moment's hesitation, Avery replied, "Don't worry, Isla. This country guy seems like a decent fellow. He's just trying to help you with your health; he doesn't have any ulterior motives. So, you shouldn't worry too much or feel burdened. Everything is going to be fine!"

"Avery, are you saying that I should follow his instructions? If he tells me to strike a pose, I should just do it?" Isla asked.

"Well, if it's for your health, of course you should listen to the doctor. I don't know much about him, but in terms of treating people, he seems pretty reliable. Just trust him, and you shouldn't run into any problems! And don't worry, I'll keep an eye on him. If he dares to cross any lines, you won't have to say a word; I'll make sure he pays for it!"

Even though Avery reassured her, Isla still felt a bit shy. After all, doing those kinds of movements was just too embarrassing!

Suddenly, she remembered something and asked Daniel, "Country guy, if I lift my skirt, how are you going to give me a shot? I still have this skirt on! You can't be serious about me having to..." She couldn't bring herself to finish the sentence. Her face flushed a deep red, all the way to the back of her neck!

This was just too embarrassing! She had never felt this way before!

Realizing what Isla meant, Daniel noticed that even though she was wearing a fitted skirt, it was pretty thick.

"Isla, if you're uncomfortable lifting

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your skirt, you'll have to change into something else, something thinner Maybe even something sheer. Otherwise, I won't be able to give you the shot!" Daniel hurriedly suggested.

At his demand, Isla shook her head and refused.

"No way! Absolutely not! If I change into something sheer, it'll be

completely see-through. Even when I'm just standing normally, you

I plift

would see everything! If I have to lift my skirt, then you would see everything! No way! That's.

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absolutely out of the question! Don't even think about it!"

"Actually, Isla, I've already treated your stomach pain. You don't need another injection right now," Daniel said. He honestly didn't want to give her another shot, especially since she was being so awkward about it.

"It doesn't matter! After you gave me

the first one, still feel

uncomfortable! So, you have to give me a second shot! You're the one who made me feel this way, so you have to help me feel better today! If not, I won't let it drop!"

Isla was really difficult to deal with! She wanted it both ways, everything at once.

"Isla, how about this? I'll close my eyes while giving you the shot, and I promise I won't look at you at all. Forget about lifting your skirt! Even if you were completely naked, I wouldn't see a thing!"

Chapter 932 The Blind Man Touches the Elephant

After thinking for a long time, Daniel came up with this solution.

It was the best he could think of at the moment.

Isla was stunned by Daniel's suggestion.

She looked at him with disbelief, asking, "Country guy, what did you just say? You want to give me treatment with your eyes closed?"

"Yes!" Daniel nodded. "Isla, if you're so shy about me treating you because I'm a guy, I'll close my eyes so you won't feel embarrassed!" "How can you treat me if your eyes are closed? If you miss and make things worse, what then?" Isla questioned.

"Don't worry, even with my eyes closed, I can hit the mark!" Daniel replied seriously.

"You can do that with your eyes closed? No way!" Isla couldn't believe it, looking skeptical. "How can you possibly be accurate?"

Suddenly, Isla had an epiphany. "Country guy, are you trying to trick me? You're saying you'll hit the mark with your eyes closed, but in reality, you would peek!"

"Peek? Why would I do that?" Daniel shook his head. "Isla, don't worry. I might not be a perfect gentleman, but I'm a man of my word! If I say I'll keep my eyes closed and won't peek, then I won't peek at all!"

"You saying it doesn't mean much!" Isla replied thoughtfully. "I won't believe you unless you wear a blindfold!"

"Fine! A blindfold it is!" Daniel agreed.

Isla found a blindfold and put it on him. It was thick enough that Daniel couldn't see anything.

But Daniel wasn't just any guy; he had special abilities that allowed him to see through anything!

So, a blindfold wouldn't stop him at all! But Daniel was an honest man, and if he said he wouldn't peek, he wouldn't.

After he put on the blindfold, Isla felt a bit more at ease.

Still, she felt suspicious and asked,

"Country guy, since you can't see et Bindfold, how are y t me?" Content belo going

"Isla, have you heard of the blind man touching the elephant?"

The phrase left Isla momentarily confused.

She thought about it for a long time

but

meant

understand what he

, she curiously askedne

"What do you mean by the blind man touching the elephant?"

"It means when you can't use your eyes, you can use your hands to feel. Actually, for treatment, looking always necessary; sometimes touching is more accurate!"

explained seriously, but Isla

interrupted him.

"Pervert! You little rascal, is that your plan all along?"

Chapter 933 Another Misunderstanding

Isla's outburst startled Daniel.

"Isla, how did I become a pervert again?" he asked innocently.

"Hey! How can you ask that?" Isla glared at him, seriously annoyed.

"You're a country bumpkin and a pervert! I thought you were a gentleman for closing your eyes, but you just want to get touchy-feely! You might not look, but you still want to

touch? I'm warning you, if you dare to lay a finger on me, I'll chop your hand off and feed it to the dogs!"

"Isla, while you are still quite charming, let's face it you're not exactly young anymore. If I touched you, I would be the one losing out! In terms of age and looks, I'm definitely the better one here!" Daniel's remark only earned a cold laugh from Isla.

"Ha!"

After laughing, she disdainfully said, "You, a country bumpkin, pretending to be a handsome guy? Please! You're just a weirdo no one would want to be with!"

"Isla, you don't know. I'm already married! So, what you said doesn't apply. In fact, quite a few women want to go out with me!"

"Oh? You're greedy, aren't you? You say that to your mother-in-law too?"

"With my mother-in-law, I'm

incredibly respectful. I wouldn't dare say anything like that in front of her. If I did, she'd smack me!" Daniel responded with a chuckle.

