

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

#Chapter 1321: 456: At This Age, Don't Be Too Impetuous! - Read Starting as a Son-in-law to Establish an immortal Family Chapter 1321: 456: At This Age, Don't Be Too Impetuous!

Chapter 1321: Chapter 456: At This Age, Don't Be Too Impetuous!

Misty Rain Market.

“Since this Misty Rain Market is under the protection of Bi Lake Mountain, the Sima Family cannot be allowed to act recklessly here.”

Lu Wangshu stood in a pink-and-white dress, her black hair flowing gracefully, her beautiful eyes like moonlight glistening. With a cold voice, she spoke.

“Miss Lu, our Profound Martial Ridge has no intention of becoming enemies with Bi Lake Mountain.”

“However, some of our Sima Family members went missing in this Misty Rain Market. We came to investigate the matter—why must Bi Lake Mountain interfere? Isn't that too overbearing?”

Outside the market, an elder of the Sima Family stood with his hands clasped behind his back and spoke in a deep tone.

Previously, they had planned to hold the marketplace accountable. However, upon learning that the Second Market Master of Misty Rain Market had married Lu Changsheng as a concubine, they refrained from direct conflict and let the issue drop.

But now that Lu Changsheng had perished in the Tianyuan Secret Realm, the Sima Family saw no reason to continue conceding. They sought an opportunity to save face.

Otherwise, word would spread, and the world would think the Sima Family feared Bi Lake Mountain!

“Overbearing?”

Upon hearing this, Lu Wangshu's flawless face, untouched by makeup, was full of disdain. She sneered, “At your age, must you resort to such childish lies?”

“Let me make myself clear: If any of you dare take one step into the market today, you will bear the consequences!”

Her calm and crisp words dripped with unbridled contempt and disregard.

“Hiss, this Talisman Fairy is truly domineering!”

“She does have the right to be arrogant. Someone so young has already broken through Foundation Establishment and even killed five Foundation Establishment cultivators singlehandedly.”

“But that person isn’t simple either. He’s an elder of the Sima Family and a Foundation Establishment Late Stage cultivator. No matter how powerful her talisman arrays are, she can’t possibly be his match, right?”

“A tree that stands out in the forest is bound to be battered by the wind...”

Many cultivators in Misty Rain Market witnessed the scene and murmured quietly.

Even the two market masters, Yan Lan and Yu Fei, exchanged glances, feeling that this young lady from the Lu Family was overly arrogant.

Both of their cultivation levels surpassed Lu Wangshu’s.

One was at Foundation Establishment Sixth Layer, the other at Foundation Establishment Fourth Layer.

Yet, when facing this elder from the Sima Family, neither dared to be so disrespectful.

“Hmph, a mere little girl dares to spout such audacious words? I’ve eaten more salt than you’ve walked roads! This is something better left for Lu Changsheng or Lu Ping’an to say!”

The elder from the Sima Family’s face darkened slightly as he spoke.

At his age, dignity mattered most to him.

Now, to be so openly provoked and looked down upon by such a junior as Lu Wangshu, he could not help but feel anger simmering within him.

What’s more, Lu Ping’an and Ling Zixiao had deprived his Sima Family of their Nascent Soul Seed in the past.

If he could use this opportunity to cripple Lu Wangshu, not only would it serve as revenge to erase this humiliation, but it would also deal a heart-wrenching blow to Bi Lake Mountain, potentially even leaving it teetering on the brink of collapse.

Nonetheless, the elder was cautious, scanning his surroundings to see if Lu Ping’an might be hiding in the shadows.

“If my father or elder brother were here, would you dare to utter such words? You’d have scurried back with your tail between your legs long ago, not daring to show your face!”

Lu Wangshu sneered as she heard his words, casting a contemptuous gaze at the Sima elder as if regarding a complete fool.

“Sharp-tongued little girl—since that’s the case, let me teach you a lesson on behalf of your father!”

The elder’s face twitched as he spoke in a frosty voice, the growing murderous intent in his eyes directed at Lu Wangshu.

“Old geezer, the night is dark, and the road is slippery. At your age, don’t let your temper get the better of you—otherwise, you might not even know how you’ll meet your end.”

Lu Wangshu crossed her arms, tilted her delicate chin slightly upward, glanced at him askance, and added.

“Hiss!”

“Hiss!”

“Hiss!”

Loose cultivators in the market, along with the two market masters, Yan Lan and Yu Fei, couldn’t help but gasp sharply at those words.

Everyone knew this Sima Fourth Elder was over a hundred, nearing two hundred years old.

Yet, here he was being rebuked by a junior like Lu Wangshu, who warned him of the night being dark and the road slippery.

It almost felt as if their roles had been reversed.

“Courting death!”

The elder’s face turned a beet-red shade of anger, and he stepped toward the market, ready to kill Lu Wangshu.

At 187 years of age, he was a family elder who commanded respect wherever he went.

Today, to be pointed at and insulted by a mere slip of a girl was unbearably humiliating.

If he didn't teach Lu Wangshu a lesson, he feared he'd forever become a laughingstock!

"Elder, let it go, let it go."

"This woman is purposely provoking you, trying to lure you into a formation."

"Lu Wangshu is skilled in talisman formations, and she might have already set up traps."

Younger members of the Sima Family, who had accompanied him, hurriedly pulled him back and tried to dissuade him.

"Just get lost already and stop barking at the gate. You're affecting my family's business. If you don't..."

Lu Wangshu, ignoring the elder's thunderous expression, continued speaking.

"Argh!!!"

The elder could no longer endure and finally unleashed his magical sword, slashing ferociously at Lu Wangshu.

However, just as he charged murderously toward the market gate, Lu Wangshu raised both hands and made a gesture incantation.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

Beams of light shot skyward at the market's entrance like thunderclaps.

In an instant, a series of intricate talismans appeared in order and ensnared the elder, blasting and suppressing him.

"Sigh, I warned you about curbing your temper—why didn't you listen?"

Lu Wangshu held an array plate in one hand and the Nine-Nine Arcane Talisman Codex in the other. Shaking her head lightly, she spoke.

Her radiant face was as resplendent as jade, her beauty unparalleled, yet to all who witnessed her, an inexplicable chill ran through their hearts.

"Isn't this woman a Talisman Master? How does she also understand formations?"

"Could Lady Lu, Ling Zixiao, also be present?"

"Talisman formations are a subclass of formations—they can be prepared in advance."

"No, with this technique, she clearly understands formations; she's an Array Master!"

“Both the Talisman Path and the Formation Path are vast and profound. This woman isn’t just a Talisman Master; she’s also an Array Master!”

The loose cultivators and some observers whispered among themselves in astonishment.

No one had imagined that Lu Wangshu would also turn out to be an Array Master!

Her talent was simply astounding!

Chapter 1322: Chapter 456: At This Age, Don’t Be Too Hot-Tempered!_2

Lu Wangshu’s hand shot out the Nine-Nine Xuanzhen Talisman, suppressing the Sima Family elder within the talisman formation.

Then she looked towards the not-so-distant, hesitant Sima family juniors and said indifferently, “Return and let the Sima family prepare the Spirit Stones to come and ransom their people.”

These Sima family juniors saw this scene, then looked at Yan Lan and Yu Fei beside Lu Wangshu, whose aura was imposing, and finally left, gritting their teeth.

“Hmm, this old man should be able to fetch a good price, right.”

At this moment, Lu Wangshu glanced at the Sima family elder suppressed by her, her beautiful eyes curving in merriment, and she smiled brightly.

She knew that previously, to ransom Sima Tong, the Sima family had paid out three hundred thousand Spirit Stones, a Spirit Land, and ten shops.

The Sima family elder she now suppressed was worth at least tens of thousands of Spirit Stones, right?

