

I Practice Farming While the Rest Cultivates

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“Jingold Sword Art, a First Grade Technique, uniquely cultivates gold-series Sword Qi in the orifices. When activated, it’s swift as the wind, causing grave damage.”

A First Grade Technique, he didn’t expect such a treasure to come out from that Light Cluster...

Lu Xuan’s mind was awestruck for a moment.

He had currently mastered three spells; Fireball Technique, Spirit Rain Technique, and the Earth Pulling Technique, which had recently emerged from the white cluster of light. These three techniques were of the lowest grade, strictly speaking, simply a rudimentary application of Spiritual Power.

As for Jingold Sword Art, although it was of the lowest rank, a First Grade Technique, Lu Xuan was already fully satisfied.

It should be known that even among Qi Practitioners of the intermediate or high level, a First Grade Technique wasn’t something that everyone had.

He stayed in place, and following the path that appeared in his mind, his Spiritual Power slowly gathered.

Immediately, a pale gold colored stream of air about three inches long and finger-wide gushed from his body, rapidly moving towards the stone wall and slashing a black thorn into two.

Lu Xuan walked over, picked up the smoothly cut half of the thorn, and was secretly shocked at the destructive force of the pale gold Sword Qi.

Although Black Thorn was not a Spirit Plant, it was extremely tough. Lu Xuan had once tested it with the Fireball Technique, and it took half a moment to burn the thorn into two.

Comparing the two techniques, the Jingold Sword Art was significantly cleaner and much more lethal, clearly over twice as powerful.

“Just started practicing, the time it takes to use the sword technique is too long, its power also greatly reduced.”

“With such a powerful method, it needs to be practiced more in the future.”

“Of course, if I can get another Jingold Sword Art as experience bonus, that would be even better.”

Lu Xuan looked at the remaining fifteen Spirit Firefly Grasses, and couldn't help but think.

He put the harvested Spirit Firefly Grass into the Jade Box and plans to go out again.

He currently had nine mature Spirit Firefly Grasses, six of which were of ordinary quality and three were of good quality.

The quantity of Jade Boxes was limited, there was no room to put extra Spirit Plants. In order to prevent the Spiritual Power of the Firefly Grass from dissipating, these nine Spirit Firefly Grasses had to be sold as soon as possible.

At the same time, a lot of Spirit Fields were freed up, combined with the near maturity of the remaining Firefly Grasses, Lu Xuan planned to use the Spirit Stones he got in exchange to buy some Spiritual Seeds.

If he had enough Spirit Stones, he could look for a low-level protection method at the market.

The emergence of the white light cluster in the courtyard Spirit Field abruptly heightened the importance of the Spirit Field. Lu Xuan was afraid that a Cultivator or Demon Beast might sneak in, take away or injure the Spirit Plants in the Spirit Field, affecting the richness of the white light cluster.

He instructed the Grass Puppet a few words to take care of the house, then took the Jade Box with Spirit Firefly Grass, and left the courtyard.

As soon as he stepped out, he ran into Zhang Hong who had just returned from the market.

“Little Brother Lu, where are you heading?”

Zhang Hong saw Lu Xuan from a distance and laughed heartily.

“Hello Brother Zhang, I plan to take a look at the market.”

Lu Xuan greeted Zhang Hong.

After a few pleasantries, he learned that Zhang Hong had just returned from the market and bought several body protection talismans, preparing for the forthcoming clearing of the Secret Land.

“Little Brother Lu, are you really not willing to join us on the expedition to clear the new secret land in the wilderness?”

Zhang Hong, changing the subject, asked Lu Xuan again without giving up.

“I appreciate Brother Zhang’s kindness, but my aspiration is not in that direction, I just want to be an ordinary and peaceful Spirit Plant Master.”

Lu Xuan waved his hand, firmly refusing.

“There’s nothing I can do then, I was thinking that if I could partner with you, based on our long time spent together, we could back each other up.”

Zhang Hong said regretfully.

“I wish Brother Zhang a successful journey full of extraordinary encounters and a safe return.”