Avery rolled her eyes at his comment.

"Country bumpkin, what are you saying? You claim you can't say a word in front of me, yet you're always talking non-stop! Not only that, but you somehow manage to make me as mad as a hornet each time you open your mouth! Sometimes I just wish I could stitch your mouth shut to get some peace from your nonsense!"

After ranting about Daniel for a bit, Avery suddenly thought of something serious.

She looked at Daniel intently and asked, "Was what you said earlier true?"

Daniel was puzzled by her question. "Mom, what are you talking about?"

"What do you mean? I'm asking if you feel like just looking at her body isn't enough, and you want to touch Isla too?"

Daniel nearly choked on his words at

that. "Mom! Isla is your best friend! And just because she's your age doesn't mean I want anything to do with her! Even if she asked, I

wouldn't dare! Besides, I alrea-el.ne

told

you, Isla's stomach pain is gone, so she doesn't even need a second treatment. But she insists I keep treating her-what can I do?"

Chapter 934 Halfway There

Daniel's response immediately made Isla angry.

"What do you mean, country bumpkin? When did I ever ask you for a second treatment? You were the one who gave me the first shot, and it didn't fully cure me! What, are you planning to give up halfway?" Isla knew full well that Daniel's first treatment had already done wonders for her stomach pain.

But the feeling he produced during the treatment was something special. She wanted Daniel to treat her more, not just once more but ideally, a hundred times!

If Daniel wanted to treat her all night long, she would gladly welcome it. That way, she'd feel fantastic!

Isla's accusation was something Daniel couldn't accept!

With a smirk, he responded, "Isla, even though you're beautiful and have your charm, you can't just ignore logic! You wanted a second treatment, but I never turned you down. It's you refusing to let me treat you!"

"Hey! You've got some nerve! You're the one acting perverted! One minute you want me to lift my skirt, and the next you want to touch me. From where I stand, it looks like you just want to take advantage of me!"

In a war of words, Isla never backed down. Besides, she wasn't up against a strong opponent here; Daniel was just an annoying brat.

If she couldn't handle this little rascal, what was the point of her even trying?

"Isla, if that's how you're going to be, I might just stop the treatment! If I don't give you a second shot, I won't take advantage of you. See? You won't lose anything! And I won't risk my good reputation for no reason!"

Daniel also had a temper; he wasn't just going to be pushed around. This time, he really meant it.

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When Isla heard him say that, she became super agitated.

She stared at him wide-eyed, "Country bumpkin, what do you mean? Are you threatening me?"

"Threatening?" Daniel shook his head, smiling. "Not at all!"

"Hey! You don't mean that! Pft!"

With a scoff, Isla taunted, "You're not scared, are you? I don't believe you!"

"Okay! Isla, you're gorgeous! You want to call the shots; fine, you win! If you want a second treatment, I won't wear the blindfold. You need

to lift your skirt whenever I ask you.

Otherwise, forget it! I won't give you that second shot!"

Daniel's firmness left Isla fuming.

But at this point, the rush of pleasure from and

first treatment was f

stomach no longer hurt.

She no longer craved a second treatment; she just didn't care anymore.

Suddenly, there was a knock on the door.

"Who is it?" Isla called out irritably.

Chapter 935 A Night of Fortune

"Mom, it's me!" Grant's voice came from outside.

"Why are you knocking?" Isla asked.

"Jade Gambling is about to start; it's the main event of the night!" Grant exclaimed.

"I got it," Isla replied.

Then she turned to Avery, asking, "How about we go out and play? Jade Gambling is so much fun!"

"Jade Gambling?" Avery shook her head. "I don't know how!"

Daniel, overhearing, jumped in. "Mom, it doesn't matter if you don't know. I do! I'm great at it! Jade Gambling? I win every time. Just guessing what's in those stones should be a piece of cake!"

Isla couldn't help but laugh.

"Ha!"

She first gave Daniel a dismissive scoff before coldly asking, "Country bumpkin, have you even played that before?"

"Nope!" Daniel said honestly with a grin. "But when I was in my village, I bet with friends about what was in cow dung! The stones outside can't be more valuable than the cow dung we have! I won every time I made a bet on the dung, so I'm sure I can win at Jade Gambling too!"

Daniel was purely talking nonsense.

Sure, he'd bet about cow dung, but not just any dung; it was from Asgard's sacred bulls!

That kind of dung was even more precious than bird's nest soup-worth billions!

After hearing Daniel, Isla couldn't help but cover her mouth, laughing out loud.

"Ha!"

Once she stopped laughing, she looked at him disdainfully and said, "The cow dung from your village is worth nothing-don't even dare compare it to the original stones used in Jade Gambling!"

"What are original stones?" Daniel pretended to ask innocently.

"You country bumpkin! You don't even know what original stones are and you want to gamble? Ha!"

Laughing coldly, Isla took the opportunity to enlighten Daniel.

"The original stones outside aren't just regular rocks. They've been carefully selected. Once cut open, you might find jade inside! If you're lucky and cut it right, it can be worth ten, a hundred times what you paid! It might even go up to a thousand or ten thousand times!

That's why Jade Gambling can make you rich overnight! But of course, with gambling comes winning and losing. Some win first and lose later; others do the

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opposite. Those original stones can make someone rich overnight or

leave them broke!"

"So you're saying," Daniel asked mockingly, "that if I bought one with a hundred bucks, I could win a million if I'm lucky?" His question made Isla chuckle.

"Ha!"

Naturally, Isla was used to giving Daniel a cold laugh first.

Read Chapter 936 Can't Win

Chapter 936 Can't Win

Then Isla scoffed at Daniel, "What did you say? You want to join the Jade Gambling with just a hundred bucks?"

