

I Practice Farming While the Rest Cultivates

8 Chapter 7 Sword Qi Talisman_1

Having accomplished his mission outside, Lu Xuan, always mindful of the spirit plants in his yard, wasted no time and headed directly home.

Inside his room.

He couldn't wait to pull out the array plate smeared with dark red blood stains. The array plate inscribed with a basic protective array, once activated, could protect a certain area and even alert the user when an outsider intrudes.

Lu Xuan adjusted his breathing and waited for his emotions to calm down. Then, he catalyzed the spiritual power within his body and began to slowly pour it into the array plate, following the instructions of the loose cultivator who ran the stall.

The array plate, stimulated by spiritual power, flickered a faint white light. Once it absorbed enough spiritual power, the white light instantly amplified hundreds to thousands of times, covering the entire yard.

The faint white light swayed gently, like a layer of egg white.

Lu Xuan continued to adjust, controlling the array plate. The faint spiritual energy shield continuously changed according to the shape of the house, gradually disappearing until it was completely invisible from the outside.

As the master of the array plate, he could still clearly perceive the existence of the spiritual energy shield.

The shield has a certain defensive capability that can block assaults from outsiders. If anything tries to penetrate the spiritual energy shield, as long as Lu Xuan is at home, he can detect it immediately.

After the successful deployment of the protective array, the worry that had been weighing heavily on Lu Xuan finally lifted completely.

At this moment, he felt entirely secure. He no longer had to worry about the spirit plants in his yard being harmed by evildoers or demon insects, which would affect the rewards of the white light cluster.

After a brief rest, Lu Xuan took the Spirit Firefly Grass Seeds and the sack containing the Red Cloud Pine seedling and entered the spirit field.

After harvesting the nine Spirit Firefly Grasses, a large area in the spirit field had been vacated.

Lu Xuan estimated their future growing range, took out ten Spirit Firefly Grass Seeds, and began to plant them.

Spiritual power surged within him, causing the soil in the spirit field to rise slightly. Under the control of the Earth Pulling Technique, ten cracks of various sizes formed.

The seed, no bigger than a dried tealeaf, was placed into each crack, then a thin layer of spirit field soil was spread on top.

Droplets of spiritual rain infiltrated the soil, nourishing the Spirit Firefly Grass Seeds inside.

Lu Xuan focused his mind on the seeds, sensing a surge of joyous and thriving emotion exuding from them.

This emotion infected him, making him smile involuntarily.

“Little guys, grow well, break through the soil quickly, and witness this magical world.”

He planned to plant the remaining ten Spirit Firefly Grass Seeds after the other fifteen Spirit Firefly Grasses had matured.

Next, he took out the Red Cloud Pine sapling. The sapling, which had been in the sack for half a day, appeared a little weary.

Lu Xuan quickly used the spirit field soil to cover the root of the sapling.

After planting, he cast the Spirit Rain Technique again. Under its thorough nourishment, the Red Cloud Pine sapling showed new signs of life.

Lu Xuan ran his internal spiritual power, causing a fist-sized red fireball to appear in front of him.

The fireball, tracing an arc, flew towards the Red Cloud Pine sapling.

The moment before it was about to touch the Red Cloud Pine, the red fireball silently dissolved into hundreds of small flames, merging into the trunks and needles of the Red Cloud Pine.

Under the nourishment of countless tiny flames, the originally grey-black trunk of the Red Cloud Pine revealed a faint red color, giving off a mild sensation of heat.

The countless needle-like leaves all stood upright. The entire Red Cloud Pine looked like an aroused hedgehog. It was quite an amusing sight.

Looking at the Red Cloud Pine in its stress state, Lu Xuan couldn't resist a chuckle.

Three days passed in a blink of an eye.

During these three days, Lu Xuan stayed at home, without stepping out once.

In order to obtain higher quality Spirit Plants, he spent most of his time caring for and cultivating them, sparing a little time for his own cultivation, practicing the Earth Pulling Technique and the Golden Sword Technique.

The cultivation technique he practiced was called "Yuan Attraction Technique", which was common and unremarkable, with an extremely slow rate of absorbing spiritual energy.

Of course, for Lu Xuan then, and even now, its greatest advantage was being inexpensive.

After several days of practicing the Earth Pulling Technique and the Golden Sword Technique, he became more skilled, and the speed at which he deployed the sword technique increased quite a bit.

If he really had to face an opponent, this slight improvement wouldn't make much of a difference, the result would be similar:

The sword technique would crumble before it could fully take effect.

"At times like these, I fondly remember the white light cluster and look forward to another experience bar appearing."

Lu Xuan sighed, stepping into his courtyard.

After several days of meticulous care, another four plants of the Spirit Firefly Grass were fully matured, leaving only eleven more to ripen.

With extra days of careful cultivation, a good quality Spirit Firefly Grass now had a higher chance of appearing. Among the four plants of Spirit Firefly Grass, three were good quality, and one was ordinary.

The ordinary Spirit Firefly Grass still brought three months of cultivation level.

