

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

Chapter 16: The Child's Spiritual Root!_1

Lu Changsheng's thoughts stirred, and he extracted the golden brick talisman treasure from his System Space.

Immediately, a talisman inscribed with the image of a golden brick materialized in his hand out of thin air.

This talisman felt much smoother and more substantial than the ordinary ones he usually drew.

The pattern of the golden brick on it shone with a twinkling light, seemingly alive.

With the knowledge of a Second Grade Talisman Master, Lu Changsheng could tell at a glance that the material of this talisman treasure was made from the fur of high rank demon beasts.

The standard talisman paper he currently used was mostly made from lower grade spiritual materials.

For instance, the abundant Qingzhu bamboo on Qingzhu Mountain was one such lower grade spiritual material.

Whereas advanced, top-quality talisman paper required entry grade spiritual materials or demon beast fur.

The materials needed to draw Second Rank Talismans were the same.

One had to use First and Second Grade spiritual materials as raw materials to create talisman paper and spiritual ink.

This was one of the reasons why it became increasingly difficult for a Talisman Master as one progressed—

not only was it harder to advance, but the cost of materials was also high.

To improve one's skills, one had to continuously pour money into this bottomless pit.

“With this talisman treasure, I now have a trump card and can protect my life when facing anyone below the Foundation Establishment Stage,” Lu Changsheng murmured as he carefully stored the treasure.

Even if a Qi Refinement Realm cultivator could only unleash part of its power, it was enough for him at the moment.

Just like how a mere ten percent of a Nascent Soul Immortal's magical treasure's power could easily crush a cultivator at the Foundation Establishment Stage—

When he, a Qi Refinement Realm cultivator, used a talisman treasure, even a fragment of its power was enough to overwhelm his peers in the Qi Refinement Realm.

“Tomorrow I'll tell Uncle Fu that I can now refine First Grade lower quality talismans.”

Lu Changsheng glanced at the night sky outside the window, which had darkened.

It had been a year and a half since he first purchased talisman making materials from Hundred Treasures Pavilion.

In this year and a half, he had bought talisman paper and drawn talismans amounting to five hundred and sixty in total.

The time was ripe.

He had also intended to reveal his status as an Elementary Talisman Master around this time—

since he had discussed his son Lu Xianzhi's situation with his wives today, there was no need to wait any longer.

Thinking of his son, Lu Xianzhi, Lu Changsheng suddenly remembered his own Spiritual Root.

His Spiritual Root had experienced a mysterious tremor the moment his son was born.

But since then, until now, he had felt nothing.

“I wonder what grade of Spiritual Root my son possesses.”

“And to what extent has my Spiritual Root changed under his innate enhancement.”

Lu Changsheng pondered silently.

Spiritual Roots are an abstract indicator of one's aptitude for cultivation.

They are not an extra organ within the body that can be seen.

According to what he had read in books, cultivators with a Spiritual Root had different Heavenly Gate acupoints and Dantian compared to ordinary people.

Therefore, even though Lu Changsheng was a cultivator, he could not specifically see what changes his Spiritual Root had undergone, or how significant the changes were.

He could only discern through specialized treasures used to test Spiritual Roots, or by using spells and divine skills like Spiritual Eye Technique.

However, Lu Changsheng was not in possession of these means at the moment.

Thus, he chose the simplest and most direct method—

To observe the speed at which he was drawing in nature's spiritual energy during cultivation and how it compared to before.

After all, an increase in one's Spiritual Root would most directly and clearly be reflected in one's sensitivity and throughput of spiritual energy.

The better the Spiritual Root, the higher the degree of fusion with spiritual energy, the faster the cultivation speed, and the fewer the bottlenecks.

Several hours passed.

Lu Changsheng was certain that his cultivation speed had indeed increased.

But this increase was very slight.

Less than ten percent.

With such a small enhancement, Lu Changsheng came to a conclusion—

His son's Spiritual Root was nothing remarkable.

Even though Lu Xianzhi had just been born and his Spiritual Root had not yet stabilized, and even if it could grow until he was five or six years old, it was unlikely to reach a high level.

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As expected, it was an Eighth Grade, the Lower Grade Spiritual Root.

“To have a Spiritual Root in the seventh child is lucky enough, how could the quality of the Spiritual Root be any better?”

Lu Changsheng sighed softly, knowing this was quite normal.

His wives and concubines were all ordinary people, and his Spiritual Root was only Ninth Grade; the probability of his children having a Spiritual Root was about one to two percent.

To have a Spiritual Root in the seventh child was already very fortunate.

As for how good the born Spiritual Root was, hoping for a Middle Grade or Higher Grade Spiritual Root was truly wishful thinking.

Except for a few rare cases, most children's Spiritual Roots are similar to their parents', not much higher in grade.

Moreover, ninety-nine percent of people with Spiritual Roots have Lower Grade ones.

All these Immortal Seedlings that came to the Lu Family had Lower Grade Spiritual Roots; not a single one had a Middle Grade Spiritual Root.

"If you want to have more children with Spiritual Roots, you need to have them with a woman who has a Spiritual Root."

"If both parents have Spiritual Roots, especially if they are cultivators, the probability of their children having Spiritual Roots can be as high as ten to twenty percent."

Lu Changsheng thought to himself.

He realized that if he continued like this, having children with ordinary women, ninety-nine percent of his offspring would be mortals.

Indeed, he had mixed many utilitarian intentions into his marriages and reproduction.

But he didn't want to keep having children blindly.

Otherwise, the children without Spiritual Roots could only watch as they experience the suffering of birth, aging, sickness, and death.

As for ensuring their happy growth and a blissful life,

It was not a problem now with fewer children, as he could treat them all well and evenly.

But what if the number of children became too many?

Lu Changsheng knew that at that time, it would be impossible for him to treat them all equally, without favoritism.

Looking at the history of past emperors killing their sons, you would know.