If she relied solely on making talismans for money, how long would it take her to earn so many Spirit Stones? How would she afford to nurture Talisman Soldiers?

Moreover, using the talisman formation to suppress people and then waiting for their family to come and ransom them was akin to selling her own talismans, was it not?

It was just a different method, and the price of the talismans became more valuable.

In the crowd, a youth with an unremarkable face but eyes like torches, shining with divine light, whose pupils seemed to glimmer with a pale golden luster, saw this scene.

He glanced deeply at Lu Wangshu and then put the egg-sized golden bean back into the Spiritual Pet Bag.

Lu Wangshu seemed to notice the youth's gaze and gestured simply towards him.

...

Meanwhile.

Jin Kingdom, Black Mist Swamp.

The entire swamp was shrouded in a layer of dim, purplish-black mist, like toxic gas and miasma, eerily sinister.

As one ventured deeper into the swamp, this purplish-black toxic miasma grew denser, seemingly corroding the vitality of all things at every moment.

At this time, deep within the swamp, among a chaotic heap of rocks and a miasma-filled stone forest.

A youth with a handsome face, clad in a black wide robe, sat cross-legged amidst the toxic miasma, endless toxic mist coiling around his body.

If one looked closely, one would see that this miasma, which corroded his vitality, was instead being absorbed into his body.

"Boom!"

It was unclear how much time had passed when the black-robed youth's body surged with vital energy, his robe fluttering, burning with a purple-green flame, making him appear like a burning, purple-green sun.

"Now that the Myriad Poison True Body is formed, the toxic miasma on the perimeter not only poses no harm to me but even provides certain benefits."

"In such a situation, with my strength, breaking through the encirclement and escaping this swampy mountain range should not be much of a problem."

The black-robed youth tilted his head, looking towards the direction of the mountain range, muttering.

"Even relying on the Poison Miasma Gourd and Netherworld Poison Fire, I'm confident I can kill them all!"

Lu Quanzhen narrowed his long eyes, a chilling light flashing, brimming with killing intent.

He had previously been hunted down, escaping all the way to this Black Mist Swamp.

Ultimately, he managed to survive in this swamp, relying on the “Kunpeng Devouring Heaven Demonic Technique.”

As the saying goes, misfortune and blessing are interdependent; while being chased by a group of poison insects, he inadvertently stumbled into a mysterious cave, gaining opportunity and inheritance within.

For this reason, his cultivation level directly broke through from the Foundation Establishment Fourth Layer to the fifth layer, just a step away from the fifth layer peak.

“Let’s go.”

Lu Quanzhen stood up and reached out his hand towards a boulder nearby.

Immediately, a gold-colored worm emitting a fierce and bloodthirsty aura suddenly crawled out from under the stone, landing on his hand and sleeve.

Then, his entire being flew in the direction from which he came.

...

Five Poisons Cult.

A magnificent palace.

“Sister Xiao Chan, I heard that the Heavenly Sword Sect in Jiang Country has a second Nascent Soul True Lord appearing.”

“The two Nascent Soul True Lords have been setting traps through the Tianyuan Secret Realm, almost ambushing the Heavenly Fiend Zhenjun of Liang Country’s Heavenly Slaughter Sect. Mother going to Jiang Country, will she be in danger?”

Nangong Yaoyao knew her mother went to Jiang Country for matters regarding the Tianyuan Secret Realm.

So she had been paying close attention to the news in this regard over the years.

A few days ago, she heard of news from Jiang Country, immediately worrying about her mother’s safety.

“Yaoyao, don’t worry. I’ve already checked; the Soul Lamp of my master is unharmed, which means there is no danger.”

With pity in her eyes, Meng Xiaochan gently comforted the worried girl by caressing her waterfall-like soft hair, softly assuring, “Now that the matters of the Tianyuan Secret Realm are over, I believe Master will return soon.”

Besides worrying about her master’s situation, she was also very concerned about Lu Changsheng’s situation.

After all, she knew her master wasn’t just going to Jiang Country for the Tianyuan Secret Realm but also because of Lu Changsheng.

Now, with the Tianyuan Secret Realm’s matters concluded and master unharmed, it was certain that she would go to find trouble with Lu Changsheng next.

“I hope Master will spare Lu Lang for Yaoyao’s sake...”

Meng Xiaochan sighed in her heart, thinking so.

“Mhm.”

Nangong Yaoyao, hearing Meng Xiaochan say her mother’s Soul Lamp was unharmed, showed a sweet smile on her exquisite and beautiful face, nodding in response.

Yet, in the depths of her eyes, as dreamy as stars, there remained traces of worry.

“Sister Xiao Chan, I remember you went to Jiang Country’s Cultivation World with Mother on a mission many years ago. I heard it was very dangerous. Can you tell me about it?”

At this point, Nangong Yaoyao looked at Meng Xiaochan in front of her, holding her jade arms and blinking her big eyes, speaking somewhat idly.

“Carrying out missions...”

Meng Xiaochan paused upon hearing these words.

But still, with a face full of doting, she responded, “Alright~.”

...

Great Dream Marsh, with vast, undulating waters, rippling waves, stretching endlessly.

Looking from afar, one could see many fishing boats, bamboo rafts, sampans, black-awning boats, Spirit Boats, and even demon-hunting boats on the lake surface.

As the saying goes, rely on the mountains to eat from the mountains, rely on the water to eat from the water.

Chapter 1323: Chapter 456: At This Age, Don't Be Too Hot-Tempered!_3

The Great Dream Marsh is abundant in aquatic resources, not only with many Spiritual Fish but also numerous Demon Beasts.

Thus, not only do mortals come here to fish, but many Loose Cultivators and Family Forces organize teams to hunt demons out at sea.

At this moment, Fang Li stood on the black canopy boat, lifting the fishing net she had cast yesterday, her thin face full of disappointment and gloom.

“Still no Spiritual Fish. It's been three days since I set out, burned three sticks of Demon Repelling Incense, but haven't gained a single thing.”

“If there's no harvest soon, my mother's illness...”

Fang Li tightened her moderately thin clothing and pressed her lips lightly.

She was a Loose Cultivator living on White Whale Island.

Originally, her family life wasn't too bad.

But half a year ago, her father and brother encountered an accident while fishing at sea, and upon receiving such devastating news, her mother was struck with Qi-Blood turbulence, falling gravely ill.

Confronting this situation, she had no choice but to fish at sea to earn Spirit Stones.

However, over the past half year, fishing only barely maintained their livelihood.

Looking at her grievously ill mother, she attempted to venture deeper into the Great Dream Marsh, but after burning three sticks of Demon Repelling Incense, she still hadn't caught any Spiritual Fish, leaving her heart full of gloom and aching pain.

It should be known that a single stick of Demon Repelling Incense cost four Lower Grade Spirit Stones.

Even with a discount for purchasing three sticks, it still required ten Spirit Stones—a massive expense for her.

“Should I venture a bit deeper?”

Fang Li gazed out over the boundless, misty and rolling lake surface, pondering silently.

But though she thought so, her expression betrayed a touch of fear.

After all, the deeper she ventured, the greater the danger.

If an accident befell her, then her mother...

But looking at the last stick of Demon Repelling Incense in her arms, she gritted her teeth and began rowing deeper.

Otherwise, with no harvest at all this trip, she'd leave empty-handed.

After venturing several miles further, she cast her net and fish cage into the water, waiting for the Spiritual Fish to bite.

"If I could break through to the Fourth Level of Qi Refinement and learn the water avoidance art and Water Arrow Technique, I could dive into the sea for fishing—or even join the Monster Hunting Fleet."

Fang Li watched the burning Demon Repelling Incense in front of her, fantasizing about the future.

As the sky gradually darkened, she glanced back in the direction of White Whale Island and prepared to pull her net up.