Lu Xuan sincerely wished, holding his fists.

The two bid farewell to each other.

Lu Xuan walked to the market and found that there were a lot more cultivators in the market than usual.

Defensive talismans became a hot commodity, healing pills were even more scarce. As soon as they appeared, many cultivators would scramble for them. Even if the price was considerably higher than usual, they remained in high demand.

“It seems that the news about the Wang Family’s upcoming exploration of a new secret land has already spread throughout Linyang Market.”

“So many qi cultivators of low and intermediate levels want to get a share of the spoils. I wonder how many will get the opportunity, and how many will simply turn into stepping stones for others.”

Lu Xuan observed the restless energy in the market without being swayed and watched quietly.

He lingered in the market for a couple of moments, taking note of every piece of information around him, occasionally asking casual practitioners who had set up stalls. Eventually, he turned a few corners and arrived at a medicinal shop called ‘Bai Cao Tang’.

The shop owner was an alchemist with a great demand for various alchemy materials. Lu Xuan had sold all the spiritual medicines he had grown to this shop before, and the prices were fair.

Upon entering the shop, a strong smell of herbs wafted over. Lu Xuan verily familiar with the place, headed straight into a wooden house.

Inside the wooden house, all sorts of spiritual medicines of different sizes were piled up, with several attendants busily processing them.

“Kid Lu, are you here to sell Spirit Firefly Grass again?”

An elderly man with a lean figure spotted Lu Xuan, looked at his bulging chest, and greeted him.

“Yes, Manager He, some Spirit Firefly Grasses have matured. I’ve come to sell them to your shop.”

The lean old man was a relative of the medicinal shop’s alchemist and usually assisted in managing some of the shop’s miscellaneous tasks. Lu Xuan had to interact with him while selling the Spirit Firefly Grass, and the two were quite familiar with each other.

“How much do you have?”

“Nine stalks, how much is the Spirit Firefly Grass for a stalk now?”

Lu Xuan took out a jade box from his chest and asked.

“Still the old price, three low-grade spirit stones per stalk.”

“Manager He, aren’t you a bit unreasonable?”

Upon hearing the thin old man’s answer, Lu Xuan, who had reached out to hand over the jade box, pulled his hand back.

“As far as I know, quite a few of the Spirit Firefly Grasses cultivated by the spirit plant masters in the North District have recently been plagued by pests, resulting in lower yield than usual.”

“Rumors are rampant in the market that the Wang Family in the central area is about to explore a new secret land, which has lead to a dramatic surge in the price of healing pills.”

“As the main ingredient in refining healing pills, if the Spirit Firefly Grass is still being priced according to old quotes, it’ll be too much for us honest casual practitioners.”

“You little devil, your cultivation level isn’t high, but your nose is pretty sharp.”

Manager He laughed and scolded him, then adjusted his expression and stated.

“One Spirit Firefly Grass for three spirit stones plus twenty spirit fragments. Non-negotiable.”

Lu Xuan lowered his head and pondered for a moment, knowing that this was a very fair price.

“The Spirit Firefly Grass of a good quality is the same price?”

“Oh?”

The lean old man looked up in surprise.

“You’ve actually cultivated a good quality Spirit Firefly Grass? Show me.”

High-quality raw materials could slightly increase the rate and effect of pill formation during alchemy, making them highly sought after by alchemists.

“No mistake, this is indeed a good quality Spirit Firefly Grass.”

“For someone as young as you with sparse spiritual power in the field, it’s not easy to cultivate such quality spirit plants.”

“In that case, I’ll buy these three good quality Spirit Firefly Grasses at a price of three spirit stones and fifty spirit fragments per stalk. Would that be agreeable to you?”

Lu Xuan quickly nodded his head; after all, it was just slightly better than ordinary quality. It wasn’t top-tier or perfect quality Spirit Firefly Grass. An increase of thirty spirit fragments per stalk was already quite good.