If he had too many, he would inevitably do the same, neglecting the children without Spiritual Roots.

Furthermore, taking wives and concubines to father children also required a certain amount of his time and energy.

“Sigh, thinking about this is still somewhat far-fetched.”

“To have children is natural, and if the conditions are met, one should still strive for good breeding.”

Lu Changsheng took a deep breath, shook his head, and stopped dwelling on these thoughts.

He also felt that he was overthinking and being indecisive and emotional.

Cultivation itself is an act against the natural order; if he gets too entangled in emotions, it will be hard to go far, and he might even invite a Heart Demon upon himself.

“I wonder if I could take a woman with a Spiritual Root from the Lu Family after becoming a Talisman Master.”

Seeing that it was already daylight, Lu Changsheng got up to leave the house, ready to tell Uncle Fu about his ability to draw First Grade Lower Rank Talismans.

Suddenly, he thought whether becoming a First Grade Talisman Master would allow him to marry a woman with a Spiritual Root from the Lu Family.

If it had been before, this would have been absolutely impossible.

Merely wishful thinking of a live-in son-in-law, daring to covet marrying above his status!

But now,

With the talent he had displayed in talisman-making, becoming an Elementary Talisman Master was not impossible.

As long as he wasn't trying to marry Lu Miaoge, one of the core females of the Lu Family, there might be hope.

“If I could marry several women with Spiritual Roots, it would be ideal; the children born later would likely have Spiritual Roots.”

“Whether for myself or for the children, it would be a good thing.”

“However, there's no rush for now, and hurrying won't help.”

Lu Changsheng thought.

It would be good to marry a woman with Spiritual Roots.

But he was only at the Second Level of Qi Refinement now, relying solely on his First Grade Lower Rank Talisman-Making Skill.

Even if he married a woman with Spiritual Roots, he feared that the power balance in the marriage would not be strong and the harmony he currently enjoyed might be disrupted.

Moreover, if he made such a request to the Lu Family, it would definitely not be as simple as taking wives of worldly background like before; he would need to pay some sort of price.

So Lu Changsheng felt there was no need to rush this matter for the moment, it was something to consider when his circumstances improved.

Not to mention, with his Second Rank Talisman-Making Skills, marrying a few 'fairies' with Spiritual Roots would not be difficult in the future.

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Chapter 17: The New Contract Terms!_1

“Lu Changsheng, you say you can draw First Grade Talismans now!?”

In the living room, Uncle Fu's face lit up with surprise and joy upon hearing Lu Changsheng's words.

“Yes, Uncle Fu, it's just that I'm not quite proficient yet.”

Lu Changsheng nodded, then took out a talisman and said, “This is a First Grade lower-tier talisman I've made—the Fire Bullet Talisman!”

This talisman naturally differed from those Lu Changsheng usually drew.

The rune lines looked a bit rough and not very smooth, but he'd managed to succeed all the same.

“It really is a First Grade Talisman, a Fire Bullet Talisman!”

“Very good, very good. You go back and rest first, I'll report this to the Family Head!”

“Rest assured, now that you've become an Elementary Talisman Master, our Lu Family will definitely not treat you unfairly!”

Uncle Fu took the talisman, examined it for a moment to confirm it was correct, and then joyfully said.

“Yes, thank you, Uncle Fu.”

Lu Changsheng bowed slightly to take his leave and went to await the results.

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Lu Changsheng was playing with his children in the courtyard.

The older kids could now walk and were running around the yard, full of life and energy.

At that moment, the courtyard bell chimed.

Someone had arrived.

Opening the courtyard door, he saw three figures standing there.

They were Uncle Fu, along with the Patriarch of the Lu Family, Lu Yuanding, and the young Miss Lu Miaoge.

Seeing the three of them, Lu Changsheng immediately understood their purpose.

It was regarding his ascension to the rank of Elementary Talisman Master.

He hadn't expected that just one day would pass before the Family Head came to visit.

And to personally come to his doorstep, no less.

“I pay my respects to the Family Head, the young Miss, and Uncle Fu.”

Lu Changsheng hurriedly bowed and gestured for the three to enter, leading them to the main hall.

He signaled for his wife to take the children to the back courtyard.

“These are all your children, right? They can walk already.”

Lu Yuanding, who was handsome with an air of scholarly elegance, said warmly upon seeing the kids in the courtyard.

“Yes, Family Head.”

Lu Changsheng replied with a nod.

“No need to be so formal, Changsheng. You’ve been with the family for over two years now, haven’t you?”

Lu Yuanding now spoke like an elder of the family, calling Lu Changsheng by his given name, Changsheng.

“To respond to the Family Head, I have been with the Lu Family for almost two and a half years.”

Lu Changsheng replied.

“How time flies—it’s been over two years just like that.”

“I hope you’ve been adjusting well over these past two years.”

Lu Yuanding continued.

Apart from the beginning when he took some time to check on the Immortal Seedlings and made a couple of trips to Qingzhu Villa, he hadn’t visited much thereafter.

“Thank you, Family Head. I have been doing very well these two years, and Uncle Fu has taken good care of me,”

Lu Changsheng said.

Yet, in his heart, he couldn’t help but think to himself that he was already twenty years old, not some three-year-old child to be played with like this.

Some actual benefits would be the real deal.

At that moment, one of Lu Changsheng’s wives brought in some Spiritual Tea to the main hall, then left after setting it down.

“Changsheng, Uncle Fu told me that you can now draw First Grade lower-tier Talismans.”

Lu Yuanding then took a sip of the tea and got straight to the point.

“Yes, Family Head, after continuously practicing for this period of time, I’ve managed to draw the Fire Bullet Talisman.”

“It’s just that the success rate isn’t high right now, only about one or two chances in ten,”

Lu Changsheng explained.

