

When Hit by a Stroke of “Luck Chapter 11

Chapter 11

Patrick picked up the 100,000 in the bag and examined it. “Where did Bradley get this much money from?” But anyway, I’d be an idiot to not accept this money! With that thought, he picked up the bag and walked away. Meanwhile, Craig turned around and yelled to the crowd that had gathered, “Alright everyone; that’s it!” He couldn’t help but shake his head at Patrick as the latter walked away. Julia then called out with disdain, “Hmph! Since the debt is settled, we’ll see if the police will come back tomorrow to arrest anyone!” Feeling disgruntled, she turned back to her house while nibbling on some nuts. Just then, the crowd’s gaze landed upon Erin and a low pitch murmur spread through the crowd. “I’ll say, it seems like the rumors in the village are real—Erin and Bradley are actually having an affair. How else could he have something so valuable?” “Isn’t it obvious? Here you have an ex-convict who hasn’t seen a woman in five years; it’s like dry wood and a blazing fire!” When Janice heard the whispers from the crowd, she was so angry that she dragged Bradley into the house and slammed the door shut with a loud bang. Erin walked to the door and hesitated, stopping as she looked at it helplessly. Even though Bradley was never ashamed of her status as a bad omen, that didn’t mean that his family shared the same values. With that thought, she turned and walked away with disappointment. Meanwhile, Craig asked loudly as soon as he walked in, “Brad, where did you get the 100,000 from?” “You have to know that you were just released from prison, Brad. You can’t commit crimes even if it’s for the sake of your sister,” Janice chimed in with a worried look. Walking over to where Janice and Craig stood, Emily defended, “Mom, Dad, that’s my brother you’re talking to. Why would you doubt him like this?” Even though she said that, she was still quite worried for Bradley. 100,000 was no small amount and her brother had managed to collect that money in just half a day’s time; who would believe that? Upon hearing that, Bradley walked toward Janice and reassured her, “Mom, I earned the money from selling herbs. It’s clean, hard-earned money, so don’t worry about it.” “Were the herbs so valuable? Was it the stack of herbs that you took back yesterday?” Emily asked, unable to keep the disbelief out of her voice. The herbs that she saw yesterday looked so normal, so how could they be worth 100,000? Bradley nodded as he explained, “To other people, it might look like normal herbs, but after mixing it with my special recipe, it is worth a lot of money.” Relieved, Janice turned to look at Craig. “Looks like our son has learned some skills in prison. Hopefully good days are around the corner!” The next morning after Bradley had his breakfast, he rode

