

Starting as a Son-in-law to Establish an immortal Family

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However, the other party's body and face seemed to be shrouded in an ethereal divine aura, indistinct and veiled, making it impossible to see their true appearance.

....

"What is your name?"

Yun Wanshang gazed at Lu Qingxuan, whose appearance perfectly inherited the likeness of Lu Changsheng and Lu Miaoge, and felt a sudden sense of closeness in her heart. Her voice softened as she spoke.

"Reporting to the True Immortal, my name is Lu Qingxuan."

Lu Qingxuan looked at Yun Wanshang, whose entire being emanated a glowing radiance and an invisible aura of oppression. Although slightly restrained, he maintained composure and respectfully clasped his hands in salute.

"Lu Qingxuan."

Yun Wanshang nodded slightly and asked aloud, "The Qingyun Sect opens its mountain gates once every five years to recruit new disciples. If you are willing, I can grant you the status of an Inner Sect Disciple directly."

Although she did not know Lu Qingxuan's talent level, she could infer from his cultivation level that his Spiritual Root was not only adequate but possibly exceptional.

Therefore, if he was willing to join the Qingyun Sect, she was also willing to extend some favor.

"Thank you for your kindness, True Immortal. I will need to ask my parents before deciding."

Lu Qingxuan was somewhat flattered but did not give a direct answer.

"Very well."

Yun Wanshang did not press further. She brought Lu Qingxuan to a mountain peak.

A moment later, an elder in a purple robe stepped out to greet them.

Upon hearing Yun Wanshang's intention, he took up the talisman brush, extracted a drop of Lu Qingxuan's essence blood, and performed a technique with hand gestures to divine his fate.

"So this is the art of divination..."

Lu Qingxuan watched Elder Du with serious eyes.

The Hundred Arts of Cultivation were vast and profound.

Of these, the art of divination counted as one of the most mysterious.

However, such inheritance was exceedingly rare, with only a few individuals able to master it. He had only read about it in books and had never witnessed it before.

After a long while.

"Caiyun True Immortal, this person's fate is also shrouded by a force that obscures Heaven's Secrets, making it difficult to deduce his circumstances."

Elder Du shook his head and said.

When divining Chu Qingyi earlier, he had expended considerable essence, qi, and spirit.

Now, while divining Lu Changsheng, he felt a resistance—a veiling of Heaven's Secrets—and chose not to continue.

"Elder Du, thank you for your hard work."

Yun Wanshang nodded and said.

Her purpose in divining Lu Changsheng's situation was twofold: first, to see whether she could uncover useful clues or information about him.

Secondly, she wanted to understand if his circumstances were similar to her disciple Chu Qingyi's.

Now, hearing this result, her expression subtly tensed. She thought to herself: Is that Nascent Soul Sword Cultivator truly Lu Changsheng?

Otherwise, why would her disciple Chu Qingyi be concealed from Heaven's Secrets, and Lu Changsheng too?

Furthermore, she had given Lu Changsheng a token sealed with Divine Skills many years ago.

If the token were activated, she would be able to sense it through mysterious connections.

Yet, she had not felt the token being activated, which indicated Lu Changsheng was likely not in grave danger.

Yun Wanshang did not dwell further on the matter. She turned to Lu Qingxuan, lightly flicked her jade-like fingers, and a Jade Talisman fell before him. She spoke aloud, "If in the future you wish to join the Qingyun Sect, you may use this to contact me."

Currently, with Lu Changsheng's whereabouts uncertain, Bi Lake Mountain was likely to face some trouble.

Though she would not personally intervene in such matters, she was willing to offer some backing.

This Jade Talisman served as a gesture of support.

If Bi Lake Mountain did encounter trouble, as long as Lu Qingxuan or Lu Miaoge presented this Jade Talisman, it would serve as an external deterrent.

"This junior thanks the True Immortal!"

Lu Qingxuan, though unsure why this Nascent Soul True Immortal regarded him so highly, was still overjoyed and respectfully clasped his hands in salute.

"Very well."

After returning to Caiyun Peak with Lu Qingxuan, Yun Wanshang explained the situation briefly to Xiao Xiyue before heading to the Heavenly Sword Sect, transforming into a streak of rainbow light and leaving the Qingyun Sect.

"Xiyue, I recall Xingyue and Yunlou are at the Qingyun Sect. If convenient, I wish to visit them."

At this moment, Lu Miaoge spoke aloud.

As the aunt of Xingyue and Yunlou, now that she was at the Qingyun Sect, it was only proper to show care and concern.

Besides, her husband had encountered such an incident, and it was possible the news might reach the two of them.

She should also remind them to focus on their Foundation Establishment and not worry about family affairs.

“Alright.”

Xiao Xiyue nodded, leading Lu Miaoge to visit the two of them, and afterwards to see Zhao Qingqing.

“Mother, earlier Caiyun True Immortal asked if I was willing to join the Qingyun Sect...”

When Lu Miaoge left the Qingyun Sect and returned to Bi Lake Mountain with Lu Qingxuan, he took out the Jade Talisman from Caiyun True Immortal and spoke.

“Ah...”

Lu Miaoge was pleasantly surprised, not expecting her son to be highly valued by Caiyun True Immortal.

Although her husband believed their children had no need to join Immortal Sects, the fact that her son was proactively regarded by the True Immortal still moved her heart.

However, recalling the past events concerning her son Lu Qingshan and daughter Lu Qingzhu, she calmed herself and decided to wait for Lu Changsheng’s return before making a decision.

“Mother, the True Immortal bestowed this Jade Talisman upon me, which surely shows favor toward our family.”

“Just recently, Father had taken the role of Guest Elder at Caiyun Peak, and now he encountered unexpected danger in the Tianyuan Secret Realm...”

At this moment, Lu Qingxuan pursed his lips and spoke softly.

Lu Miaoge felt her heart tremble upon hearing this. Her expression softened as she gently stroked her son’s head, murmuring, “Xuan’er, don’t worry. Your father will be fine, absolutely fine...”

...

Within the Tianyuan Lotus, there were no sun, moon, or stars—no day and night to alternate.

Lu Changsheng and Chu Qingyi engaged in endless intimacy and dual cultivation.

The two almost forgot time, forgot themselves, and became wholly intertwined.

Throughout this process, Chu Qingyi's condition gradually improved; her stunningly beautiful face was no longer deathly pale but gained a warmer flush.

"Lu Daoist..."

At this moment, Chu Qingyi spoke softly, indicating that she was already much better.

"No rush, Nascent Soul Origin is still sufficient; let's be cautious."

Lu Changsheng gazed at the mesmerizing elegance of the woman before him and replied.

At first, his sole focus had been on helping her recover, leaving no time to fully appreciate the unparalleled beauty of this Sword Immortal Child.

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Now that the situation has stabilized, we can naturally take a moment to admire it.

Chu Qingyi's face flushed crimson, her delicate body trembling as she closed her beautiful eyes.

Yet the more reserved she appeared, the more Lu Changsheng couldn't resist teasing her, causing her delicate nose to emit soft hums, her expression a mix of embarrassment and vexation.

To be honest, seeing the ordinarily cool and heroic Sword Immortal Child like this, shy and bashful, was utterly captivating.

If something were missing, it was only that there was just one person present.

If Xi Yue or even Caiyun True Immortal were here as well...

"Qing Yi, Core Formation is dangerous, and we mustn't allow the slightest negligence. What we're doing is all for healing and Core Formation. In my heart, Fairy, you are still... pure and untouched like jade."

Lu Changsheng spoke gently, looking at the beauty before him.

"..."

Chu Qingyi, her misty eyes opening and closing, caught sight of Lu Changsheng's tender and affectionate gaze. Her heart swelled with embarrassment and annoyance, and even a trace of speechlessness.

He'd already done this to her and still claimed she was pure and untouched.

If this was truly for healing and Core Formation, what were his hands busy doing?

However, the normally sharp-edged Sword Immortal Child was now like an ostrich, only daring to ponder such thoughts internally, without voicing them aloud.

After all, in this sort of situation, the shame was unbearable.

"Hmm, Qing Yi, your complexion has improved a lot. Looking at you, you'll probably just need a few more days of healing before starting Core Formation."

"Don't worry, with me here, you'll definitely succeed in forming your Core, a Superior Gold Core."

Lu Changsheng looked at the frowning fairy before him and continued, gently caressing her soft and smooth, flushed yet pale cheeks.