“All beginnings are difficult. In just over a year, you’ve honed your Talisman-Making Skill to this level and become an Elementary Talisman Master, which is very impressive. Show me what you can do,”

“It’s perfect that Miaoge is here too—she can take a look and give you some guidance.”

Lu Yuanding said in a gentle tone.

Having seen the Fire Bullet Talisman Lu Changsheng gave Uncle Fu, he naturally knew that Lu Changsheng could draw a First Grade Talisman.

But such matters certainly required another direct observation for confirmation.

“Yes, Family Head.”

“I’ll go get the talisman-making tools.”

Lu Changsheng stood up and said.

“No need, I have them here.”

Lu Miaoge, who was sitting nearby, stood up and said. She took out a set of talisman-making tools.

Her voice remained soft and gentle as flowing water, making one feel as if they were basking in the spring breeze.

“Thank you, young Miss.”

Lu Changsheng took the tools from Lu Miaoge’s hands.

The talisman brush was still the ‘Golden Bamboo’ brush from the last time.

Approaching the table, he spread out the talisman paper, and took a deep breath as if slightly nervous. He dipped the brush in ink and began to draw the Fire Bullet Talisman.

The first talisman was about halfway completed when a mistake led to the paper emitting blue smoke and the talisman being ruined.

Lu Yuanding and the others didn’t say much and gestured for Lu Changsheng to continue.

In the second attempt at drawing, Lu Changsheng, despite being somewhat clumsy, still succeeded.

“You were still a bit nervous, but you’ve improved greatly compared to the last time. It’s just that the application of your Spiritual Power is not yet precise and natural enough,”

said Lu Miaoge, gently pursing her moist lips as she offered her critique from the side.

With Lu Changsheng’s Second Rank peak-level Talisman-Making Skill, deceiving her was naturally an easy feat.

“Thank you for your guidance, Young Miss. My progress is largely due to the ‘Essentials of Talismans’ you gifted me,”

Lu Changsheng said, bowing with hands folded, his voice filled with excitement.

“Very well, I didn’t expect you, Changsheng, to successfully depict the Fireball Talisman on your second try,”

“It seems your earlier claim of only having ten to twenty percent confidence was a bit too modest,”

Lu Yuanding also chimed in with a laugh from the side.

Internally he couldn’t help but feel impressed; he had never thought that Lu Changsheng, once nearly discarded due to his Ninth Grade Spiritual Root, would possess such astonishing talent in Talisman Making.

In just a year and a half, he had gone from a novice to an Elementary Talisman Master.

This talent was not only on par with his daughter Lu Miaoge but even surpassed her by quite a bit.

With such age and talent, he was indeed worthy of the Lu Family extending an olive branch.

“This time it was just luck, good fortune,”

Lu Changsheng said, somewhat shyly, like a simple young man.

“Young man, there’s no need to be too modest,”

Lu Yuanding waved his hand, continuing, “I’ve been watching your performance in the Lu Family for the past two years. I’ve long regarded you as one of our own.”

“Now that you’ve become an Elementary Talisman Master, our Lu Family cannot possibly underappreciate our own people.”

“This is the revised offer I have for you, have a look,”

as he spoke, Lu Yuanding took out a parchment of brownish-yellow sheepskin from his sleeve and handed it to Lu Changsheng.

This was a Spiritual Contract, somewhat similar to modern contracts from his previous life.

Upon Lu Changsheng and other Immortal Seedlings' arrival at the Lu Family, they had signed such a contract.

"Thank you, Family Head,"

Lu Changsheng said, visibly overwhelmed as he took the Spiritual Contract and began to read through its contents.

The terms laid out were quite straightforward and simple.

Not like modern contracts that were densely packed through several pages, where one could miss a trap if not careful.

Firstly, the previous contract was voided.

Lu Changsheng was no longer an upstart son-in-law or a live-in son-in-law of the Lu Family.

Instead, he was formally married into the Family as a son-in-law.

Therefore, he no longer needed to provide the Lu Family with fifty offspring within twenty years, nor was he confined to how many children with a Spiritual Root he must have.

The children would be his own.

Second, he would enjoy the same treatment as the direct descendants of the Lu Family.

He could move to the core area of Qingzhu Valley, live in Qingzhu Valley, and have access to a Second Grade Spirit Vein.

Moreover, the monthly resources he received were increased from five Spirit Stones to ten, along with one bottle of Yellow Dragon Elixir.

In return, his obligation was to help the Lu Family refine a certain quantity of Talismans every month.

And, depending on the Family's needs, practice making the appropriate Talismans, among other things.

Of course, these Talisman materials would naturally be provided by the Lu Family, as part of the cultivation investment from the Lu Family's side in Talisman Making.

With Lu Changsheng's Second Rank Talisman-Making Skill, these obligations were essentially all profit.

However, the final clause caused Lu Changsheng to frown slightly.

Should he decide to leave the Lu Family, he would need to give a twenty-year notice in advance.

Otherwise, he would have to repay threefold the resources that the Lu Family had invested in him.

The initial terms were indeed favorable, no doubt about it.

But the last clause gave him slight hesitation.

In essence, the last clause meant that staying with the Lu Family was naturally for the best, a reason for everyone to rejoice.

If he ever wanted to leave, there were two options available:

Either repay three times the resources the Lu Family had invested in him over the years, essentially buying his freedom,

or give the Lu Family a heads up, then work for them for twenty years.

Deep within, Lu Changsheng had always harbored thoughts of leaving.

Once he overcame the initial phase and gained sufficient strength, he would choose to leave the Lu Family and establish his own Cultivation clan.

While the Lu Family offered safety and protection, in the end, he was under another's roof.

Many things and actions were fraught with trepidation.

For example, in the area of Talisman Making, he had delayed showing off his First Grade Talisman-Making Skill for a whole year and a half.

In his room, hidden away, were over four hundred, nearly five hundred First Grade Talismans.

If converted to Spirit Stones, it amounted to a huge sum of money!