As for the three good quality Spirit Firefly Grasses.

Lu Xuan collected the three slightly sparkling white light clusters from the soil one by one.

“Harvest a Spirit Firefly Grass, acquire a First Grade Technique, ‘Jingold Sword Art’.”

“Harvest a Spirit Firefly Grass, acquire a half-year cultivation level.”

“Harvest a Spirit Firefly Grass, acquire a First Grade Talisman, Sword Qi Talisman.”

Several thoughts flashed through Lu Xuan’s mind, as the rewards from the three white light clusters were revealed, one after another.

After absorbing the light cluster containing the sword technique, Lu Xuan’s understanding of the sword technique improved, its execution speed was faster, and its power increased by ten to twenty percent.

“The ordinary quality Spirit Firefly Grass brings three months cultivation level, while the good quality one provides a half-year cultivation level, this is a delightful surprise.”

Lu Xuan thought to himself, his attention then focused on the talisman appearing quietly in his hand.

The talisman was a dark yellow color, with complex and obscure rune patterns carved around the edges. In the center, a faint Sword Qi stood out on the talisman, as if it would burst out at any moment.

“Sword Qi Talisman, a First Grade Talisman, a one-time-use item, equivalent to the full-force attack of a Middle-Stage Qi Practitioner proficient in the Sword Dao, with immense killing power.”

“A First Grade Talisman... I feel like I’ve hit the jackpot.”

Though it was a one-time-use talisman, the Sword Dao has always been known for its killing capabilities. This Sword Qi Talisman was equivalent to a full-force attack from a Middle-Stage Sword Cultivator, its offensive strength was evident.

For Lu Xuan who was at the Third Layer of Qi Cultivation, this was considered a decent weapon.

Feeling quite satisfied, Lu Xuan’s expectations for the remaining eleven Spirit Firefly Grasses grew even more.

The ten Spiritual Firefly Grass seeds that he planted three days ago, all sprouted, showing new buds.

The tender green leaves were extremely narrow, with tiny traces of glowing dust on them, barely noticeable unless closely observed.

“Spirit Firefly Grass in its rapid growth stage grows well, showing a very strong demand for spiritual energy. Can you, a second-rate Spirit Plant Master, satisfy them?”

Lu Xuan looked at the thought that had formed in his mind, and snorted in disdain.

“I want to plant ten more plants!”

The Red Cloud Pine was growing a little slower, reaching about an inch in length. Whenever Lu Xuan used the flame from the Fireball Technique to stimulate it, the fine red pine leaves would surge with vigor, returning to normal only after fully absorbing the flames.

9 Chapter 8 Concealment Method_1

Night fell.

Lu Xuan dragged his slightly weary body back into the house.

Though the number of spirit plants in the spirit field was not high at present: eleven stalks of Spirit Firefly Grass were about to mature, ten new seedlings were just planted, two Moon Erosion Trees, and one Red Cloud Pine.

But because of the extremely meticulous cultivation method, a round after round of Spirit Rain Technique and Ground Leading Technique had been carried out, making even Lu Xuan’s strong physique of a Qi-Cultivator feel tired after a whole day.

However, he was enjoying it, and compared to watching the many spirit plants grow vigorously, this bit of fatigue was nothing.

After a simple dinner, he rested for a while, then sat on the wooden bed, operating his cultivation technique to recover his spiritual power.

The sudden increase in his cultivation level caused stagnation in the circulation of spiritual power within his body, which required some adjustment.

Suddenly, he noticed the array plate by his side emitting intense light.

A miniature spiritual energy shield appeared on the array plate. In a certain direction of the shield, a faint spiritual light was shimmering like ripples.

Lu Xuan’s expression turned grave. He memorized the location of the shimmering spiritual light, the Sword Qi Talisman dropped into his left palm, and he abruptly stood up, came to the green-grey stone wall, and leaped over it.

On crossing the stone wall, Lu Xuan caught sight of a black shadow twisting its small body and trying to flee away at a high speed.

Upon seeing the tiny black shadow that tried to infiltrate his spirit field, Lu Xuan was fuming and wouldn't let it escape so easily.

He quickly circulated the spiritual power within his body and soon, a faint golden Sword Qi instantly condensed and, like a shooting star, whizzed towards the tiny black shadow.

The black shadow momentarily slowed as if solidified by the sword intent, getting sliced into two by the golden Sword Qi.

The light faded, and everything turned dim.

Lu Xuan tightly gripped the Sword Qi Talisman and scanned his surroundings. Seeing nothing unusual, he let out a sigh of relief.

He approached the severed black shadow, picked up the two cut pieces, and returned to the courtyard.

As soon as he stepped inside the house, a grey-black straw rope moved to Lu Xuan's feet, tapping his knee to signal that a foreign object had invaded the spirit field.

"I've already wiped it out, and your alert just came through. Your reaction speed is remarkable, indeed."

Lu Xuan looked at the grass puppet, which had retreated after alerting him, and couldn't help but be amused.

Under the dim candlelight, he could clearly see the Remnant Black Bud Worm in his hand.

