

I Practice Farming While the Rest Cultivates

23 Chapter 22 Renting a Field_1

“Maturing...”

“Maturing...”

His mind was focused on the Spirit Firefly Grass, and the status of all fourteen plants indicated that they were maturing.

“It needs to be faster! Higher! Stronger!”

The Black Sword Grass stood up straight, imbuing Lu Xuan with an uplifting spirit.

“Come and see me when the flowers bloom...”

Inside the fine red needles of the Red Cloud Pine, Lu Xuan saw several clusters of bright red buds poking out.

After all this time of cultivation, the Red Cloud Pine was finally in bloom.

“A more decayed smell than usual fills the air, accompanied by a slight hint of burning, it’s fascinating.”

The Dark Marrow Mushroom, growing on decaying wood covered in numerous dark red mycelium, obviously liked the special fertilizer Lu Xuan added to the spirit field last night.

After a stroll around the spirit field, verifying that every spirit plant was growing well, he returned to his house.

Among the possessions left by Qin Ming, the storage bag was directly used by Lu Xuan, and as for the more than two hundred spirit stones, there was no need to mention.

As for the remaining Flying Sword Artifacts and the unknown elixirs in the bottles and jars, he didn’t plan to sell them right away.

After all, he didn’t know if there were any hidden marks on the Flying Sword Artifact, so he decided to wait until the storm had passed before exchanging them for Spirit Stones or Spiritual Seeds.

Several days passed like this, Lu Xuan stayed in the courtyard, taking care of his spirit plants every day. He seemed leisurely and satisfied, but he was tense inside, worrying about the possible repercussions after killing Qin Ming.

Upon not finding any signs of cultivators invading or probing his own courtyard, he relaxed slightly and went outside.

The area of the Spirit Field in his yard was too small. Considering what Uncle He of BaiCaoTang said about establishing a simple partnership with Lu Xuan, Lu Xuan had the idea of renting a larger Spirit Field.

He entered a tooth row specifically serving Cultivators.

In the main hall of the Tooth Row, there were a few people, either serving cultivator customers or arranging things.

“Welcome, fellow Daoist.”

An idle tooth man greeted their customer enthusiastically with a smile upon seeing new customers.

“So it’s Fellow Daoist Lu, are you looking at Spirit Fields again?”

This tooth man, who had gossiped behind Lu Xuan last time, recognized him instantly. The smile on his face froze as he emphasized the word “again”.

Lu Xuan nodded, his expression neutral.

The scarred cultivator saw Lu Xuan’s pose and a trace of hidden mockery flashed in his eyes. He then shouted to a slightly plump young cultivator nearby.

“Hey, this fellow Daoist wants to see the Spirit Fields, you take care of it.”

He clearly knew that Lu Xuan was just a Second Layer Qi Cultivation Loose Cultivator and couldn’t possibly afford to rent those large courtyards, so he decided not to waste his time and directly called over a junior loose cultivator who had just started working at the Tooth Row.

The slightly plump young man looked up and smiled at Lu Xuan.

“Fellow Daoist, if you have any requests, just ask me directly. We have a large number of Spirit Fields here that can meet your different requirements.”

“I had my eye on a Spirit Field previously. Just take me there again.”

Lu Xuan explained to the slightly plump cultivator about the Spirit Field he had seen before and asked him to take him there directly.

The slightly plump young cultivator nodded, and the two left the Tooth Row.

“Viewing those large Spirit Fields again, even if you view more what’s the use? You still can’t afford it.”

The scarred young cultivator watched the backs of the two departing figures, snickered, turned his head, and quickly switched to a very enthusiastic smile.

“Dear Daoist, let me introduce you to that popular, high-quality Spirit Field...”

...

The first choice Lu Xuan made was the courtyard with a Spiritual Spring. Although it had the highest rent, needing sixty Spirit Stones per month, the allure of the Spiritual Spring was too strong.

More importantly, with more than two hundred Spirit Stones left by Qin Ming, Lu Xuan now felt that the price was just right.

The slightly plump young cultivator brought him to the huge courtyard, took out a specially made Array Plate, and opened the Protective Array outside.

“Fellow Daoist Lu, this courtyard is located near the center of the market, and it’s inhabited by some famous Middle-Stage Qi Practitioners. There’s no need to mention its safety.”

“The Spirit Field in the courtyard is over an acre, rich in spiritual energy, which can speed up the growth of spirit plants, which is most suitable for you, a Spirit Plant Master.”

“Of course, the most important thing is this Spiritual Spring in the Spirit Field, which can continuously seep Spirit Spring Water containing faint spiritual energy. It is ideal for brewing Spiritual Wine or soaking Spiritual Tea.”

“Adding a little bit of spirit spring water when performing Alchemy and Tool refining can slightly improve the quality of the elixirs and artifacts.”

The slightly plump young cultivator pointed to a spiritual spring and explained to Lu Xuan.

The Spiritual Spring was about one zhang (about 3.33 meters) long and about half a zhang wide, with a shallow layer of accumulated Spirit Spring Water.