his old trishaw to Riverdale District. Glancing at his watch and realizing that it was still quite early, he decided to walk around the shopping mall to purchase a few cell phones. After all, it would be embarrassing for him when someone asked for his phone number and realized that he didn't own a phone. He parked his trishaw at the entrance and walked toward the most expensive cell phone counter. The pretty and sassy sales girl took one look at his shabby appearance and scoffed. "Young man, the cell phones here are quite expensive! We have some old models there that only cost 199." Upon hearing that, Bradley smiled bitterly as he looked at his shirt that had holes in it, instantly feeling embarrassed. He pointed at a phone on the counter that cost 8,560. "Miss, I'd like five of this." When the sales girl heard him, her jaw dropped and she immediately turned toward the other sales girl next to her. "Did he say he wanted five? I'm not hearing things, am I? Looking at his appearance, it's obvious that buying one would already be hard for him!" The busy cashier eyed him for a while and retorted, "If the hillbilly doesn't understand, why don't you just explain it to him?" The cashier wasn't looking down on Bradley, but she just thought that a country bumpkin like Bradley might not know a cellphone's price. Walking toward him with her hips swaying from side to side, the sales girl advised, "You won't be able to afford that phone. The phone on the other counter is cheaper; you should take a look." Instantly, Bradley felt annoyed and was tempted to go to another shop, but just then, a taunting voice came from behind him. "He's just here to look at it. How could a country bumpkin afford such an expensive phone? I'll take it." Bradley was about to leave but he turned around when he heard that familiar voice and caught the mocking looks on Jeff and Natalie's faces. Jeff thought that Bradley had befriended a big shot like President Newton but when he saw that Bradley couldn't even afford to buy a phone, he concluded that Bradley had no money and intended to gain back his pride for yesterday's humiliation. Upon hearing Jeff's comment, Bradley walked slowly toward the counter. "How do you know I can't afford it?" he countered. Jeff put on a vague smile and looked toward Natalie. "Darling, if this hillbilly buys this phone, then I'll go next door and buy you a diamond ring worth a hundred thousand." Natalie knew that Jeff was just trying to taunt Bradley, so she nodded with a smile. The sales girl quickly turned to her colleague and yelled, "Lily, this gentleman would like to buy a diamond ring! Hurry up and bring over the diamond rings from next door." Bradley smiled as he glanced at Natalie. He then turned and said to the sales girl, "I'll take the five cell phones; please pack it up for me now." Upon hearing that, Jeff broke out into an evil smile. "Bradley Jackson, the staff are working very hard everyday, so don't waste their effort if you're not able to pay for it." The sales girl stopped when she heard his words and turned around to look at Bradley. "A man's word is his honor, so you better hold up your end of the bargain too," Bradley reminded Jeff and turned toward the sales girl. "Please pack the phones now." She immediately packed them into a bag and turned to Jeff as she said tactfully, "Sir, the phones are already packed, so please choose a diamond ring." This was the way of business; if someone wanted to place a bet, the sales people would squeeze every bit of money that they could make out of it! "How can it count if there's no payment?" All Jeff wanted to do was to insult Bradley; he

didn't really want to buy Natalie a diamond ring worth a hundred thousand! The sales girl then turned toward Bradley and asked, "Sir, would you like to pay with cash or credit card?" Bradley walked toward Jeff and said, "Why don't you go and pick the diamond ring, then we'll pay together. Whichever son of a b*tch doesn't have enough money in their card should crawl out of here." As they were in the midst of arguing, a tall, beautiful woman watched as she stood by the entrance of the shopping mall, a smile slowly creeping onto her face.

When Hit by a Stroke of "Luck Chapter 12

Chapter 12

Jeff's expression changed slightly as he didn't have a hundred thousand in his account, the hand which was holding Natalie's starting to tremble. "My dear, I want this diamond ring!" Natalie said sweetly. "You can't lose to a mere country bumpkin!" Jeff took one look at Bradley's shabby attire and decided that he would not get intimidated by this hillbilly. Looking at the sales girl, he ordered, "Pack up this ring! I want to see whether this country bumpkin can even afford anything!" The sales girls looked at each other, then quickly packed up the ring and beckoned courteously, "Gentlemen, please swipe your cards." Bradley walked over and threw his card on the counter, and the whole process took less than five minutes to complete. The bright eyed sales girl said excitedly, "Thank you very much, Mr. Jackson. Would you like to purchase anything else?" Bradley took the card and turned to look at Jeff. "My old friend, now's the time for you to live up to your promise for your goddess." Upon hearing that, Jeff's face took on a ghastly expression as he turned to the cashier. "Did his card actually go through? Are you guys pulling my leg?" "Sir, we are under strict obligations here in the shopping mall. We would not fake a card transaction from a customer, so please do not come up with false accusations." The pretty cashier glanced at him speculatively as she replied sternly. Turning toward Bradley, Jeff huffed. "I'm