He handed the nine Spirit Firefly Grass stalks to the lean old man. The old man furrowed his brows, checked over each one carefully, didn’t fuss over them, and counted out the spirit stones to give to Lu Xuan.

Six regular Spirit Firefly Grass stalks and three of good quality exchanged for twenty-nine inferior spirit stones and seventy spirit fragments in total.

Lu Xuan carefully put them at his waist, feeling the traces of cold essence emanating through his clothes from the spirit stones. His heart was burning with excitement.

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“The nine Spirit Firefly Grasses were exchanged for a total of twenty-nine inferior spirit

stones and seventy spirit fragments. Adding the six spirit stones and eighty-two spirit fragments I have, I now hold a total of thirty-six inferior spirit stones and fifty-two spirit fragments.”

“It’s a shame that the damn black bud worm larvae caused so much damage, otherwise I would have more assets.”

Thinking about the black thread that cost him six spirit stones and fifty spirit fragments, Lu Xuan was gnashing his teeth in anger.

Money lends courage, and with such a large amount of spirit stones, he found himself standing much straighter.

Leaving ‘Bai Cao Tang’, Lu Xuan, worried about the lack of protective power around his Spirit Field, rushed directly to his next destination.

There were various kinds of shops in the market, including those that sold spiritual seeds.

He confidently entered a familiar shop.

A lower-level Qi cultivator, an average middle-aged man, was caring for the Spiritual Plant seedlings in the shop. When he saw Lu Xuan come in, he got up to greet him.

“Young Sir, is there anything I can help you with?”

The shop owner asked.

“I’ll look around first.”

Lu Xuan replied, sweeping his gaze across the entire shop.

The shop displayed many kinds of spiritual seeds, all differing in shape, most of which Lu Xuan could not recognize.

In the corner were several Spiritual Plant seedlings. Their appearance was even more unfamiliar to him.

Spirit Plants have a certain chance of growing spiritual seeds if they continue to grow after maturing. However, most of these seeds are not suitable for cultivating new plants.

Most spiritual seeds need to be condensed through various special means, and even some condensing methods are only mastered by the great Sects.

Especially those rare and high-rank Spiritual Seeds, their condensing methods are never leaked to the outsiders.

Even the condensation of common rank spiritual seeds is not something a simple Loose Cultivator can master. Behind this shop maybe there is a grand cultivator, or a large family.

“How much is a Spirit Firefly Grass Seed?”

Lu Xuan pointed to the Spirit Firefly Grass Seeds on the shelf that looked like dried tea leaves and asked the middle-aged man.

“Forty spirit fragments each if you buy more than ten at a time, fifty for individual purchases.”

“I need twenty.”

“Also, could you recommend a first-grade spiritual plant seedling or spiritual seed for me? Preferably the ones with low spiritual energy requirements and simple growth conditions.”

Previously, Lu Xuan planted twenty-four Spirit Firefly Grasses in that small plot in his yard, this time he didn’t plan to buy the same number of seeds.

Spirit Firefly Grass and Moon Erosion Trees have no grades, the value of Moon Erosion Tree is higher, but it’s not a first grade.

When a Spirit Plant matures, the white light cluster that appears is affected by many factors, one of which includes the type and grade of the Spirit Plant.

So Lu Xuan wanted to try planting a relatively simple first-grade Spirit Plant to see what kind of light cluster reward there would be when it matured.

“Low spiritual energy requirements, simple growth conditions...”

“How about these two?”

“Both are first-grade Spirit Plants. One is the Blood Eater Vine spiritual seed, which needs a certain amount of essence from strange beast or demon beast meat for nourishment. When mature, it can enhance the Qi and blood of cultivators or assist in practicing some special cultivation techniques.”

“The other is a Red Cloud Pine seedling. Occasionally needs nourishment from fire attribute spiritual power during cultivation. The Red Cloud Pine Spirit Fruit has abundant spiritual power and an exquisite taste, and is very popular among female cultivators.”

The higher the rank of the Spirit Plant, the more stringent its growing environment and conditions. Spiritual energy, Spirit Soil, Spiritual Spring among other complex conditions, the cultivation of these two first-grade Spirit Plants is relatively simple.

