

Starting as a Son-in-law to Establish an immortal Family #Chapter 1261: 436: Nangong Mili's Shock, Visitor from Red Sun Peak! - Read Starting as a Son-in-law to Establish an immortal Family Chapter 1261: 436: Nangong Mili's Shock, Visitor from Red Sun Peak!

Chapter 1261: Chapter 436: Nangong Mili's Shock, Visitor from Red Sun Peak!

The Zhang Family of Little Kong Mountain.

This is a Foundation Establishment family, located near the Luoyun Mountain Range, with no presence in the Jiang Country Cultivation Realm.

At this moment, in the forbidden grounds of the Zhang Family, within a small courtyard.

"Emissary, according to information from the Heaven Knowledge Tower, the Four Great Immortal Sects are about to open the Tianyuan Secret Realm, allowing some core disciples to enter and gain insights from the Heavenly Stele."

"Aside from sect disciples, the Four Great Immortal Sects will also release some quotas for the family forces under their governance."

An elder, about fifty years old, prostrated on the ground and spoke respectfully.

"So they are going to open it up..."

In the loft of the small courtyard, a beautiful woman in her thirties, with a transcendent and dazzling appearance, sat gracefully on an exquisite chaise.

Upon hearing this, her long and narrow phoenix eyes slightly narrowed.

"Is there an approximate time?"

She wore a purple misty gauze long dress, her figure alluring and magnificent, indescribably beautiful.

Her voluptuous and jade-like long legs crossed, with one draped in a purple starry sand flowing stiletto heel.

With a face of nonchalance, she gazed at the cup of tea in her hand, her alabaster fingers gently stirring the floating crystalline tea leaves, she spoke softly.

Even though her voice was calm and indifferent, as if rejecting people from a thousand miles away, it still exuded a bone-deep allure, making one desire to witness celestial beauty.

“To reply to the Emissary, the Heaven Knowledge Tower only has news of this aspect, but the Four Great Immortal Sects have yet to determine the timing information.”

The elder prostrated on the ground and spoke respectfully, not daring to raise his head, fearing to desecrate the lady in the loft.

“It seems the Heavenly Sword Sect has already set a Heaven-and-Earth Net, and now opening the Secret Realm is just waiting for people to take the bait...”

This woman was none other than Nangong Mili, who came to the Jiang Country.

For more than half a year, she had been observing the situation of the Tianyuan Secret Realm at the Luoyun Mountain Range.

She had long understood that the Tianyuan Secret Realm had almost been swept clean by the Four Great Immortal Sects of Jiang Country.

Now hearing the news that the Four Great Immortal Sects were preparing to open the Secret Realm, she immediately realized this was setting a trap, waiting for people to enter.

However, this is how the Cultivation World works.

As long as there are opportunities tempting enough, even though many know this is a Heaven-and-Earth Net laid by the Four Great Immortal Sects, they will still charge in.

“Sect core disciples, family forces under governance...”

Nangong Mili took a gentle sip of tea, leaving a crimson mark on the cup with her luscious red lips, her lips curved with a subtle smile.

“Continue to pay attention to information in this regard, has there been any recent movement in Azure Phoenix Immortal City?”

Nangong Mili continued to inquire.

A year ago, the newly appointed City Lord of Azure Phoenix Immortal City, White Peak Immortal, was killed by a demonic path cultivator.

Although this event has yet to spread completely, it is not a secret.

She had been paying attention to this matter.

Hoping to guess which faction was responsible through the subsequent movements of Azure Phoenix Immortal City.

Judging whether this event would affect the Tianyuan Secret Realm.

“To reply to the Emissary, there has been no major change in Azure Phoenix Immortal City...”

The elder spoke respectfully.

Saying this, he took out a jade slip from the storage bag, holding it with both hands, and said: “Sir, recently there has been a piece of news regarding the Blue Lake Mountain Lu Family that you asked me to pay attention to.”

“Blue Lake Mountain Lu Family?”

Nangong Mili’s phoenix eyes were long and narrow, outlined with a faint eyeshadow, cold and exquisite, her slender hands lightly lifted, making the jade slip held by the elder land in her hand.

“Third-Rank Talisman Master, eldest son of the Lu Family, Lu Ping’an...”

Nangong Mili looked at the information on the jade slip, her brows frowned slightly, with some surprise and doubt.

She was not surprised by Lu Changsheng’s promotion to a Third-Rank Talisman Master.

But rather surprised at Lu Ping’an’s age and combat power.

A while ago, she learned about Lu Wangshu and the Red Leaf Valley Market through the elder.

So now seeing Lu Ping’an’s situation, she deeply realized something was off with Lu Changsheng.

The children he bore were all too extraordinary.

Lu Ping’an, Lu Wangshu, Lu Qingshan, and her own daughter... Nangong Yaoyao.

Moreover, besides their exceptional talent, she also sensed a combat power issue.

As a Nascent Soul Immortal, she understood clearly, for a cultivator to harness their talent, potential, and combat power far beyond their peers, the importance of wealth, companions, dharma, and land is paramount.

In fact, one could say, the importance of wealth, companions, dharma, and land surpasses that of spiritual root talent.

Many loose cultivators, family forces, even if they had children with extraordinary talent, lacked the resources to nurture them into success, so they could only send them to the Immortal Sects.

Like the Blue Lake Mountain Lu Family.

Besides land, they are far from wealth, companions, and dharma.

After all, as the Heaven Spider Emissary of the Five Poisons Cult, governing many marketplaces and family forces.

Nangong Mili is well aware that these family forces' annual earnings are unlikely to have much surplus wealth.

Companions, besides Dao companions and like-minded friends, also include teachers, etc.

But what talent could a small Foundation Establishment family have?

Surrounded by a group of bumpkins, what could be achieved from influence?

As for the last dharma, it is also the most important point.

Even with a Heavenly Spiritual Root, without a good compatible cultivation technique, the cultivation speed and combat power might not even match that of a Top-Grade Spiritual Root.

And a Foundation Establishment family is impossible to have any top-level technique inheritance.

Even a Nascent Soul Noble Family would have at most one or two advanced level cultivation technique inheritances, which might not even suit their descendants.

So, whether it is Lu Ping'an or Lu Wangshu, neither seems to be nurtured by a small Foundation Establishment family.

And judging by the combat power of the two, it is evident the cultivation technique inheritance is uncommon, and there is instruction, not mere individual cultivation.

Based on these points, Nangong Mili realized there is a problem, a big problem, with Blue Lake Mountain.

"Lu Changsheng....."

Nangong Mili's phoenix eyes gleamed with a cold light, knowing that these matters are all related to Lu Changsheng.

Through the past half a year, the more she learned about Lu Changsheng, the more she felt he was not simple, as if shrouded in a layer of mystery.

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But because of this, she became increasingly determined to uncover the mystery that surrounded Lu Changsheng.

"When the time comes to go to Bi Lake Mountain, I must be extra cautious..."

Nangong Mili murmured inwardly, her vigilance toward Lu Changsheng rising another notch.

After all, the man was not only audacious enough to nurture Golden Core Charm for others, but could also produce rare treasures like the Misty Sky Bead.

Now, various signs were pointing to the fact that he was far from ordinary, forcing her to keep her guard up.

Otherwise, if she miscalculated and fell into his trap, wouldn't that be...

"Hmph, no matter what, he is merely a Foundation Establishment cultivator."

"Even if he possesses False Core-level strength, or techniques comparable to Core Formation, as long as I tread carefully, it won't matter."

Nangong Mili stood up resolutely, her figure graceful and enchanting, dressed in a flowing purple mist silk dress. The hem swayed lightly, revealing a glimpse of her fair and slender legs, paired with sharp purple high heels. She exuded an air of elegant nobility and alluring charm.

...

Mount Sumeru Cave Heaven.

Lu Changsheng gazed at Bai Ling, who was seated in meditation and cultivating.

After obtaining a legacy cultivation technique, Bai Ling's cultivation speed had nearly doubled.

This was truly remarkable!

It was akin to elevating her original top-grade spiritual root speed to the level of an Earth Spirit Root, or even comparable to a Heavenly Spiritual Root.

“At this rate, Ling’er might be the fastest in the family to cultivate to the peak of Foundation Establishment...”

Lu Changsheng thought to himself with deep emotion.

He knew that Bai Ling’s remarkable improvement in cultivation speed was not only due to the compatibility of the technique but was also connected to her recent bloodline awakening.

This bloodline awakening effectively raised Bai Ling’s innate talent by a whole level.

“But the more extraordinary Ling’er’s bloodline, the more extraordinary the child she carries will be.”

