

VARIOUS STANDS AND TENTS IN AN OPEN OUTDOOR MARKET.

There are many people walking around and shopping at the booths. The objects on display are all strange unrecognizable objects and shapes.

LESTER AT A BOOTH WITH A VENDER.

LESTER

Excuse me, I was looking to purchase some CONFIDENCE. Do carry any on stock?

VENDER 1

Depends what kind you want, we sell many kinds of FORTITUDE. You looking for more COURAGE or more so confidence.

LESTER

Yes, confidence may suit me best.

VENDER 1

We've got confidence for just about every facet of life, but they each have their price. We also sell will, stamina, strength, endurance, and even will. Again, each with their own price.

LESTER

No, I think just confidence. I don't think I need all that. I've probably got some at home. Maybe just a strain of confidence geared toward woman. Gotta get laid before I get judged.

VENDER 1

Very well, if that's all you want.

He takes out a strange circular flat stone with markings on it and puts it in front of him.

LESTER

What will it cost?

VENDER 1

It'll cost YOU your empathy. Do you still want it?

LESTER

Seems like kinda a steep price.

VENDER 1

The price depends on YOU and how much you got. It varies depending on the customer... but I guarantee you, for any vendor you go to, the price will be the same. I assure you, it will be in equal portion.

Lester picks up the stone and examines it.

LESTER

How do I know it will work? Will I be able to talk to any woman with CONFIDENCE?

VENDER 1

With this trade, you'll be able to talk to ANY woman you want. You know how much woman are attracted to a man with confidence far more than a man with empathy. Empathy is NICE, but we both know it will keep you in the friend zone forever.

LESTER

Ain't that the truth. Alright, alright I'm sold.

Lester takes out his own circular flat stone that looks like a deep green emerald of far more value. He puts it on the table and eagerly places the other stone in his pocket.

VENDER 1

So how do you feel?

LESTER

I feel WAY better already! Hell, maybe I'll go snag me some hoes and bitches right now. Thanks!

Lester WALKS O.S. in an arrogant walk. The vender chuckles.

VENDER 1

(to himself)

Fool... should have bought some long term ambitions first when you could afford it. Would have only cost you a bit of patience... poor fool... poor poor fool.

(pause)

Ooh SHIT, this empathy stone IS POTENT. Hope it doesn't affect my bottom line. Better put this on a back shelf.