

I Practice Farming While the Rest Cultivates

25 Chapter 24 Breaking the Way of Worship_1

The two entered the pharmacy.

It was only after entering that Lu Xuan finally spoke, asking the question that had been bothering him.

“Manager He, what on earth is going on? You’ve got me all confused.”

“The main issue was that the young miss happened to be here, so things got a little rushed.”

The skinny old man gestured towards the inner room with his mouth and pulled Lu Xuan into a corner.

“You know who’s behind ‘Bai Cao Tang’, right? One of the most famous alchemists in Linyang Market.”

“The young lady you just saw is his granddaughter. She’s extraordinarily gifted, and at your age, she has already reached the mid-stage of Qi cultivation. She is greatly favored by the master and has the authority to handle most of the affairs within ‘Bai Cao Tang’.”

“I see.”

Lu Xuan nodded his head in understanding after Manager He’s explanation.

“But what’s the deal with that Blood Jade Ginseng?”

“After all, you’re just a no-organization Spirit Plant Master. Miss doesn’t trust you enough, so she could only give you some average-quality spiritual seeds to help plant.”

“However, I believe in your strength, and soon, you’ll be as strong as the powerful Spirit Plant Masters in ‘Bai Cao Tang’.”

“As for that Blood Jade Ginseng I mentioned earlier, I was worried that you wouldn’t know which spiritual plants to choose and make a wrong decision, so I took it upon myself to help you decide. I hope you don’t mind.”

Lu Xuan quickly shook his head.

“I should be thanking you, why would I mind?”

He had had many interactions with Manager He and could clearly sense his kindness towards him.

“Of all the First Grade spirit seeds, the Blood Jade Ginseng has the lowest requirements for the spiritual energy of the spirit field, and it’s easy to cultivate. Moreover, when Baicaotang recycles them, the price is fairly good. It’s considered the most cost-effective among those spiritual plants.”

“The only downside is that the cultivation process is a bit tedious. But I know you focus on planting spiritual plants and don’t put much thought into cultivation, so it’s just perfect for you.”

Given Lu Xuan’s rapid progress in cultivating spiritual plants and his confession to the old man about focusing on planting spiritual plants, Manager He decided to choose Blood Jade Ginseng for him from the First Grade spiritual plants after weighing the options.

Lu Xuan remained indifferent to the skinny old man treating him as an ordinary Qi Cultivation Second Layer Spirit Plant Master.

“Thank you, Old Mr. He! I don’t know how I can repay you!”

He grinned, showing a mouthful of white teeth.

“How about providing these spiritual plants for a lower price?”

Manager He squinted his eyes, with a cunning smile appearing on his wrinkled face.

“No way. The bond between us can’t be measured by mere spirit stones.”

Lu Xuan flatly rejected him with a righteous tone.

“I knew you value spirit stones more than life. Now, take them out and let’s see.”

Lu Xuan took out the mature Moon Erosion Fruits and Spirit Firefly Grass from his cloth bag.

He had hidden his storage bag and didn’t bring it out.

“In total, there are fourteen Moon Erosion Fruits, among which twelve are of good quality and two of superior quality.”

“The quantity of Spirit Firefly Grass is not much, only ten stalks, but among them three stalks are superior quality, and the rest are good quality. Manager He, please calculate the price.”

“Indeed, I didn’t misjudge you. You have a natural talent for cultivating spiritual plants.”

Upon seeing the mature spiritual plants that Lu Xuan had pulled out, all of which were at least of good quality, the skinny old man was no longer surprised. While he was inspecting the quality of the spiritual plants, he sighed and said.

“Moon Erosion Fruits of good quality cost one spirit stone and ten broken spirits each. Superior quality adds twenty broken spirits, totaling fifteen spirit stones and eighty broken spirits.”

“Spirit Firefly Grass of good quality cost three spirit stones and fifty broken spirits per stalk. Superior quality adds twenty broken spirits, totaling thirty-five spirit stones and sixty broken spirits.”

“The combined value of the two types of spiritual plants is fifty-one spirit stones and forty broken spirits.”