“I just don’t know whether this child will be human... or half-demon...”

Lu Changsheng glanced at the flat belly beneath Bai Ling’s white dress and pondered silently.

“Brother~”

After briefly assessing her cultivation progress, Bai Ling opened her eyes with a delighted expression, calling out cheerfully to Lu Changsheng.

“Very good. But Ling’er, you’re pregnant now, so there’s no need to cultivate so diligently every single day.”

Lu Changsheng said softly to Bai Ling.

During the early stages of pregnancy, women could still cultivate. However, after several months, cultivation could pose some risks.

“Okay~”

Bai Ling beamed with joy and nodded earnestly.

Although it was her first pregnancy, she was already well aware of the taboos surrounding it.

The two walked out of Changsheng Hall together, arriving at the Mount Sumeru Cave Heaven, near the Peachwood Spirit Womb.

“Hong Lian...”

Lu Changsheng asked Hong Lian whether she had ever heard of a True Spirit named Bai Xi.

“Bai Xi?”

Hong Lian pondered for a moment before replying that she hadn’t heard of such a True Spirit.

It wasn’t that the True Spirit didn’t exist.

Rather, information about True Spirits was incredibly scarce.

Aside from certain Zhenling families, or forces that had served True Spirits, others had little access to such information.

Most people could only glean a fragmented understanding from the brief snippets found in ancient texts.

“Alright.”

Lu Changsheng didn’t mind the reply.

The less information there was, the more mysterious the True Spirit seemed—an indicator of how extraordinary it might be.

“Ling’er, just focus on nurturing the child. Don’t mind these matters. If you feel unwell at any point, let me know immediately.”

Lu Changsheng reassured Bai Ling gently, noticing her slight worry.

Soon, the two made their way to the Lu Family Mansion.

Bai Ling joyfully shared the news of her pregnancy with Ling Zixiao, Lu Miaoyun, and Qu Zhenzhen.

“Ling’er, congratulations.”

“Ling’er, congratulations to you!”

The other women immediately congratulated Bai Ling upon hearing the news.

After years of living together, they had grown fond of the shy and timid young woman.

They knew she had always longed to bear descendants for her husband.

Yet, all these years, she had been unable to conceive.

Now, upon learning that Bai Ling was finally pregnant, they were sincerely happy for her.

Just as Lu Changsheng was chatting with his wives and concubines—

Lu Xingyang arrived to report some news: the Sima Family had sent people.

“So the Sima Family finally sent someone, huh.”

Ling Zixiao, dressed in a lake-blue gown, her demeanor poised and elegant, commented.

The feud between the two families had become a widely discussed topic.

Though the Lu Family hadn’t taken the initiative to contact the Sima Family, the latter could hardly ignore the matter regarding Sima Tong.

“Father, the people from the Sima Family have arrived along with representatives from the Qingyun Sect.”

Lu Xingyang continued.

“Qingyun Sect?”

Lu Miaoyun and Qu Zhenzhen were visibly surprised upon hearing this.

Although the Sima Family had influence within the Qingyun Sect—

This conflict was, without doubt, caused by the Sima Family. Why should the Qingyun Sect get involved?

“It might be due to Ping’an’s False Core combat prowess and husband’s status as a Third-Rank Talisman Master.”

Ling Zixiao explained calmly.

Ordinary families usually wouldn’t attract Qingyun Sect’s attention.

But once a family reached a certain level of strength—such as having multiple top-tier Foundation Establishment cultivators, or False Core-level warriors—the Qingyun Sect would begin to take notice.

There was even a belief that when a family’s power reached those heights, it was almost obligatory to seek a faction within the Qingyun Sect as a patron or ally.

Furthermore, if a family produced a Third-Rank Talisman Master, even the Qingyun Sect would consider extending an olive branch, inviting them to become a Guest Elder.

“With both the Qingyun Sect and Sima Family representatives arriving together, it’s likely they’re here as mediators.”

Ling Zixiao smiled gracefully as she continued.

“Since they’ve come, let’s meet them.”

Lu Changsheng said with a smile, joining Ling Zixiao to greet the guests.

Moments later, the two entered the reception hall.

Inside, a man and a woman were seated.

The man appeared to be about thirty years old, with a heroic and commanding presence. He possessed Ninth Layer Foundation Establishment cultivation.

The woman was around twenty-seven or twenty-eight years old, her features serene and refined, with Sixth Layer Foundation Establishment cultivation.

“Greetings to Mountain Lord Lu and Lady Lu. I am Song Cheng, a disciple of Qingyun Sect’s Red Sun Peak.”

The man stood up promptly upon seeing Lu Changsheng and Ling Zixiao, offering a respectful fist-and-palm salute.

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“Sima Qiuhua.”

The woman spoke up, but her face was expressionless, even somewhat indifferent.

“Greetings, Daoist Song. I wonder what brings Daoist Song and Daoist Sima to my Bi Lake Mountain?”

Lu Changsheng and Ling Zixiao sat aside, smiling as he asked.

“It’s like this: my master heard of Lord Lu’s advancement to a Third-Rank Talisman Master, so he sent me to convey congratulations and to inquire if Lord Lu would like to serve as a Visiting Noble Servant at our Red Sun Peak.”

Song Cheng took out an exquisite gift box from his Storage Bag and handed it to Lu Changsheng, speaking courteously.

“Daoist Song, you’re too kind. Red Sun Peak? Your master is...?”

Lu Changsheng did not immediately accept the gift. He narrowed his eyes and asked.

“My master is Real Person Chiyang.”

Song Cheng spoke, a trace of arrogance showing on his face.

Being a disciple of a Nascent Soul Immortal was indeed something to be proud of.

“Ah, a disciple of Real Person Chiyang, I’m honored, I’m honored.”

Lu Changsheng offered a slight bow of his hands.

He was aware of the names of Qingyun Sect’s Nascent Soul Immortals,

but apart from knowing that Caiyun True Immortal had two disciples, he wasn’t sure about the others.

“My lord, if I’m not mistaken, Sima Qiuhua is also a disciple of Red Sun Peak.”

“This person probably didn’t come on behalf of Qingyun Sect, but Red Sun Peak, acting as a mediator.”

At this time, the elegant Ling Zixiao, gently sipping her tea, transmitted her Divine Sense to Lu Changsheng.

“Lu Changsheng has only recently advanced to Third-Rank in the Talisman Path and is not yet proficient, so I’m afraid the position of Visiting Noble Servant might not appeal to the Real Person’s discerning eye.”

Lu Changsheng voiced his gentle refusal.

He could also see that they were not simply recruiting him and likely were trying to act as a mediator, as Ling Zixiao mentioned.

If he were to accept this offer, the matters to follow would probably be difficult to refuse.

Moreover, he had heard Xiao Xiyue mention that Caiyun True Immortal seemed to have some enmity with Real Person Chiyang’s Dao companion.

When they encountered an ambush back then, it was possibly orchestrated by them?

“Lord Lu’s talent in the Talisman Path, Song had long heard of it.”

“Moreover, my master personally inquired about this matter, and promises that as long as Lord Lu is willing to come to our Red Sun Peak as a Visiting Noble Servant, not only will you gain access to our sect’s Third-Rank Talisman Path inheritance.”

“In the future, if Lord Lu wishes to break through to False Core, our Red Sun Lineage can provide a suitable Third-Rank Demon Core.”

Song Cheng, detecting Lu Changsheng’s words of gentle refusal, continued to speak with sincerity.

As for Core Formation resources like Coagulation Crystal Elixir, he didn’t even bring them up.

After all, the Coagulation Crystal Elixir, even within Qingyun Sect, had to be competed for by True Disciples; how could it be given to outsiders?

“Let me consider this matter first.”

Lu Changsheng continued to voice his gentle refusal.

Even if he truly wanted to serve as a Visiting Noble Servant in Qingyun Sect, he would undoubtedly choose Caiyun Peak, not Red Sun Peak.

“Alright, then Lord Lu should take your time to consider it.”

Seeing Lu Changsheng reject him like this, Song Cheng’s face became less gracious and more cold.

After all, in his eyes, no matter how impressive Bi Lake Mountain was, it was merely a dog under Qingyun Sect’s rule.

His master, under the words of his mistress, personally inquired about this matter and was even willing to offer an olive branch and promise benefits. Yet, Lu Changsheng outright refused.

Simply ungrateful!

“In addition to the Visiting Noble Servant matter, this trip of Song’s is also for my junior sister’s family affairs, intending to resolve the enmity between Lord Lu and the Xuanwu Ridge Sima Family.”

Song Cheng spoke, continuing the conversation.