"Huh? There's a catch!"

Just as she lifted it, she realized there was something caught in the net. Then, noticing something glittering, she hurriedly strained to pull the net up.

In the net, there were not only several Spiritual Fish but also an object emitting a shimmering crystalline radiance—a Blue-Green Lotus Seat.

"What is this? Could it be a Spiritual Artifact?"

Fang Li stared at the lotus seat, shocked and overjoyed.

Though she was a Cultivator, she had never seen a Spiritual Artifact before.

The only Magic Artifact she had ever seen was her father's fishing crossbow.

But at this moment, she instantly recognized that this lotus seat was far more precious than her father's fishing crossbow.

After retrieving the lotus seat from the fishing net, she held the crystalline, flowing seat tightly, inspecting it closely, her hands trembling with excitement.

It was then that she felt a cooling and profound mystical energy flowing from the lotus seat, causing the bottleneck of her cultivation—which she didn't know how long it would take to break through—to stir faintly at that moment.

“This...”

Fang Li was stunned, her mouth agape, staring at the lotus seat in disbelief.

Though her understanding of cultivation was limited...

She knew that treasures capable of aiding in Breaking Through were definitely supreme treasures!

“Is this an illusion?”

She swallowed hard.

Then she pinched her arm, felt the pain, and confirmed this was not a hallucination.

“I actually picked up such a treasure.”

Fang Li was dazed, overwhelmed by the sudden fortune.

In her childhood, she had heard many stories of people picking up treasures and attaining great opportunities.

But she never imagined such a thing would happen to her.

“I must keep this lotus seat a secret.”

A moment later, Fang Li calmed down and clenched her fists.

Not only did she need to use the lotus seat for cultivation and Breaking Through...

But she also understood the adage, “An innocent man gets into trouble for possessing a treasure.”

An item of such value, once its existence were revealed, would invite endless trouble—even the Island Master might covet it.

Fang Li quickly pulled out her cloth bag and wrapped the lotus seat securely.

She then placed the Spiritual Fish into the fish basket, her heart racing as she rowed toward White Whale Island.

“Splash, splash, splash—”

Fang Li noticed that she had ventured too far, and the Demon Repelling Incense wouldn't last long enough for her to return safely.

She murmured repeatedly, praying not to encounter a Demon Beast.

However, worries often manifest into reality.

"Splash, splash—"

Suddenly, a burst of water erupted from the lake's surface.

A three-foot-long, pitch-black pointed-mouth monster fish shot out, spewing several streams of Water Arrows from its mouth.

"Water Shield Art!"

Fang Li quickly formed a Gesture Incantation, conjuring a Water Shield.

But as soon as the Water Shield emerged, it was corroded and pierced by the Water Arrows, causing a large hole to appear in her black canopy boat, which began to sink.

"I'm finished!"

Fang Li realized that without the boat, she stood no chance against such a Demon Beast.

"Save me, treasure, save me!"

At that moment, she thought of the lotus seat she had obtained.

Believing it to be a top-tier treasure surpassing Spiritual Artifacts...

She wondered whether it possessed spiritual awareness and might save her life.

"Hmm?"

Inside the Tianyuan Treasure Emperor Lotus, Lu Changsheng felt something and opened his eyes with a hint of surprise.

He didn't expect the lotus seat, after floating in this water domain for so long, to finally be picked up by someone.

"Having someone here isn't bad—perfect for asking where this place is."

Lu Changsheng stirred his intent, radiating slight ripples around him before vanishing completely.

Beside him, Chu Qingyi watched this scene with some puzzlement and surprise, uncertain about what Lu Changsheng was doing.

"I didn't expect that just after obtaining such a fortuitous treasure, I'd die here."

Fang Li, staring at the pointed-mouth monster fish before her, held the lotus seat up as a shield, her heart despairing.

Chapter 1324: Chapter 456: At this age, don't be too hot-tempered!_4

However, at this moment, a tall and slender figure dressed in an exquisite black brocade robe suddenly appeared before her eyes.

"Whoosh!"

As soon as the figure appeared, the sharp-mouthed monster fish attacking her was sent flying and splashed into the water with a loud 'plop'.

"Young lady, may I ask where this place is?"

Lu Changsheng turned his head, looking at Fang Li as he spoke.

"Is this an Immortal?"

Fang Li stared at Lu Changsheng's face, her mouth slightly agape, completely stunned, her eyes filled with awestruck admiration.

In her nearly twenty years of life, she had never seen anyone this breathtakingly beautiful—like someone walking out of a painting.

No, even the people in paintings couldn't compare to this. This must be an Immortal!

Could it be that the lotus seat she found actually belongs to an Immortal?

Or was this figure the Artifact Spirit within the lotus seat?

"Young lady?"

Lu Changsheng glanced at her dreamy expression, slightly helpless.

He had already restrained as much of his charm as possible, but his radiant and handsome presence still shone like the brightest star in the night sky.

“Immortal! This is White Whale Island. My name is Fang Li, a Loose Cultivator living here. Thank you, Immortal, for saving my life!”

Fang Li snapped back to herself and quickly spoke with excitement, her voice tinged with nervous tremors.

“White Whale Island?”

Lu Changsheng frowned slightly, not recognizing this location.

He continued asking if this was Jiang Country, and whether there were any prominent factions or large islands nearby.

“Immortal, this is Jiang Country. The most powerful faction here is the Great Dream Immortal City!”

Fang Li hurriedly replied.

“Great Dream Immortal City... Great Dream Marsh.”

Upon hearing that he was still in Jiang Country, Lu Changsheng let out a breath of relief.

If he had broken through the Great Void and ended up in some other Cultivation Nation, returning home would have been much more troublesome.

If it's Great Dream Immortal City, he could arrive there within a month at most if he hurried.

“Do you know the location of Great Dream Immortal City?”

Lu Changsheng continued to ask.

Fang Li immediately felt a bit embarrassed.

If it weren't for the misfortune in her family, she would never have left White Whale Island in her entire life.

“If that's the case, let's go to White Whale Island.”

Lu Changsheng decided to obtain a map of the Dream Swamp Sea and also planned to visit Great Dream Immortal City, take care of some matters, and then return home to propose marriage at Qingyun Sect.

With a light raise of his palm, the Tianyuan Lotus in Fang Li's hands fell into his possession.

Seeing this, Fang Li realized that the lotus seat was indeed the property of the man before her.

And he wasn't some Artifact Spirit but likely a Foundation Building Great Cultivator.

"Senior, please save my mother. My father and brother encountered danger while fishing in the sea, and my mother fell critically ill due to grief and Qi-Blood imbalance. Senior, your Divine Skills are boundless—please save her!"

"As long as you save my mother, I am willing to serve you forever as your servant to repay your immense kindness!"

Fang Li bit her lip, knowing she must seize the opportunity upon meeting such a powerful cultivator. She pleaded earnestly.

"Our meeting can be considered a stroke of fate; servitude isn't necessary..."

Lu Changsheng chuckled softly and then stepped forward, placing his palm gently on her head.

In an instant, the Six Desires Heart Demon Technique was activated, erasing her memories related to the Tianyuan Lotus.

He then brought Fang Li back to White Whale Island and handed her a Storage Bag containing Spirit Stones, Elixirs, Talismans, Puppets, and a Cultivation Technique.

Lu Ancestor had been in a particularly good mood lately.

Given their faint connection through fate, he didn't mind offering a small act of help.

After all, taking the Tianyuan Lotus and simply leaving wouldn't align with the demeanor of a True Core Immortal.

After purchasing a marine map on White Whale Island, Lu Changsheng transformed into a streak of light and sped toward Great Dream Immortal City.

"This is a gift of fortune. Don't reveal it easily to others, lest you invite calamity. Take care of yourself!"