Moreover, Lu Changsheng knew his talent was not great.

To continue on the path of cultivation and for a long haul, he could only rely on the system and had to have many kids, especially those with a Spiritual Root.

Having offspring with a Spiritual Root from ordinary wives was difficult and troublesome.

He had to marry many 'fairies' with a Spiritual Root.

Even if the Lu Family was willing to marry women with a Spiritual Root to him, it would only be one or two at most.

They couldn't be like how it was in ordinary society, where he could readily marry nine women.

Even the idea of taking in numerous common folk women to bear children caused him a degree of concern while in the Lu Family,

"Changsheng, if you think there's something inappropriate or have any doubts or questions, feel free to raise them,"

"This contract was only something I thought of today, and naturally, there might be some aspects that haven't been thoroughly considered,"

Seeing Lu Changsheng's hesitant and conflicted expression, Lu Yuanding took a sip of his Spiritual Tea, still speaking in a gentle tone.

Chapter 18: The Good-for-Nothing Son-in-law Turns Over a New Leaf!_1

In the hall, Lu Yuanding and Uncle Fu both looked at Lu Changsheng, waiting for him to make a choice.

"Family Head, the terms here are naturally very good, and I am very satisfied with no objections," said Lu Changsheng.

"It's just that I have two questions. Whom do these children belong to, me or the Lu Family? And if I continue to live in the Lu Family, can I still take wives and concubines?"

Lu Changsheng spoke, saying so.

He wasn't foolish enough to believe what Lu Yuanding said about thinking up the terms on the spot and suggesting he could raise any issues.

Although he had become an Elementary Talisman Master, he was still far from having the qualifications to negotiate with the Lu Family on an equal footing.

If he brought up leaving now, it would certainly affect how the Lu Family perceived him, their viewpoint, and arrangements.

Despite being dependant on others, he thought about leaving after getting through the initial stage.

But for now, he still needed the protection of the Lu Family to grow, and he would have to stay for a long time.

Thus, negotiating terms at this point was unwise.

The terms were more or less acceptable.

If they were harsh, then so be it.

Moreover, the contract from the Lu Family was not particularly harsh to the point of being unacceptable.

It was within a range that Lu Changsheng could accept.

After all, the Lu Family had nurtured him and allowed him to safely get through the initial stage; it was normal for him to pay a price in return.

Lu Changsheng was also confident in himself.

He believed that, once he had gotten through the early stage with the family, it would not be a big problem to repay the Lu Family threefold the resources with the help of the system and his second-grade talisman skills.

Not to mention, the lucre from making talismans with the materials provided by the Lu Family in the future, thanks to his hundred percent success rate in talisman-making, would earn him quite a bit.

It is well-known that the profits from magic artifacts, elixir medicines, and talismans are very high, bordering on excessive.

“???”

Lu Yuanding, upon hearing Lu Changsheng’s words, was startled and didn’t know what to say for a moment.

He had just seen Lu Changsheng’s hesitation and thought he was struggling with the terms and treatment.

He hadn’t expected Lu Changsheng to ask such questions.

Whom do the children belong to?

And whether he would still be able to take wives and concubines in the future?

It was simply...

But then he thought about how Lu Changsheng was just a common peasant, and he came to terms with it.

This was entirely a smallholder mentality, concerned only with a wife and children keeping a warm bed.

It was only because of a fortuitous coincidence that he possessed a Spiritual Root and stepped onto the path of immortality, while also having an innate talent for talisman making.

In Lu Yuanding's view, this was even better, as it would make it easier for Lu Changsheng to integrate into the Lu Family and be of use to them.

Uncle Fu, on the other hand, was somewhat speechless because of Lu Changsheng's questions.

He thought to himself that Lu Changsheng really had a mind full of lust for women.

After having taken nine Lu Family women, he was still not satisfied and was thinking about taking more wives and concubines.

It was fortunate that the servants he had previously arranged for Lu Changsheng were all older women; if they had been young and beautiful maids, they probably would have been spoiled by now.

It wasn't that he was unwilling to part with the girls; he truly wished that Lu Changsheng would focus on the Talisman Path instead of being constantly engrossed in his desires for women.

Lu Miaoge, on the other hand, remained as indifferent as ever, her demeanor otherworldly, her thoughts unknown.

"Haha, don't worry," Lu Yuanding laughed, "According to these terms, you will be a son-in-law to our Qingzhu Lu Family, not just an added member. Naturally, all the children are yours."

"As for taking wives and concubines, that's your freedom. Our Lu Family naturally won't interfere," Lu Yuanding continued.

They valued Lu Changsheng as a person.

The talents and worth that Lu Changsheng displayed, a few children, and worldly women were trivial in their eyes.

“Thank you, Family Head!”

“Then I have no other questions,” Lu Changsheng said as he made an obeisance with his hands.

Immediately after, Lu Yuanding had Uncle Fu bring out the contract that Lu Changsheng had signed earlier to dissolve it.

And had a new contract signed with Lu Changsheng on the Spiritual Contract.

“From now on, consider the Lu Family your own home,” Lu Yuanding said with a gentle, scholarly smile.

He then gently patted Lu Changsheng’s shoulder and continued, “In the next few days, I will have someone prepare your identity plaque and arrange for your residence in Qingzhu Valley. Once everything is set up, Uncle Fu will notify you.”

“For the next few days, you’ll still stay here. As for your welfare and treatment, it will start from this month,” he added.

Lu Changsheng was slightly startled, aware that the other party was buying his favor.

But undeniably, these actions and words were indeed comforting; he nodded and said with his hands cupped, “Yes, Changsheng thanks the Family Head.”

Thereupon, Lu Yuanding, together with Uncle Fu and Lu Miaoge, departed.

Lu Changsheng went out to see them off.

“Sigh!”

Watching the three leave, Lu Changsheng took a deep breath and slowly exhaled.