“Resolve enmity?”

Lu Changsheng and Ling Zixiao, upon hearing these words, exchanged glances, noting to themselves that they had expected this.

“I didn’t expect this Daoist Sima to hail from Xuanwu Ridge.”

Lu Changsheng looked at Sima Qiuhua and said with a smile.

Then looking at Song Cheng, he continued, “The enmity between the two families originated from the Sima Family. Since Daoist Song has spoken, my Bi Lake Mountain also doesn’t wish to take things too far. As long as the Sima Family is willing to compensate my Bi Lake Mountain accordingly, the matter would naturally come to an end.”

Sitting next to them, Sima Qiuhua, upon hearing Lu Changsheng’s words, immediately clenched her hands within her sleeves.

Her family not only had their patriarch captured but also lost four Nascent Soul Seeds and a Foundation Establishment elder.

Especially this said elder, who was her direct uncle.

But now, in Lu Changsheng’s casual tone, it seemed as if he was lenient and unwilling to push things too far.

“I would like to know what compensation Lord Lu desires?”

Sima Qiuhua suppressed her inward fury and spoke up.

Though she had asked her master to intervene,

in such matters, her master wasn’t going to come personally.

Thus, this recruitment trip took place.

On one hand, Lu Changsheng indeed was a talent, and Bi Lake Mountain’s current strength was worth recruiting by Qingyun Sect.

On the other hand, bringing him to Red Sun Peak could better resolve the enmity between the two families.

Of course, the compensation to resolve this enmity still needed to come from her Sima Family.

“Regarding compensation...”

Lu Changsheng glanced at Ling Zixiao and deliberated slightly, "Five hundred thousand Spirit Stones, one Spirit Land, thirty store spaces in the marketplace at my Bi Lake Mountain's choice, and the opening of all trading posts with a sworn promise not to retaliate against my Bi Lake Mountain for a hundred years."

He had discussed this with Ling Zixiao earlier and had gathered some information from Patriarch Sima with the Six Desires Heart Demon Technique.

Therefore, while the compensation seemed ample, it was within the Sima Family's capacity to bear.

However, for the Sima Family, this would be like a bloodletting, severely damaging their vitality afterward.

"This is impossible!"

Sima Qiuhua immediately spoke, her voice somewhat sharp.

Even though she had been at Qingyun Sect for a long time, she knew that her family could never agree to such compensation.

This compensation was enough to nurture a False Core Immortal or even support someone in attempting Core Formation!

Moreover, she asked her master to intervene in hopes of minimizing the compensation.

Not to mention, her family would also have to reward her master afterwards.

"Is Lord Lu joking around here? The matter of my junior sister was personally inquired about by my master, who does not wish for it to escalate."

Song Cheng's face darkened slightly, and he spoke up.

Although his master didn't give him many details, merely sending him on this trip,

his mistress had instructed him to handle this matter well.

"Is Daoist Song representing Qingyun Sect or representing Red Sun Peak?"

Lu Changsheng detected a hint of threat in the words, his handsome face carrying a trace of coldness as he spoke calmly and indifferently.

Lu Changsheng has never been fond of being threatened.

At this moment, a mere Foundation Establishment cultivator was putting on airs in front of him?

If not for being at home and seeing him as a disciple of Qingyun Sect, he would have smacked him to death long ago.

“Song is representing Red Sun Peak, but also represents Qingyun Sect!”

Song Cheng fixed his gaze on Lu Changsheng, with a hint of coldness in his eyes, lacking the previous politeness.

“If you’re representing Qingyun Sect, then show me a decree.”

“If there’s no decree, please leave.”

Knowing the purpose of their visit, Lu Changsheng couldn’t be bothered with niceties anymore.

After all, the situation won’t make any further progress by continuing the conversation.

It’s better to wait for someone from the Sima Family who truly holds authority to arrive.

As for Qingyun Sect, Red Sun Peak...

He could simply call for reinforcement.

Having Core Formation cultivation now, he wouldn’t need to ask this Caiyun True Immortal for anything major.

It’s better to request a minor favor from her.

And it happens to be through this matter, showcasing an external connection with Qingyun Sect, thereby adding a layer of intimidation.

So, your family has backing in Qingyun Sect, huh?

Well, Lu here focuses on forging good relationships long before establishing a family, already having connections within Qingyun Sect!

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“Lu Changsheng, don’t be so shameless...”

Upon hearing Lu Changsheng’s words, Song Cheng’s expression instantly changed, becoming as dark as water.

If it weren't for the fact that Lu Changsheng's reputation preceded him, and that this was Bi Lake Mountain, he would have acted out on the spot.

The two of them had come bearing the verbal decree of Real Person Chiyang.

For Lu Changsheng to treat them with such disdain, it was as if he completely disregarded Red Sun Peak and his master, Real Person Chiyang.

A newly risen False Core family—even with Lu Changsheng, a Third-Rank Talisman Master—was still nothing more than a dog in the eyes of Qingyun Sect!

“Leave!”

Lu Changsheng said plainly, holding a teacup in hand, his expression calm and indifferent, displaying not the slightest courtesy.

These words caused Song Cheng to smash the table with one palm, rising abruptly, intent on taking action, but Sima Qiuhua quickly pulled back her senior brother.

While she did indeed relish the thought of her senior brother and Lu Changsheng clashing in a fierce fight,

today's primary goal was still to rescue her family's patriarch.

If things escalated too far, it would be difficult to resolve.

Moreover, their master was not known to be the kind of overbearing person.

If word got out that they had initiated hostility and acted aggressively, they would lose the moral high ground.

“Fine, fine, fine, don't say I didn't warn you.”

Song Cheng's face was dark, his tone sharp and biting, as he said, “Since Master Lu refuses to show respect to Red Sun Peak, I will report this matter truthfully to my master!”

As a disciple of a Nascent Soul Immortal, he held an important position in Qingyun Sect; normally, which patriarch of a family did not greet him with utmost reverence upon seeing him?

Now, Lu Changsheng, a mere Foundation Establishment cultivator, dared to treat him this way—it truly infuriated him to the point of steaming.

After saying this, he left the hall swiftly with Sima Qiuhua.

“At least they have some sense.”

Lu Changsheng watched the pair leave, lightly sipping his tea.

For someone like Lu Changsheng who had cultivated for so long, such attitudes hardly provoked much anger.

Responding in this way was partly because there was truly nothing worth talking about, and he couldn't be bothered to feign politeness.

On the other hand, he also didn't mind the matter escalating if it meant drawing stronger allies into the fray.

If the Sima Family invited intervention from Red Sun Peak's figures, even a Nascent Soul Immortal, and his own side was still able to handle them, wouldn't that demonstrate the strength of his backing?

“Would my lord like me to send word to Xiao Xiyue?”

Ling Zixiao asked, somewhat surprised by Lu Changsheng's actions.

Still, she didn't dwell on it too much.

She knew Lu Changsheng surely had his own reasoning behind everything he did.

“Hmm, I'll pay Qingyun Sect a visit myself. It's time to establish solid backing within Qingyun Sect.”

Lu Changsheng said with a smile.

“Backing?”

Ling Zixiao was slightly surprised upon hearing this.

She knew her lord already had connections in Qingyun Sect—Xiao Xiyue and Zhao Qingqing—but did he have others?

For someone to be considered true backing, strong enough to oppose Real Person Chiyang, it could only be another Nascent Soul Immortal.

Could it be...?

Ling Zixiao's thoughts turned to her lord's history of romantic entanglements, and she revealed an expression of subtle contemplation in her beautiful eyes.

Lu Changsheng didn't offer further explanations. He activated the Fate-Defying Robe, his figure immediately merging with the void and vanishing completely.

...

"Senior brother, I heard Lu Changsheng is close friends with Xiao Xiyue of Caiyun Peak."

"For him to act so arrogantly, it must be because he's relying on his relations with Xiao Xiyue."

As Sima Qiuhua and Song Cheng left Bi Lake Mountain, she remarked.

Sima Qiuhua had long investigated Lu Changsheng's connections within Qingyun Sect, gaining insights into his ties.

She knew that he had a Dao companion, a brother-in-law, and this layer of relations with Xiao Xiyue.

However, Zhao Qingqing and Xia Zhaoyang were insignificant in their eyes.

Only Xiao Xiyue warranted their attention.

After all, Xiao Xiyue wasn't just a True Disciple of Qingyun Sect; she had the talent for Core Formation and was backed by masters and senior sisters who were all Nascent Soul Immortals.

Such standing and influence were far beyond what either of them could compare to.