"Why not a hundred bucks?" Daniel shot back.

Isla rolled her eyes, "The cheapest original stone outside costs tens of thousands. Jade Gambling for just a hundred bucks? Do you think you're buying donkey dung in the village or something?" "Come on, Isla! Are you saying a hundred bucks isn't enough? Is that making you feel ashamed? You can't afford it, can you?" she teased.

"Can't afford it? Who said I can't? Sure, I don't have the cash, but my mom does!"

As soon as he said that, Daniel turned to Avery with a cheeky grin, "Hey Mom, can you lend me a million bucks? I want to have some fun!"

"Are you kidding me?" Avery spat back, looking utterly unimpressed. "Why would I lend you a million dollars?"

"Because you're my mom! I've called you 'Mom' so many times. You even owe me my prize money! Was that all for nothing? Plus, it's a loan! I'll pay you back two million later. How's that?" Daniel's proposal earned him a scoff from Isla.

"Ha!"

After that derisive laugh, Isla

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mocked, "Really? You think you can borrow a million from your mother-in-law and promise to double it back? You're dreaming! After you gamble, let's see if you even have two bucks left! Once you start betting, you'll lose everything! People like you, fresh from the countryside, have no idea when to stop. You'll definitely lose!"

"Isla, don't you know? Guys like me have divine protection, so my luck is incredible! I never lose!" Daniel replied confidently.

This got him another cold laugh from Isla.

"Ha!"

After her scoff, Isla asked, "You

really think luck is all there is to Jade

Gambling? Even if you hit the

jackpot today, you won't win! Jade Gambling isn't about luck; it's about skill. If it were all luck, everyone would be a millionaire!"

"Of course gambling is about luck!

Just like when I play poker in the village. I always get the best cards and no matter how good the others are, they can't beat me. Even if someone's skilled, it doesn't matter in front of my amazing luck!"

Daniel then looked at Isla, "How about you invest in me?"

"Invest in you?" Isla raised an eyebrow. "What do you mean by that?"

"Just lend me a million bucks for Jade Gambling. If I win, we split the profits. If I lose, it's on you!"

Chapter 937 No Lies Allowed

"Isla, you put up the money while I provide the luck. We win together, and you won't lose anything! My luck is something rare! I never lose!" Daniel boasted. Isla didn't reply directly but turned to Avery with a grin. "Avery, look at your country bumpkin son-in-law. He thinks he can use my money!"

Despite the jest, Avery felt embarrassed and angry.

Avery stared at Daniel, "You're already embarrassing, and now you want to con Isla out of her money? I'll knock you out!"

"Mom, you've got it all wrong! This isn't a scam! I'm partnering with Isla for mutual gain! If she gives me a million bucks, at worst, I'll earn her five million tonight."

"Or you can invest a million for me, Mom! We could have two million as startup funds. After we make some money, we'll all share the profits! I estimate I can win at least one hundred million tonight! That's a sure way to make both you and Isla happy!"

"What's the deal?" Avery asked.

"We share the winnings like this: you and Isla both get 30%, and I take 40%!" Daniel said.

"Hey! You think that's a fair deal? Not only do you look ugly, you're greedy too! I'll end you a million, but if you win, it's all ours, we split it in half. You won't see a dime!"

"And if you lose, you better stay away from my daughter Jessica! You can't tell her I forced you to leave. You have to say you're the jerk who let her down!"

Daniel grinned. "Mom, are you telling

me to lie? I can't do that! When I got married, I promised to never lie to
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her. If I dared to, I'd deserve to spend all eternity in hell!"

Avery instantly showed disbelief, looking skeptical. "You're saying you've never lied to Jessica?"

"Never! Definitely not one single lie!" Daniel claimed, unwavering.

While he wasn't sure how many lies he had told Jessica, Avery still didn't buy it.

"So, you really haven't lied even once?" she pressed.

"I tried! There was one time I thought about lying but got caught by your clever daughter. She punished me so badly that I learned not to lie again, no matter what the temptation!"

"Wow! I knew there was no way you were that honest! You really managed to fool my daughter? Guess you got punished for it, huh? Men like you deserve it!"

Chapter 938 Grant's Thoughts

While Avery feigned annoyance, smiles appeared on her face revealing dimples, making her even more charming. "Mom, maybe that's why you've fallen for my kind of man?" Daniel teased.

Avery shot him a glare. "Get lost! You're sick!"

As they stepped out of the room, Grant saw Isla's rosy complexion and asked with concern, "Mom, are you alright?"

"What's wrong with me?" Isla snapped back.

"I was just worried the country bumpkin's treatment wasn't working and might make it worse. Did you really let him treat you in there?" Grant said, genuinely concerned.

The expensive doctor Damian had been turned away by Isla for being too pricey. If this country bumpkin managed to cure her for just a hundred bucks, Grant would feel embarrassed.

What puzzled him more was that Isla spent outrageous sums at beauty salons without batting an eye, yet turned down a top-notch doctor simply because he asked for a million.

Grant had thought that if Isla paid, he could reclaim some of it from Damian later, since he figured Damian would give him a cut.

"That bumpkin has no right to treat me!" Isla declared.

She was all about her pride and definitely wouldn't want to admit someone like him had given her treatment. Still, there was a part of her eager to find another chance for Daniel's help. But it had to be disereet; no one else could know.

Suddenly, Isla had a plan. "Country bumpkin, aren't you asking me to lend you a million for Jade Gambling? If you win, I'll take fifty percent of the profits, and if you lose you owe me two million! Show me your QR code; I'll transfer the money!"

This was her way to add him as a friend while transferring money, ensuring they could meet up privately later.

Daniel didn't overthink it; he simply pulled up his QR code for her to add him as a friend.