From now on, he would be considered as having secured his footing in the Lu Family, wouldn’t he?

Afterward, a group of wives and concubines also hurried over.

Surrounding Lu Changsheng, the Family Head asked if his visit was due to Lu becoming a Talisman Master.

Ever since they learned that Lu Changsheng could draw First Grade talismans two days ago, they had been even more anticipating this than Lu Changsheng himself.

Lu Changsheng didn't conceal anything and spoke the truth.

He told the women that in some time, his whole family would be able to move and live in Qingzhu Valley with the children.

Upon hearing this news, all the women were unexpectedly overjoyed, their eyes looking at Lu Changsheng with even deeper affection and tenderness.

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The next day.

News of Lu Changsheng becoming an Elementary Talisman Master and soon moving to Qingzhu Valley spread throughout Qingzhu Villa.

This news was like throwing a huge rock into a calm lake, creating ripples upon ripples.

It made the Lu Family disciples in Qingzhu Villa extremely envious and jealous of Lu Changsheng.

You should know, despite being Lu Family disciples, they weren't qualified to live in Qingzhu Valley and could only reside in Qingzhu Villa.

Yet now, Lu Changsheng, a son-in-law from another clan, was able to move into Qingzhu Valley.

This implied that Lu Changsheng's status as a son-in-law was already higher than theirs.

As for the group of Immortal Seedlings who had arrived at the Lu Family along with Lu Changsheng, they were even more envious to the point of grinding their teeth.

There's a saying that one fears not only the hardship of one's brothers, but also their driving of luxury cars.

Usually, they wouldn't compare themselves with the Lu Family disciples.

But like them, Lu Changsheng was also discarded by the Qingyun Sect and moreover, he was a son-in-law who had married into the Lu Family.

Seeing Lu Changsheng's achievement now naturally sparked their envy, jealousy, and discomfort.

They secretly cursed their lack of talent in this area.

No matter what they thought, now that Lu Changsheng had become an Elementary Talisman Master, they chose to ingratiate themselves with him.

One after another, they came to offer congratulations and present gifts.

After all, having been in contact with cultivation for so long, everyone knew the value of a twenty-year-old Talisman Master.

Not just the Immortal Seedlings, many among the Lu Family disciples of Qingzhu Villa also put aside their pride to come to Lu Changsheng's house to offer congratulations and gifts, seeking to make his acquaintance.

"Changsheng, congratulations, congratulations!"

Li Feiyu from next door was the first to come over, bringing his wife to celebrate.

He also brought a box of Spiritual Tea.

He had broken through to the Innate Realm six months ago and was now capable of impregnation; his wife was also pregnant.

"Thank you. We're friends; you didn't need to bring anything. That's very polite of you."

Lu Changsheng came forward with a smile.

He could see that Li Feiyu was somewhat disappointed.

After all, Li Feiyu had been devoted to cultivation, and with a Seventh Grade Spiritual Root, he had always been far ahead of Lu Changsheng in terms of cultivation level.

Now that Lu Changsheng had become an Elementary Talisman Master, overtaking him on a shortcut with a bright future far exceeding his own.

Of course, Li Feiyu was genuinely happy for Lu Changsheng becoming a Talisman Master.

He wasn't the narrow-minded type who couldn't bear to see others succeed.

Over the past two-plus years, he had formed a very good relationship with Lu Changsheng.

"It's no big deal, such a joyous occasion deserves a gift. How could I come empty-handed?"

Seeing that Lu Changsheng had no pretenses and was the same as before, Li Feiyu also responded with a smile.

Afterward, the two of them caught up with each other and chatted leisurely as one after another, people arrived with gifts to offer their congratulations.

After receiving visitors throughout the day to offer their congratulations, Lu Changsheng looked at the gifts he had received that day and realized he had gotten quite a few.

Some gave Spirit Stones directly, others gave Spiritual Tea, Spirit Fruits, and materials for Talisman Making; in total, he had received roughly fifty-six Spirit Stones.

This made Lu Changsheng sigh in amazement.

If in the future he were to have a child and hold a banquet, wouldn't he receive so many gifts that his hands would grow tired?

But this was just a thought.

With the Blessing of Many Children System, Lu Changsheng's approach to his future was to be prudent in everything he did and establish good relationships.

After all, he had a family and not a few children, so he needed to pay attention to his reputation.

Such matters, being done once or twice, were fine, but doing them excessively would affect his reputation and how others perceived him.

It wasn't necessary and could be more trouble than it was worth.

In the following days, Lu Changsheng continued his usual routine, calmly practicing cultivation, spending time with his children at home, while waiting for Uncle Fu's news.

Meanwhile, his wives had joyful expressions as they went to meet their sisters and close friends, visiting and chatting.

Simply put, they were showing off the fact that Lu Changsheng had become a Talisman Master.

This made the sisters and friends who were married to other Immortal Seedlings envious, jealous, and resentful.

They secretly lamented why they hadn't married Lu Changsheng.

Lu Changsheng observed this behavior and said nothing.

After all, his wives were people, not baby-making machines, capable of emotions and desires.

For now, this was acceptable and caused no harm, but he could already foresee that in the future, his numerous wives and descendants were bound to cause trouble for him, 'the old ancestor', implicating him in their troubles.

A family had its benefits, but sometimes it could also be a burden.

But that's the nature of cultivation, gains come with losses.

Having chosen this path with the Blessing of Many Children System, Lu Changsheng was mentally prepared for it.

Chapter 19: Moving!_1

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Seven days later, Uncle Fu came to inform Lu Changsheng that Qingzhu Valley had been arranged for them, and they could move there to live at any time.

Upon hearing this, Lu Changsheng immediately began to move.

However, having lived here for over two years, and with nine wives and concubines and seven children, naturally, he had accumulated quite a few belongings.

Looking at so many items, Lu Changsheng felt somewhat of a headache for a moment.