"Hmph, now that Qing Yi Fairy is overseeing matters in the Tianyuan Secret Realm and Caiyun True Immortal has been secluded for some time, even if he asks Junior Sister Xiyue to mediate, what good will it do?"

"Does Junior Sister Xiyue care enough about this relationship to offend our entire Red Sun Peak by asking Caiyun True Immortal to break her seclusion?"

Song Cheng said coldly.

Pausing briefly, he narrowed his eyes and continued, "That Lu Changsheng must think he can ingratiate himself with Caiyun Peak, but he's sorely mistaken!"

Although he didn't know much about Lu Changsheng personally,

he was certain anyone capable of rising to this level within decades couldn't be foolish enough to provoke Red Sun Peak without reason.

Such an attitude today must serve some hidden agenda.

And the prior grudge between his master and Caiyun True Immortal—causing discord between the two factions—was no secret.

Thus, his first guess was that Lu Changsheng's refusal was an attempt to curry favor with Xiao Xiyue and Caiyun Peak.

"Hmph, that Lu Changsheng is nothing but a philandering opportunist. He's probably harboring feelings for Xiao Xiyue and trying to get into her good graces!"

Sima Qiuhua scoffed disdainfully, her tone frosty.

Though she couldn't deny Lu Changsheng's strikingly handsome features, which were rare to behold in her lifetime,

during the brief interaction just now, she noted his complete disinterest in her, coupled with an attitude she found revolting.

"I've heard Junior Sister Xiyue's cultivation technique requires her to forget love and sever ties to emotions. His efforts are destined to be wasted."

"Moreover, what kind of person is Junior Sister Xiyue? She is the Nine Heavens Divine Phoenix, destined to achieve Core Formation in the future. Lu Changsheng may have some fortunate encounters, but he's still just a frog in a well! Where would he find the qualifications?"

Song Cheng sneered contemptuously.

Years ago, he too had tried to pursue Xiao Xiyue,

but his master had revealed certain secrets, leading him to realize such attempts were futile.

"Don't worry, Junior Sister, I will report this matter truthfully to Master and Mistress."

Song Cheng said, glancing at Sima Qiuhua.

"I'll leave it to you, Senior Brother. After this matter is resolved, I will certainly reward you handsomely."

Sima Qiuhua replied with a charming smile, her voice soft and gentle.

Although Song Cheng showed little prospect of forming a True Elixir,

with his identity as a disciple of Real Person Chiyang, achieving a False Core in the future was certainly within reach.

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And she fell short in many aspects; to break through to False Core, she must rely on family support.

“Junior Sister, you are too courteous.”

Song Cheng returned to his usual refined and gentle demeanor, speaking with a smile.

His assistance to Sima Qiuhua during this trip was partly out of respect for his Master’s Wife and also for the sake of the Sima Family’s reputation.

If this matter was handled well, it would be akin to the Sima Family owing him a great favor.

...

“Tsk...”

In the void, Lu Changsheng watched the departing duo.

He thought to himself that the two were not fools; they understood that his daring attitude earlier must be backed by some form of confidence.

“Unfortunately, my confidence is not Xiao Xiyue.”

Lu Changsheng chuckled lightly.

If his backing were solely Xiao Xiyue, he wouldn’t have acted this way.

Perhaps he would have feigned politeness with the other party.

“In the Qingyun Region, or strictly speaking within the Jiang Country Cultivation Realm’s framework, unless one possesses absolute strength, adhering strictly to the rules can indeed feel suffocating...”

Lu Changsheng felt a spark of melancholy in his heart.

Without the connection to Caiyun True Immortal, if he didn’t reveal his strength, he would indeed suffer losses in situations like this.

Even though he could rely on disguise and camouflage to solve many external dangers.

When it came to the suppressive rules of Immortal Sects like Qingyun Sect and Heavenly Sword Sect, he had no choice but to act within the boundaries of those rules.

“It’s crucial to form more alliances, isn’t it?”

“If I could establish ties with Nascent Soul Immortals from Luoxia Sect, Spirit Taming Sect, and Heavenly Sword Sect, I wouldn’t need to worry about such matters.”

Lu Changsheng took a deep breath and exhaled long and slow, feeling that his journey was still a long way ahead.

He resolved to find an opportunity to strengthen his bond with Caiyun True Immortal.

This way, his family would finally enjoy peace within the Qingyun Region.

Lu Changsheng stopped dwelling on the matter as his Fate-Defying Robe radiated an invisible glow, propelling him toward Qingyun Sect.

Stopping a hundred miles outside Qingyun Sect, Lu Changsheng adjusted his attire briefly and retrieved a jade pendant.

Although his connection with Caiyun True Immortal was unique.

It wasn’t appropriate for him to directly enter Qingyun Sect for a formal visit—he couldn’t exactly say to Xiao Xiyue: “Xi Yue, I have some business with your Master,” could he?

Thus, he opted to use the jade pendant given to him years ago by Yun Wanshang.

“Hum!”

As Lu Changsheng imbued the jade pendant in his hand with mana, rays of resplendent light shimmered around it instantly.

...

Qingyun Sect.

At Caiyun Peak, inside an opulent palace.

Yun Wanshang sat cross-legged, her eyes closed elegantly, surrounded by delicate threads of radiant glow, exuding a profound and mystic aura.

At this moment, as though sensing something, her eyes suddenly opened. She gently raised her hand, and a jade pendant shimmering with cloud-like radiance appeared in her palm.

“Hmm?”

Yun Wanshang looked at the jade pendant with a hint of surprise.

Although she had given the other jade pendant to Lu Changsheng earlier as a means for him to summon her in life-and-death crises, he had never activated it.

This was the first time the jade pendant had been activated.

Aside from the jade pendant, she had also given Lu Changsheng a token imbued with a seal of her Divine Skills.

Now that Lu Changsheng had activated the pendant, it was clearly not a matter of life-or-death crisis.

As she injected her mana into the jade pendant in her hand, the two pendants created an intangible flow of aura, indicating that Lu Changsheng was not far from her location and within range of contact.

“What is the matter?”

Without delay, Yun Wanshang spoke; her voice was clear, melodious, and carried a trace of authority befitting someone of her stature.

“Eh... this pendant can transmit voice?”

On the other side, Lu Changsheng was startled to hear Yun Wanshang’s voice coming from the jade pendant.

He had studied the pendant before and understood it was an Exotic Treasure capable of concealing aura and enabling mutual sensing.

However, he had not delved deep enough to discover its ability to transmit spoken messages.

“Senior, I have a matter I would like to request your assistance with.”

Knowing Yun Wanshang’s straightforward nature, Lu Changsheng decided not to beat around the bush and spoke directly.

“Speak.”

The pendant transmitted Yun Wanshang's crystalline, jewel-like voice.

"Damn, this woman's so cold."

Lu Changsheng muttered inwardly.

However, he was well aware of her temperament—cold on the outside, warm on the inside.

At once, he spoke with a slightly aggrieved tone: "Senior, my family business has been building for years. Recently, we established a trade caravan to earn Spirit Stones through commerce."

"Who would have thought that the Xuanwu Ridge Sima Family, barbaric and unreasonable, would try to oppress my family? They forbade us from conducting trade and even sent people to ambush us..."

"Get to the point."

Yun Wanshang's voice resounded.

"My son captured and suppressed the Sima Family Patriarch, Sima Tong, but the Sima Family invited Real Person Chiyang to intervene and sent disciples to my family..."

Lu Changsheng explained immediately.

"Captured Sima Tong and Chiyang intervened?"

Yun Wanshang, upon hearing this, expressed a mix of surprise and confusion.

She naturally knew that Sima Tong of Xuanwu Ridge was a False Core Immortal.

If this False Core Immortal was subdued by Lu Changsheng, she could still understand.

But now, Lu Changsheng claimed it was his son who subdued him?

However, she didn't inquire further and said flatly, "How do you wish to handle this?"

"Uh, that depends on whatever is most convenient for you, Senior."

"If possible, as long as the Sima Family offers sufficient compensation, I'll be willing to let bygones be bygones."

Lu Changsheng replied.

"Alright, I understand."

As soon as those words fell, Lu Changsheng sensed the intangible aura from the pendant cut off.

“She’s that cold?”

Lu Changsheng felt speechless; he hadn’t even mentioned the compensation specifics.

Nonetheless, since Caiyun True Immortal spoke so decisively, he presumed she would not shortchange him.

Looking toward the direction of Qingyun Sect, Lu Changsheng thought about how it had been a while since he’d properly spent time with Xiao Xiyue and Zhao Qingqing.

Now that he was already here, it was natural to pay them a visit, as well as check up on his children, brother-in-law, and Han Lin.