After adding him, Isla transferred one million without any hesitation.

Grant was taken aback, staring at her in disbelief. "Mom, what are you doing giving a million bucks to this bumpkin? Didn't you say you were giving it to him for Jade Gambling?"

Chapter 939 Bad Investment

"Yep!" Isla nodded. "I'm giving this country bumpkin the money for Jade Gambling!"

Grant was dumbfounded, struggling to find words. "Mom, are you crazy? You're really handing a million to this country bumpkin for gambling? Does he even know how to gamble? He's just a clueless village fool! Giving him a million is pure waste!"

"Even if it is a waste, I still want to! Who are you to question me? This is my money!" Isla shot back.

"I'm not just giving him a million; he's got to get one from you too! Altogether that's two million. If he wins, we split it down the middle. If he dares to lose, we'll punish him!"

Isla said this casually, but Daniel took it seriously. Being punished by two sophisticated women? He couldn't imagine what that would entail!

"Sure, Mom, if that's what makes you happy!" Grant grumbled, his annoyance targeting Daniel.

However, there was a silver lining. Grant had also invested in the gambling. Those original stones were worth a fortune-after expenses, he stood to make at least a billion.

Naturally, each stone had been thoroughly evaluated by experts, and he knew exactly what they were worth.

Daniel only had two million, meaning he could only buy stones from the lower-value market. None of those stones would return a profit.

Whatever he picked would yield virtually nothing! No matter which stone he bought, its value would barely exceed the purchase price.

Grant gestured toward the originals

on display. "Hey, country bumpkin,

hared toward the

ever played this before?"

"Nope!" Daniel shook his head. "Back in the village, I bet on what's inside Gambling, all based on luck. If luck is on my side, I can win!"

cow dung! I'm sure it's just e

At this, Grant couldn't help himself and burst into laughter. "Ha ha ha..."

After catching his breath from laughing, he pointed at Daniel. "Yo bet what's inside cow dung? Ha

ha ha..." Content belong, ung

"Is that funny? Is cow dung hilarious?" Daniel asked.

"Of course it is! Cow dung is disgusting! You'd even bet on what's inside that? Ha ha ha..."

"Cow dung may be gross, but it's valuable! It's worth more than many rare herbs!"

"Ha ha ha..."

Grant was doubled over with laughter.

Once he calmed down, he sneered, "You think cow dung is precious? You're a true country bumpkin!"

Chapter 940 Insult

Suddenly, Daniel had a thought and asked with a grin, "Grant, is this Capital Hotel yours? You're also an investor in tonight's Jade Gambling, right?" "Of course!" Grant replied.

"If I win tonight, getting ten or eight billion, you won't be crying, will you?" Daniel teased innocently.

"Ha ha ha..."

Daniel's words set off another bout of laughter from Grant.

Afterward, Grant, with a smirk, asked, "What did you just say? You think you can win me ten billion at Jade Gambling?"

"Yeah! I want to win ten billion! I'm going to make you cry!" Daniel said with a cheeky smile. "But Grant, if you admit defeat now, I might consider winning a little less, like one or two million, just enough to keep my mom and Isla happy!"

"Ha!"

Grant habitually scoffed at Daniel.

After his mockery, he growled, "You country bumpkin really are clueless! You think you can win ten billion from me? You really think gambling is easy like mowing grass in your village?"

"Gambling isn't easy, I know! It's much harder! You should know I learned to mow grass from Big Yellow. Big Yellow is way smarter than you, Grant! When it comes to betting, there's no guarantee I'll win against Big Yellow. But against you? I'll definitely win!"

Daniel had no other motive but to embarrass Grant, especially in front of Isla. It was a son-in-law competition tonight-he just couldn't let Avery down! "Big Yellow?"

That name struck a wrong chord with Grant.

Looking at

curiously, he

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t sound like a

asked, "Who is this Big Yellow? That

its more like a

name;

"Big Yellow isn't a person; he's a dog! A golden retriever! He's the smartest dog in our village!"

As soon as Daniel said that, it felt like an insult to Grant.

So, he got mad.

Pointing at Daniel, he demanded loudly, "What do you mean by that? Are you saying I'm not as good as a dog?"

"Grant, you're lucky to be compared to Big Yellow!"

Daniel's words nearly sent Grant into a rage.

"Are you really gonna insult me, country bumpkin?"

"Grant, I'm not insulting you! I wouldn't dare! I'm just telling the truth! Getting to be compared to Big Yellow is your luck and a blessing you've been given!"

Grant originally prided himself on being quick-witted, but Daniel left him momentarily speechless.

He glared at Daniel, grinding his

teeth and said, "You want to play Those original stones are right there. Go ahead and buy some! I just hope you're not all talk, and actually have the guts to buy those!"

Chapter 941 The Poor Guy

As Grant continued to mock Daniel, he suddenly remembered something.

"Oh! I just thought of something! You, country bumpkin, only have two million dollars. So, guess what? You can't buy over ninety percent of these original stones because less than ten percent are priced under two million!"

Daniel glanced at the original stones on stage. After inspecting them closely, he looked through each one carefully. Among the pile of inexpensive stones, there were indeed some that contained jade, but their value was quite low. The best piece was worth at most a few million-definitely not touching a hundred million.

If he wanted to beat Grant for seven or eight hundred million, he needed to buy some of the pricier stones.

Watching Grant, Daniel asked, "Grant, since you organized this Jade Gambling event, if I buy a stone and find jade inside it later, will you buy it back? Or can I trade the jade for another original stone and keep gambling?"

"Of course! Today's Jade Gambling has appraisers on-site. They'll evaluate your jade and buy it back at market price. But remember, while gold has a price, jade doesn't! If you're not happy with the price given by my appraiser, you can take your jade somewhere else to sell it!"