“Hehe, the Family Head had anticipated that moving would be troublesome for you.”

“This is a Storage Bag, a reward from the Family Head to you, saying that as a Talisman Master, you should have a Storage Bag, which makes things much more convenient.”

Uncle Fu took out a pitch-black leather bag and handed it to Lu Changsheng, saying.

“A Storage Bag!”

Upon hearing this, Lu Changsheng's eyes lit up.

Because he was hiding many talismans, he had long thought of buying a Storage Bag to keep them in.

But when he inquired at the Hundred Treasures Pavilion, even the cheapest Storage Bag cost fifty Spirit Stones.

Even though he got five Spirit Stones a month, spending fifty Spirit Stones to buy a Storage Bag still pained him, so he didn't buy one in the end.

Unexpectedly, Uncle Fu now said that the Family Head was rewarding him with one.

“Thank you, Uncle Fu, thank you, Family Head!”

Lu Changsheng immediately expressed his thanks.

It seemed that having a skill was indeed valued; now that he had become a Talisman Master, the Lu Family was much more generous with him.

“Hehe, as long as you work hard for the Lu Family, we will never treat our own people unfairly.”

Uncle Fu said with a chuckle.

Then, taking the bag, he continued: “You must have never used a Storage Bag before, let me show you.”

“Just aim the opening at the item you want to put inside, then inject a strand of Spiritual Power into the bag, lock onto the item, and it will be automatically sucked in!”

Having said that, he aimed the opening at a chair near a table, and sent in a strand of Spiritual Power.

Immediately, a beam of white light shot out from the bag, enveloping the chair and causing it to rapidly shrink before being sucked into the bag.

“This is how to store it, and it’s the same when taking items out. Just lock the item you want to take out from the Storage Bag with Spiritual Power beforehand.”

As he spoke, another beam of white light shot out and the chair that had been stored flew out, returning to its original size.

Watching this, Lu Changsheng was both amazed and delighted, feeling that having such a Storage Bag was incredibly convenient.

“Alright, you can take it and use it.”

Seeing the excitement in Lu Changsheng’s eyes, Uncle Fu handed over the Storage Bag to him.

“However, there are a few precautions when using a Storage Bag that you should be aware of.”

“First, this Storage Bag only has a space of one cubic meter, and it can only shrink objects tenfold.”

“Therefore, if the object is too huge, or if you store too many items inside, the Storage Bag will become ineffective.”

“Later, for large items like beds and tables, you don’t need to put them in, as the villa in Qingzhu Valley is fully furnished.”

“Second, the Storage Bag cannot contain living creatures; if you put living people or animals inside, they will surely die.”

“So never try it on children.”

“The third is to not flaunt wealth!”

“This kind of Storage Bag does not have an owner-recognition function. If it gets stolen, anyone can claim the contents as their own, so when you go out, try not to reveal your Storage Bag in front of other cultivators, otherwise it may attract deadly misfortune.”

Uncle Fu spoke, his tone serious, as he instructed and advised Lu Changsheng.

“Yes, Uncle Fu, I will definitely remember.”

Lu Changsheng nodded his head, firmly imprinting these words in his mind.

Immediately after, he took the Storage Bag and began moving.

He stored all the scattered talismans from the study’s cabinets and all the other items he needed to bring with him into the Storage Bag.

Suddenly, the originally troublesome move became much simpler.

In a short while, he had packed all his belongings.

Considering that Lu Changsheng’s wives and concubines were mostly pregnant and he had so many children, Uncle Fu also arranged for a horse carriage to be waiting at the door.

He had all the women and children sit in the carriage. Seeing Li Feiyu, who had come to see him off, Lu Changsheng approached with a smile and said, “Feiyu, I won’t be able to drop by casually from now on, but don’t worry, I’ll still come to bother you when I have time.”

“If you ever need anything, feel free to look for me anytime. You know our relationship, there’s no need for me to say more, right?” Lu Changsheng said warmly, patting Li Feiyu on the back.

The life-saving grace from before, coupled with the friendship they had built over these two years, had made Lu Changsheng consider Li Feiyu a true friend and a good brother.

“Sure, I know what kind of person you are. We’re both grown men, there’s nothing much to say. Go on, it’s not like you’re going far.”

Li Feiyu laughed and waved his hand dismissively, looking carefree.

Right away, Lu Changsheng got on the carriage, and together with Uncle Fu, they drove towards Qingzhu Valley.

Watching the departing carriage, Li Feiyu couldn’t help but sigh softly, a hint of envy in his eyes, before returning to his room to resume his cultivation.

“Uncle Fu, Lu Changsheng!”

“Uncle Fu, Brother Changsheng!”

“

“Changsheng bro, moving house?”

Along the road, someone noticed Uncle Fu and Lu Changsheng on the carriage and called out a greeting, their eyes filled with envy.

A young girl caught sight of Lu Changsheng on the carriage and was momentarily lost in thought, then headed towards the Hundred Treasures Pavilion.

...

It wasn’t far from Qingzhu Villa to Qingzhu Valley.

The carriage gently moved along for half an hour before Uncle Fu stopped it and said to Lu Changsheng,

“This is Qingzhu Valley. However, it’s protected by a formation. To enter, you must present the identity plaque I gave you.”

So said Uncle Fu.

Upon hearing this, Lu Changsheng looked closely and noticed a layer of nearly invisible transparent ripples in front of them.

He had seen a similar formation when he first entered Qingzhu Mountain.

He hadn't expected there to be another layer of formation inside the Lu Family.

Then, Uncle Fu took out the identity plaque and drove the carriage through the transparent ripples.

The scene inside Qingzhu Valley was somewhat similar to the outside.

As for the difference, the Qingzhu bamboo here was much taller and sturdier compared to the bamboo spreading across the hills outside.

And there were even some distinctly visible, jade-green bamboo.