Meanwhile.

After Yun Wanshang put away the jade pendant, she spread her Nascent Soul Divine Sense and transmitted her voice to a woman in a courtyard outside her palace: “Jinxiu, go to Luowang Hall and fetch recent intelligence regarding events in the Bi Lake Mountain area.”

Chapter 1266: Chapter 437: The Sima Family is domineering and unreasonable!_3

“Yes, Peak Master.”

Upon hearing these words, the woman immediately responded.

A moment later, the woman named ‘Jinxiu’ returned to Caiyun Peak, presenting a jade slip.

“Boom!”

The palace doors swung open with a thunderous roar, and the jade slip landed in Yun Wanshang’s palm.

“Refinement of Foundation Establishment Elixirs... Lu Wangshu... eldest son of the Lu Family, Lu Ping’an, merely sixty-one years old, quasi-Third Order Body Refinement.”

Yun Wanshang scanned these records with a trace of astonishment—Lu Changsheng had caused such a stir in recent years, it was no wonder he drew the attention of other family forces.

However, upon noticing the specific details about Lu Ping'an, her peerless beauty, as refined as jade, revealed a faint emotional movement.

This information was startling.

Even from her vantage point as a Nascent Soul Immortal, the case of Lu Ping'an was truly exceptional—worthy of being called a prodigious talent.

As for Lu Changsheng achieving Third-Rank Talisman Master, she paid it little mind.

During moments of physical intimacy with Lu Changsheng, she had long realized he harbored a tendency to conceal his strength.

She simply refrained from probing further or exposing his secrets.

“Lu Qingshan, Lu Ping'an, Lu Wangshu... Does Lu Changsheng's spiritual body have issues regarding fertility?”

Yun Wanshang stared at the jade slip in her hand, her eyes betraying a thoughtful expression.

She harbored considerable disdain for Lu Changsheng's actions, regarding him as nothing more than a stud.

Part of her feelings stemmed from a woman's perspective.

The other aspect came from the principles of strong cultivators in this world—all focused solely on their cultivation, prioritizing detachment from worldly emotions.

A man like Lu Changsheng, indulging in carnal desires so recklessly and with no restraint—how could he ever accomplish the Great Dao in the future?

Yet now, while examining this information, she suddenly realized Lu Changsheng might be walking an alternative path—a path tailor-made for him.

“Is there some type of spiritual body that aids in procreation, yet doesn't hinder cultivation...?”

Yun Wanshang pondered silently.

She had long suspected Lu Changsheng of having a Mutant Spiritual Root or some rare Spiritual Body.

After all, earlier detection revealed Lu Changsheng's spiritual root was of Eighth Grade.

But later, when she accessed his records, she discovered he had been assessed as possessing Ninth Grade Spiritual Root during his early years at Qingyun Sect.

An improvement in one's spiritual root was exceedingly rare in the cultivation world.

Such occurrences were not impossible, though.

Some Mutant Spiritual Roots were so obscure that early detection yielded no results, or they showed low quality, only to awaken and manifest their true powers during the slow progression of cultivation.

Likewise, certain Spiritual Bodies might exhibit similar effects, even concealing or altering the readings of spiritual roots.

"Jinxu, go handle the grievances between Bi Lake Mountain and the Sima Family of Profound Martial Ridge. Ask Bi Lake Mountain what compensation they'd require, then bring Sima Tong to the Enforcement Hall and notify the Sima Family to come fetch their people."

After deliberating for a moment, Yun Wanshang gave the order to the woman outside and tossed her a token.

"Yes, Peak Master!"

Jinxu responded with respectful compliance.

After Jinxu departed, Yun Wanshang paused briefly before taking out a jade pendant. Once the qi mechanisms intertwined, she spoke: "I've sent someone to handle the matter. Make your way to Qingyun Sect. When you see Xiyue, explain it like this..."

For reasons unknown, upon saying these words, Yun Wanshang inexplicably felt like she and Lu Changsheng were sneaking around behind Xiao Xiyue's back.

Though she had acted first, an inexplicable sense of guilt toward her disciple Xiao Xiyue crept over her...

"Huff..."

Yun Wanshang exhaled softly, her breath carrying hints of fragrance as she gazed at the jade slip in her hands, her thoughts drifting slightly.

Unbidden, memories of the Soul Path Dreams arose, those visions where she bore a son with Lu Changsheng...

The connection between those eerie Soul Path Dreams and reality seemed faintly intertwined.

If Lu Changsheng truly harbored some extraordinary Spiritual Body, capable of producing unparalleled offspring even with average women...

Should she bear a child with him, might it truly align with those glimpses from the Soul Path Dreams...

“Hmph!”

Yun Wanshang’s expression chilled as she dispelled these unwelcome thoughts, resuming her seated meditation to nourish her Golden Core.

...

Meanwhile.

Within a lavish palace on Red Sun Peak.

“Hmm, Lu Changsheng directly told you to leave?”

A dignified, elegant woman in her thirties, dressed in a green daoist robe with her jet-black hair styled into an ornate bun, gazed at the two individuals before her and inquired.

“Master, we would never dare deceive you about such a matter...”

Sima Qiuhua’s expression was one of respect, though her eyes revealed helpless bitterness.

“Mistress, that Lu Changsheng from Bi Lake Mountain and Xiao Xiyue are close friends. His refusal to our Red Sun Peak is likely an attempt to ingratiate himself with Caiyun Peak and align with them...”

Song Cheng explained with a bow.

“Caiyun Peak!”

Upon hearing the name, Song Qingzhi’s features instantly darkened with displeasure.

Who within Qingyun Sect did not know of her long-standing feud with Yun Wanshang?

Yun Wanshang could be tolerated.

But for a mere Foundation Establishment Cultivator from a newly-risen False Core Family to insult her so blatantly?

“A little Foundation Establishment Cultivator does not have the privilege of choice or refusal in such matters!”

Song Qingzhi reprimanded coldly.

Her stake in this issue wasn't solely for her disciple Sima Qiuhua's sake.

She had noticed Bi Lake Mountain's underlying complexities—be it Lu Changsheng or Lu Ping'an, both appeared to possess extraordinary fortuity.

Were she to pursue this fortuity outright, it would be improper and unsightly.

However, if Bi Lake Mountain aligned with her Red Sun lineage, this fortune would inevitably fall into her grasp.

To her dismay, not only had Bi Lake Mountain rejected her invitation, but they had also entangled themselves with Caiyun Peak.

“Hmph, I shall see where this Lu Changsheng finds such audacity!”

Song Qingzhi rose to her feet, preparing to personally visit Bi Lake Mountain.

She would uncover the source of his boldness!

Chapter 1267: Chapter 438: Xiao Xiyue: Why is Master together with Changsheng...

Song Qingzhi, accompanied by Song Cheng and Sima Qiuhua, stepped out of the palace and prepared to head to Bi Lake Mountain to demand justice.

“Hmm!?”

“Lu Changsheng!”

As the three approached the mountain gate, Song Cheng and Sima Qiuhua suddenly spotted a man in a green robe not far away. The man was strikingly handsome, exuding a demeanor as elegant and unworldly as a lofty pine tree swaying in the wind. Their expressions froze momentarily.

They hadn't expected that shortly after their own return, Lu Changsheng would show up at Qingyun Sect as well.

This affirmed their suspicion—Lu Changsheng must have come here to seek an audience with Xiao Xiyue.

“Shi Niang...”

Song Cheng immediately turned to address his master’s wife, Song Qingzhi, respectfully.

“Hmm, so he is Lu Changsheng?”

Song Qingzhi’s black hair was elegantly coiled into a jeweled bun, and she wore a loose-fitting green Daoist robe that did little to conceal her voluptuous and perfectly proportioned figure.

Upon hearing Song Cheng’s words, her gaze—resembling the tranquil clarity of autumn lake water—swept toward the man. Dressed in a green robe, with an incomparably handsome face and a poised bearing akin to a noble orchid or a jade tree swaying gracefully, Lu Changsheng stood there serene and at ease. A faint ripple stirred in her eyes.

She had heard of Lu Changsheng’s reputation before and knew of his existence, but she had never seen him in person.

Now, looking at him in the flesh, he appeared so ethereal, like a banished immortal who had stepped out from the pages of a painting. Her heart couldn’t help but stir with a sense of amazement and a faint tremor of excitement.

It wasn’t as if she had never seen a good-looking person before.

In the Cultivation World, individuals with remarkable beauty were a dime a dozen.

But Lu Changsheng was not only strikingly handsome; he carried an inexplicably magnetic aura.