Fang Li looked at the Storage Bag in her hands and its dazzling array of Heavenly and Earthly Treasures. She bit her lip lightly, feeling as though today's experiences were akin to an extraordinary dream.

"I don't even know this senior's name... Will I ever have the chance to meet him again in this lifetime?"

She murmured to herself, reminiscing about everything that had just transpired, only to realize she could no longer clearly recall the senior's face.

All she remembered was his black brocade robe, his tall and elegant figure, and his incomparably handsome features—like an Exiled Immortal walking out of a masterpiece.

Chapter 1325: Chapter 457: Lu Someone Was Once Wholly Devoted to the Sword!

“So this is the Great Dream Immortal City?”

High in the sky, Lu Changsheng looked down at the massive city standing on a small island below.

Among the Three Great Immortal Cities of Jiang Country—Jiuxiao Immortal City, Azure Phoenix Immortal City—he had visited them all.

But he had never been to the Great Dream Immortal City before.

Compared to the other two Immortal Cities, the Great Dream Immortal City was neither as prosperous and powerful as Jiuxiao Immortal City, nor as teeming with mixed fortunes and opportunities as Azure Phoenix Immortal City.

The sole advantage it had was its stability.

In all these years, Lu Changsheng had never heard of any power struggles or demon uprisings occurring in the Great Dream Immortal City.

“Qing Yi, we're now in the Great Dream Marsh. I'm planning to visit the Great Dream Immortal City—do you care to join me for a stroll?”

At this moment, Lu Changsheng thought of Chu Qingyi, who was inside the Tianyuan Lotus, and sent her a message.

He naturally noticed that since he had saved this Fairy Qing Yi, her heart and emotions had been in turmoil, unsure of how to face him.

This situation hadn't improved over time; in fact, it only worsened after her Core Formation breakthrough.

So, he figured inviting her out for a walk might help her ease her mind.

“Ah...”

Seated cross-legged, Chu Qingyi heard his words, and immediately her heart thudded wildly. She was flustered and utterly at a loss for how to respond.

Would it seem impolite if she refused him?

But if she didn't refuse, wouldn't roaming the Immortal City together make things even more unclear and ambiguous between them?

"..."

Seeing the Fairy inside the Tianyuan Lotus growing flustered and uneasy, Lu Changsheng sighed helplessly.

He then stepped into the Cave Heaven, approached her, and gently grasped her delicate, soft hand. In a serious tone, he asked, "Qing Yi, what's the matter with you?"

"Are you feeling unwell somewhere? Or did something go wrong during Core Formation causing discomfort? Do you need help stabilizing your Golden Core?"

Chu Qingyi: "???"

Was this man actually considering dual cultivation as a form of healing?

Chu Qingyi quickly calmed her chaotic mental spirit, casting her gaze downward. Her voice carried a trace of embarrassed frustration as she said, "I'm fine, Lu Daoist. About the matter from before..."

But the words she wanted to say caught in her throat and refused to come out.

"I know you're still upset with me," Lu Changsheng said, sighing immediately upon seeing her hesitation. "It was wrong of me to decide to save you without your consent, but I simply couldn't stand by and watch you die in front of me."

"If you're willing, I'll return to Qingyun Sect later and formally ask Caiyun True Immortal for your hand."

Holding Chu Qingyi's soft, exquisite hand, Lu Changsheng spoke sincerely.

But when he saw her beautiful eyes cast downward, avoiding his gaze, he grew despondent and added, "However... if you're unwilling, I'll treat this as a dream and ensure no one else ever knows. Once you've recovered, I won't trouble you anymore."

"For now, just focus on regaining your strength. If you need anything, let me know anytime."

Lu Changsheng's expression was filled with loss. With a sigh, he reluctantly released Chu Qingyi's delicate hand.

"I... I don't..."

Hearing his words, Chu Qingyi froze, her flawless cheeks betraying a moment of surprise. A wave of guilt and tenderness swelled in her heart.

Despite all he had done selflessly to save her, even helping her to form a Superior Gold Core, he acted as though he owed her something.

"Really? Qing Yi, you're not angry with me?"

Lu Changsheng's face, which had been clouded with gloom, instantly lit up with joy. He clasped her silky hand tightly again.

"Mm..."

Chu Qingyi instinctively tried to pull her hand free from his grasp, but when she failed to do so, she let it be and said softly, "Since we've come to the Great Dream Immortal City, let's have a look around. I've never been here either."

"But... Lu Daoist, could you stop calling me Qing Yi?"

Back in the Sect, everyone addressed her as Senior or Junior Sister. The name "Qing Yi" was reserved for her master and a few elders.

Now hearing Lu Changsheng call her by such an intimate name made her feel an inexplicable sense of discomfort.

"Alright, in that case, how about I call you Senior Sister?"

Lu Changsheng's gaze softened as he moved a little closer to Chu Qingyi.

In truth, calling her Qing Yi was simply his way of being a bit more familiar and held no other intentions.

On the other hand, addressing her as "Senior Sister" seemed to carry a different kind of undertone.

Hearing this, Chu Qingyi's heart skipped a beat. Her beautiful eyes filled with a mixture of embarrassment and annoyance, and she felt as though she wanted to disappear into the ground.

This man clearly had an unusual relationship with Junior Sister Xiao Xiyue, yet here she was, entangled in such an unclear situation with him. She tried once again to free her hand from Lu Changsheng's grasp.

"Lu Daoist, what about you and Xiao Xiyue..."

Chu Qingyi kept her head slightly lowered as she asked softly.

Although she already knew the answer, she couldn't help but seek confirmation.

"That's correct. Xiao Xiyue and I have already become Dao Companions. But, as Senior Sister knows, Xiao Xiyue cultivates the Supreme Forgetful Love Technique. Without overcoming the tribulation of emotions, breaking through to Core Formation is difficult for her."

"So we're waiting for her to complete her Core Formation breakthrough before holding the Dao Companion Ceremony."

Lu Changsheng spoke with a calm and honest expression.

He knew Chu Qingyi already suspected his relationship with Xiao Xiyue and was merely asking for confirmation.

Though he could have lied to her and placated her temporarily, he, Lu Someone, no matter how despicable, couldn't bring himself to do such a thing.

Besides, the two women, being Senior and Junior Sisters, would inevitably encounter each other in the future. It was better to disclose everything upfront.

"What Xiao Xiyue and I have, Master has already approved of. In fact, the Sun Moon Samsara Technique was given to us by Master to cultivate together."

Lu Changsheng continued, "Isn't it remarkable how the Sun Moon Samsara Technique happened to lead me to the inheritance of the Tianyuan True Monarch, allowing me to coincidentally use this cultivation technique to save you, Senior Sister?"

"I heard from Xiao Xiyue that this Sun Moon Samsara Technique was actually obtained by you and Master together in the Tianyuan Secret Realm."

As he spoke, Lu Changsheng's hand gradually moved to rest on Chu Qingyi's fragrant shoulder, his smile warm and genuine.

"Stop... just call me Qing Yi instead..."

Listening to him repeatedly mention Xiao Xiyue, “Senior Sister,” and “Master” in every other sentence, Chu Qingyi felt entirely at a loss, a surge of unspeakable embarrassment welling up within her.

Though his addressing her like this wasn’t inappropriate considering his relationship with Xiao Xiyue, she still found it hard to bear.

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Right now, their relationship was ambiguous and undefined.

She couldn’t comprehend how Lu Changsheng managed to talk to her so intimately and nonchalantly.

If she found out that her master also had some connection with Lu Changsheng, she’d probably be utterly dumbfounded.

“Alright, alright, I won’t say anymore.”

Lu Changsheng held Chu Qingyi’s hand as they exited the Tianyuan Lotus.

“You shameless man, not a single honest word comes out of your mouth!”