“Can this Spiritual Spring guarantee to always be there? That it won’t disappear once it’s used up?”

He raised a question to the slightly plump cultivator.

“Fellow Daoist, you can rest assured that the Spiritual Spring is closely connected to a branch of the Spirit Vein in the market, and there will always be Spirit Spring Water seeping out, just in small quantities.”

“We can write this into the contract. If it’s not there, we will provide you with sufficient compensation.”

The slightly plump young cultivator said with a smile.

“Can the price go any lower? Sixty Spirit Stones a month is a bit too expensive.”

Lu Xuan skillfully started bargaining.

“That... The rent isn’t something I can decide. However, if Fellow Daoist intends to rent it, we can let you use the First Grade Protective Array in the courtyard for free for a while.”

The slightly plump young cultivator sighed silently in his heart. His faint hope that Lu Xuan might rent it instantly vanished.

“Sixty Spirit Stones...”

Lu Xuan hesitated slightly.

“Alright then!”

“If Fellow Daoist feels that sixty Spirit Stones a month is too expensive, you can also take a look at the courtyard nearby.”

The slightly plump young cultivator responded formulaically with a smile.

“Huh...?”

He suddenly realized something, looked up at Lu Xuan, and his eyes were half expectant and half doubtful.

Lu Xuan nodded with a nonchalant smile.

“Thank you, Fellow Daoist. Thank you, Fellow Daoist! I will handle all your affairs right away!!”

Tooth Row.

The scarred cultivator lay on a wooden chair, gently rocking it back and forth, clearly in a good mood.

Just now, he had successfully made a deal, rented out a small courtyard for seven spirit stones a month, and got a good commission.

The slightly plump young man came in hurriedly.

“You’re back already? Didn’t that Loose Cultivator have you show him several more Spirit Fields?”

He watched the slightly plump young cultivator rushing towards the counter, his voice containing a hint of mockery.

“No, just one.”

The slightly plump young cultivator replied nonchalantly, without lifting his head.

“Well, he still has some conscience, not to waste your time.”

“Yes, Fellow Daoist Lu was really great. After viewing one Spirit Field, he promptly booked it and even paid the deposit.”

“Huh?”

The scarred cultivator thought he had heard wrong, and the softly swaying wooden chair stopped abruptly.

The slightly plump young cultivator lifted his head to reveal a simple smile.

“The one that costs sixty spirit stones a month.”

With a clatter, the wooden chair lost control and fell to the ground.

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After confirming the rental of the courtyard with the spiritual spring, they soon completed the handover.

The slightly chubby young cultivator did as he said and handled all the trivial matters for Lu Xuan, saving him a lot of time and energy.

Lu Xuan paid half a year’s rent, and more than half of the spirit stones in his hand were consumed, leaving only about one hundred and sixty.

Luckily, the Spirit Firefly Grass has gradually entered the maturity stage, and there are also fourteen Moon Erosion Fruits that were not sold before, so he is not too worried about a shortage of spirit stones for the time being.

The new yard was temporarily protected by the first grade protective array provided by the Tooth Row, the key Array Plate was given to Lu Xuan, and as long as Lu Xuan adjusted the array patterns on it, other cultivators would find it difficult to enter the courtyard.

The array could only be broken by brute force or a cultivator who is proficient in formations.

So, Lu Xuan decided to use this free and effective protective formation first, and when he had more resources, he would replace it with a formation of his own.

In the small courtyard where he used to live,

Lu Xuan looked at the spirit plants in the courtyard and felt somewhat reluctant to leave.

This small courtyard had accompanied him through many stages of his life, cultivating, living, raising spirit plants, each area left countless memorable scenes.

The spirit plants in the spirit field, from the initial Spirit Firefly Grass to the planting of two Moon Erosion Trees, and after the white light group appeared, a first grade Red Cloud Pine, a second-grade Sword Grass and a second-grade Dark Marrow Mushroom were added.

“Out with the old, in with the new,”

He composed his emotions and thought optimistically.

Moving was relatively simple, he didn't have many clothes, and even lesser elixirs, charms, and magic artifacts, a single storage bag was more than enough.

But two problems were difficult to solve,

The first one was the spirit plants cultivated in the spirit field.

Spirit plants are living beings, and only dead objects can be stored in the storage bag. If forced in, their vitality would quickly diminish. Lu Xuan could only choose to dig up the spirit plants along with the spirit soil and move them to the new courtyard as quickly as possible.

Although this would also affect the spirit plants, with his understanding of the plants' immediate states, he can quickly adjust and restore their condition.

In the spirit field, four more Spirit Firefly Grasses had matured, bringing Lu Xuan a total of one year's worth of cultivation and one Earth Pulling Technique and Golden Sword Technique experience package each.

The remaining ten spirit plants were estimated to mature in a few days. Lu Xuan planned to harvest them immediately after they matured without taking them to the new spirit field.