Chu Qingyi pressed her lips without speaking, her face so red it resembled the morning glow. Humiliated and agitated, she turned her disheveled-haired head to the side.

Clearly, Lu Changsheng's words had thrown her mind into disarray and made it hard for her to compose herself.

Time crept forward moment by moment.

Seeing that Chu Qingyi's condition had stabilized, Lu Changsheng didn't delay any longer and began assisting her with Core Formation.

After all, if he delayed further, the Nascent Soul Origin that he had refined or the healing effects might dissipate, potentially missing the opportune moment for Core Formation.

"Boom!"

Lu Changsheng drove the Sun Moon Samsara Technique to its limits, integrating the Sun Moon Cauldron floating above his head into Chu Qingyi's Qi Ocean Core.

"Huff, huff, huff—"

At the same time, nature's spiritual energy surged and poured into Chu Qingyi's physical body.

Even though Chu Qingyi had previously been a Nascent Soul Immortal, now undergoing Core Formation again after dissolving her previous Core, she still faced the Three Gates of Core Formation.

Given Chu Qingyi's current state, it was naturally difficult for her to endure such an infusion of nature's spiritual energy.

But during their earlier dual cultivation, Lu Changsheng had already transferred Nascent Soul Origin into her meridians and Core, as well as the Sun Moon Cauldron.

Thus, he directly repelled the influx of nature's spiritual energy, allowing only a small portion to enter Chu Qingyi's body, then absorbed the rest himself to refine into spiritual energy for her.

...

Meanwhile, Yun Wanshang had arrived at the Heavenly Sword Sect.

After stating her purpose, she was invited to a grand hall to wait.

Yun Wanshang took out Chu Qingyi's Soul Lamp from her bosom and glanced at it.

The once dim and faint Soul Lamp, like a candle clinging to life in the wind, now appeared significantly brighter.

However, the flickering soul fire still betrayed Chu Qingyi's unstable condition.

"Qing Yi has escaped danger?"

Yun Wanshang gazed at the Soul Lamp in her hand, a joyful expression lighting up her face.

"Daoist Caiyun."

A moment later, a man neither tall nor short, neither fat nor thin, with a face that appeared somewhat ordinary yet carried an air of masculine charm with a hint of feminine refinement, approached.

His loose snow-white robes, worn elegantly, hung at his waist with a simple green long sword, evoking a sense of purity—white jade untainted by dust.

But as soon as he stepped into the grand hall, Yun Wanshang sensed the entire space enveloped by an invisible gravity.

"Greetings, True Monarch!"

Yun Wanshang bent at the waist and paid her respects.

Even though the Four Great Immortal Sects shared close ties, as one of the Qingyun Sect's peak masters with a Core Formation Late Stage cultivation level, Yun Wanshang dared not show even the slightest disrespect before this Nascent Soul True Lord.

"Daoist, I already know the reason for your visit. Have you brought your disciple's Soul Lamp?"

Xuanjian True Monarch's voice was calm and warm, devoid of any sword cultivator's sharpness.

Yun Wanshang handed the Soul Lamp from her bosom to Xuanjian True Monarch.

Taking the lamp in hand, its flame flickered softly as Xuanjian True Monarch began to manipulate calculations—a gaze that alternated between soft serenity, steady gravity, lively brilliance, and commanding austerity flashing across his ordinary yet striking face.

A moment later, his expression settled into tranquil composure, his lips forming a faint smile as he said, "Daoist Caiyun, indeed your disciple was marked by a terribly ominous fate."

"Yet misfortune and fortune interweave; calamity breeds opportunity. If she can overcome this tribulation and turn peril into safety, she'll meet a most auspicious fate."

"For now, your disciple has emerged from the most threatening situation. Whether her future holds misfortune or fortune will depend on her own destiny. If we were to intervene, it might upset her fate."

Xuanjian True Monarch spoke in a calm, measured tone.

"Thank you, True Monarch!"

Yun Wanshang visibly relaxed upon hearing these words.

Although divination techniques do not yield absolute precision and only offer blurred insights, the True Monarch's words suggested it would be best not to interfere.

Otherwise, meddling with destiny could introduce complications and unforeseen changes potentially leading to calamity for Chu Qingyi.

"Daoist Caiyun, there's no need to thank me. Were it not for your discovery of the Tianyuan Secret Realm, Juejian might never have successfully broken through to Nascent Soul."

Xuanjian True Monarch said with a calm demeanor.

Chapter 1313: Chapter 453: Lu Wangshu: Annihilating Your Golden Dragon Ridge!

The vast lake stretched endlessly, and a crystalline Blue-Green Lotus Seat drifted amidst the waves.

Sometimes it sank to the depths of the sea, sometimes it floated back to the surface.

Occasionally, demon beasts spotted this lotus seat, attacking it viciously or swallowing it whole.

But soon after, the lotus seat would bloom with spiritual light, emanating a terrifying magic aura that left the beasts bleeding and defeated.

At this moment, within the lotus seat.

“Huff, huff, huff—”

The spiritual energy of heaven and earth surged wildly, forming a vortex akin to a breach, saturating the air with overwhelming spiritual pressure.

“If this goes on, attempting to condense a superior golden core will be exceedingly difficult.”

Lu Changsheng was channeling the Sun Moon Samsara Technique to assist Chu Qingyi in reforming her core.

However, he realized that continuing this way would make it near impossible for her to condense a superior golden core.

Even if she managed to condense one by a stroke of luck, it could at best be a third-grade core.

“Could I directly refine nature’s spiritual energy into Seven Luminaries Mana and then merge it with her mana...?”

Lately, an idea emerged in Lu Changsheng’s mind.

Years ago, when he was detoxifying Chu Qingyi, the Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Scripture resonated mysteriously with her cultivation technique and Dao foundation.

This indicated that the two techniques shared similar characteristics and were not mutually exclusive.

Moreover, his cultivation technique—the Yin Yang Creation Classic—possessed the power to unify and coordinate various forces.

If that were the case, he could directly refine nature’s spiritual energy into Seven Luminaries Mana and transfer it into Chu Qingyi’s Qi Ocean Core. Through the Yin Yang Creation Classic, he could harmonize the two forces, which would enormously boost the efficiency of core formation!

Though such a thought sounded utterly absurd.

The more Lu Changsheng pondered, the more feasible it seemed.

After all, when he had condensed the Yin Yang Five Elements Dao Foundation years ago, he faced imbalances in yin and yang. Yet he had relied on Yun Wanshang’s spirit-nurturing energy to achieve perfect harmony.

“Qingyi.”

Without hesitation, Lu Changsheng shared his idea with Chu Qingyi.

“This...”

Chu Qingyi, upon hearing this, found it utterly inconceivable.

It wasn’t just about cultivation techniques sharing similar traits.

Even practitioners of identical techniques would see uneven mana following breakthroughs in Foundation Establishment and Core Formation, making perfect fusion difficult.

Yet, inexplicably, she instinctively chose to trust Lu Changsheng and agreed to let him act.

On one hand, she knew he harbored no ill intentions toward her; his suggestion must stem from confidence.

On the other hand, her emotions were already tangled beyond measure, leaving her unsure of how to face Lu Changsheng—or her junior sister—afterward...

“Alright...”

Chu Qingyi’s face flushed crimson as she resigned herself to the possibility of failure.

At least if she failed, she wouldn’t have to confront Lu Changsheng—or her junior sister...

“Qingyi, don’t worry.”

Lu Changsheng, evidently aware of her thoughts, gently stroked her soft, rosy cheek and spoke tenderly.

Then, carefully channeling the Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Scripture, he transferred a portion of Seven Luminaries Mana into Chu Qingyi’s meridians and Qi Ocean Core.

Though the two forces shared similarities, they indeed struggled to fuse.

Especially since Chu Qingyi was currently forming her core.

If the Seven Luminaries Mana accidentally merged into the embryonic inner core, it might result in chaotic mana and ultimately cause core formation failure.

“Buzz—”

Lu Changsheng began channeling the Yin Yang Creation Classic, attempting to meld the two forces.

Under the harmonizing guidance of the Yin Yang Creation Classic, the Seven Luminaries Mana seamlessly fused into Chu Qingyi’s embryonic inner core, integrating flawlessly and gradually merging as one.

“This...”

Chu Qingyi’s misty, mesmerized eyes opened wide with wonder, gazing at Lu Changsheng in astonishment, longing to understand how he accomplished this.