The air was rich with spiritual energy, faintly carrying the sense of celestial mist.

From a distance, one could also see terraced fields where spiritual grains, vegetables, and medicines were cultivated.

"Is this Qingzhu Valley?"

Lu Changsheng surveyed the surroundings with some curiosity and asked.

"Yes, this is the core region of Qingzhu Mountain, Qingzhu Valley, with a Second Grade Spirit Vein underneath."

"Living here will make your cultivation efforts much more effective, and if your wives, concubines, and children live here long term, they too will benefit from stronger bodies and longer lives," explained Uncle Fu with a chuckle, then continued to drive the carriage forward, stopping in front of a manor.

"This will be your residence."

Pointing to the manor, Uncle Fu told Lu Changsheng.

"This big?"

Lu Changsheng was somewhat surprised looking at the manor before him.

The manor was many times larger than his previous private courtyard, sprawling across five or six acres at a glance.

"Of course, coming here, the conditions naturally differ from those at Qingzhu Villa."

"Not only is the manor large and beautifully situated, but it also benefits from soundproofing and spirit-gathering formation effects," Uncle Fu continued to explain.

Then the wives and concubines from the carriage disembarked one after another, and upon seeing the manor, they too were so astonished that their mouths hung open.

Their previous lives had been in the secular world, where they never had living conditions this lavish.

Everyone entered the manor.

Inside, each building was constructed with an impressive grandeur.

Pavilions, towers, winding corridors, rockeries, and ponds made Lu Changsheng feel as though he had entered a prince's mansion from his past life, luxurious and magnificent.

Moreover, the misty spiritual energy in the air gave the manor the feel of a fairyland on earth.

"Tsk tsk tsk, even a residence for someone in the Qi Refinement Realm is this nice; I wonder how luxurious the living quarters for a Foundation Building Great Cultivator or a Nascent Soul Immortal must be," Lu Changsheng marveled as he watched the swaying bamboo, lush flowers and trees, and goldfish frolicking in the pond, unable to help his admiration.

He was extremely pleased with this residence.

Even though he had begun cultivation and was now a cultivator, Lu Changsheng still felt he was a commoner at heart.

"You can take care of moving your things later. First, I'll show you around Qingzhu Valley," said Uncle Fu, after letting the family into the manor, to Lu Changsheng.

"It's different here than at Qingzhu Villa, everyone lives in their own residence and rarely disturbs each other, so there are some things I need to make you aware of."

Uncle Fu took Lu Changsheng on a tour around Qingzhu Valley.

He told him about the taboos and which places to stay away from.

Because those living here were mainly high-ranking officials of the Lu Family, Guest Elders, and core members of the direct lineage.

Here, there were none of the shops like the Hundred Treasures Pavilion because there weren't many residents with such needs.

Thus, if one needed to buy something, they had to go back to Qingzhu Villa.

However, on the first of every month, Qingzhu Valley would host a small-scale trade fair.

Family members, and even some Guest Elders, would bring out some of their spare belongings to set up stalls and trade.

After showing Lu Changsheng around and imparting most things, Uncle Fu then left.

And Lu Changsheng returned to his new abode.

On this day, Lu Changsheng officially took up residence in the core region of the Lu Family, Qingzhu Valley.

Chapter 20: Lu Family Sisters_1

After moving to his new home, Lu Changsheng took some items out of his storage bag and then went to his new practice room to begin meditating and cultivating.

He was curious to see how much more effective cultivating on the Second Grade Spirit Vein in Qingzhu Valley was, compared to the First Grade Spirit Vein in Qingzhu Villa.

Several hours later, Lu Changsheng opened his eyes, filled with joy.

“Not unworthy of a Second Grade Spirit Vein, the spiritual energy is several times denser than that of Qingzhu Villa, which has increased my cultivation speed by thirty percent!” he exclaimed.

At this moment, Lu Changsheng clearly felt the benefits that came with the Second Grade Spirit Vein.

Moreover, the mere thirty percent was because his speed of assimilating spiritual energy was limited.

Otherwise, Lu Changsheng felt that his cultivation speed could increase even more.

Nevertheless, he was already quite satisfied with this improvement.

Subsequently, Lu Changsheng became filled with passion for cultivation in the time that followed.

Four days later, a manager named Lu Bo came to where Lu Changsheng lived.

He delivered a golden talisman brush and a hundred sets of talisman-making materials.

Lu Changsheng was tasked to produce twenty Fireball Talismans within a month.

This was one of the stipulations in the contract Lu Changsheng had with the Lu Family.

The Lu Family provided materials, and Lu Changsheng made talismans.

For Lu Changsheng, producing twenty Fireball Talismans a month was naturally not a problem at all—it was purely a profit.

However, this was also the Lu Family still considering Lu Changsheng to be at a training stage.

In the future, the quantity and quality of talisman production were both expected to increase.

...

In the blink of an eye, it had been over a month since Lu Changsheng moved to Qingzhu Valley.

On this day, his eighth child was born.

It was a daughter.

When the child was born, Lu Changsheng didn't feel any fluctuations from the Spiritual Root.

He immediately knew that this child didn't possess a Spiritual Root.

Since the confirmation system could detect the child's Spirit Vein and this child didn't have one, he couldn't help feeling a bit of disappointment in his heart.

But it was only a slight disappointment.

He had become much more open-minded regarding the matter of his children's Spiritual Roots and could accept it with equanimity.

Looking at his newly born child, Lu Changsheng suddenly remembered that today was the last day of the month and tomorrow would be the start of a new one.

And on every first day of the month in Qingzhu Valley, there was a small-scale trading event.

"I have never seen such a trading event among cultivators before. It might be worth checking out tomorrow," Lu Changsheng thought to himself.

As he had become a Talisman Master previously, Lu Family disciples and Immortal Seedlings had given him a round of gifts, so he had some spare cash.