Manager He took out a small pile of spirit stones from his storage bag and handed them to Lu Xuan.

Lu Xuan gladly accepted. Although the spiritual stones he earned from planting spiritual plants were much less than what he got from helping the loose cultivators clear away pests and the entirety of Qin Ming’s properties, he would rather choose the former.

Not for anything else, but for peace of mind.

After dealing with this batch of mature spiritual plants, there were only ten Spirit Firefly Grass left in the small courtyard.

Looking at the current state, Lu Xuan estimated that they would all mature in a few days, just before the switchover with the new loose cultivator tenant.

“Old Mr. He, didn’t you say before that you would sell spiritual seeds to me at a lower price after we established cooperation?”

Unable to suppress his desire for new spiritual seeds, he asked the slender old man.

“How much space can you free up in your small courtyard after planting Spirit Firefly Grass and Moon Erosion Tree?”

“I rented a new courtyard not long ago. There’s a Spirit Field in it, which is much bigger than before. I can plant quite a few spiritual plants!”

“I didn’t expect you to have saved so much spirit stones! No wonder you always fight for every penny when you come to Bai Cao Tang.”

Manager He thought that Lu Xuan had saved enough spiritual stones through thrift. He never thought Lu Xuan would rent a courtyard with a spiritual spring. After joking, He took Lu Xuan into a side room.

After greeting a middle-aged cultivator inside, he said to Lu Xuan.

“Bai Cao Tang has its own source of spiritual seeds, which are 10-20% cheaper than buying outside.”

“Spirit Firefly grass seeds cost thirty broken spirits each. Due to being a first-grade spiritual plant, Blood Jade Ginseng is much more expensive, four spiritual stones each.”

Lu Xuan compared the prices with those he had purchased spiritual seeds before.

Months ago, he had bought Spirit Firefly Grass seeds for forty broken spirits each. In Bai Cao Tang they were thirty each, more than 20% cheaper.

As for Blood Jade Ginseng seeds, he hadn't bought them before, so he could only compare them with the price of Red Cloud Pine that he bought at that time.

Red Cloud Pine cost five spirit stones, while Blood Jade Ginseng seeds costs four, also much cheaper.

He immediately felt like he had made a huge profit!

“Then, I want a hundred Spirit Firefly Grass seeds and twenty Blood Jade Ginseng seeds.”

Of the two types of mature plants, only the Spirit Firefly Grass could reward him with cultivation level upgrades, so he planned to plant more of them.

On the surface, he seemed to have given up cultivation and became a spirit plant master dedicated to farming. His actual desire for power, however, was still strong.

After all, in such a cultivation world where strength was respected, being powerful would guarantee more security and freedom.

The spiritual stones he had just earned were spent in an instant.

With the spiritual seeds he had obtained in his hands, Lu Xuan sighed with emotion inside.

Back at his new yard, Lu Xuan controlled the array plate to open the formation, coming to the Spirit Field in the backyard.

From Manager He's instructions, he understood that Blood Jade Ginseng spirit seed needed to be preserved in a special way, and they had to be planted as soon as they were taken out, otherwise their life force would quickly fade away.

Without delay, he took out a flat and elongated jade box, and removed a small charm that was stuck on it.

Upon opening the jade box, twenty bright red seeds that looked like jade stones came into view. Each seed was surrounded by a light red mist and had a faint icy feeling.

This was also a method to slow down the loss of life force of the Blood Jade Ginseng spirit seed.

Lu Xuan quickly took the spirit seeds out of the jade box, activating his spiritual power.

Under the pull of the Earth Pulling Technique, fine cracks immediately formed in the Spirit Field in front of him.

"Blood Jade Ginseng, a first-grade spiritual plant. When mature, it can be used as the main ingredient for most low-grade Qi blood elixirs."

"Whether it's the seed or the grown Ginseng, they're restless and fluid, slowly moving freely in the spirit soil. If they sense the presence of others of the same kind, they will attract each other. After staying together for a long time, they will vie for each other's vitality until one of them withers."

With his focused mind, Lu Xuan understood the details about Blood Jade Ginseng.