a busy man and I don't have time to fool around with you; a few thousand dollars is peanuts." It was irrelevant whether he had a hundred thousand or not, for even if he did, he wouldn't buy Natalie such an expensive gift anyway. After all, women were just playthings to him. Bradley scoffed loudly. "Are you chickening out, Jeff Sulley? Perhaps you want to show us how you're going to crawl out of here?" Rage welled up in Jeff as he pulled Natalie close and kissed her. "Even if I don't buy her a diamond ring worth a hundred thousand, she would still be willing to be with me. We are going to get married soon so I don't have to bother about our bet! If you're so capable, why don't you go find a woman and bet against me? We could bet whose partner is more attractive." Upon hearing that, Bradley cursed harshly, "I must be a f*cking idiot to use my partner as an asset in stupid bets! Women are to be cherished and to be loved." The other sales girls all nodded in agreement. "Hubby, there you are! I've been looking for you everywhere. Don't leave me alone ever again." A soft, alluring voice from the entrance broke the stalemate. Dressed in a white, flowy dress, Kate appeared next to Bradley and wrapped her arms around him. Natalie was overcome with jealousy as she thought, Even after five years in prison, he still managed to find a girlfriend so quickly. Her looks and figure are so much better than mine! Natalie tugged at Jeff and said coyly, "Dear, since the ring is already wrapped up, let's take it with us!" Meanwhile, Jeff couldn't keep his eyes off Kate as he never thought that Bradley could ever find such a beautiful girlfriend. The difference between Kate and Natalie were worlds apart. Twinges of jealousy shot through Natalie when she noticed Jeff's stare on Kate. As such, she tugged harder at his arm. Bradley turned to look at Kate, who was holding his arm, and sent her a questioning look. In response, Kate winked suggestively and smiled. "Hubby, I didn't know you were buying phones for the whole family! When we get married, I want a diamond ring that's worth at least a hundred thousand!" Natalie gritted her teeth and stomped her foot. "Jeff, let's just pay the bill!" she yelled. It was only then Jeff realized that he was in over his head. Turning to look at Natalie, he murmured, "This ring's doesn't really suit you anyway, so let's choose a better one some other day." It seemed as though Natalie didn't understand Jeff's underlying meaning and continued pestering him, "I think it looks alright; let's just get this one!" Kate looked at her thoughtfully. "Miss, you don't have to be so anxious. Maybe Mr. Sulley's card doesn't have that much money in it. Buying it some other day would be all right too, as long as he's willing to buy it for you." Kate spoke with such graciousness and generosity that it made her look very regal and ladylike. The sales girl noticed that Jeff still hadn't moved, so she urged hastily, "Mr. Sulley, please swipe your card here." Meanwhile, Kate's words had infuriated Natalie. Natalie knew that Kate was trying to belittle her, but Kate had spoken so eloquently that even she herself couldn't make a scene out of it. Bradley glanced at his watch, realizing it was almost time for the meeting with Samuel. He quickly grabbed the phones and said, "I still have some important matters to attend to and have no interest in watching you crawl your way out of here. Excuse me." The sales girls envied the way Kate was holding tightly onto Bradley's arm. "Sometimes you really can't judge a book by it's cover. Who would have thought a country boy like that would have such a beauty as a

girlfriend?" "That's why I always tell you to never judge a person by their appearance. They could look like some bigshot but they can't even take out a single penny from their pockets!" The two sales girls said pointedly. As soon as Bradley and Kate left the mall, he pried her hands off and asked politely, "Doctor Nicholson, how did you appear so suddenly? You even..." He was feeling quite grateful toward her since she appeared at the right moment, rescuing him from that situation. Kate smiled brightly. "I just couldn't stand seeing this kind of person bullying others. Oh—you can just call me Kate." Smiling shyly, Kate looked rather adorable with her dimples appearing on her cheeks. Bradley chuckled. "In order to express my gratitude, will you let me buy you a cup of tea?" Looking embarrassed, Kate asked, "Don't you have something else to do? There's no need for tea; I just wanted to talk to you about something." "Oh—just name it! If I can be of any assistance, I would never say no," Bradley replied briskly. Kate contemplated for a while before speaking again, "I would like you to take me under your wing. The other day at the hospital, your skills impressed me greatly and humbled me." However, Bradley rejected firmly, "Doctor Nicholson, since we're both doctors, then you should know that I will not take just anyone as my student. Now, if you'll excuse me."