This was astonishing!

Utterly unbelievable!

“Qingyi, if you feel unimpeded, I shall continue...”

Lu Changsheng’s warm gaze locked onto Chu Qingyi’s hazy, shy eyes as he spoke softly.

Chu Qingyi’s heart skipped a beat under his intimate gaze, her emotions swirling uncontrollably. She hastily turned her head, tightly closed her eyes, and avoided looking at Lu Changsheng, her face awash with embarrassment.

“...”

Lu Changsheng sighed inwardly.

He thought this Fairy Qingyi was far too easily embarrassed.

Despite their growing closeness, she remained so shy and reserved.

“Qingyi.”

Lu Changsheng reached out to pinch her smooth, snowy cheek, signaling that he would continue if she had no objections.

“Mm...”

Chu Qingyi let out a soft hum.

“Does ‘mm’ mean yes or no?”

Lu Changsheng asked with a smile.

“...”

Chu Qingyi pressed her lips together, silent, her dazzling eyes opening slightly to glare at Lu Changsheng in annoyed embarrassment.

This man, despite appearing gentlemanly, acted so shamelessly!

Ignoring him didn’t deter his teasing; instead, he persisted, intentionally trying to make her speak in these mortifying situations.

“No problem.”

Chu Qingyi bit her lip lightly and mumbled. Her typically clear and soothing voice now trembled slightly, tinged with emotion and allure.

“Very well, very well, this husband understands.”

Lu Changsheng laughed, responding cheerfully.

He thought to himself, though Qingyi exuded an icy demeanor, once her heart melted, she would undoubtedly prove a devoted wife and mother.

He wondered whether she liked children.

“...”

Chu Qingyi shifted her head aside, refusing to engage in his conversation, convinced that this man was becoming increasingly brazen.

First, he addressed her intimately as Qingyi; now, he audaciously referred to himself as her husband.

They had only met twice.

During their first meeting, she had been disguised.

And yet, he was already so familiar and presumptuous.

Chu Qingyi couldn't fathom how thick-skinned this man was.

Or perhaps how many other women he had treated this way to become so practiced and effortless...

Lu Changsheng didn't mind Chu Qingyi's attitude.

After all, their relationship lacked emotional depth, requiring time and interaction for feelings to develop.

Nonetheless, despite teasing her, Lu Changsheng never neglected his responsibilities.

As he channeled the Seven Luminaries Mana into Chu Qingyi's Qi Ocean Core, a radiant sun emerged at his brow, illuminating the Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Scripture.

Chapter 1314: Chapter 453: Lu Wangshu: Annihilating Your Golden Dragon Ridge!_2

"Qing Yi!"

He called out, his soul gradually enveloping Chu Qingyi, attempting to pass on the Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Scripture to her through soul fusion.

Although she couldn't switch to cultivating this technique for now.

The two techniques held common attributes, and perhaps they could interweave, complement each other, and achieve mastery through mutual integration.

"Buzz—"

Chu Qingyi felt a tremor in her heart, seeing a golden soul envelop her own.

Then countless Dao patterns surged into her mind, transforming into incomparably profound Dao and truths.

“Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Scripture...”

Chu Qingyi looked at this profound and intricate cultivation technique, utterly at a loss for words.

Lu Changsheng not only spared no effort in saving her life, helping her to form her core, but also revealed various secrets to her.

Now he was selflessly passing down this extraordinary technique to her.

She truly couldn't comprehend why Lu Changsheng was so good to her.

“Love at first sight, perhaps....”

Chu Qingyi recalled Lu Changsheng's earlier words, and deep within her heart, a soft chord seemed to be struck—she felt nervous, moved, and fluttered. Her misty, enchanting eyes became momentarily dazed.

A person does not have a heart of stone; who can remain unaffected?

Though she usually devoted herself solely to cultivation and sword practice, rarely moved by others.

At this moment, she too was touched by Lu Changsheng's selfless and unconditional actions.

However, thinking about Lu Changsheng's relationship with her junior sister, she sighed slightly.

Though she was unclear about the specifics of their relationship.

But the fact that he had cultivated the Sun Moon Samsara Technique to such a degree indicated that his relationship with her junior sister was already extraordinary, even recognized by her master.

Under such circumstances, as a senior sister, how could she intervene in her junior sister's feelings?

Moreover, it would be unseemly for senior and junior sisters to marry the same man!

It would not only tarnish the sect's reputation, but also invite criticism and potentially anger their master.

Chu Qingyi was now utterly conflicted.

“Qing Yi, focus on comprehending the technique and concentrate on forming your core!”

At this time, as the soul fusion continued, Lu Changsheng vaguely sensed some of Chu Qingyi's thoughts and spoke out.

Chu Qingyi, hearing these words, felt her heart tremble, her face flushing with embarrassment.

As a Nascent Soul Immortal, she naturally understood that during such soul communication, their thoughts could easily be perceived.

She immediately held her breath and centered her mind, both comprehending the Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Scripture and continuing her core formation.

However, she was able to multitask like this mainly because most of the core formation process was being handled by Lu Changsheng, leaving her only to stabilize the inner core's nascent form.

"Such an exquisite cultivation technique..."

Chu Qingyi's Qingyun Sword Technique was merely a peripheral sect level cultivation method.

It wasn't that Qingyun Sect didn't possess orthodox-level cultivation techniques.

Rather, it was because she was born with a Sword Heart, and resonated better with sword Dao cultivation methods.

However, Qingyun Sect wasn't a sword cultivator sect, so it lacked top-tier sword Dao inheritances.

Of course, the Qingyun Sword Technique, being one of Qingyun Sect's sect-defining cultivation methods, was naturally of the highest caliber.

Otherwise, it wouldn't have been able to resonate with the Seven Luminaries Sword Scripture.

At this moment, various insights from the Seven Luminaries Sword Scripture flooded into her mind, granting her large gains as she instinctively activated the cultivation technique and interwove the Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Scripture with the Qingyun Sword Technique.

"Humming—Humming—Humming—"

A moment later, within Chu Qingyi's Qi Ocean Core, amidst the nascent inner core form, two harmonized streams of mana produced a mysterious resonance.

"My goodness, is this the caliber of a prodigy from an immortal sect!?"

Lu Changsheng was astonished upon seeing this.

Although the two techniques had many similarities.

The fact that she was able to comprehend the technique the moment he passed it down, intertwine the techniques, and achieve mastery through mutual integration was simply too incredible.

Lu Changsheng felt that Chu Qingyi's talent in sword Dao wasn't inferior to his son Lu Qingshan's, and her comprehension might even surpass his.

"Qing Yi, you're amazing."

Lu Changsheng praised aloud.

Since she could harmonize her mana and achieve a balanced resonance between energies on her own, forming a superior Golden Core would now be much simpler.

"..."

Upon hearing the praise, which sounded like one might encourage a child, Chu Qingyi's heart trembled. She was overwhelmed by embarrassment.

Her memory took her back to her childhood, when her master would coax her like this.

But now, wasn't she a fully-grown adult.....?

Moreover, this person was actually younger than her, yet now he treated her like a child...

Yet she knew she must not argue with this rogue.

Otherwise, who knows what shameless words might escape his lips.

Chu Qingyi shut her enchanting eyes tightly, her pale cheeks now flushed scarlet, as she tried to focus completely on breaking through to forming her core.

....

While Lu Changsheng assisted Chu Qingyi in forming her core.

A piece of shocking news spread throughout the Jiang Country Cultivation Realm.

A prominent expert of the Heavenly Sword Sect, Absolute Sword True Person Yun Jianfeng, broke through to Nascent Soul.

Furthermore, during the opening of the Tianyuan Secret Realm, the Heavenly Fiend Zhenjun of Liang Country's Heavenly Slaughter Sect led an ambush.

He ended up being ambushed by Xuanjian True Monarch and Absolute Sword True Monarch, his physical body destroyed—only his Nascent Soul narrowly escaped.

The news was astonishing.

On one hand, after several hundred years, the Heavenly Sword Sect produced another Nascent Soul True Monarch, solidifying its undisputed dominance of Jiang Country.

On the other hand, the fact that two Nascent Soul True Monarchs from the Heavenly Sword Sect nearly slew a fellow Nascent Soul monarch was remarkable.

It's well known that at the Nascent Soul level, killing someone else is extraordinarily difficult.

Especially considering that the Heavenly Fiend Zhenjun was an established, renowned veteran Nascent Soul cultivator.