Just then, a cold and alluring voice resounded in Lu Changsheng’s mind.

“Hmm? Who’s speaking?”

Lu Changsheng paused momentarily, confused.

In the next instant, he suddenly remembered Nangong Mili, the woman trapped in the Formless Treasure Wheel.

Sh*t, I knew I was forgetting something.

Turns out I forgot about this woman.

To be fair, Chu Qingyi’s situation at the time was urgent beyond measure, leaving no room for distractions. Then one thing led to another, and she slipped from his mind.

But wait, wasn’t she sealed within the Formless Domain? How is she speaking?

Lu Changsheng activated his divine sense and swiftly understood the situation.

The Sealing Divine Light he'd used on Nangong Mili had somehow become ineffective without his notice.

With her mana now accessible, Nangong Mili was using a gu insect to communicate with him telepathically.

"So this is the art of gu cultivation, huh?"

Although Lu Changsheng had several Heavenly Gu insects himself, he wasn't familiar with gu cultivation techniques.

"But when did she break the seal?"

"Or has she been secretly watching for a while and only now decided to speak up?"

Lu Changsheng pondered silently.

Well, it's just the mother of his child taking a look. That's no big deal.

Back then, when he and Nangong Mili... didn't Meng Xiaochan and Ling Zixiao watch the entire time too?

"Mili, that's unfair. I've been nothing but honest to you. Have I ever deceived you? You're all my wings of support. Right now isn't the best time, but once I'm done with my work, I'll let you out immediately."

Lu Changsheng directed his voice toward Nangong Mili inside the Formless Domain.

With Chu Qingyi next to him, it was clearly inconvenient to release Nangong Mili.

After all, righteousness and demonic paths are inherently opposed.

Someone like Ling Zixiao might not care much about the righteous versus demonic divide.

But Chu Qingyi was a devout disciple of the Immortal Sects — raised from childhood with the values of vanquishing demons and eliminating evil, holding firm to the notion that righteousness and demonic paths cannot coexist.

If he were to release a demonic Nascent Soul Immortal now, even if the other person didn't act aggressively, it would still affect how Chu Qingyi perceived him.

"You shameless man!"

Inside the Formless Domain, Nangong Mili's alluring and devilishly beautiful face darkened with frost and hurled another insult.

She had already broken part of the seal when Lu Changsheng helped Chu Qingyi form her Golden Core, and used the 'Mind Gu' to observe the situation outside.

Seeing Lu Changsheng assisting Chu Qingyi in condensing her core, she didn't take any action.

After all, during their brief encounters, she'd come to understand that this man only responded to softness, not hardness.

Earlier, he had shown mercy to her because of their past relationship and for the sake of their daughter, Nangong Yaoyao.

If she caused trouble at such a critical moment, it would only provoke his wrath, and she wouldn't gain anything from it.

Moreover, witnessing Lu Changsheng's formidable strength and seeing him condensing a superior Golden Core for Chu Qingyi, she was not only astonished but also began to harbor some complex thoughts.

Given her current strength, she couldn't overpower him or make him nurture her True Elixir anymore. She could only resort to other means...

Though the mere thought of such means made Nangong Mili feel deeply disdainful.

But considering their situation — and the fact that they already had a daughter together — if these means could allow her True Elixir to ascend to an Immortal Golden Core, she wasn't entirely against the idea.

Additionally, after witnessing Lu Changsheng's talent and power firsthand, the grudge she held from their earlier turbulent encounters seemed to have softened significantly.

"How shameless! I absolutely cannot let this shameless man get near Yaoyao!"

"And these righteous sect women are just so gullible, easily believing his flowery words and fake sincerity."

Nangong Mili sneered disdainfully as she watched the way Lu Changsheng was sweet-talking Chu Qingyi.

She thought Lu Changsheng was shameless, and this woman utterly brainless.

If someone like Chu Qingyi joined her Five Poisons Cult, she'd probably get tricked out of her riches and still count the money for her deceivers.

Then again, with this shameless man's handsome appearance and smooth-talking nature, it wasn't all that surprising that this righteous sect woman was fooled...

...

Lu Changsheng didn't continue chatting with Nangong Mili inside the Formless Treasure Wheel.

As long as she didn't cause trouble for him, there wasn't too much to worry about.

After exiting the Tianyuan Lotus with Chu Qingyi, he briefly disguised them both and transformed into two Foundation Establishment cultivators, heading toward the Great Dream Immortal City.

At the city gate, numerous cultivators bustled to and fro.

As soon as the crowd saw Lu Changsheng and Chu Qingyi, they quickly moved aside with expressions of respect and reverence, clearing a path for them.

Anywhere you go, Foundation Establishment cultivators are still considered prominent figures.

"It seems that apart from having more aquatic demon beasts or water-affinity treasures, this Great Dream Immortal City doesn't differ much from Azure Phoenix Immortal City."

Lu Changsheng entered the Immortal City and glanced at the shops on either side, silently musing to himself.

He planned to check later if there were any aquatic bloodline spiritual beasts worth acquiring so he could raise some Blackwater Dragon Dao Troops back home.

Turning to Chu Qingyi, he said, "Qingyi, let's grab some food first."

Although cultivators generally abstain from food after Foundation Establishment.

Lu Changsheng, however, never let himself miss out on the pleasures of food all these years.

Now that they'd arrived in Great Dream Immortal City, he wanted to sample the local delicacies.

"Alright..."

Chu Qingyi, holding Lu Changsheng's hand, was flushed with shyness and discomfort.

Even though they were disguised.

Walking down the street like a couple still made her feel uneasy and out of place.

Once they reached a restaurant in the inner city, Lu Changsheng ordered some signature dishes. Noticing Chu Qingyi's unease, he sat beside her, gently stroked her cheek, and asked, "Qingyi, are you feeling unwell?"

"If you're not feeling okay, you have to let me know."

Lu Changsheng's face was full of concern.

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"I'm fine."

Chu Qingyi gently shook her head and said.

She had merely felt uncomfortable just now.

"I don't believe it. If you're really fine, smile for me and let me see."

Lu Changsheng said quite naturally, "By the way, I haven't seen what you look like when you smile."

Chu Qingyi: "..."

She could smile, of course.

After all, in her daily life, there were always moments of happiness and joy.

But being suddenly asked to smile on demand, she truly didn't know how.

Her lips twitched slightly before she softly said, "I don't know how."

"You don't even know how? Then allow your husband to show you a smile."

Lu Changsheng reached out with two fingers to pull at the corners of his lips, making a silly face and a grinning expression.

"Pfft!"

Even though Chu Qingyi's mental state was tightly wound, she couldn't help but laugh at Lu Changsheng's antics, completely ignoring the fact that he referred to himself as "your husband."

"See? Didn't you end up smiling after all."

Lu Changsheng watched her reaction and smiled, saying, "You should smile more often; you look beautiful when you do."

Chu Qingyi, realizing she had lost some composure, toned down her smile slightly.

She then looked up at the man before her and said, "Lu Daoist, Qingyi truly appreciates your great kindness and willingness to step in to save me."

"But you are Dao companions with Xiao Xiyue, and she is my sister-disciple. I cannot do anything that would betray her."

"Moreover, my heart is devoted to cultivation, and I am uninterested in matters of romance between men and women. I hope that the matters between us will end here."

"As for your kindness, Qingyi will always remember it. Should there be a time in the future when you require my assistance, I will not hesitate to risk boiling waters or shattering bones."

"Your secret will also remain locked in my heart. I won't tell anyone."

Chu Qingyi summoned her courage, looked at Lu Changsheng, and spoke earnestly.

She had thought over these words for a long time, but hadn't known how to bring them up.

With the way things were between them—ambiguous, overly intimate—it had stirred turmoil in her heart and cast a shadow over her Sword Heart. She no longer wished to delay and finally mustered the courage to make everything clear.