Grant was definitely going to hire appraisers for Jade Gambling! Today, he brought in one of the top jade appraisers in D.C., the legendary Aaron Hughes, who was known for identifying jade at a glance!

Daniel walked into the pile of original stones, poking around. After a few rounds, he picked the cheapest one.

"This one," Daniel declared, pointing to the only original stone priced under fifty thousand—just 49,998 dollars. Seeing Daniel's selection, Grant couldn't help but laugh.

"Hahaha..."

He let out a laugh that filled the room, then sneered, "Country bumpkin! I thought you'd really put some thought into your choice. Even

if you don't know anything, you ke

be picky!

should at least pretend to be. But here you are, picking the cheapest one because you can't afford anything else!"

Grant paused and continued, "There's an old saying you might not have heard: 'You get what you pay for!'"

"Old sayings come in all varieties. Which one are you talking about, Grant?" Daniel replied with a grin.

"Cheap stuff is usually worthless!" Grant retorted.

"Grant, that saying is for fools. With my IQ and luck, anything I choose is bound to be good, and whether it's

o or not doesn't made

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all!"

"Are you really sure you want to buy this cheapest original stone?" Grant asked, eyebrows raised.

Even though this stone was the cheapest, it still had a value of fifty thousand! Just two dollars shy!

"Of course!" Daniel nodded

vigorously, adding with a smile, "I carefully selected this original stone! Though the profit won't be

huge-maybe just a few net

least there's jade inside that can earn me a little something. Plus, this I want to play

is my first choice, and us, this

it safe!"

Chapter 942 Worthless Junk

Daniel's first pick, at 49,998 dollars, was made to infuriate Grant, to slap him in the face. After all, he knew Grant would assume that this stone had nothing inside.

Hearing Daniel, Grant urged him, "Country bumpkin, since you say that this original stone is a carefully chosen one, what are you waiting for? Hurry up and buy it! Once you purchase it, just cut it open, and you'll see if it contains jade! You'll know whether your fifty thousand dollars is going to multiply or not!"

"I'm definitely buying it. I'll pay right now!" Daniel said as he scanned the QR code the staff provided to complete the purchase. With that, the original stone belonged to him.

After Daniel finished paying, Grant burst out laughing again.

"Hahaha..."

His sudden laughter confused Daniel, who looked at Grant with curiosity. "Grant, are you okay?"

Daniel's question almost caused Grant to choke on his own laughter.

"Why'd you say I'm okay? It's you, man! You're the one who seems to be losing it!" Grant snapped back at Daniel.

"If you aren't losing it, why are you laughing?"

"I'm laughing at you, country bumpkin! You just spent fifty thousand on this worthless rock!"

Grant pointed at the original stone,

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so proud of himself. "This rock is totally worthless! Even if you cut it open, you won't find even a fragment of jade! So your first attempt is an utter failure! If you

want to recover your money, you better pick another stone!

You started with two million dollars. After spending fifty thousand, you still have one hundred ninety-five thousand left! I suggest you buy some of the pricier original stones instead, because there's absolutely no jade in stones like the one you picked! Without jade, it's just a rock! Worthless!"

"Grant, how about I give you a chance?" Daniel asked cheerfully.

This took Grant by surprise. He looked at Daniel, bewildered. "Country bumpkin, what are you talking about? What chance?"

"Of course, it's your chance to turn the tables and make some money!" Daniel grinned.

Grant didn't get it and pressed on, "What kind of money-making chance?"

Daniel pointed to the original stone in his hand, laughing, "I bought this original stone for fifty thousand. If I'm not mistaken, once it's cut open, the jade inside could be worth at least five hundred thousand. So here's my offer: you give me two hundred thousand dollars, and I'll sell it to you. Then you can cut it open and at least make three hundred thousand in profit!"

"Hahaha..."

Before Daniel finished, Grant broke into a roar of laughter once again.

Once he calmed down, he rolled his eyes at Daniel, filled with disdain. "Country bumpkin, you think your little trick is going to work on me? Do you think I'm a three-year-old, or a fool?"

Chapter 943 Wasted Opportunity

"Grant, I'm not lying to you! I'm serious! I'm really serious! I'm giving you a chance to make money!" Daniel said with such sincerity in his eyes that they sparkled even more than a clear night sky. "Rube, I honestly don't know if you're just plain dumb! You spent fifty thousand to buy this original stone from me, and then turned around and wanted to sell it back to me for two hundred thousand. That's a clear fifteen thousand profit for doing nothing at all! Meanwhile, I'm the fool who's supposed to fork over fifteen thousand?"

Grant shot back, "But here's the thing, country boy: I'm not stupid. I see right through your little scheme! So don't even think about getting me to buy that original stone for two hundred thousand. I wouldn't pay even twenty bucks for it! Because that thing is worthless it isn't even worth a dime!"

With that, Grant rejected Daniel without a second thought.

Daniel had known from the outset that Grant would turn him down. And that was exactly what he wanted! Because once Grant refused, and they cut open the original stone to reveal the jade worth five hundred thousand, Grant would finally understand what regret felt like.

Tonight's Jade Gambling event wasn't just about winning Grant's money; it was about making him so frustrated he'd be furious.

Daniel smiled at Grant, leaning in further. "Grant, I'll give you one last chance. You really don't want to buy this original stone for two hundred thousand? It's a chance to make three hundred thousand! This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Are you sure you want to pass?"

"Absolutely!" Grant replied firmly.

"Then hurry up and cut the stone open!" he urged.

"Alright! Let's get to it!" Daniel nodded enthusiastically, handing the original stone to a worker. "Could you cut it in half, please?"