Just looking at him was enough to make her feel a faint intoxication, as if bathed in the gentle breeze of spring, stirring within her an instinctive goodwill and sense of closeness.

So much so that the anger she had felt moments ago at the prospect of questioning him over grievances all but dissipated while taking in his elegant aura, comparable to pine trees and verdant cypresses.

Looking at him now, Song Qingzhi instinctively chose to believe that such a person could not have bad intentions.

She began suspecting that her apprentice and Song Cheng might have exaggerated their tale and twisted the facts to inflame her temper.

After all, she was well aware of the personalities of the two.

Though they wouldn't dare outright lie to her, their arrogance toward a minor family under their jurisdiction probably played no small part in making a mountain out of a molehill.

"Hmm..."

Even Sima Qiuhua, gazing at Lu Changsheng, found herself momentarily dazed.

She had recently met Lu Changsheng at Bi Lake Mountain.

She had to admit, he was undeniably a rare specimen of male beauty.

But no matter how extraordinary he had seemed back then, he now looked even more transcendent, dazzling beyond compare, leaving an impression so captivating that all dislike or aversion she once harbored for him melted away as though they had never existed.

"What's going on? Is this some kind of bewitching technique?"

A sudden pang of unease struck Sima Qiuhua's heart, leading her to consider the possibility that she might have been enspelled by Lu Changsheng's art of seduction.

Yet upon deeper reflection, she realized there was no such spell at play.

Instead, it became clear that Lu Changsheng now possessed an aura so refined and refreshing it irresistibly drew people closer.

Though Song Cheng could sense Lu Changsheng's newfound refinement and charisma, he didn't feel particularly affected.

In his mind, this was merely evidence that Lu Changsheng had deliberately groomed himself to come here seeking Xiao Xiyue.

"Hmph, what good is a handsome face? Junior Sister Xiyue isn't someone so shallow!"

Song Cheng sneered internally.

"So, you are the infamous Lu Changsheng of Bi Lake Mountain?"

Song Qingzhi stepped forward and asked Lu Changsheng directly.

Her flawless and graceful features bore an air of regal elegance, her arched brows reminiscent of willow branches, exuding faint traces of stately authority.

"Hmm?"

Sima Qiuhua and Song Cheng exchanged surprised and puzzled glances upon witnessing this scenario.

What was happening?

Though others might not know, the two of them were well-acquainted with their master and master's wife's temperament.

Ever since Song Qingzhi's Core Formation failure, resulting in her being left with a False Core, her previously steady personality had grown erratic and volatile.

Just moments ago, she had been seething with rage, ready to storm Bi Lake Mountain to demand retribution.

Now, with one glimpse of Lu Changsheng, her demeanor had inexplicably shifted into something as placid as a spring breeze?

"Could this be the calm before an even greater storm? Is Shi Niang perhaps at the height of her fury right now?"

Song Cheng speculated secretly.

In contrast, Sima Qiuhua glanced at Song Qingzhi with a peculiar expression.

Internally, she mused that her Shi Zun (master) might be preparing to let this matter slide simply because of Lu Changsheng's extraordinary appearance and demeanor.

She knew her master was an ultimate "face-con" who had an unshakable obsession with physical beauty.

Even the disciples and servants Song Qingzhi recruited were subject to stringent standards of appearance.

"Yes, I am indeed Lu Changsheng," Lu Changsheng responded with a slight bow of courtesy toward the approaching Song Qingzhi.

Though he didn't recognize her personally, glimpsing Song Cheng and Sima Qiuhua nearby allowed him to deduce that she must hail from Red Sun Peak.

Judging by the circumstances, it was likely that they had come with the intention of causing trouble for him.

However, something about her current attitude struck him as a little... odd.

Typically, Lu Changsheng rigorously restrained the effects of the Immortal Beauty Technique, Peach Blossom Gu, and Flawless Heavenly Fragrance Body.

On this particular visit, he'd deliberately chosen to let their effects seep through, thinking he'd need every edge to soften Yun Wanshang's aloof and guarded nature—an endeavor he already anticipated to be exceedingly difficult.

To be honest, though, he hadn't utilized these abilities for years.

Especially after breaking into Core Formation, with the Peach Blossom Gu having ascended to the Third Rank and the Flawless Heavenly Fragrance Body unlocking deeper effects—he himself wasn't entirely certain of the potency of his allure anymore.

Judging by the reaction of the False Core Immortal in front of him, however, it seemed the "charm factor" was rather... effective?

"Buzz—"

At that moment, a faint transmission from the Peach Blossom Gu at the center of his brow surfaced.

It hinted that if he handled this moment carefully, there was a fair chance for him to forge a Peach Blossom Fate with the woman before him.

"Damn it, how desperate are you?!"

Lu Changsheng cursed inwardly at the Peach Blossom Gu.

The parasite had only recently ascended to the Third Rank, thanks to the lucky draw of peach-blossom fortune it had absorbed from Bing'er.

But now, advancing to the Fourth Rank required an astronomical amount of love fortune—something nearly impossible to estimate.

The issue at hand was, this woman bore all the hallmarks of maturity in her elegant, imposing demeanor: an unmistakable noble charm exuding a maternal grace.

How could he, Lu Changsheng, involve himself in such an indecent entanglement?

Not to mention that juggling both Xiao Xiyue and Yun Wanshang's entangled relationships was already enough of a head-splitting problem for him!

Chapter 1268: Chapter 438: Xiao Xiyue: Why is Master together with Changsheng..._2

If I were to cause such trouble in the Qingyun Sect again, I'm afraid there would be an incident.

“I had my disciple go to Bi Lake Mountain to invite Lu Mountain Lord to serve as a Guest Elder for our Red Sun Lineage. I wonder why Lu Mountain Lord refused?”

Song Qingzhi continued to speak, her voice exuding an elegant and noble aura.

“My disciple?”

When Lu Changsheng heard these words, he paused in his heart.

He immediately guessed the identity of the woman in front of him.

The Dao Companion of Real Person Chiyang, Yu Zhi Real Person Song Qingzhi.

However, the other party was a False Core Immortal, and this gentle inquiry about why he refused the invitation made Lu Changsheng somewhat surprised and suspicious.

He pondered whether this Peak Master’s wife’s temper was quite good?

Or perhaps, as long as one looks handsome, the world is much more forgiving?

“I am not yet well-acquainted with the situation at Qingyun Sect, so I came this time to inquire with a friend and learn about the various peaks and lineages of the Supreme Sect.”

“Furthermore, your disciple is involved in the grievances between the Sima Family of Profound Martial Ridge and my Bi Lake Mountain. They wish to resolve these grievances but are unwilling to provide adequate compensation, so I am afraid I cannot accept.”

Lu Changsheng stood tall and straight, his eyes deep and bright, speaking in a composed manner.

He usually responds well to soft words rather than harsh ones; if others speak well to him, he naturally speaks well in return.

Listening to Lu Changsheng’s words, Song Qingzhi thought the issue indeed lay with the grudges between Bi Lake Mountain and the Sima Family.

It must have been her disciple and Song Cheng’s aggressive approach that led to this mess.

Otherwise, this Lu Changsheng here is no fool.

How dare a Foundation Establishment Family with just False Core combat power offend our Red Sun Peak?

Even if he has the connection with Xiao Xiyue, he couldn't possibly do such an irrational thing!

Song Qingzhi cast a cold glance at Sima Qiuhua and Song Cheng, making them shudder.

Then, looking at Lu Changsheng with a warm and gentle smile, she said, "If Lu Mountain Lord wants to understand the situation at Qingyun Sect, I could certainly introduce you to it."

"As for the enmity between the Sima Family and your Bi Lake Mountain, it is said that grudges are better resolved than left unresolved. If Lu Mountain Lord has any requests, do let me know; I am willing to act as a mediator and help you resolve them."

"Otherwise, both of your families are significant families under our Qingyun Sect's jurisdiction. Continuing this conflict benefits no one, and our Qingyun Sect does not wish to see such a thing either."

So said Song Qingzhi.

These words were not untrue.

For Foundation Establishment Clans and False Core Families, the Qingyun Sect would pay attention.

If such families were to clash majorly and cause an incident, the Qingyun Sect would step in to mediate.

As for how to mediate, generally, both families would face heavy penalties.

And since the Sima Family is an old False Core Family, having operated in Qingyun Sect for many years, they have connections not only with her Red Sun Peak but also with some other lineages and disciples.

So, in the end, the one at a disadvantage would still be Bi Lake Mountain.

At this moment, not far away, Song Cheng and Sima Qiuhua were stunned, utterly confused.

What the heck!?

How did their Mistress and Master become like this?