"Boiling waters, shattering bones? Why not simply offer yourself to me instead?"

Lu Changsheng reflexively blurted out.

However, noticing the woman pressing her lips into a tight line and looking solemn, he immediately adopted a serious demeanor and said, "If Xiao Xiyue were to know the circumstances at the time, I believe she would have wished for me to save Qingyi as well. Therefore, Qingyi, there is no need to feel guilty. Afterward, I will explain everything to Xiao Xiyue."

"As for matters of affection, such things should never be forced. Although I fell for you at first sight, it doesn't mean you are obliged to reciprocate. There's simply no such reasoning in this world, so Qingyi, you shouldn't feel any guilt."

"If Qingyi feels indebted for the events that transpired and forces yourself because of that, it would make me feel ashamed instead."

“In the days ahead, Qingyi, you may regard me as just an ordinary friend. There’s no need to strain yourself.”

Lu Changsheng took a deep breath and spoke.

Indeed, while Chu Qingyi was troubled by her connection to Xiao Xiyue, even without that connection, someone like Chu Qingyi was unlikely to easily be moved.

Therefore, Lu Changsheng hadn’t deluded himself into thinking that saving her through Dual Cultivation would instantly make her fall for him.

However, since he was already on board the metaphorical “car,” getting her to buy a ticket afterward would become much easier.

“Sigh...”

Chu Qingyi heard his words but didn’t feel any joy or relief.

There’s a saying: the hardest debts to repay are those of a beauty’s grace.

She felt that, in her case facing Lu Changsheng, it was the hardship of repaying a handsome man’s favor.

From their first meeting, he had openly revealed his feelings—his affection, admiration, and pursuit of her beauty—without any attempt to hide.

Though previously... he had indeed taken so many liberties with her, now his measured restraint and gentlemanly demeanor made him seem like a noble and courteous man, warming her like the spring breeze. It left her utterly at a loss.

“Thank you, Lu Daoist.”

After saying what was on her mind, Chu Qingyi felt as if a weight had lifted off her shoulders.

She decided that once they were done wandering around these next few days, she would bid farewell to Lu Changsheng and leave.

Otherwise, continuing to spend time with Lu Changsheng like this would keep disrupting her flawless Sword Heart, stirring up chaotic thoughts and emotional turbulence.

“Let’s eat first. Just relax and be natural.”

Lu Changsheng said with a smile.

“This woman is so idiotic. Do you think this dog of a man will let you off so easily?”

In the Formless Domain, Nangong Mili watched the scene unfold, her face full of disdain.

However, seeing how Lu Changsheng treated Chu Qingyi while she herself remained suppressed in the domain, Nangong Mili couldn't help but feel an inexplicable sense of frustration rising in her heart—sour, bitter, and vexed.

She immediately sneered and cursed at Lu Changsheng, “Dog of a man!”

“Mili, are you jealous?”

The old ancestor Lu, multitasking at once, maintained an outwardly calm appearance with a gracefully serene smile.

“Scram!”

Nangong Mili instantly cursed coldly.

“Heh.”

Lu Changsheng merely chuckled, planning to educate her about family discipline at some later time.

...

Regularly accustomed to the finest delicacies, this meal was only mediocre to the old ancestor Lu.

Chu Qingyi, perhaps afraid that Lu Changsheng might initiate a conversation with her again, ate very seriously, and in doing so presented a pleasing scene to behold.

“Let's go.”

After finishing the meal, Lu Changsheng effortlessly reached for Chu Qingyi's hand, preparing to continue shopping and visit a few merchant shops.

Being held by Lu Changsheng in such a manner caused Chu Qingyi to tremble slightly, and she instinctively pulled her hand away, speaking softly, “Lu Daoist...”

Didn't they just clarify everything moments ago? Why was he still being so close?

“What's wrong, Qingyi?”

Lu Changsheng's gaze remained pure, his demeanor unperturbed, as he replied, "I'm still planning to purchase some spiritual materials. Qingyi, do you need anything?"

"Sigh."

Chu Qingyi inwardly sighed, thinking that with the situation as it was, she might as well go along with it for these few days. She lightly shook her head and said, "I don't need anything."

After speaking, she paused and then softly added, "If Lu Daoist requires any materials, Qingyi can help."

Being a Nascent Soul Immortal of the Qingyun Sect, she typically only exchanged Heavenly and Earthly Treasures from the sect's treasury when needed.

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It's also possible to post a task and have others search for it. This is far more convenient than relying on ordinary Loose Cultivators or Clan Cultivators.

"Alright, I'll take a look later at what's needed. When the time comes, I'll be counting on you, Qing Yi."

Lu Changsheng replied with a smile.

The other party currently harbored guilt towards him. Asking her for help frequently could not only ease the situation but also draw them closer together.

Moreover, he could use this reason in the future to seek out Chu Qingyi.

"..."

Chu Qingyi watched him agree so quickly, thinking to herself whether she had misspoken.

"Tsk, my connections in the Qingyun Sect are getting stronger and stronger."

Lu Changsheng sighed inwardly.

A few years later, when Xiao Xiyue breaks through to Core Formation, he will have three Core Formation backers in the Qingyun Sect.

But if Caiyun True Immortal learns about Chu Qingyi's situation, will she still be willing to help him?

She might just wish to cut him down with a single sword strike.

"Want some candied hawthorn?"

Lu Changsheng looked at a stall ahead and asked.

"No."

Chu Qingyi shook her head gently.

But Lu Changsheng still went ahead and purchased a skewer. Taking one bite, he remarked that it tasted pretty good and gestured for Chu Qingyi to try it.

Chu Qingyi was momentarily startled, but upon meeting Lu Changsheng's tender and affectionate gaze, she parted her lips slightly and bit into one.

The taste was unexpectedly good.

"Quite tasty, isn't it? Qing Yi, you probably don't get the chance to stroll around like this very often, do you?"

Lu Changsheng said with a smile.

There's a saying: 'If she is inexperienced in the world, show her the wonders of life; if she's weary of its burdens, share with her the simplicity of a carousel ride.'

For someone of Chu Qingyi's age, she must have experienced much and gained considerable insight.

However, as Lu Changsheng saw it, her insight was mostly confined to the domain of cultivation.

As for the chaos of the Mortal World and personal affection, she has only superficial knowledge but little firsthand experience.

So these ordinary little moments should strike a chord with her and become unforgettable memories.

"Hmm."

Chu Qingyi nodded slightly.

Lu Changsheng smiled but didn't keep talking. Instead, he took her slender hand, walking side by side down the street, occasionally entering shops to inquire about goods and purchase Spiritual Materials.

For some reason, this simple stroll gradually began to feel peculiar to Chu Qingyi.

She reflected for a long time before pinpointing the source of this peculiarity.

She seemed to no longer mind Lu Changsheng's close gestures.

Moreover, their intimate behavior was strikingly similar to that of some couples or Dao Companions seen occasionally on the street.

At this moment, Lu Changsheng noticed a nearby Tianyi Pavilion and said aloud, "The dresses here are quite nice. Qing Yi, want to try one?"

"No need."

Chu Qingyi gently shook her head.

"Qing Yi, don't you usually have hobbies of your own?"

Lu Changsheng didn't insist and casually asked.

"Practicing swordsmanship."

"Just sword practice and cultivation?"

Lu Changsheng clicked his tongue and commented, "No wonder Qing Yi has achieved such greatness. But if life consists only of cultivation and swordsmanship, don't you find it lonely and boring?"

Chu Qingyi glanced at Lu Changsheng, remained silent for a moment, and then softly said, "Morning spurns Bodhi Evening seeks Great Luo, perilous passes and treacherous paths disdain solitude. Lifelong love for a seven-foot sword, cuts through my illusions to reveal my true self."