As for the Red Cloud Pine, Sword Grass, and Dark Marrow Mushroom, they were small in size and valuable, Lu Xuan planned to dig up these three Spirit Plants and plant them in the new Spirit Field.

The two Moon Erosion Trees were too large and there was still a long time until their next maturation. Because they were not graded and took up a large area, Lu Xuan planned to give them to Zhang Xiu Yuan, the new spirit field would plant higher-grade spirit plants.

The other problem was how to deal with the small courtyard.

After all, he had just paid thirty spirit stones for rent, it would be a waste to simply give it up.

Yet, he didn't have the energy to travel back and forth between two courtyards, he could only focus on the new one.

If the courtyard were managed by Zhang Hong's wife, he worried that it would bring her trouble for no reason.

An Intermediate Stage Qi Cultivator had died in the courtyard, it was hard to believe this would end peacefully.

"I can only rent it out to other Loose Cultivators for a cheaper price."

He looked for a few days in the Loose Cultivator Market and found a Qi Cultivation Second Layer cultivator to whom he sublet the courtyard for a monthly rent of four spirit stones and thirty broken spirits.

"Wasting spirit stones just like that, it hurts."

Upon receiving the rent from the cultivator, Lu Xuan felt like he had cut out a piece of his flesh.

After properly dealing with the small courtyard, he went to the Zhang family before leaving to bid farewell to Xu Wan and Zhang Xiu Yuan.

"What? Little Uncle Lu, you're moving?"

When Lu Xuan said he was about to move, Zhang Xiu Yuan's face was full of shock and he grabbed Lu Xuan's hand tightly, refusing to let go.

Xu Wan, who was at the side, also showed a hint of surprise. Suddenly, as if thinking of something, she nodded understandingly.

"That's true. However, where I live is not too far away from your home. You can visit me often when you're free."

Lu Xuan comforted her.

"It's just that my previous plan to cooperate with you to deal with the pest problem has to be put aside for now."

After the incident with Qin Ming, Lu Xuan's idea of earning spirit stones by resolving the pest problem has faded a lot in his mind.

He always feels that the situation in the house is complicated and he doesn't want to get involved again.

"Sister-in-law, I've rented out my yard, including the spirit field. There are two Moon Erosion Trees in there, which I do not plan to take with me. Go and transplant them over!"

Seeing Lu Xuan's determined tone, Xu Wan, who originally thought of refusing, nodded in agreement.

"Little Brother Lu, your move seems rather hurried."

"There's nothing I can do about it. I mean, as you know, the outskirts of the North District are full of mixed people and it's not very safe. After that incident at night some time ago, I've been thinking about moving."

"Indeed, if our family had the means, we would also move to a more central area. Your relocation is, after all, a beneficial and harmless decision."

Xu Wan agreed, completely concurring with Lu Xuan's view.

Lu Xuan didn't stay long. He brought fourteen Moon Erosion Fruits and ten Lingying grass and went to Bai Cao Tang.

"Kid Lu, you're finally here. Put those spirit plants down and come with me to meet someone!"

As soon as he arrived at Bai Cao Tang, a thin old man grabbed Lu Xuan's hand and led him in.

The room inside was lavishly decorated. The floor was covered with soft beast skin, and the tables and chairs were all made of spirit wood. In the centre, there was a gigantic three-legged furnace with two handles, emitting a thin smoke and a refreshing scent of medicine.

A beautiful young girl was sitting on a wooden chair, stroking a white as snow little mink in her lap.

“Miss, this is the Lu Xuan I’ve told you about. He has an exceptionally good talent in the field of spiritual plant cultivation. He can grow a large number of good quality and even superior quality spiritual plants.”

Manager He spoke respectfully, clearly holding this girl in high regard.

Lu Xuan also bowed slightly in return.

The beautiful girl moved her gaze from the white mink and scanned Lu Xuan briefly.

Lu Xuan quietly activated his concealment method, keeping his cultivation level at the Qi Cultivation Second Layer.

“Grandpa He, you rarely introduce a Spirit Plant Master to cooperate with Bai Cao Tang, so his skills must go without saying.”

The beautiful girl raised her chin slightly.

“However, he is younger than me and has low cultivation. He needs to prove himself with his performance.”

“The spiritual seeds in Bai Cao Tang are hard to come by, I’m not confident in handing over second-rank spiritual plant seeds to him.”

“Therefore, in the beginning, Bai Cao Tang will provide him with a predetermined amount of Spiritual Firefly Grass Seeds. Besides, he can also choose a first grade spiritual seed. If he performs well in the future, more varieties will be added.”

“Of course, this is already a lot.”

The thin old man respectfully nodded, paused for a moment, and then continued.

“Currently, a few first grade spiritual plants in the hall are in short supply. I am quite familiar with this kid, so I took the liberty to make a decision for him. I suggested that he choose the First Grade Blood Jade Ginseng. What do you think, Miss?”

“Okay.”

The beautiful girl agreed by nodding.

Seeing this, a hint of joy appeared on the thin old man's face. He took Lu Xuan, who was in a state of confusion, and left the room.