Now, however, his physical body was destroyed, and only his Nascent Soul spirit body barely managed to escape.

"Liang Country and Yue Country have long clashed—for the Heavenly Fiend Zhenjun to come here this time, he likely intended to disrupt Jiang Country and provoke a cultivation world war with Yue Country."

"With his physical body destroyed, it's unlikely he'll recover in less than thirty to fifty years."

"Not just that—I heard the Heavenly Fiend Zhenjun relied on a secret technique to escape by merging into the void with his Nascent Soul. It might take him a hundred years to fully recover."

Chapter 1315: Chapter 453: Lu Wangshu: Destroy Golden Dragon Ridge! _3

"As expected of Xuanjian True Monarch, who once held off two Nascent Soul True Lords from Jin Kingdom single-handedly, and now almost killed Heavenly Fiend Zhenjun with Absolute Sword True Monarch."

"After this battle, Liang Country and Yue Country will probably remain quiet for some time."

This news, although sensational, only circulated among the upper echelons of the cultivation world.

Ordinary Qi Refining loose cultivators were completely unaware of such matters.

However, while some rejoiced, others were saddened. Besides these two sensational pieces of news in Jiang Country's upper circles, many family forces received bad news.

Their family patriarch or Nascent Soul seed had fallen in the Tianyuan Secret Realm.

"Lu Family Ancestor, Lu Changsheng, was hunted by a Nascent Soul Immortal in the Tianyuan Secret Realm and died within the realm!?"

"Indeed, this is absolutely true. My seventh uncle's cousin is the Ancestor of the Jin Family at Golden Dragon Ridge, and he confirmed it."

"I heard the Sima Family at Profound Martial Ridge also vouched for the truth of this matter."

Shortly after, news about Lu Changsheng of Blue Lake Mountain spread rapidly in the Qingyun Region.

This news instantly attracted attention from various family forces, coming to Blue Lake Mountain to verify its authenticity.

Faced with this situation, Lu Miaoge was already prepared, and the first to dispel the rumors outwardly.

She even showed the soul lamp of her husband to some acquainted family patriarchs.

The unextinguished soul lamp indicated that Lu Changsheng was still alive.

That same day, Lu Wangshu went to White Tiger Mountain, found her elder brother Lu Ping'an, took the Nine Netherhound, and headed towards Golden Dragon Ridge.

"Boom!"

Lu Wangshu directly unleashed a Third Rank Talisman against the Jin Family's mountain gate, causing the great formation at Golden Dragon Ridge to rumble violently and spiritual light to flicker.

"Though my father had some unexpected encounters in the Secret Realm, he will return soon."

"If your Jin Family dares to provoke or spread rumors again, my Blue Lake Mountain will level your Golden Dragon Ridge."

Lu Wangshu, dressed in a pink and white skirt, with blue silk hair flowing elegantly, appeared like cold jade under the scorching sun, stood tall on the Green Jade Luan Bird, and said coldly.

“Level my Golden Dragon Ridge? Such arrogance!”

A Jin Family elder shouted coldly but did not come out to face the enemy, merely activated the family’s great formation.

Months ago, Lady of the Lu Family, Ling Zixiao, set up formations, and alongside Lu Family’s eldest son Lu Ping’an, they suppressed Patriarch Sima of the Sima Family, Sima Tong.

The Talisman Formation technique of this Talisman Fairy, if compared to the Lady of the Lu Family, is perhaps not inferior in the slightest, possibly even better.

At this moment, with the brother and sister duo arriving, the Jin Family was indeed not a match in direct confrontation.

Even if Ancestor Jin Zan accepted the challenge, if he got trapped in the formation, he might meet the same fate as Patriarch Sima.

“If you do not believe, feel free to try.”

Lu Wangshu, with a tall and elegant demeanor and exceptionally delicate appearance, looked calmly at Golden Dragon Ridge and spoke, not a trace of pretense.

“Tell Jin Zan, back in the day, my parents could easily suppress him; today, my brother and I can do the same. If he is not afraid of death, feel free to come out and try.”

After saying this, Lu Wangshu turned to Lu Ping’an and said, “Let’s go, big brother.”

Then, without even glancing at Golden Dragon Ridge, she rode away on the Green Jade Luan Bird, leaving with her brother Lu Ping’an and the Nine Netherhound.

“Damn it!”

“A mere junior dares to insult my Jin Family in such a manner!”

“This is outrageous!”

The Jin Family elder watched the two leave peacefully, his face extremely unsightly.

Lu Wangshu’s behavior and words were a blatant slap in the face.

By slapping their Jin Family’s face, they were establishing their might!

“I didn’t expect the Lu Family to be so assertive!”

“With Lu Ping’an and Lu Wangshu, even if Lu Changsheng really fell outside, it’s difficult to shake the position of the False Core Family of Blue Lake Mountain.”

“Alas, what virtue or ability does Lu Changsheng possess to have such a pair of children!”

“The momentum of the Lu Family in Blue Lake Mountain is already established!”

After this news spread, many nearby family forces sighed.

Knowing that unless the Sima Family of Profound Martial Ridge, or the Yuan Family of Great Ape Mountain, completely fell out with Blue Lake Mountain and went to war.

Otherwise, even without Lu Changsheng, the current power of Blue Lake Mountain is not something ordinary forces could provoke.

And not long after, another piece of news spread.

Jin Family Ancestor Jin Zan was also seriously injured in the Tianyuan Secret Realm, thus not daring to come out to fight.

“I wonder if this Jin Family Ancestor is truly injured or just feigning injury.”

“I heard that Ancestor Jin was indeed injured, but it’s not too severe.”

“I wonder if the Sima Family would still act against Blue Lake Mountain.”

“Things between the two families ceased not long ago, even if the Sima Family wanted to act, they wouldn’t do it openly.”

“Now, with Blue Lake Mountain owning four spirit lands and establishing a chamber of commerce, relying on Lu Ping’an and Lu Wangshu alone might not hold the position.”

Although Lu Ping’an and Lu Wangshu retaliated strongly, the disturbances were not yet settled.

Many family forces paid attention to the situation at Blue Lake Mountain, wanting to see if the Lu Family had the ability to stabilize the current situation.

After all, many families had good relations with the Lu Family not only because of Lu Ping’an’s False Core level combat power but also due to Lu Changsheng, the Third-Rank Talisman Master.

Meanwhile, at the Heavenly Sword Sect.

“Lu Family’s eldest son, Lu Ping’an of Blue Lake Mountain, at such a young age achieved Quasi-Third Order Body Refining, and alongside the Lady of the Lu Family, Ling Zixiao, suppressed Sima Family Patriarch, Sima Tong at Profound Martial Ridge...”

A woman about twenty-six or twenty-seven, with slender eyes and bright lips, whose face was charming and heroic, and tied a high ponytail, heard the news, and slightly frowned.

“Blue Lake Mountain, Lu Ping’an...”

She pursed her bright lips, went to the Heaven Net Tower of the sect, took out her Identity Jade, and asked aloud, “Is there detailed information on Blue Lake Mountain?”

Chapter 1316: Chapter 454: Qin Yi, 2nd Grade Golden Core!

“Bihu Mountain, forty years ago, the Lu Family Ancestor, Lu Changsheng, seized it from the Yu Family and established the Blue Lake Mountain Lu Family, where his family...”

Qin Yi focused on the jade slip in her hand, which contained information about Bihu Mountain.

When she saw only a brief mention about the Lu Family’s eldest son, Lu Ping’an, she asked aloud, “Senior Brother, is there any detailed information about Bihu Mountain’s Lu Ping’an?”

“Bihu Mountain, Lu Ping’an? Junior Sister, wait a moment.”

Moments later, a disciple from Tianwang Tower handed her a jade slip containing the information.

The content inside about Lu Ping’an was sparse, covering only his physical appearance, identity, and current combat strength.

As for his personal history, there were only two items: defeating the Tao Family Patriarch and the Sima Family Patriarch.

“It’s indeed him...”

When Qin Yi saw the tall, robust, and stalwart-looking young man detailed in the jade slip, her expression froze momentarily, and she lightly pressed her lips together.

Years ago, after parting ways with Lu Ping’an, she began her journey toward the Heavenly Sword Sect.

Now that she thought about it, she truly was like an untamed calf unafraid of tigers in those days.