Thus, he wanted to see what this small-scale trading event within the Lu Family was all about.

The next morning, Lu Changsheng went to the place where Qingzhu Valley's trading event was held.

The trading venue was called Bamboo Heart Lake, and by the lake stood pavilions and waterside pavilions.

In these pavilions, various Lu Family members displayed items for trade on stone tables.

Or they hung up signs indicating they wished to purchase certain goods or resources.

He didn't know if he had come too early or if there were always so few people, but there were only about ten people with stalls.

The items for sale were few and scattered, and there wasn't anything he could use.

Lu Changsheng walked around once and found it uninteresting, ready to head straight back.

Just as Lu Changsheng was about to leave the waterside pavilion, he saw two women walking towards him, arm in arm.

He recognized one of the women, she was the young miss, Lu Miaoge.

Miss Lu Miaoge was dressed very simply, her three-thousand strands of verdant hair bound behind her with a moon-white silk band, elegant and graceful.

She wore a moon-white, plain long dress without any other adornments, simple and refined, with a celestial and ethereal allure.

The other person, Lu Changsheng had not seen before.

But upon seeing this woman, he couldn't help but take a few more glances.

This woman appeared to be eighteen or nineteen years old, extremely beautiful, and bore a seven to eight points of resemblance to Lu Miaoge.

However, her makeup, dress, and temperament were starkly different from Lu Miaoge's.

Her makeup was elaborately done, her black, lustrous hair was fastened behind her head with a dark gold hair ornament, with a few locks falling on either side of her chest, while she wore dazzling rhinestone earrings on her tender earlobes.

She was draped in a s*xy, form-fitting dark dress embroidered with gold threads, revealing her shoulders and perfectly showcasing her curvaceous figure, leaving little to the imagination.

The slits in the sides of her dress, akin to a cheongsam, were cut very high, allowing one to glimpse the woman's partly voluptuous thighs and her jade-like smooth calves.

However, at this moment, a pair of slender and beautiful legs were not the pure and smooth white that could shame the frost and snow; they were covered in a layer of black silk stockings as thin as cicada wings, making the legs look even more graceful and enticing.

What surprised Lu Changsheng enough to take a second look were not just the black, see-through silk stockings, but also the shoes the woman was wearing: a pair of exquisite high heels with fine black and gold patterns.

The sharp heels, estimated to be three to four inches tall, enhanced the contour of the woman's legs and made them appear even more perfect and provocative; they were simply leg-loving material.

The whole person looked coolly elegant and nobility personified, s*xy and alluring, standing a good half-head taller than Miss Lu Miaoge, who was beside her.

"What are you looking at? If you leer any more, I'll gouge out your eyes!"

The black-dress, high-heeled woman saw Lu Changsheng's gaze on her and her voice was as cold as icy springs.

"Huanhuan."

Seeing this, Lu Miaoge gently tugged at her sister.

She then showed an apologetic expression to Lu Changsheng.

Lu Changsheng also felt that he had been somewhat rude.

Mainly because he hadn't expected to see an attire of black stockings and high heels in this world of cultivation.

Moreover.

The woman's outfit, a dark gold dress with black stockings and high heels, did indeed catch the eye.

The noble coldness combined with a touch of s*xy temptation made him involuntarily take a second glance.

“I have seen the Miss.”

“I have seen this Miss, it was my rudeness.”

Lu Changsheng bowed courteously.

If it were the past him, he might have been embarrassed.

But now, as a man with three wives and six concubines, father to several children, such a small matter did not embarrass him.

Desire is natural!

Seeing black stockings for the first time and taking a second look is just human nature, isn't it?

However, through Lu Miaoge's words and the two women's appearance, he realized that the pair were sisters, which somewhat surprised him.

He didn't expect such a big difference in temperament and character between the two sisters.

“Lu Changsheng, are you here to buy something?”

Lu Miaoge's soft voice inquired.

“I heard Uncle Fu say that there is a small trade fair here on the first of every month, so I thought I'd come over to have a look.”

Lu Changsheng so replied.

“The trade fair won't be full until midday, you've arrived a bit early,” said Lu Miaoge softly.

“I see, but I'm not really here to buy anything, I just came to broaden my horizons, and now that I have, I'm ready to go back.”

Lu Changsheng nodded, not lingering for further conversation.

Being attracted to beauty is quite normal, but a woman like Lu Miaoge is not someone he can afford to provoke at the moment, so it's better to keep a distance.

Especially in such a public setting, who knows if conversing with Lu Miaoge might draw the attention of her admirers or followers?

Without delay, Lu Changsheng made a bow and took his leave.

Watching Lu Changsheng walk away, the black-dress woman beside Lu Miaoge commented with a hint of disdain on her face, "So that's Lu Changsheng? He really is as lecherous as the rumors say, having married and taken nine concubines, and he's still so lecherous."

"Huanhuan, you too should pay some attention to how you dress; this is a bit..."

Lu Miaoge said gently.

"You mean it's a bit frivolous, right? Sister, 'women dress for those they fancy.' I'm dressing up for myself, not for anyone else," Lu Miaohuan retorted with a pout, unconcerned by her sister's words.

...

"It seems I still know too little about this world."

"That's also true. I spent the first eighteen years of my life in a village and aside from being taken to the Qingyun Sect, the farthest I've ever been was to the county town."

"Since coming to the Lu family, I haven't stepped foot outside at all; everything I know comes from reading books, so how could I understand much?"

"This is a world with cultivation, so I shouldn't look at things with a limited perspective."

"All those immortal and fantasy animations from my past life always featured high heels and long legs, so the existence of stockings and high heels here is actually quite normal."

Lu Changsheng returned to his quarters, feeling somewhat reflective.

He didn't take today's incident to heart.

It was just a minor interlude in life.

But in the future, he should look into where to buy such shoes and stockings.

He had no other intentions; he merely wanted to give his wives and concubines some gifts.