

Vintage Carved Jade Pendant

The gentleman peered at me and picked me up in a jewelry shop in California. He carefully examined the carvings on my body. He then examined the curved indentations and next the gold encasing the Jade piece. He had asked the proprietor to take me out of the case I was displayed in and I thought he looked like he could afford me. He asked, "Is the rim gold?" the shop keeper replied, "yes, a lovely old piece for sure. Any Jade lover would be thrilled with this pendant."

It didn't take the man long to decide that the woman he loved would cherish this piece. I later found out that he used his first paycheck as a full time lawyer to purchase me in 1981. I was flattered that I meant so much to him. I heard him tell the sales clerk that it was for the woman he was going to marry and she deserved his first paycheck for a luxury befitting her. Mm. I wonder if she will love me and wear me. The man paid without hesitation and I was wrapped in fancy gold paper.

He gave me to her after they spent a lovely dinner together. He pulled her into his arms and kissed her telling her that he had a small gift for her. Gingerly, she opened the little box and with her eyes wide open, she squealed with delight. She held me in her hand and touched his face, "Oh, darling, the Jade is so beautiful. Look at this intricate carving; the piece must be vintage." She was thrilled. I could feel that she loved me immediately. I heard her say that I was much too expensive but she went to her jewelry box and found a gold chain to attach me around her neck. The man closed the clasp around the piece and she ran to the mirror to admire me. I felt happy and beautiful. The man smiled knowing that I was indeed the gift for her.

I have been with my mistress now for thirty-nine years and she has worn me all over the world in many different settings. She is now writing about me to bequeath me and the jade earrings that the man also purchased for her, to her daughter Sheila. I hope she cherishes me like my mistress has. My daughter too cherished this man who became a father figure for her or as she remembers more like a big brother.

My mistress always smiles when she admires me in the mirror and quietly strokes my green carved body with a loving caress. Sometimes I hear her quietly murmur, "Thank you Charles. I still love you."

Moraga, California