At the Fourth Level of Qi Refinement, she dared to travel alone from the Qingyun Region to the Heavenly Sword Sect to seek apprenticeship.

If not for the stack of talismans and three bottles of elixirs Lu Ping'an had given her upon parting, she probably would have perished halfway there.

Even so, it was sheer luck that she encountered an elder from the Heavenly Sword Sect.

Otherwise, joining the Heavenly Sword Sect was nearly impossible.

"Not only did he succeed in embarking on the path of cultivation, but he has also grown to such an extent."

"It seems he must have some kind of latent spiritual root, or even a spiritual body. It was just that his spiritual root was dormant back then, which prevented him from cultivating."

Looking at the depiction of Lu Ping'an in the jade slip, Qin Yi murmured softly, her heart both relieved and at peace.

After their parting that year, a sense of emptiness lingered in her heart, and she felt an urge to find Lu Ping'an.

But since they had parted, they had no way of contacting each other.

Moreover, in her youth, she was also determined to find a way for him to cultivate despite being a mortal.

Yet, when she arrived at the Heavenly Sword Sect and gradually gained understanding of cultivation, she finally understood the weight behind the words "the divide between immortals and mortals."

In the world of cultivation, there indeed exist heavenly and earthly treasures capable of granting mortals spiritual roots.

However, such treasures are exceedingly rare.

Even Nascent Soul Immortals and True Lords may not be in possession of them!

Still, she did not give up.

After breaking through to Foundation Establishment, she journeyed out of the sect, battling demons and slaying evildoers while seeking news regarding such matters.

But twenty years passed with no significant leads.

Who would have thought, upon returning to the sect, she would hear news of Lu Ping'an starting his cultivation journey and advancing to such a level.

An overwhelming sense of relief and joy filled her heart, making her feel as though her very soul was unburdened.

"So, back then, the one who entered the Purple Shadow Secret Realm was him!"

At this point, Qin Yi's willow-like brows arched slightly as she recalled her encounter with 'An Ping' in the Purple Shadow Secret Realm.

At the time, her intuition told her that the person was indeed Lu Ping'an.

However, the other party denied it, and the notion of a mortal engaging in cultivation at the time seemed too preposterous for her to fully believe.

Now, seeing that Lu Ping'an had set out on the path of cultivation and had likely achieved quasi-third-tier body refining, her suspicions were finally confirmed.

"Why didn't he acknowledge me...?"

Qin Yi's brows furrowed slightly, her hand gripping the jade slip with strength.

"I see. He must have disguised his identity to enter the Purple Shadow Secret Realm, which implies he didn't want to reveal himself."

"Furthermore, judging by appearances, he has been concealing his strength all along."

Qin Yi's thoughts turned to the details about Lu Ping'an's life and background.

She surmised that Lu Ping'an's latent talent likely awakened later, prompting his family to keep him hidden and low-profile.

After all, in family factions, such situations were not uncommon.

A top-tier genius emerging from a small family force was often kept secret until their growth, to prevent other families from neutralizing the threat.

"But why hasn't he written a single letter to me since?"

Biting her lip lightly, Qin Yi fell silent.

If 'An Ping' was indeed Lu Ping'an, then despite her having clearly informed him that she was at the Heavenly Sword Sect, why hadn't she received even a single letter?

She didn't dwell further on the matter and decided to head to Bihu Mountain to meet Lu Ping'an and get to the bottom of it!

After so many years, the regrets of her youth had carved themselves into her very being.

The memories after their parting—guilt, longing, and bittersweet affection—had fermented for decades, turning those early years into a vivid yet distant dream, now an unwavering obsession.

After completing her formal registration at the Record Hall, Qin Yi suddenly stopped in her tracks and turned toward the Letter Tower. She took out her identity jade token and asked, "Excuse me, are there any letters for me?"

A qi refinement apprentice verified her token, then retrieved a bundle from a corner and responded, "Martial Aunt, please check if any of these letters are yours?"

Qin Yi glanced at the senders' names on the letters, her gaze freezing slightly as she saw the stack of more than ten letters. Her expression faltered for a moment.

Her once stoic face showed a faint smile, followed by a bitter one, as she took the letters and left the Letter Tower.

She quickly returned to her dust-covered cave mansion. Without even using the Cleansing Technique, she eagerly opened the letters with anticipation and read the contents.

"???"

But as she read what was written inside, she froze completely, her face filled with utter bewilderment and disbelief.

...

Misty Rain Market.

"Lu Changsheng, Mountain Lord of Bihu, has fallen within the Tianyuan Secret Realm."

"Am I now a widow even before entering his home?"

A woman of around twenty-eight or twenty-nine years old, dressed in a light blue gown with a delicate face, heard the news and revealed a somewhat peculiar expression.

Previously, when the Sima family sent people to Misty Rain Market to demand accountability, she made a decisive decision to seek assistance from Bihu Mountain

and agreed to their vassalage request, on the condition that the Mountain Lord of Bihu marry her as a concubine.

But unexpectedly, before she could even officially join his household, this Lu Mountain Lord allegedly perished in the Tianyuan Secret Realm.

“Elder sister, since that Lu Ancestor has died in the Tianyuan Secret Realm, the Sima Family may use this opportunity to provoke and probe Bihu Mountain.”

“Moreover, by allying with Bihu Mountain, we might become targets of the Sima Family’s suppression. I will head to Bihu Mountain.”

Chapter 1317: Chapter 454: Qin Yi, Rank 2 Golden Core!_2

After pondering for a moment, Yu Fei turned to her elder sister and said.

“Now that this Lu Ancestor has fallen, will Bi Lake Mountain be willing to take action?”

Yan Lan spoke with some worry clouding her eyes.

Though Bi Lake Mountain has Lu Ping’an and Lu Wangshu as its pillars,

in her eyes, without Lu Changsheng, the Lu Family Ancestor, a Third-Rank Talisman Master, Bi Lake Mountain is like a top-tier False Core battle strength missing—a definite disadvantage against Xuanwu Ridge’s Sima Family.

Under such circumstances, why would they fight hard against the Sima Family for their Misty Rain Market?

“Although my marriage contract with Lu Ancestor was not finalized, in name, I am still considered one of his concubines. I believe Bi Lake Mountain wouldn’t leave us be, otherwise, how would their other allies view them?”

“Besides, Bi Lake Mountain and Xuanwu Ridge have already become mortal enemies, destined for relentless conflict. If they sit idly by, it would essentially mean pushing us away.”

Yu Fei said so.

According to the tributes their Misty Rain Market offers as a subordinate force, indeed, it shouldn’t be worthwhile for Bi Lake Mountain to provoke enmity with Xuanwu Ridge’s Sima Family.

But given their deep-seated rivalry, under this situation, if Bi Lake Mountain doesn't protect its own, it would be akin to weakening their own power.

"Fei Fei, how you've been wronged..."

Yan Lan heard her younger sister's words and sighed.

Previously, when her sister suggested marrying Lu Ancestor as a concubine, she had disapproved, feeling aggrieved on her behalf.

Now that Lu Ancestor's whereabouts are unknown, her sister still has to carry the title of a grieving widow-to-be, which truly pained her.

"What grievance could there be?"

Yu Fei gave a gentle laugh, utterly unconcerned.

She felt hardly any sorrow for Lu Changsheng's passing.

After all, she had only met this Lu Ancestor once.

Though this Lu Ancestor was handsome and refined, a rarely seen beautiful man, and she would have been willing to marry him, it wasn't to the extent of love at first sight, nor the kind where one hears of his death and falls into despair.

Moreover, her decision to become Lu Ancestor's concubine was purely out of self-interest.

With his death, her benefits have indeed diminished—but it wasn't too much of a loss at least, now she wouldn't have to be...

Yu Fei looked at her elder sister beside her, wrapping her arm around her waist. Her shapely figure clung to her elder sister like a snake, breathing softly as she whispered, "Sister, it's just a title, it's not as if it affects anything..."

"Besides, sister, didn't you oppose me marrying anyone else..."

As she spoke, her lithe body shifted sensually against her elder sister's. Her crimson lips moved forward for a kiss, her breath faintly coming in pants. Then she opened her mouth slightly, taking Yan Lan's flushed earlobe gently between her teeth, softly nibbling.

"Fei Fei..."

Yan Lan's cheeks flushed deeply, her legs weakening. Soon after, her charmingly radiant face moved closer to her younger sister's red lips, kissing her passionately.

...