"?"

Lu Changsheng hadn't expected his little ploy to be seen through by Chu Qingyi, who countered him so resolutely.

Indeed, anyone who cultivated to Core Formation wasn't foolish. Chu Qingyi had already moved past her initial lost and uncertain state and knew how to handle him now.

But even the fiercest woman can be won over with persistent affection. If one is willing to invest time and endure embarrassment, surely the beauty could be swept off her feet.

“For us cultivators, the purpose is naturally the pursuit of the Great Dao. The Sword Dao is undoubtedly alluring; I too once devoted myself wholeheartedly to swordsmanship.”

“But later, I realized that the world is brimming with countless wonders and beautiful things. If one channels all their efforts into cultivation alone, neglecting and missing out on such experiences, they would regret it deeply in the end.”

Lu Changsheng said softly.

Chu Qingyi: “???”

This isn’t the same man with a harem and countless descendants, is it?

How did he go from being obsessed with swordsmanship?

But thinking about Lu Changsheng’s swordsmanship heritage and the techniques he’d demonstrated before, she felt skeptical yet slightly convinced.

Perhaps he had wholeheartedly pursued swordsmanship in his early years but later abandoned it to cultivate the Talisman Path and focus on his family?

Wait, no, when he helped her break through Core Formation, he didn’t seem to be a Talisman Cultivator either...

Chu Qingyi was somewhat baffled.

Still, she realized that Lu Changsheng’s words were likely an attempt to use the Sword Dao as an analogy to sway her perspective.

“The world may indeed hold much beauty, but for us cultivators, cultivation is the foundation. Being too distracted will squander one’s lifespan, ultimately hindering progress and resulting in genuine regret.”

“Moreover, Qing Yi isn’t entirely uninterested in other things outside of swordsmanship and cultivation. It’s simply a matter of priorities and choice.”

Chu Qingyi responded in a low voice.

Chapter 1329: Chapter 458: What if Xi Yue Doesn’t Mind?

“Does Qing Yi truly understand the matter of choices and compromises?”

“Life is but a journey of cultivation, and every experience is a passing scenery. If one encounters a delightful view, why not pause and savor it for a while?”

Lu Changsheng chuckled lightly and said, “Besides, the Great Dao is boundless. If one has two or three confidants to support each other and journey hand-in-hand through the vast years, wouldn’t that be a great blessing as well?”

Chu Qingyi did not retort. After a brief silence, she softly asked, “Lu Daoist, why did you abandon the Sword Dao?”

Even though she couldn’t discern the truth in Lu Changsheng’s words,

the time he used Sword Qi to dispel poison and the fact that he passed her “The Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Scripture” both demonstrated his extraordinary talent in Sword Dao and the significant effort he had invested in it.

Under such circumstances, his choice to switch to cultivating another path truly puzzled her.

“Didn’t I already mention it? In this world, there are simply too many beautiful things. If one devotes their entire focus to a single aspect, one might miss out on other wonderful things.”

Lu Changsheng gently held Chu Qingyi’s smooth jade-like hand and continued, “When I was cultivating Sword Dao, I was utterly enamored. My heart was wholly immersed in it. Yet as I practiced, I gradually lost interest in everything else, unwilling to explore or attempt other pursuits, even feeling a certain disdain deep within.”

“But later, I came across a Talisman Path cultivation technique. After a brief study, I discovered that I was even more intrigued by the Talisman Path.”

“Afterward, due to my family’s needs, I delved into Spirit Plant cultivation, Spirit Cooking, Wine Brewing, Alchemy, and Artifact Refining. I found that every path within the Hundred Arts of Cultivation possessed its own unique allure.”

Lu Changsheng walked alongside Chu Qingyi down the street, speaking with a smile.

“Lu Daoist... your talent and aptitude are truly rare in Qing Yi’s lifetime.”

“But for cultivators like us, cultivation level is the absolute foundation.”

Chu Qingyi pursed her lips, glanced at Lu Changsheng, and remarked.

She had heard of Lu Changsheng’s reputation as the unparalleled master of “Pill and Talisman.” To her surprise, besides Sword Dao and his prowess in Alchemy and Talisman Making, Lu Changsheng had even studied so many additional arts.

Moreover, he had transitioned from being a Sword Cultivator to a Talisman Cultivator, and now to another cultivation path.

Could this person be the reincarnation of a celestial being?

Even though Chu Qingyi herself understood some other cultivation techniques and the Hundred Arts of Cultivation outside Sword Dao,

she only explored them in times of bottlenecks during her practice—to cultivate her character and gain insights from related disciplines.

She would never spend much time or energy on them. Frankly, she lacked the abundant time and energy to do so.

Yet Lu Changsheng, younger than her, had devoted such effort and still achieved a remarkable cultivation realm. It was truly astonishing and utterly inconceivable.

Even though she had always been hailed as a genius, in the face of Lu Changsheng at this moment, she felt inferior.

“Qing Yi’s words, I naturally acknowledge.”

Lu Changsheng nodded with a smile and continued, “But... a hundred years of life is like a single day to a mayfly. Is there truly any meaning in longevity to me?”

“Even if you and I achieve the Golden Core stage and enjoy a five-hundred-year lifespan, it would simply be another form of entrapment. Wouldn’t it be better to have a beautiful companion, descendants aplenty, and savor life’s joys together in the mortal world?”

“Even if one ultimately stumbles through life, it’s better to leave no regrets. If one is solely focused on cultivation, looking back at a half-lifetime of solitude and coldness, could one’s heart truly remain free of regrets?”

After finishing his words, Lu Changsheng sighed deeply and carried on, “I am different from Qing Yi. Born in meager circumstances, I’ve seen many loose cultivators who forsook their families, abandoned lovers, discarded friendships, and wandered far and wide just to seek immortality. Yet in the end, they lived in poverty and solitude, buried in desolate lands, with neither success nor lasting achievement in their Dao.”

“Who could say that their Dao Hearts were not resolute? But life is like a chess game: once a move is made, there’s no turning back.”

Lu Changsheng looked at Chu Qingyi sincerely and said, “I am not trying to persuade Qing Yi to give up cultivation or Sword Dao. I only hope that while Qing Yi cultivates,

you take more time to appreciate the scenery around you. Only then can life be without regrets, leaving behind no lingering remorse.”

Chu Qingyi carefully contemplated Lu Changsheng’s words, finding them indeed reasonable.

From a young age, she was taken in and nurtured by her master Yun Wanshang, who held high hopes for her.

Thus, from the moment she could remember, cultivation became her duty and sole goal.

Gifted with a natural Sword Heart, she grasped even the most advanced Sword Techniques and Cultivation Methods effortlessly, swiftly mastering them. Because of this, she dedicated her time and energy solely to Sword Dao, gradually losing interest in other pursuits.

“Lu Daoist possesses a broad and profound perspective; he is no ordinary man.”

Chu Qingyi murmured softly.

She understood Lu Changsheng was attempting to convince her and indeed resonated with his philosophy.

However, she held her own thoughts and reasoning, not so easily swayed.

Moreover, she truly didn’t know how to handle emotions of this kind.

“Hahaha, I am but a simple man—a commoner, as plain as can be.”

Lu Changsheng, realizing it was not easy to persuade her, laughed while leading Chu Qingyi to a nearby jewelry store.

Chu Qingyi, like a shy bride, allowed herself to be guided by him, mulling over his earlier words. She found Lu Changsheng quite peculiar.

Unlike most people she had encountered in her daily life.

Before forming her Core, many of her fellow disciples or cultivators from other Immortal Sects sought to pursue her.

But those individuals always treated her like an exalted fairy—never once behaving as Lu Changsheng did...

For a moment, she didn’t know how to describe it—shameless, roguish, or perhaps carefree and unrestrained...