The worker hesitated, grinning as he said, "Sir, cutting open the stone comes with a tip. If you want it sliced in half, that'll be a thousand bucks!"

"A thousand bucks?" Daniel chuckled mischievously, "That's no problem!"

He quickly pulled out his phone and transferred a thousand dollars to the worker.

As soon as he finished, Grant couldn't help but scoff. "What a fool!"

"What do you mean I'm a fool?"

Daniel turned to Grant with a grim et

"You're the one being foolish by passing up a chance to make three hundred thousand!"

"Country boy, this original stone is just a rock. When you cut it open there won't be anything inside! Not only did you waste your fifty thousand, but you just wasted

another thousand on that tip!"

As Grant spoke, the worker switched on the saw, buzzing loudly as he sliced the original stone in half.

When the stone was cut open, Grant

couldn't help but laugh, as it looked exactly like the test results

just a plain stone, without

a hint of jade!

"Ha ha ha..."

Grant was bursting with glee. "I told you your fifty thousand was wasted! You didn't believe me before, now you do, don't you?"

Chapter 944 The Gray Jade

"Who says that money is wasted?" Daniel pointed at the freshly cut original stone and smiled. "Can't you see this huge piece of jade, Grant?" "Jade? Where's the jade?" Grant pointed at the two halves of the original stone, reveling in his mockery.

"Open your eyes wider and take a better look! There's no jade here! This is just two dull rocks-there's not even a single piece of jade in sight!"

"Grant, you really need to work on your eyesight! You're saying this original stone is all gray, and not jade! But look closely! What came out is Gray Jade! Since it's Gray Jade, it's naturally going to be gray! If it weren't gray, how could it be called Gray Jade?"

Daniel's explanation only earned him Grant's hearty laughter.

After he finished laughing, Grant said with a mocking tone, "Country boy, did you just say this is Gray Jade? I know a thing or two about jade. What's Gray Jade? I've never heard of it before!"

"Ha ha ha..."

At that moment, a plump, balding man in a suit waddled over. It was Aaron, the appraiser Grant had hired for the night!

As soon as Grant saw Aaron, he rushed over. "Aaron, this country boy claims he's got Gray Jade here. Can you check it out for us?"

Aaron, being a seasoned appraiser,

wasn't about to waste his time on what he deemed worthless rocks. He barely glanced at the cut original stone before declaring, "Gray Jade does exist, and while it's not worth much high-quality Gray Jade can be worth hundreds of thousands or even millions. But this?" He pointed at the stone. "This doesn't have the smooth, fine texture Gray Jade is known for. It's rough and

unrefined-there's no way it's Gray Jade!"

"Aaron, how can you say this isn't Gray Jade? You haven't even

touched it! How do you know it's not smooth fine enough?" Daniel countered, presenting the cut original stone to Aaron. "Why don't you feel it yourself? See if this Gray Jade is smooth enough?"

"Alright! I'll give it a touch!"

Aaron reached for the stone Daniel was offering. Initially, he planned to make a quick mockery of it, but when he touched it, he was

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completely taken aback.

Although the cut stone looked rough and gray, it felt incredibly smooth to his fingers. Aaron widened his eyes in disbelief. Could this really be Gray Jade? Is it possible?

Aaron touched the stone again, more cautiously this time.

Chapter 945 Fifty Thousand

This truly is Gray Jade!

"Get some water!" Aaron called for the staff to bring over a basin and placed the cut original stone inside, seemingly to rinse it off.

Once cleaned, he was astonished-this was indeed Gray Jade, and a good-sized piece at that!

It felt exceptionally smooth, undeniably a quality Gray Jade!

"Look at this piece, Aaron!" Daniel said with a grin. "I told you it was Gray Jade. I wasn't lying, was I?"

Aaron, frowning, couldn't deny the truth any longer. "Look, country boy, I have to admit, you got lucky. This original stone you bought for fifty thousand, based on its appearance, color, or any other factor, looked just like a regular rock. There's no way it should have had any jade in it. But here you are, uncovering this sizable piece of Gray Jade. That's just incredible luck!"

"Aaron, based on your expertise, how much do you think this piece of Gray Jade is worth?" Daniel asked, merely to provoke Grant.

"While Gray Jade isn't usually highly valued, this piece is of decent quality. It could sell for around five hundred thousand!" Aaron's words sent shockwaves through Grant, nearly causing him to choke.

"What did you say? You're telling me this stone could be worth five hundred thousand? You've got to be kidding me! How could this worthless piece be worth that much?"

"Grant, I've been appraising jade my whole life. I'm not claiming to be the best, but I know my stuff. This Gray Jade's value is indeed close to five hundred thousand."

Though Aaron was hired by Grant, he had a reputation to uphold in his field. He would never lie!

Not when faced with a solid fact like this. A piece of Gray Jade could fetch at least five hundred thousand at any auction house. There was no way he'd jeopardize his credibility by making a false statement!

As he insisted on the value, Grant's disbelief was palpable.

And Daniel couldn't resist adding fuel to the fire "Grant, remember what I said earlier? I told you to bring twenty thousand to buy my original stone. If you had done that, you could have made thirty thousand without lifting a finger. What a shame! Just like pouring a bag of salt into the ocean, those thirty grand slipped away! I bet right now, you're feeling pretty regretful, huh?"

"Country boy, don't think just because you caught a lucky break once, you're going to keep winning! Weren't you bragging about how you'd take me for a billion or eight hundred million? You've only won five hundred thousand! To be honest, after deducting the costs, you've really only pocketed four hundred fifty thousand!"

Chapter 946 The Game Continues

"Come on, Grant! It's Jade Gambling! I'm not done yet! I'll keep betting until I win it all back!" Daniel said cheerfully.