Outside matters were entirely unknown to Lu Changsheng.

At this moment, he was still wholeheartedly assisting Chu Qingyi in her Core Formation.

With Chu Qingyi's comprehension of the Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Scripture and the aid of the Yin Yang Creation Scripture, the two streams of mana integrated harmoniously, making Chu Qingyi's Core Formation process significantly smoother.

Although achieving a First-Grade Golden Core was still slightly challenging, the formation of a High-Quality Golden Core was already certain.

Thus, time slowly flowed by.

The nature's Spiritual Energy within the Tianyuan Lotus began to surge ferociously, pouring into Lu Changsheng's body like a funnel.

Initially, the Spiritual Energy within the Cave Heaven was as vast as a boundless sea, rich and dense like liquid.

Yet as it was steadily consumed, the Spiritual Energy had begun to grow much thinner.

After all, the Tianyuan Lotus contained no Spirit Vein.

All the Spiritual Energy depended entirely on the Tianyuan Lotus's properties, accumulated over several millennia.

Still, despite its thinning, the accumulated Spiritual Energy was initially so abundant that it remained sufficient to support Chu Qingyi's breakthrough to Core Formation.

No one knew how much time had passed.

"Buzz—"

Within Chu Qingyi's Qi Ocean Core, a glimmering golden core surrounded by faintly seven-colored radiance bloomed, exuding endless divine light as it broke through the Sun Moon Furnace Cauldron, gradually orbiting atop her Dao Foundation Jade Plate.

"Boom boom boom—"

Her Dao Foundation hummed violently, surging forth tens of thousands of hues of divine light, illuminating in tandem with the golden core.

At this moment, a Yin Yang Fish swam into Chu Qingyi's Qi Ocean Core, circling the radiant golden core suffused with a seven-colored aura, as if sculpting it.

With the movement of the Yin Yang Fish, tendrils of Yin Yang Energies began to rise and ripple, appearing almost like streams of the Great Dao Mechanism flowing, causing seven-colored Core Patterns to gradually emerge upon Chu Qingyi's golden core.

"This..."

Chu Qingyi's Mental Spirit was stunned. She couldn't fathom what kind of method Lu Changsheng employed to make her golden core condense several levels within an instant.

But just at that moment, her Mental Spirit was briefly distracted.

She seemingly caught glimpses of herself returning together with Lu Changsheng post-Core Formation, where her junior sister, Xiao Xiyue, learned of her relationship with Lu Changsheng and was overwhelmed by grief.

Then, there was Lu Changsheng proposing marriage to her master, whose look was filled with disappointment.

"Heart Demon."

Having broken through Core Formation previously, Chu Qingyi was aware that this was the Heart Demon arising during the process.

Ordinarily, with her Sword Heart Clarity, such distractions shouldn't take root.

Yet for several days now, her involvement with Lu Changsheng had left her uncertain of how to confront things. All her fears, worries, and inner conflicts had bottled up deep in her heart and now erupted entirely.

"Break!"

Possessing an innate Sword Heart, cultivating Sword Dao techniques, and with experience in Core Formation along with her Core Formation Soul, she swiftly shattered this Heart Demon realm.

However, even as her beautiful eyes briefly opened and closed, gazing upon the strikingly handsome Lu Changsheng standing before her, her emotions remained indescribably tangled within.

Defeating the mountain bandit is easy; defeating the bandit in one's heart proves difficult!

Although her Dao Heart was steadfast, the current circumstances deeply troubled her.

Noticing Chu Qingyi glancing at him, Lu Changsheng merely smiled gently, his slightly weary face radiating tenderness as he softly murmured, "Calm your heart."

"Mm."

Chu Qingyi softly responded, focusing her spirit to complete the final stages of her Core Formation.

For ordinary cultivators forming their cores, they often required a period of settling and maturing for a hundred days.

But as Chu Qingyi's Core Formation was her second one, her foundation was substantial, supported additionally by the Nascent Soul Origin and Lu Changsheng's assistance—she didn't need as long.

On this day, Chu Qingyi's golden core intertwined and fused with her Dao Foundation, creating a marvelous resonance. At this moment, sacred sounds representing the Great Dao reverberated throughout her being, and ten thousand streaks of resplendent light emanated from the golden core, purifying her flesh and blood.

Aligned with this, her innate magical sword let out faint sounds of euphoria.

"It's still slightly lacking, but achieving Second-Grade Golden Core is acceptable; improvements can come later."

Seeing Chu Qingyi successfully form her Core Formation, Lu Changsheng exhaled in relief, his expression brightened with joy.

As the saying goes: saving one life equals building a seven-layered pagoda!

Having successfully saved Chu Qingyi from a life-threatening predicament and enabled her to form her Second-Grade Golden Core, Lu Changsheng's heart brimmed with fulfillment.

Moreover, assisting her with Core Formation opened up new strategies and pathways for him.

The next time Lu Miaoge, Xiao Xiyue, Ling Zixiao, and others attempt Core Formation, he could use a similar approach to boost their success rates and achieve higher-quality outcomes.

However, for them to achieve High-Quality Golden Core outcomes like Chu Qingyi's, it wouldn't be as straightforward.

After all, Chu Qingyi's success hinged entirely upon Tianyuan True Monarch's Nascent Soul Origin.

Though Tianyuan True Monarch had mentioned it was merely the remnants of Nascent Soul Origin,

this resource was an immense boon for a Core Formation cultivator—vast and overwhelming.

Not only did it heal Chu Qingyi's meridians and flesh, but it also helped her condense her Second-Grade Golden Core. Meanwhile, Lu Changsheng's cultivation level had risen from Core Formation Second Layer to the peak of Core Formation Third Layer.

Just one step shy of breaking through to Core Formation Fourth Layer.

"If I fully refined all this Nascent Soul Origin, I wouldn't just reach the Fourth Layer—the Fifth Layer or even Sixth Layer might be possible."

Lu Changsheng contemplated covertly.

The Nascent Soul Origin he transferred to Chu Qingyi's meridians and Dantian had caused substantial wastage.

Still, he didn't feel overly regretful about this.

At times, gains are intertwined with losses, and losses pave the way for gains.

After all, one cannot retrieve tiger cubs without entering the lair.

Yes, the comparison of Chu Qingyi—this Fairy resembling flawless jade-like buns—to a tiger's den seemed... apt...

"Thank you, Lu Daoist..."

At this moment, Chu Qingyi slowly opened her bright and clear eyes, speaking gently to Lu Changsheng, though clearly unsure of how to interact with him.

"Heh, congratulations to my dear Qingyi for forming her High-Quality Golden Core."

Lu Changsheng casually wrapped his arm around the beauty's waist, planting a kiss upon her flawless cheek, his tone tender.

"..."

Chu Qingyi gently furrowed her brows, unsure how to converse with Lu Changsheng.

Their interaction felt overly intimate, and she feared he might soon blur the lines entirely and say something embarrassing.

Yet speaking as they might normally would seem distant—a hurtful stance.

“Qingyi, you’ve just undergone Core Formation. Focus on consolidating your realm.”

Lu Changsheng observed her slight discomfort.

Understanding that haste wouldn’t help, he decided to allow her time to adjust gradually.

“Mwah!”

Lu Changsheng stood up, donning his robe, preparing to investigate whether this Cave Heaven might hold other valuable items.

After all, Tianyuan True Monarch had mentioned leaving behind some Heavenly and Earthly Treasures.

Chapter 1318: Chapter 455: Big Harvest! Infant Cultivation Flower, Heaven-replenishing Fungus!

Lu Changsheng stepped into the palace.

Though the interior was simple, it was fully equipped, with facilities for alchemy, artifact refining, cultivation quiet rooms, and more.

Evidently, Tianyuan True Monarch’s Second Nascent Soul not only cultivated here but also immersed himself in mastering the Hundred Arts of Cultivation.

He entered the Alchemy Chamber.

At the center stood a massive white golden alchemy furnace, supported by three legs, with thirty-six engraved Golden Crow Divine Birds radiating an ancient and profound aura.

“What an extraordinary alchemy furnace!”

Lu Changsheng’s eyes gleamed as he instantly recognized the uniqueness of the furnace.

He stepped closer for a detailed observation and determined that this furnace was likely a Fourth Rank alchemy furnace.

However, due to the passage of time and lack of use, its spiritual essence had been eroded, reducing its effectiveness to that of a Third Rank furnace.