"Once wasn't enough, so you came again. You consider my spirit field as your backyard, huh?"

Lu Xuan used the Golden Sword Technique to chop the Black Bud Worm's body into pieces, then burnt them into ash with the Fireball Technique, only then was his anger completely quelled.

"Thank goodness, the protective array functioned and timely stopped the invasion of this Black Bud Worm, otherwise the consequences would be unthinkable..."

The thought of his spirit plants inside the spirit field possibly being parasitized by the Black Bud Worm's eggs and thereby affecting his light cluster reward made him shudder.

More than ever, he felt that buying this second-hand formation must have been an extremely wise decision.

The appearance of the black bud worm was just a minor ripple in his otherwise tranquil farming life. In the following days, nothing unusual happened.

Lu Xuan's life was simple yet fulfilling, meticulously cultivating spirit plants every day using Spirit Rain and Ground Leading Techniques, and occasionally stimulating the Red Cloud Pine with the Fireball Technique.

He hadn't ventured out much over the past few days, only Zhang Hong had visited once.

Zhang Hong was about to go with the Wang Family cultivators and hundreds or thousands of loose cultivators into the wilderness, to open up a newly emerged Secret Land. Before he left, he came to say goodbye to Lu Xuan, and asked him to help watch over his wife and children at home.

Apart from that, Lu Xuan had barely interacted with anyone else.

After five days, he had harvested another two batches of mature Spirit Firefly Grass. A total of eight plants, leaving only the last three about to mature in his Spirit Field.

Out of the eight, three were of ordinary quality, while five were of good quality.

Three of the eight white light clusters that appeared gave Lu Xuan a year's worth of accumulated cultivation level. His spiritual power increased considerably as a result.

Out of the remaining five, two were experience packages for the Earth Pulling Technique and the Golden Sword Technique. These further deepened his understanding of these two formula methods, making them faster to deploy and more powerful.

And the last three yielded three first-grade talismans: a Sword Qi Talisman, a Swift Talisman for boosting speed, and an Earth Armor Symbol for defense. Lu Xuan stored all of them for future use.

After picking the eight mature Spirit Firefly Grass, a large area of the Spirit Field was cleared. Lu Xuan carefully planted the remaining ten Spirit Firefly Grass Seeds. Soon, they sprouted tender green shoots that trembled gently in the breeze.

The ten plants he had planted earlier had grown considerably, each about three inches tall. The color of their leaves turned dark green, and the luminescent spots on them became more prominent.

The last three Spirit Firefly Grass plants did not keep Lu Xuan waiting for long. One day, after each cast the Spirit Rain Technique, their progress bars filled up to the max.

With his mind focused, Lu Xuan encountered a pleasant surprise.

“Mature Spirit Firefly Grass of Good Quality.” *2

“Mature Spirit Firefly Grass of Superior Quality.”

“Finally, I have managed to cultivate a Superior Quality Spirit Firefly Grass.”

Lu Xuan clasped the lustrous Spirit Firefly Grass in his hand, filled with relief.

Out of a total of twenty-four plants, through the careful cultivation of the Spirit Rain Technique and Ground Leading Technique, one of Superior Quality finally emerged.

Although the odds were slim, Lu Xuan understood why.

After all, the spiritual energy in his Spirit Field was thin. And the immediate status of the Spirit Firefly Grass was already in its late stage when he got to know it. It was difficult to significantly improve the quality, let alone elevate it to a higher level.

“If I want to produce spiritual plants of Superior Quality in large quantities, or even of Perfect Grade, it needs at least two conditions to be met,”

“Dense spiritual power and meticulous cultivation of the spiritual seeds from the time they are planted to maturity.”

Lu Xuan concluded.

In the Spirit Field, three white light clusters flashed tantalizingly, drawing Lu Xuan’s attention.

“Harvest one Spirit Firefly Grass and gain half a year’s cultivation level.”

Another boost to his cultivation level—I feel so lazy even thinking about practicing hard.

Touched by the soaring spiritual power that suddenly appeared in his body, Lu Xuan sighed.

“Harvest one Spirit Firefly Grass, acquire one First Grade Evil Banishing Talisman.”

A yellowish talisman appeared in Lu Xuan’s hand. An evil ghost pattern was emblazoned in the center, suppressed by two peculiar chains of inscriptions.

“An Evil Banishing Talisman, a First Grade Talisman, can purify and drive away certain ranges of evil, quite rare indeed.”

A thought flashed through Lu Xuan’s mind, and he carefully put away the talisman with the evil ghost pattern.

The final white light cluster came from the Superior Quality one. The quality of the spirit plant is one of the factors that affect the richness of rewards, and Lu Xuan had high hopes for it.

The light cluster turned into countless light spots and poured into Lu Xuan’s mind. A sense of intimacy flashed in his mind, and a Cultivation Technique appeared within his Sea of Consciousness.

“‘Concealment Method,’ after practicing, it can conceal one’s own breath and cultivation level, providing quite good hidden abilities.”