Especially Song Cheng.

He felt that Mistress's tone was never this good even towards Master.

“Could it be Mistress is deliberately doing this, luring Lu Changsheng, and once he agrees, our Red Sun Peak would have the upper hand? And could even disgrace Caiyun Peak?”

Song Cheng speculated in his heart.

Beside him, Sima Qiuhua’s expression became increasingly peculiar.

Thinking, could it be that his Master really fancies this pretty boy Lu Changsheng?

Although Lu Changsheng indeed looks exceptionally handsome, this is too outrageous, isn’t it!?

“Thank you for the Real Person’s kindness, but I...”

Lu Changsheng pondered, thinking this Peak Master’s wife is really too enthusiastic.

He wanted to respond, intending to decline politely.

Just at this moment, a woman in colorful palace attire, with an exceedingly beautiful face, her elegant hair pinned up with a phoenix hairpin, exuding a noble and graceful aura, appeared.

“Why are you wasting time here?”

Yun Wanshang saw Lu Changsheng and Song Qingzhi chatting enthusiastically and spoke icily with majesty.

With just a blink of an eye, how could you chat with someone like this?

Didn’t you say that Red Sun Peak was too overbearing?

How come you’re now chatting with the wife of the Peak Master?

Seeing Lu Changsheng behaving like a male Enchanting Demon, Yun Wanshang felt displeased in her heart.

After speaking, she slightly raised her hand, a wave of mana carrying Lu Changsheng toward Caiyun Peak.

Leaving only a flat, authoritative sentence hanging in the air: “Caiyun Peak wants this person.”

“Yun Wanshang!”

Song Qingzhi watched Yun Wanshang take Lu Changsheng away, her dignified and beautiful face instantly turning gloomy.

It wasn't that Yun Wanshang taking Lu Changsheng caused her anger and shame.

As a dignified False Core Immortal, she wouldn't fall in love at first sight with Lu Changsheng.

But it reminded her of the past when she could have exchanged for a Coagulation Crystal Elixir and prepared to advance to Core Formation.

But Yun Wanshang rose forcefully, exchanged for the Coagulation Crystal Elixir, causing her to wait until the next round.

In the end, Yun Wanshang succeeded in Core Formation, while she failed, and had to settle for condensing a False Core instead.

Now, her disciples were not as good as Yun Wanshang's, and even when she tried to recruit a small family force and a Talisman Master, Yun Wanshang came out to compete with her, filling her heart with burning anger.

"How could Caiyun True Immortal appear!?"

Song Cheng and Sima Qiuhua beside them were both stunned, shivering.

What is happening today?

Did they see a ghost?

First, their Mistress and Master treated this Lu Changsheng differently.

Now, Caiyun True Immortal even personally came to take Lu Changsheng away?

Wasn't this Caiyun True Immortal supposed to be in closed-door cultivation?

They were very bewildered, even a bit panicked inside.

"Why are you here embarrassing yourself, go back!"

Song Qingzhi, seeing Song Cheng and her disciple, said with an incredibly cold face.

Chapter 1269: Chapter 438: Xiao Xiyue: Why is Master together with Changsheng..._3

The two trembled violently and dared not say more, obediently following Song Qingzhi back to Red Sun Peak.

...

Caiyun Peak.

“Greetings, Master.”

Xiao Xiyue looked at her master and Lu Changsheng standing before her, bewildered.

What’s going on?

How is Master together with Changsheng?

“From now on, he will be Caiyun Peak’s Visiting Noble Servant. Xiyue, take him to the Record Hall for registration.”

Yun Wanshang did not explain much to her disciple, tossing out a handwritten decree and speaking curtly.

After finishing her statement, she left Lu Changsheng behind and returned to her own palace.

“Changsheng, how did you end up with Master...?”

Xiao Xiyue’s beautiful eyes carried confusion as she looked at Lu Changsheng, trying to understand how he managed to be brought into Qingyun Sect by her master.

Although her master knew of Lu Changsheng, the two had supposedly never interacted before.

Besides, hadn’t Master been in closed-door cultivation all these years?

“Xiyue, this is a long story....”

Lu Changsheng had anticipated this scenario long ago, and he immediately adopted a dreamlike, reflective demeanor as he recounted his acquaintance with Yun Wanshang.

He described how, fifty-six years ago, while traveling between Nine Dragons Market and Qingzhu Mountain, he had witnessed a fierce battle in the distance and quickly hid.

After waiting for the battle to subside for a long time and preparing to leave the dangerous area, he encountered a heavily injured Nascent Soul Immortal.

At the time, he did not recognize Caiyun True Immortal but still chose to treat and save her.

Afterward, Caiyun True Immortal gave him a token, stating that if he encountered danger, he could activate the token or come to Qingyun Sect to seek her help.

“However, all these years, I haven’t encountered any major trouble, so this token had remained unused.”

“A few days ago, due to Ping’an’s issues with the Sima Family, the Sima Family invited disciples of the Chiyang True Immortal, who came to Bi Lake Mountain carrying Chiyang True Immortal’s decree, and so I thought about the token.”

“I figured that using the favor from back then might allow me to establish a solid connection within Qingyun Sect.”

“But I never expected that the person I saved would turn out to be your master, Caiyun True Immortal.”

Lu Changsheng spoke earnestly, mixing truth with lies, full of emotion.

“Fifty-six years ago...”

Xiao Xiyue suddenly recalled that back then, her master had indeed gone out to refine the Red Dust Elixir for her and returned with a somewhat unstable aura, as if she had been injured.

However, hearing that Lu Changsheng had saved her master, Xiao Xiyue felt a trace of oddness in her heart.

Years ago, she herself had been saved by Lu Changsheng.

Her senior sister had also escaped danger thanks to Lu Changsheng’s intervention, saving her life.

And now it seemed that her master had also been rescued by Lu Changsheng...

Could it be that all three of them—the master and her two disciples—had been saved by Lu Changsheng?

Moreover, Xiao Xiyue vaguely felt that her master’s relationship with Lu Changsheng wasn’t that simple.

She recalled how, years ago, when she had asked her master to approve her union with Lu Changsheng, her master’s attitude—and Lu Changsheng’s affairs with Lady Meng at Qingyun Sect—had seemed strange.

“Actually, I vaguely guessed years ago that the person I saved back then was Caiyun True Immortal, but I wasn’t sure.”

Lu Changsheng knew Xiao Xiyue to be sharp and perceptive. She might deduce something about his connection with Yun Wanshang.

Reaching out, he gently held Xiao Xiyue’s delicate hand and said proactively, “I remember you once mentioned that True Immortal has some minor grievances with Red Sun Peak.”

“And Caiyun True Immortal’s token—I really don’t have much use for it now. So I thought this would be a good opportunity to confirm.”

“If things go well, not only can we resolve the troubles with Red Sun Peak and secure a strong support for the family within Qingyun Sect, but I can also use this chance to gain an official affiliation with Caiyun Peak.”

“This will make visits to Qingyun Sect easier, allowing me to assist you with your cultivation technique issues.”

“Moreover, with this favor from the past, if I perform well, it will be much easier for us to request True Immortal’s approval of our union in the future.”

Lu Changsheng’s voice was gentle and filled with deep affection.

Although his words, upon closer inspection, had some inconsistencies, he wanted Xiao Xiyue to notice them now and prepare herself mentally for what was to come.

“Changsheng...”

Xiao Xiyue was cultivating the Supreme Forgetful Love Technique, a method that would normally make her quick to discern discrepancies in such situations.

Yet, whenever she was with Lu Changsheng, the technique seemed ineffective.

Especially now, with Lu Changsheng activating his Enchanting Demon-like aura, even Xiao Xiyue found herself subconsciously influenced, not reflecting deeply, trusting Lu Changsheng wholeheartedly, and feeling touched.

After chatting for a while, Xiao Xiyue then led Lu Changsheng to register his Visiting Noble Servant status.

If it were for an Honorary Elder, the Qingyun Sect Leader’s approval was required.

However, for a Visiting Noble Servant, the approval of the respective peak’s Peak Master would suffice.

“That shameless scoundrel! Full of lies!”

Within the palace at the peak, Yun Wanshang used her Divine Sense, her expression both anxious and indignant, as she listened to Lu Changsheng and Xiao Xiyue’s conversation.

Seeing Lu Changsheng deceitfully gazing affectionately at her disciple, her frustration burned deeply.

Yet, upon hearing Lu Changsheng claim he could help Xiao Xiyue resolve her cultivation technique issue, she was somewhat surprised and puzzled.

