

A Satanic Temptation

'Why did I choose the middle one ? I should have chosen the one on the left. The person who came later than me has got his turn,' I grumbled.

'O.K. The lady before me is done. It's my turn now,' I comforted myself.

'What does this mean? Continue or not? I have not even started!' I was wondering what had happened.

No sooner had I realized what was going on than the lady who was in front of me was nowhere to be found in the crowd.

'What should I do?' I asked myself.

On second thought, I pressed 'no' and the card appeared from the slot of the ATM. I put it on the ledge and inserted mine into the slot to mind my own business.

'You should have pressed 'yes' and checked the balance on her account!' It's almost the end of the month and you're running out of cash these days!' a voice on my mind said to me.

'No, it's correct to have got the card out just then. You cannot do anything wrong! You have received many years of education and are leading a decent life. You cannot let your greed to destroy everything,' another voice from my inner self reminded me.

While I was pressing the buttons to get several hundred dollars from my account, these two voices continued their controversy.

'Hey, remember your wife left her \$400 once at an ATM. It's just your turn to get it back It's an HSBC platinum VISA card. Use it for buying luxurious items that you are longing for! No one can find you out,' the first voice said again.

'No, don't do that! Your every move has been under the surveillance of a CCTV above you, so you will be caught by the police and your life will be spoiled. Remember you dared not touch a pouch that you found in a cubicle in the toilet of the Citistore a few years ago! And you gave the cellular phone on a bookshelf to the staff of the 'book city' in Shenzhen! Why would you think of using the card for consumption? Wake up!' said the second voice.

My money and advice came out from the ATM. I got them, put them into my wallet and picked up the HSBC platinum VISA card. I came to a window and waited there for several seconds. After handing it to a member of the bank staff there, I sighed in relief and continued with my journey to attend the meeting with my old friend, Mr. Chan.

'Can I pass the test next time if it is something more valuable than a platinum VISA card?' I thought.