"Ha!" Grant smirked coldly. "I'm curious to see how you plan to keep winning."

"How? You've got me a stack of original stones! I'll just buy them one by one!"

"Country boy, you only have two hundred forty-five thousand. Those original stones are all over two hundred thousand. You don't have the cash to buy even one of them!" Grant pointed at the original stones, each priced between two hundred and two hundred fifty thousand.

These stones had all been appraised, and while they might produce some jade, it would be the worthless kind.

Daniel scanned the stones Grant had pushed his way, realizing they had no real profit potential. He shook his head and smiled, "Grant, I've only got two hundred forty-five thousand. I certainly won't go all in, or if I lose, I'm wiped out! I'd rather pick something cheaper so I can keep playing. That way, if I lose once, I can still come back for a second chance."

After listening for a while, Grant sneered, "So you're just scared, huh? Trying to play it safe?"

"Whether I'm scared or not is none of your business, Grant! Besides, isn't winning more important than being brave? The goal here is to win money. My courage doesn't really matter!"

With that, Daniel wandered over to the pile of original stones. After browsing for a bit, he picked out one.

Though it wasn't the second cheapest, it was the fourth cheapest, going for only one hundred ninety-eight thousand.

He pointed at that original stone and cheerfully declared, "I'll take this one for my second original stone!"

Seeing Daniel choose such a cheap one, Grant's disappointment was evident. "Country boy, you're really gutless! You just won forty-five thousand, and now you only pick stone worth one hundred ninety-eight thousand? Don't have any confidence?"

After making the purchase, Daniel smiled, "Even though this original stone is marked at one hundred ninety-eight thousand, once it's cut open, the jade inside could easily be worth ten times that! That means the jade may be worth at least two million!"

He turned to Grant and asked, "Grant, you missed out on a chance to make thirty thousand before. Now I'm offering you another opportunity to make a million. Want to take it?"

"Ha!" Grant scoffed at Daniel's words.

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After his cold laugh, he disdainfully replied, "So you want me to pay a million for a stone you just bought for one hundred ninety-eight thousand? You think I'm a fool who will just hand over cash like that? You think I'm completely brainless?"

Chapter 947 The Details

"Grant, how could I possibly think of you as a fool? I'm genuinely giving you a chance-a chance to make a million!" Daniel flashed a wide grin, looking almost as if he were trying to convince Grant of something ridiculous. But he wasn't lying.

"I don't want your chance to make a million!" Grant shot back coldly, turning to Aaron. "Aaron, this country bumpkin claims his original stone can yield a jade worth two hundred thousand. What do you think?" Instead of responding directly, Aaron turned to Daniel, asking, "Do you mind if I take a look at that original stone?"

"Of course!" Daniel handed over the stone without hesitation.

Aaron inspected the original stone carefully, scanning it from top to bottom and left to right several times. He quickly concluded that Daniel's luck, rather than skill, was the reason for his previous success. As Aaron returned the original stone, Grant eagerly asked, "Well? Did you see anything? Can this original stone really yield jade worth two hundred thousand?"

Aaron shook his head firmly. "No way!"

"What? Then what do you think it can yield?" Grant pressed further.

Aaron pointed at the stone's surface and said in an authoritative tone, "You can tell a lot from the surface patterns of the original stone. That's what we call the details! Looking at this stone, there are no signs of hidden jade at all. Therefore, this original stone cannot yield jade worth two hundred thousand! Even if his luck continues, any jade that comes from this stone wouldn't

even be valued at twenty thousand!"

Aaron was being conservative with that twenty thousand estimate. If he weren't worried about his reputation, he might have said there wouldn't be even two hundred dollars' worth of jade in it. The two thousand estimate was to protect his credibility as an expert.

Hearing Aaron's confidence, Grant felt a surge of satisfaction. He looked at Daniel and taunted, "Did you hear that? Aaron just said your original stone can yield at most twenty thousand in jade. You bought it for twenty thousand-that means you lost your money!"

"Grant, you didn't have Aaron evaluate every one of these original stones, did you? After all, in a gambling game like this, you would want to make money, and as much as possible. So wouldn't you need to have each original stone checked first and then price based on the evaluations?"

At this, Grant just smirked dismissively. "What's it to you, country boy?"

Daniel chuckled and said, "Of course, it's none of my business!"

Chapter 948 The Challenge

Then Daniel continued, "I just wanted to remind Grant that next time you have a deal like this, you could call me. My fees might even be lower than Aaron's. But, my skills are better than his. If it were up to me, you wouldn't be losing over and over like you are now. I can only imagine how much you're missing out on tonight!"

Aaron was furious at Daniel's comments. He pointed a finger angrily at him. "What the hell are you saying, country boy? You questioning my skills? Are you saying I'm not as good as you? Do you even realize I'm an expert? If I'm second in stone appraisal, then who the heck is first? You really think you can challenge me?"

Daniel looked at Aaron, grinning. "Aaron, stone appraisal isn't about boasting-it's about capability! After all, once the original stone is analyzed, it has to be cut open. Whether or not there's jade inside doesn't depend on how much you can brag about it. If there's no jade, then no amount of hot air will change that fact. Conversely, if there is jade, it won't just disappear no matter how much you try to deny it. You can't change the truth!"

"Of course it isn't about boasting! It's all about ability!" Aaron challenged by pointing at Daniel's original stone. "So, country boy, you said the second original stone you bought can yield jade worth two hundred thousand-is that right?"

"Yup!" Daniel nodded affirmatively.

"Then let's make a bet," Aaron proposed.

"What are the rules?" Daniel asked.

"You say that this original stone's jade is worth two hundred thousand.

If it turns out that it is worth they?

much, you win. If it doesn't, you lose," Aaron explained.