“Here, Qing Yi, try this. I think it suits you.”

While she pondered, Lu Changsheng picked up a plum-blossom tassel hairpin and moved to place it on her.

Chu Qingyi’s heart skipped a beat. She wanted to say something but, seeing the natural transparency reflected in Lu Changsheng’s gaze, she was struck speechless and let him gather her long ponytail.

His movements were practiced and didn’t take advantage of her in any way.

But as she beheld Lu Changsheng’s affectionate and intimate demeanor, her heart, which had just barely calmed, once again churned into a tangled mess. Her delicate eyes carried a trace of shyness.

“Ah, as expected, beauty needs no embellishment. But Qing Yi still looks best in her original appearance—valiant and heroic, with Sword Intent radiating majestically.”

Lu Changsheng rubbed his chin, observed closely for a moment, and commented with a smile.

Chapter 1330: Chapter 458: What if Xi Yue Doesn’t Mind?_2

On ordinary days, Chu Qingyi’s delicate brows and ink-stained gaze, coupled with her cold sword-like eyes, rendered her beauty striking without the need for excessive adornment.

Now, with their simple disguises, Chu Qingyi shed her usual aloofness. Her raven-black hair was tied up, and her entire bearing exuded an air of a gentle and virtuous wife, a grace that made one want to tease her tenderly.

Lu Changsheng promptly planted a kiss on her smooth, fair cheek.

Chu Qingyi’s expression turned flustered, her beautiful eyes filled with embarrassed anger.

This man claimed he wouldn’t force her, didn’t he?

Earlier, he had stubbornly held her hand, and now he was acting like this...

Noticing the nearby shopkeeper watching them with a cheerful smile, Chu Qingyi shot Lu Changsheng a chastising glare before whispering, “Lu Daoist, didn’t you say this would be the end of it previously?”

“Indeed, I said Qingyi needn’t feel obliged or force herself.”

Lu Changsheng chuckled lightly, drawing closer under Chu Qingyi’s furious yet shy gaze. “If Qingyi dislikes it, you can just tell me directly.”

Chu Qingyi: “...”

This man remains as shameless as ever, constantly pushing boundaries.

Yet, for some reason, she was starting to get used to it.

“I noticed Qingyi hasn’t said anything, nor did you resist. I thought you might not dislike it,” Lu Changsheng said softly, and his words weren’t even fully spoken before he leaned closer to her luscious lips.

“Mmm~”

Chu Qingyi turned crimson with shame, attempting to resist but not daring to exert too much force. She could only press her pink lips together and gently push him away.

After several breaths, her face burned with anger and embarrassment as she stammered, “You—you... broke your promise!”

Even with her mild temperament, she couldn’t help but feel frustrated at the moment.

Looking at Chu Qingyi’s cold yet clear gaze, as pure and tender as water, accompanied by her ashamed and angry expression, Lu Changsheng whispered, “I only thought Qingyi seemed burdened. I was hoping to cheer you up a little.”

Chu Qingyi: “???”

Do you not understand why I seem burdened?

And is this your idea of cheering someone up?

Chu Qingyi pulled Lu Changsheng out of the shop, pursed her lips, mustering her courage to speak softly, “Lu Daoist, I have no intention of pursuing matters of romance, nor can I betray Xi Yue...”

“What if Xi Yue doesn’t mind?”

Lu Changsheng suddenly interjected.

“???”

Chu Qingyi froze, momentarily struck dumb.

Yet upon reflection, if there weren't her junior sister's involvement, and no need to worry about being reprimanded by her master—it seemed she wouldn't feel as resistant after all...

She quickly steadied her mind, shaking her head as she replied, "Lu Daoist, this isn't related to Xi Yue. Right now, I am focused on cultivation and uninterested in affairs of romance."

"I understand, Qingyi."

Lu Changsheng's tone carried a trace of despondency.

"Lu Daoist, for those who succeed in cultivation, all are absorbed in it, indifferent to emotional attachments. Matters of romance... Daoist, you have the talent of a heavenly being; you should prioritize cultivation," Chu Qingyi said, her heart feeling an inkling of pity.

To her, Lu Changsheng focusing his thoughts on romantic matters was simply a waste of his natural gifts.

"Emotional attachments are fundamental to human nature. If ascension requires discarding them, what would be the meaning of cultivation?"

Lu Changsheng shook his head lightly as he replied.

"Qingyi thinks I'm overly captivated by beauty and romance?"

"But each person has their own path. I abandoned the Sword Dao to experience various Great Daos, and I discovered that this is the Dao I pursue."

Lu Changsheng gazed at Chu Qingyi with utmost seriousness.

"This..."

Listening to his candid yet unmistakably infused-with-Demon-Path-ideology words, Chu Qingyi found herself at a loss for how to respond.

So, I've become part of his Dao too?

If he couldn't pursue me successfully, would that mean his Great Dao wouldn't achieve perfection?

She let out a sigh. "Romantic entanglements and beauty are of no benefit to cultivation. Such pursuits are trivial paths. Daoist, with your celestial talents, you should transcend such distractions."

“That’s why I call myself an ordinary man. I adore beauty, just as Qingyi loves swords—it has nothing to do with Great Daos or small paths.”

Lu Changsheng didn’t argue further, chuckling lightly as he spoke.

Chu Qingyi said no more.

She understood her current state—if she kept arguing with him, she’d only end up influenced by this person.

Lu Changsheng remained undeterred, calmly holding Chu Qingyi’s hand as they wandered leisurely.

“This shameless man, truly the absolute worst.”

Nangong Mili from the Formless Domain watched the scene unfold, her face icy with disdain as she muttered curses, feeling Lu Changsheng was quite suited to walking the Demon Path.

Yet, as she considered how he, despite his strength, was willing to humor Chu Qingyi and herself... she begrudgingly admitted he had his positives.

Had he been like certain Demonic Path cultivators—arrogantly reckless—it would only awaken deep-seated disgust in her.

...

Although the Great Dream Immortal City was bustling, it couldn’t completely fulfill Lu Changsheng’s procurement needs.

Whether it was rare materials or Earth Grade Water Bloodline Dragon-Blood Demon Beasts, none could be obtained directly. He would have to wait for auctions or trading fairs.

Passing by a pavilion with the words “Heaven Knowledge Tower” inscribed on it, Lu Changsheng led Chu Qingyi inside to inquire about intelligence regarding the Tianyuan Secret Realm, as well as the situations surrounding the Qingyun Sect and Bi Lake Mountain.

Moments later.

“The Heavenly Sword Sect’s Yun Jianfeng has broken through to Nascent Soul and joined Xuanjian True Monarch in ambushing the Heavenly Fiend True Monarch at the Tianyuan Secret Realm.”

“Heavenly Fiend True Monarch’s physical body was destroyed, and only his Nascent Soul allowed him to narrowly escape with his life.”

Lu Changsheng read the information from the jade slip, astonished.

Back in the Tianyuan Secret Realm, he knew that Nascent Souls were clashing outside—it had even been mentioned by the Tianyuan True Monarch that three Nascent Soul cultivators were involved.

But he never would have thought that the third Nascent Soul True Monarch was also from the Heavenly Sword Sect.

It turned out to be Yun Jianfeng, the one who suppressed Demonic Path cultivators in Jiuxiao Immortal City years ago!

“This cultivator formed a Superior Gold Core, and five or six decades ago was already regarded as second only to Xuanjian True Monarch. Now breaking through to Nascent Soul—it’s certainly reasonable...”

Lu Changsheng mused inwardly.

The Heavenly Sword Sect gaining another Nascent Soul True Monarch was undeniably a major event!

It might even impact the future trajectory of Jiang Country.

Especially since both of these Nascent Soul True Monarchs seemed to be formidable figures.