She knew perfectly well the intricacies and profundity of the Supreme Forgetful Love Technique. Once cultivated, it led down an irreversible path unless abandoned entirely.

But now, Lu Changsheng claimed he could resolve Xiao Xiyue’s issue with the technique?

How could he have such confidence?

Could he be lying to Xiao Xiyue again?

However, Yun Wanshang felt that Lu Changsheng’s words might not be entirely baseless.

Moreover, Xiao Xiyue was pure-hearted; though emotionally swayed now, surely she couldn’t keep being blindly deceived.

“Could it be that this scoundrel truly has a solution...”

Yun Wanshang pondered deeply as she thought about Lu Changsheng’s various peculiarities.

She had always known that Lu Changsheng possessed extraordinary opportunities and secrets.

But with time and deeper understanding, she found herself increasingly struck by how unique and extraordinary those secrets were, far beyond those of an ordinary Foundation Establishment cultivator.

“If this scoundrel can truly solve Xiyue’s problems...”

Yun Wanshang suddenly recalled the fifty-year agreement Lu Changsheng had made with her years ago.

If he and Xiao Xiyue could both break through Core Formation within fifty years, she had promised to approve their union.

She had even outright stated that if they succeeded in reaching Core Formation, she would personally host their Dao Companion ceremony.

Thinking back now, Lu Changsheng actually had considerable hope for a breakthrough into Core Formation.

As for Xiao Xiyue, as long as she could overcome her emotional tribulations and sever her connections to sentiment, reaching Core Formation was not an issue.

At this moment, Yun Wanshang faintly sensed that Lu Changsheng had deliberately set her up back then!

“That despicable scoundrel!”

Thinking of this, Yun Wanshang felt a surge of frustration, her pale hand clenched tightly.

“Junior Sister Caiyun...”

At this moment, Yun Wanshang heard a deep, resonant voice—the Qingyun Sect Leader.

A moment later, Yun Wanshang transformed into a stream of rainbow light, flying from Caiyun Peak toward the main hall of Qingyun Sect’s main peak.

Chapter 1270: Chapter 439: Pioneer Order, Tianyuan Secret Realm Quota!

With Caiyun True Immortal’s personal decree and Xiao Xiyue, a True Inheritor of Qingyun Sect, accompanying him, Lu Changsheng’s Visiting Noble Servant registration was completed smoothly.

“Lu Mountain Lord, now that you have become a Visiting Noble Servant of Qingyun Sect, your sect tributes can be halved from now on.”

The registrar elder, having completed the procedure for Lu Changsheng, said courteously.

Currently, with the dual Core Formation cultivators of Caiyun Peak, its status is extraordinary.

Lu Changsheng's ability to secure Caiyun True Immortal's decree and become a Visiting Noble Servant earned him notable favor.

Moreover, for someone of Lu Changsheng's age to have advanced to the level of a Third-Rank Talisman Master demonstrated extraordinary talent in the Talisman Path, worthy of forging connections.

"Thank you, Elder Lin."

Lu Changsheng replied courteously.

Currently, with control over spiritual lands such as Bi Lake Mountain, White Tiger Mountain, and Flower Fruit Mountain, the annual Spirit Stone tribute totals thirty-five thousand pieces.

This is no small amount—halving it is quite a favorable outcome.

However, aside from this benefit, other welfare is rather ordinary.

Beyond the ability to exchange Heavenly and Earthly Treasures and cultivation techniques through Qingyun Sect, there isn't much else.

"Having this Visiting Noble Servant token certainly makes visits to Qingyun Sect much more convenient in the future."

Lu Changsheng toyed with the Qingyun Sect identity token in his hand and chuckled softly.

Even though he had connections with Xiao Xiyue and Zhao Qingqing,

every time he visited Qingyun Sect, he still had to send a message and wait for the two women to meet him.

Alternatively, he would rely on his status as Bi Lake Mountain Lord and wait in the reception hall—it was not possible to enter Qingyun Sect freely.

Now, with this Visiting Noble Servant identity token, travel to places like Caiyun Peak and Lingyao Peak would be much easier.

After dealing with some simple matters, Lu Changsheng returned to Caiyun Peak with Xiao Xiyue to assist her in her cultivation.

...

Red Sun Peak.

After reprimanding Sima Qiuhua and Song Cheng, Song Qingzhi realized that Lu Changsheng might have long established a connection with Yun Wanshang.

This realization caused an inexplicable surge of anger in her heart.

Yet, at that moment, she became aware of a puzzling issue.

How did Lu Changsheng manage to connect with Yun Wanshang?

She knew Yun Wanshang perfectly well.

Normally, Yun Wanshang was arrogant, proud, and never spared a glance for any man.

Why would she associate with someone like Lu Changsheng, a mere Foundation Establishment cultivator?

While considering the idea that Yun Wanshang was deliberately provoking her, Song Qingzhi dismissed it as unlikely.

Although she disliked Yun Wanshang and harbored deep resentment and envy toward her—not least because she believed Yun Wanshang had stolen her Core Formation fortune—

she had to admit that Yun Wanshang had never considered her worthy of attention.

Most of the time, her bitterness was one-sided.

Precisely because of this, her feelings toward Yun Wanshang were mixed with jealousy and even self-doubt...

“There’s something suspicious, definitely something odd!”

Song Qingzhi’s beautiful eyes narrowed as she pondered silently, convinced that there was an undisclosed secret between the two.

Otherwise, Yun Wanshang would never associate with someone like Lu Changsheng, given today’s situation.

“Could it be that Yun Wanshang has taken a liking to Lu Changsheng?”

A thought crossed Song Qingzhi’s mind.

However, she quickly shook her head to dismiss it.

Indeed, Lu Changsheng possessed extraordinary charm and bearing that even stirred her long-lost feelings.

But Yun Wanshang, of all people,

would never fall for mere external appearance or surface reasons to be attracted to a man.

If he had extraordinary talent and was a peerless prodigy with innate gifts and strength superior to Yun Wanshang's, then perhaps it could be possible.

But a mere Foundation Establishment cultivator? Absolutely impossible!

"In any case, there is definitely a secret between the two of them!"

Song Qingzhi, her ravishing face displaying resolve, had a determined look in her eyes.

This wasn't only her understanding of Yun Wanshang but also the intuition unique to a woman!

At this moment, Song Qingzhi found herself brimming with intense curiosity.

She wanted to unearth the exact nature of their relationship, to uncover whether Yun Wanshang was harboring a hidden secret.

Just then, a sonorous and powerful voice sounded from outside.

"Qingzhi, Junior Sister Caiyun spoke with me earlier. She said that Lu Changsheng of Bi Lake Mountain has an old connection with Xiao Xiyue, having saved her life in the past. So regarding the matter with Bi Lake Mountain and Profound Martial Ridge, we should leave it to her to handle..."

Chi Yang True Immortal stepped into the grand hall and addressed Song Qingzhi.

"Saved Xiao Xiyue's life?"

Song Qingzhi froze momentarily at the words.

She had speculated along these lines earlier, but something about it still felt overly simplistic.

"Qingzhi, since Junior Sister Caiyun has spoken up, let's leave this matter as it stands."

Chi Yang True Immortal, worried that his Dao Companion might not have taken his words seriously, added, "Besides, Junior Sister Caiyun is quite measured in her actions—she wouldn't show excessive favoritism."

"Alright, I understand."

Despite her acquiescence, Song Qingzhi felt an inexplicable irritation surging within.

Although he was a Core Formation True Immortal and a top-tier Artifact Refiner with high status in Qingyun Sect, Chi Yang True Immortal was habitually immersed in Artifact Refining and paid little attention to sect affairs.

Even when Yun Wanshang intervened, Chi Yang True Immortal's station and reputation would have allowed him to ignore her presence.

Yet, he had never contested her actions.

Take, for instance, the past conflict regarding the Coagulation Crystal Elixir. If Chi Yang True Immortal had chosen to abandon everything and fight fiercely for her sake, Song Qingzhi might have stood a chance against Yun Wanshang.

"Well, Qingzhi, if you feel that this matter has let Qiuhua down, you could compensate her later."

Chi Yang True Immortal, understanding that his Dao Companion highly valued reputation, suggested compensating their disciple Sima Qiuhua for the uncompleted task.

"I know; I won't dwell on this matter."

Song Qingzhi knew precisely what her Dao Companion's words implied.

He was worried she'd start scheming against Yun Wanshang or digging up dirt on Bi Lake Mountain.

"By the way, Sect Leader Senior Brother just deliberated with us and decided the time for opening Tianyuan Secret Realm."

"You could send Cheng'er and Qiuhua to explore it. If you need nomination slots, just provide me with a list later."