"And if I lose?" Daniel inquired.

"If you lose, you kneel and admit your defeat. If I lose, I'll kneel and admit my defeat!"

Aaron knew Daniel didn't have any money, so he didn't want to gamble over cash. His real intention was to humiliate Daniel and ease his own frustrations! .net

Upon hearing this, Daniel couldn't help but laugh. "Alright! I accept! Let's do it!"

After agreeing, he added, "But Aaron, since this bet was your idea, you better not backtrack if you lose!"

"Backtrack? Ha!" Aaron scoffed, "I live by my word! Integrity is my foundation; I won't back out!"

"Alright then, let's make it official.

Once I cut open this original stone, if the jade inside is worth more than two hundred thousand, you'll lose and have to admit defeat!" Daniel confirmed cheerfully.

Chapter 949 Can You Prove It Worthy?

"Country boy, you're the one who will lose! This original stone definitely can't yield jade worth over two hundred thousand!" Aaron declared with unwavering confidence.

"Whether this original stone yields jade worth two hundred thousand isn't for you to decide," Daniel replied, still smiling.

"If it isn't for me to decide, then whose is it? Yours, you think?" Aaron sneered.

"Not even mine!" Daniel chuckled. "Since this is Jade Gambling, it's a matter of cutting the stone open. Only once it's cut can we know if it can yield two hundred thousand worth of jade."

"You're right, country boy. Whether this original stone you bought for twenty thousand can yield jade worth two hundred thousand isn't for either of us to decide. We need the staff to cut the original stone open to see," Aaron pointed out, urging, "Come on, let's not waste any more time. Have the staff cut this stone!"

Daniel turned to the staff and said with a smile, "Could you cut this open for me?"

"Sir, this original stone's larger than the last one. To cut it open, it'll be two thousand dollars."

"Sure!" Although he knew the worker was probably overcharging, Daniel didn't mind. After all, he was aiming to win hundreds of millions tonight. What's two thousand bucks to a winner like him?

He quickly transferred two thousand to the worker. Then, taking a marker, he drew a line on the original stone.

Once finished, he instructed the worker, "Please cut it along this line."

"Absolutely, sir!" Though pricey, the worker was skilled at his job.

Using a special saw for cutting stones, he followed Daniel's lines and sliced the stone. In less than a minute, with a sharp crack, he had cleanly cut the original stone in half, without any crooked lines.

While the exterior of the original stone looked gray, once it was cut, a dark red hue started to show.

Aaron, being the expert, squinted, seeing a bit of unexpected color. But it was just a minor surprise, not something too remarkable.

"Well, well! Country boy, looks like your luck isn't too bad! I honestly thought this would be empty, but there's actually a piece of Heliotrope inside!" Aaron said, giving Daniel a thumbs up.

His expression was relaxed, and he seemed almost pleased.

Grant saw Aaron's relaxed demeanor and knew that the Heliotrope inside the original stone probably wasn't worth much. Thus, he grinned at Aaron. "So, Aaron, how much is this Heliotrope worth? It looks a bit dull and seems to have some impurities, but the size is decent-it's about the size of my palm!"

Chapter 950 Heliotrope

"Probably a few thousand dollars at best," Aaron replied.

This wasn't just a random figure; he spoke seriously-the value of Heliotrope is quite low, and this particular piece looked rather unremarkable.

In fact, it looked quite poor!

Hearing Aaron's estimate, Grant erupted into laughter. "Ha ha ha..."

After he finished laughing, he smugly turned to Daniel. "Country boy! Did you hear what Aaron just said? He claims this Heliotrope is worth several thousand! To be fair, I won't make it difficult for you. If you want to sell it to me, I could buy it for a thousand."

"Grant, just because Aaron says my Heliotrope is worth a few thousand, does that mean it's only worth that? Have you considered that Aaron might be mistaken, or perhaps he just doesn't understand the true value of this stone? But it's also possible that Aaron saw immediately that this Heliotrope is worth at least two hundred thousand, and he's trying to cheat you by claiming it's worth only a few thousand!" When Daniel said this, Aaron fumed, practically seeing smoke come out of his nose. He pointed an angry finger at Daniel. "What are you saying, country boy? Are you suggesting I'm trying to cheat you?!" "Absolutely!" Daniel nodded, as if it were the most obvious thing in the world.

"Aaron, my Heliotrope is definitely worth at least two hundred thousand! No matter where I sell this stone at an auction, it'll fetch at least that much. Yet you're claiming it's only worth a few thousand? Isn't that a scam? What do you think?"

"You... You're just talking nonsense!"

Aaron pointed at the cut open

original stone, looking as though he knew exactly how to counter Daniel "You say this Heliotrope is worth two hundred thousand. Where are you getting that idea? I think you're just afraid to admit you're losing, and you don't want to kneel before me to admit defeat!"

"It's worth two hundred thousand!"

Daniel picked up the Heliotrope. "Get me a basin and two bottles of vodka!"

"Sir, we have both the basin and vodka, but there will be a charge. The service fee and vodka cost a total of ten thousand dollars. You need to pay in advance."

"Ten thousand for vodka that's normally priced at about fifteen hundred? You're out of your mind!"

"Sir, we're at the Capital Hotel-the

best five-star hotel in D.C. The vodka

is certainly pricier than most places.

If that's too much for you, you

can

opt out or switch to beer. The cheapest beer is a hundred dollars a

bottle."

Hearing this, Daniel nearly spat blood. "What? One hundred dollars for the cheapest beer? Are you crazy?"

"Sir, we're not crazy. This is just the pricing at Capital Hotel. If you find it too expensive, you're free to walk

away. We don't force anyone

buy-it's all voluntary here!