Lu Xuan first ruled out the Blood Eater Vine. He was just getting by, hardly eating Demon Beast meat once in ten or fifteen days. If he were to plant this Blood Eater Vine, what would he feed it with?

He surely couldn't feed the vine with his own flesh, could he?

As for the Red Cloud Pine, he currently had the Fireball Technique. There were still more than ten Spirit Firefly Grasses and Moon Erosion Fruits to be opened in the lottery, perhaps he could get some Fire System Techniques as a result. Supplying it with a small amount of fire attribute spiritual power wouldn't be a big problem.

"How many Spirit Stones for that Red Cloud Pine seedling?"

Lu Xuan pointed to a pine seedling in the corner. The young pine was around two feet tall, its leaves appearing as tiny red needles from afar, resembling a small cluster of red clouds. This was why it was known as the Red Cloud Pine.

"Five Spirit Stones," the middle-aged cultivator replied.

"Twenty Spiritual Firefly Grass seeds, and this Red Cloud Pine seedling, twelve Spirit Stones in total, I'll take them all. How does that sound?"

"Young man, you're driving a hard bargain. Alright, it'll be my loss, but let's add seventy Spirit Fragments."

"Comrade, you know it's not easy for us Loose Cultivators to earn Spirit Stones."

"I'm only considering buying the Red Cloud Pine because I feel a connection with it. I don't even know if I can successfully plant it if I do buy it!"

"Fifty Spirit Fragments, I can't go any higher."

"Deal!" The middle-aged cultivator shook his head and replied with a bitter smile.

He passed twenty Spiritual Firefly Grass seeds to Lu Xuan, and helped to pack the Red Cloud Pine seedling in a cloth bag, advising Lu Xuan to plant it as soon as possible, as any delay could affect its vitality.

Lu Xuan complied, reluctantly taking out the twelve Spirit Stones and fifty Spirit Fragments, barely warm from their recent transaction, thus making a clean deal.

At the market, Lu Xuan was arguing heatedly with another Loose Cultivator.

"Comrade, this Protective Array is second-hand, and there's even blood stains on it. This is a sign of great misfortune, isn't it? Twenty Spirit Stones is already too high!"

The Loose Cultivator looked helpless.

“Young man, if the formation was brand new, I would’ve at least doubled the price. As for the bloodstains, it won’t affect its protective power. You just reduced the price from 25 Spirit Stones to 20, is that how you bargain?”

“There’s no problem with the formation, it’s just that the origin is a mystery, which is a bit worrying. Plus, I don’t know how long it’s been used for. I’m afraid it won’t last.”

Lu Xuan appeared to want to buy it, yet filled with worries.

“Alright, take it for 21 Spirit Stones. If there’s any problem with the formation, you can find me in the market. I’ve been setting up here for over ten years, I have that much credibility.”

“Okay, consider us friends then.”

Lu Xuan appeared resolute, taking out twenty-one Inferior Spirit Stones.

“No, no, no. We just discussed the Spirit Stones, not friendships.”

The Loose Cultivator hurriedly refused. Lu Xuan had argued with him nearly half an hour to remove a few Spirit Stones. If they had true friendship, who knows how many Spirit Stones would be needed to compensate for that.

Lu Xuan took the Array Plate stained with dark red blood spots from the vendor, carefully put it into his chest pocket.

He didn’t care at all about the blood spots. After all, no ghost could be more frightening than poverty.

Previously, he used to avoid bargaining and never went to roadside shops. But in this Cultivation World, in order to save a bit of Spirit Stones, he has honed a lethal bargaining skill.

“The Spirit Stones from the nine Spirit Firefly Grasses have already been spent and my original savings have been used up.”

“However, the gains are quite considerable. Twenty Spiritual Firefly Grass seeds, and a Red Cloud Pine seedling.”

“The most important thing is, the long-cherished Protective Array is finally in hand.”

Lu Xuan rubbed his somewhat barren chest pocket thinking.