“Nevertheless, it’s more than adequate. Perfect for replacing my old alchemy furnace at home.”

Lu Changsheng nodded in satisfaction.

He was only a Second-Order Alchemist.

For him, this furnace was more than sufficient.

Even if Hong Lian needed to remake her physical body and required Third-Order spirit pills, this furnace would suffice.

Moreover, with proper nurturing, the furnace might regain its Fourth Rank effectiveness.

Lu Changsheng then approached the adjacent table and opened several medicine bottles and jade boxes placed atop it.

Even though these elixirs and spirit medicines had been stored in porcelain bottles or jade boxes, millennia of passing time had caused their medicinal power to diminish significantly.

However, these elixirs appeared to be casually refined by Tianyuan True Monarch, with no presence of precious items like Coagulation Crystal Elixirs or Infant Transformation Elixirs, so Lu Changsheng felt only mild regret; he wasn’t particularly distressed.

If there had been a few degraded Infant Transformation Elixirs here, Lu Changsheng might have lost sleep for two and a half years over them.

After a brief inspection, Lu Changsheng entered the adjacent Artifact Refinement Room.

This room was much larger than the Alchemy Chamber.

At its center stood an enormous pitch-black Treasure Forging Platform.

Similar in grade to the alchemy furnace in the previous room, this Treasure Forging Platform was also of Fourth Rank, though its spiritual essence was somewhat eroded.

However, compared to the alchemy furnace, this Treasure Forging Platform was in relatively better condition, likely a quasi-Fourth-Rank item.

“With this Treasure Forging Platform, crafting magical treasures in the future will be much more convenient!”

After inspecting it for a while, Lu Changsheng couldn't hide his joy.

Refining magical treasures was a highly intricate process.

Some treasures could be forged using Earth Vein Fire or Heavenly Spiritual Fire.

Others required specialized tools like treasure foundries and forging platforms.

This Treasure Forging Platform created by Tianyuan True Monarch undoubtedly possessed impressive capabilities.

It was equipped for quenching, refining, fine refining, smelting, pattern integration, molding, treasure consecration, and more.

With this Treasure Forging Platform, his top-tier Third-Order artifact refining skills could now be perfectly executed.

Then Lu Changsheng turned to the materials stacked in several corners of the room.

There were various ores, magical treasure materials, and demon beast bones, among others.

"Frost Mysterious Iron, Fire Prime Copper, Thick Earth Iron Essence..."

Lu Changsheng examined these exceptionally rare Heaven and Earth Spiritual Materials from the outside world, along with some materials he couldn't name.

"Could this be the claw of a Fourth-Rank Great Demon King?"

At that moment, Lu Changsheng spotted a massive blood-red claw as large as ten feet.

Upon closer inspection, he felt an intimidating aura emanating from the claw.

Even after thousands of years, this claw still radiated a shocking presence, something no Third-Rank Demon King could achieve. It was highly likely the claw of a Fourth-Rank Great Demon King.

"No wonder so many people love exploring secret realms. Gains like these are undeniably captivating."

Looking at the rare spiritual materials before him, Lu Changsheng exhaled deeply, feeling a sense of awe.

Initially, he believed his system made him indifferent to secret realm opportunities.

But now, he could only admit—it was truly tempting!

Even so, he still wouldn't risk venturing into secret realms merely for potential gains.

After all, how many such fortunate encounters exist like the Tianyuan Secret Realm in the Cultivation World?

"With these materials, I'll never have to worry about crafting magical treasures again."

"If I wished, I could even forge three to five magical treasures for myself!"

Magical treasure materials were unlike elixirs. Even with spiritual erosion, their degradation wasn't too severe.

Demon beast tendons, bones, and inner cores might suffer significant spiritual losses.

But for gold iron ores, as long as they were properly refined and purified, the impact would be minimal.

Full of anticipation, Lu Changsheng moved to explore the other rooms.

Next to him was a room dedicated to incense making, with an elegant and traditional ambiance.

It housed various kinds of incense sticks and sheets.

However, Lu Changsheng lacked expertise in incense making, so he refrained from testing their effects.

After all, incense effects varied greatly.

Some could calm the mind and spirit, aiding cultivation; others might induce hallucinations, cause deviation, or work as aphrodisiacs...

Lu Changsheng exited the incense-making room and entered the adjacent Talisman Room, where he acquired a Third-Order Talisman Brush.

There were also jars of Spirit Ink and stacks of Talisman Paper.

But due to their age, all their spiritual essence had waned, rendering them unusable.

When Lu Changsheng reached the wine cellar, however, he was overjoyed.

Most Heavenly and Earthly Treasures and spirit medicines would lose their spiritual essence over time without proper preservation.

But spiritual wine was different!

It could absorb nature's spiritual energy and ferment, making the spiritual energy in the wine more refined and potent, enhancing its quality.

Lu Changsheng opened a jar of spiritual wine.

Instantly, the intoxicating aroma of the wine filled the entire cellar, captivating the senses and soothing the mind.

After thousands of years of storage and fermentation, this spiritual wine had reached Fourth Rank!

"Hiss, these six jars of spiritual wine are now practically priceless."

Lu Changsheng was pleasantly surprised, marveling at the breadth of Tianyuan True Monarch's interests.

Alchemy, artifact refining, incense making, talisman making, wine brewing.....

Each skill reached at least Third Rank.

He entered the next room and saw six insect nests.

Chapter 1319: Chapter 455: Big Harvest! Infant Cultivation Flower, Heaven-replenishing Fungus!_2

Inside were many insect eggs, seemingly an attempt to cultivate Spiritual Insects.

However, after several thousand years, these eggs had all lost their vitality, and Lu Changsheng had no idea what kind of insect eggs they were.

He shook his head and arrived at the final cultivation chamber.

Inside, apart from a meditation mat, there was also a bookshelf with numerous Jade Slips and books displayed upon it.

"Yellow Dragon Immortal's Travel Notes"

"Record of Extraordinary People in the Southern Wilderness"

"Mystical Secrets of the Profound Heaven"

"True Explanation of the Heavenly Star Formation Path"

"Changsheng Puppetry Technique"

Lu Changsheng gazed at the books and Jade Slips on the shelf with an expression of joy.

“Although Tianyuan True Monarch gifted me his Cultivation Technique Inheritance, I simply lack the time and energy to cultivate it.”

“To me, these casually collected travelogues, handbooks, geographical atlases, spiritual object manuals, and Hundred Arts of Cultivation inheritances are far more valuable.”

Lu Changsheng’s face shone with delight.

While his family didn’t lack Cultivation Technique Inheritances,

it was still lacking some foundational accumulation compared to the Immortal Sects.

Especially in terms of knowledge—unless he emptied out a few Immortal Sects, it would be impossible to achieve such accumulation overnight.

But now, with these texts organized, the family’s foundation could rise to another level.

“‘Strategizing Fate’—is this a divination inheritance!?”

At that moment, Lu Changsheng noticed a particular book and stared at it in surprise.

The Hundred Arts of Cultivation are vast and profound.

Among them, if ranked by rarity, divination would definitely be in the top three!

However, inheritances in this field are extremely scarce and the threshold is abnormally high.

Back then, he had even asked Hong Lian whether she understood the Divination Art.

Hong Lian explained that divination is fundamentally different from other Hundred Arts.

Only those with innate talent in this area can begin cultivation.

If one lacks the talent, no amount of effort will be fruitful.

Forcing oneself into cultivation could even lead to sudden death or complete insanity.

There was once a Nascent Soul True Lord who forcefully cultivated the Divination Art—for a time achieving minor success but ultimately becoming insane in their research.

As such, even though Hong Lian had the qualifications to access the divination inheritance, she chose not to delve deeper into it.

“I wonder if I have the talent in this field.”

Lu Changsheng rubbed his chin thoughtfully.

But upon reconsidering, even if he did possess the talent, he wouldn't have the time to invest in research.

It would be better to wait until his family produced a descendant with divination talent.

“Who knows, maybe one day I'll draw a Third Order Divination!”

Lu Changsheng chuckled lightly, his attitude toward divination rather indifferent.

This was because Hong Lian had previously explained much about it to him.

He knew divination wasn't as impressive as one might imagine—it could only predict vague and general information.

Frequent attempts to deduce heavenly secrets not only drain one's mental energy but also shorten one's lifespan and diminish fortune.

Thus, many cultivators of the Divination Art do not live long, and their later years are often rather miserable.