"This Blood Jade Ginseng is kind of unruly..."

He couldn't help but remark.

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When he left Bai Cao Tang, Manager He had advised him to keep a broad distance while cultivating Blood Jade Ginseng. They should not be allowed to tangle together, lest they interfere with each other's growth.

Only after he had planted the Blood Jade Ginseng spirit seed did he understand the specific reason.

Spirit Seeds or Spirit Ginseng can slowly move within the Spirit Field. If they get too close, they attract each other. Over time, they intertwine and siphon life from each other until a winner is determined and the loser withers.

Of course, Spirit Plant Masters typically wouldn't let such extreme situations occur. If they notice the roots of the Spirit Ginseng entwined, they would find a way to separate them.

"Attracted to each other, then spooning and intertwining, then absorbing each other's life force, until I separate them."

"It feels like they are lovers, and I'm the cold-hearted parent tearing them apart."

Lu Xuan couldn't help but sigh.

Luckily, he has plenty of time to ensure that two Blood Jade Ginseng do not come into contact with each other.

"The Blood Jade Ginseng shouldn't have genders, right?"

He shook his head, tossing the image of entwined Blood Jade Ginseng out of his mind.

After planting the twenty Blood Jade Ginseng spirit seeds, Lu Xuan used the Spirit Rain Technique for irrigation, gentle streaks of Spirit Rain seeped into the soil, greedily absorbed by the jade-like blood-red spirit seeds.

Next, he planted one hundred dried tea leaf-like Spiritual Firefly Grass Seeds, also nourishing them with the Spirit Rain Technique.

The new Spirit Field was about ten times larger than the previous one. After planting one hundred Spiritual Firefly Grass Seeds and twenty Blood Jade Ginseng Seeds, there was still a small area left vacant.

Lu Xuan planned on using that for planting the Red Cloud Pine, Dark Marrow Mushroom, and Sword Grass. If he came across other fine Spirit Seeds, he would also buy and attempt to cultivate them.

"How can I make the most use of this Spirit Spring?"

He looked at the Spirit Spring in the Spirit Field, its shallow spring water causing him to fall into deep thought.

Spirit Spring water is often used to assist in alchemy, brewing, and steeping tea. Some cultivators would directly consume it for a slight increase in their internal spiritual power.

However, for Lu Xuan, this seemed a bit insignificant. The cultivation rewards from the Spiritual Firefly Grass made the slight amount of spiritual power look pitiful.

"Aquatic Spirit Plant, although rare, they do exist. I could try looking for some in the market or shops."

“This Spirit Spring isn’t small in size, it’s unlikely I’d find enough aquatic Spirit Plants. If it goes uncultivated, it would go waste, which feels quite unacceptable.”

“Perhaps I can nurture a couple of Spiritual Fish?”

An idea suddenly popped up in Lu Xuan’s mind, growing stronger and stronger.

“Growing Spirit Medicine in the Spirit Field leads to Light Cluster rewards. What if I cultivate Spirit Beasts, would there be rewards?”

Upon this thought, he was somewhat excited.

“If not, I won’t be at a loss anyway. Spiritual Fish nurtured in the Spirit Spring water could fetch a good price. If there are rewards, though, I would make a fortune!”

“I must give it a try.”

This idea became more firm in his heart.

He activated the formation, leaving the courtyard.

First, he returned to the old courtyard. In the Spirit Field of the yard, there were ten nearly matured Spirit Firefly Grass.

He harvested a batch and waited for two days. Concurrently, he helped Xu Wan move two Moon Erosion Trees into her home. After finishing this task, all the Spirit Firefly Grass matured.

Among the ten Spirit Firefly Grass, six were of good quality, while four were of superior quality. He presumed the reason he hadn’t cultivated a Spirit Plant of higher quality was because his Spirit Field lacked spiritual power.

Out of the ten white light clusters that appeared, four gifted him different months of cultivation, totaling more than two years, making the spiritual power within his body more stable.