“And this is only the dwelling of Tianyuan True Monarch's Second Nascent Soul; if it were his actual cave mansion in its peak years, how astonishing would its wealth have been?”

Lu Changsheng glanced through the books for a while, filling his heart with emotion.

These inheritances of the Hundred Arts were at least Third Rank, while the ones for Alchemy, Artifact Refining, Formation, Talisman Making, and Puppetry Technique reached Fourth Rank.

Such inheritances would be priceless treasures in the outside world!

Yet here, they were treated almost like ordinary books, casually placed on a bookshelf.

After examining the books for some time, Lu Changsheng recalled that Tianyuan True Monarch also had a Medicine Garden.

He immediately proceeded to check on its condition.

A few Spiritual Medicines had previously been used to help Chu Qingyi restore her meridians and physical body, and now, in the jade-like medicine fields, only three ancient medicines remained crystal-clear and radiant.

“Is this... the Infant Cultivation Flower!?”

Lu Changsheng saw one with four leaves, emitting five-colored light, its crystalline texture glimmering, and exclaimed in surprise.

The Infant Cultivation Flower—a top-tier Nascent Condensation Spiritual Item!

It could nourish the nascent soul during the Nascent Soul process, increasing the probability of condensation and enhancing the quality of the nascent soul!

According to Lu Changsheng’s knowledge, once the Infant Cultivation Flower grew three leaves, it could already be used as a Nascent Condensation Spiritual Item, improving the condensation probability by roughly ten percent.

This particular Infant Cultivation Flower had four leaves, meaning it could increase the probability by fifteen percent or even twenty percent. Its rarity was beyond measure!

“Aside from the Treasure Emperor Lotus, this Infant Cultivation Flower is probably my greatest harvest from this journey!”

Lu Changsheng’s face was full of joy and excitement.

Although Hong Lian had once said that with his Great Dao Golden Core, his future nascent soul would be assured,

Lu Changsheng still felt that items like Nascent Soul Spiritual Objects and Infant Transformation Elixirs ought to be prepared anyway.

After all, if the chances of condensation were not at least ninety-eight percent, what difference was there from outright failure?

“Could this be... Heaven-replenishing Fungus?”

Lu Changsheng’s gaze fell upon nearby Lingzhi, completely white and etched with faint golden patterns, and he furrowed his brows uncertainly.

Back when his son Lu Quanzhen acquired a Heaven-replenishing Elixir and consumed it to enhance his Spiritual Root quality, Lu Changsheng had been paying attention to this type of elixir, wondering if it could be stably refined.

Later, through Hong Lian, he learned that the primary ingredient for the Heaven-replenishing Elixir was called Heaven-replenishing Fungus.

“I’ll ask Hong Lian about it later.”

Lu Changsheng pondered silently.

Although he didn't possess the recipe for the Heaven-replenishing Elixir and couldn't refine it himself,

it was still incredibly gratifying to acquire such a rare Spiritual Medicine.

Then his gaze shifted to the final spiritual plant—a somewhat chaotic vine emitting a flow of purple and golden light.

Lu Changsheng couldn't identify it immediately.

After all, the varieties of rare flowers and herbs ranked Third and Fourth are abundant, and his knowledge in this regard remained limited.

The reason he could recognize the Infant Cultivation Flower and Heaven-replenishing Fungus was purely because Hong Lian had explained them to him.

Nonetheless, this vine being placed alongside the Infant Cultivation Flower and Heaven-replenishing Fungus clearly signified its extraordinary rarity.

Lu Changsheng decided not to disturb the three ancient medicines.

He planned to examine them further upon returning and decide whether to transplant them.

If they proved useful to him, he could even cultivate them carefully using the Myriad Spirits Bottle.

Lu Changsheng returned to the hall's entrance.

Chu Qingyi was seated cross-legged, stabilizing her Cultivation Realm.

She was currently dressed in the azure robe embroidered with cloud patterns that she had worn during her Golden Core ceremony. Her long black hair was elegantly tied up, cascading smoothly down.

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The exquisite and finely contoured features were breathtakingly beautiful, indescribable by words, carrying both the softness of femininity and a certain cold aloofness and heroism that left one in awe upon gazing.

As if sensing Lu Changsheng's return, her slender lashes trembled gently, hinting at a trace of nervousness.

“Goodness, am I really that intimidating?”

As a Core Formation cultivator, Lu Changsheng’s soul was exceptionally sharp, and he naturally noticed this subtle movement from Chu Qingyi, leaving him momentarily speechless.

Although, gazing upon Chu Qingyi clad in the Qingyun Robe, her brows like a painting, exuding heroic charm, her beauty befitting that of a Sword Immortal, he couldn’t help but feel a slight heat in his heart.

Still, it’s not as though he was constantly preoccupied with such thoughts.

Not to mention, having spent countless days and nights healing Chu Qingyi and condensing her Golden Core, even with his body as resilient as a Magical Treasure, nourished by the Nascent Soul Origin, he still felt weary and needed some rest to stabilize his Realm.

“I wonder where we are right now?”

Lu Changsheng extended his Divine Sense to observe the surroundings.

He had previously surveyed the external environment and knew that after the Tianyuan Lotus tore through the void, it landed in a water domain.

However, the specific location remained unclear.

He simply intervened whenever he sensed a Demon Beast interfere with the Tianyuan Lotus.

Setting aside these thoughts, Lu Changsheng moved to sit cross-legged beside Chu Qingyi, beginning to adjust his state and stabilize the situation.

Yet for some reason, he couldn’t shake the feeling that he had forgotten something...

“Phew...”

Seeing Lu Changsheng merely sit down beside her, Chu Qingyi let out a soft sigh of relief in her heart.

She did not dislike Lu Changsheng.

However, she couldn’t help but feel a little uneasy about how to interact with him if he were to become too close or intimate with her.

...

Qingyun Sect.

Caiyun Peak.

Inside a luxurious palace.

“Hmm, has Qingyi escaped danger?”

Yun Wanshang, adorned in a colorful and ornate palace gown, her face exquisitely beautiful and dignified, with an air of nobility, was radiant with joy as she gazed at the Soul Lamp in front of her, now finally stabilized.

After returning from the Heavenly Sword Sect, she had no heart for cultivation and had been closely monitoring her disciple Chu Qingyi’s Soul Lamp.

At this moment, seeing the flickering flame that once seemed like a candle in the wind now robust and steady, she knew Chu Qingyi had passed through the shadow of danger, and her heart brimmed with both relief and joy.

“I wonder what fortuitous encounter Qingyi obtained...”

Yun Wanshang recalled Xuanjian True Monarch’s words, where he hinted that Chu Qingyi’s current experience was a blend of catastrophe and opportunity.

If she survived this great calamity, there would be an auspicious turn awaiting her!

Although he didn’t specify what this auspicious turn was, for it to accompany such a dire tribulation, it was bound to be extraordinary.

“I wonder how that little scoundrel is doing...”

At this thought, Yun Wanshang’s mind shifted to Lu Changsheng, a hint of concern emerging in her heart.

Previously, she had instructed Xiao Xiyue to inform her at once if Lu Changsheng returned to Bi Lake Mountain.

However, so much time had passed, and there was still no news from Bi Lake Mountain.

“If that Core Formation Sword Cultivator truly is Lu Changsheng, then with Qingyi out of danger, that little scoundrel should also be safe.”

Thinking back on her previous conjecture, Yun Wanshang let out a faint sigh in her heart.

She both hoped that the Core Formation Sword Cultivator was Lu Changsheng and deeply feared that he was indeed Lu Changsheng.

After all, the thought of the two of them being together out there, jointly escaping danger, gave her an inexplicable sense of foreboding.

A premonition she didn't dare to dwell on further.

"Hah!"

Yun Wanshang took a deep breath, forcibly dismissing the chaotic thoughts in her mind, and sat cross-legged to begin her cultivation.

Now that her disciple Chu Qingyi was out of danger, she could finally focus on her training in peace.

But no sooner had she settled down than a wave of restlessness surged within her.

Imagining that if the Core Formation Sword Cultivator was truly Lu Changsheng, and if some bond or emotional entanglement developed between them, how should she handle it?

"Ah, what a mess this is!"

A moment later, Yun Wanshang opened her beautiful eyes and let out a deep sigh.

She felt that ever since encountering Lu Changsheng, the moments her heart was thrown into chaos far outnumbered all those in the past century.