Three more light clusters brought him three First Grade Talismans, and the remaining three were technique experience packages. Two for the Earth Pulling Technique and one for the Golden Sword Technique, enhancing Lu Xuan’s understanding of these two techniques.

He felt that if he used the Earth Pulling Technique at full strength, he could cause seismic tremors, creating a considerable attack effect.

As for the Golden Sword Technique, it goes without saying that if he were to fight against Qin Ming again, even if he had a protection magic artifact similar to the jade badge, Lu Xuan was confident he could kill with a single blow.

After absorbing all ten white light clusters, Lu Xuan looked around his somewhat empty courtyard and turned to leave.

Arriving at the Loose Cultivation Market, he took a look around and found very few booths selling spirit beast cubs or eggs. So, he went to a Spirit Pet Shop.

In the shop, there were all kinds of spirit beast cubs; ones that could fly, run on land, or swim in water, they had them all.

Most were spirit pets; pleasingly cute and gentle in appearance, with weak aggressive instincts. It was said that the shop owner was a family member of an Inner Sect Disciple of the Ten Thousand Beast Gate, who was quite proficient in Beast Mastery Skill.

“May I help you, fellow cultivator?”

Upon seeing Lu Xuan looking around, a handsome young woman greeted him with a smile.

“I wish to purchase one or two aquatic spirit beasts. Do you have any recommendations?”

Lu Xuan went straight to the point.

“For aquatic spirit beasts, you can have a look over here.”

“This is the Red-bearded Carp, an unranked demon beast with high viewing value. Once matured, it can be cooked and its meat is delicately delicious. The two red whiskers beside its head can be used as materials for artifact refinement.”

“The Red-bearded Carp has low requirements for its environment and can be raised in an ordinary spiritual spring. Of course, if you could feed it spirit rice, its maturity will be even quicker.”

“This is the Black Arrow Fish, also an unranked demon beast, shaped like an arrow, extremely fast in speed, and needs to devour a certain amount of blood and flesh essence while feeding.”

“And this one is a Black Water Python, a first-grade demon beast that can live both on land and in water. Its aggression is extraordinarily strong and its size varies quite widely, at its longest, it can reach about eighteen meters.”

“As for other aquatic demon beasts, as they are hard to tame due to their wild nature and might harm their owners, they seem an ill-suited choice for you.”

The young woman introduced the common aquatic spirit beasts in the shop to Lu Xuan, hinting that given Lu Xuan’s revealed cultivation level of Qi Cultivation Second Layer, the maximum he could rear was a Black Water Python.

Lu Xuan thought for a moment and decided to eliminate the Black Arrow Fish and the Black Water Python.

Raising Black Arrow Fish required flesh and blood essence, and since even he barely had good meals, how could he possibly feed it with extra demon beast’s flesh and blood?

As for the Black Water Python, Lu Xuan gave up on it the moment he heard it could grow up to eighteen meters long.

His spiritual spring couldn’t even accommodate half of its body, what was he supposed to raise it on?

Also, now was an experimental phase, and he wasn’t clear whether white light clusters would really appear or not.

Hence, Lu Xuan tended to choose spirit fishes which were cheaper and had a shorter maturity cycle.

“How much is this Red-bearded Carp?”

He asked, pointing at a carp fry in the pond.

The Red-bearded Carp was named aptly; it had two thin red whiskers next to its gills, which were even longer than its body. When the fish swam, the whiskers drifted like two ribbons.

“For a Red-bearded Carp fry, it costs one spiritual stone each.”

The beautiful young woman replied.

“Being unranked, it is more expensive than the Spiritual Firefly Grass Seed and the Moon Erosion Tree seedlings.”

Lu Xuan compared the prices habitually.

“I’ll buy three. Make it a bit cheaper, how about eighty broken spirits each?”

He naturally bartered the price down.

“If you wish to buy three, I can lower the price to two spiritual stones and eighty broken spirits. That’s the lowest I can go.”

“Two spiritual stones and sixty broken spirits, and I’ll take them immediately.”

“Seventy, I can’t go any lower than that.”

“Alright, it’s a deal!”

Lu Xuan replied, satisfied.