

## I. Family 391

### Chapter 391: Encountering the Girl You Like, Bring Them All Back\_1

Time flew by, and in the blink of an eye, another half year had passed.

Over this half year, Lu Changsheng's life remained as monotonous yet fulfilling as ever.

Every day, he practiced cultivation, crafted talismans, produced offspring, and then dual cultivated with Xiao Xiyue.

In this year, he had nine more children, bringing the total to one hundred and thirty-eight.

And after such a long time of dual cultivation, Xiao Xiyue's Dao Foundation was almost fully restored.

Inside the cave abode, accompanied by a low roar and a soft moan, Lu Changsheng and Xiao Xiyue ended their cultivation.

...

The two quietly embraced each other, savoring the lingering feelings afterwards.

"Changsheng, after two or three more times, the cracks and fissures in my Dao Foundation should be able to heal,"

Xiao Xiyue said softly while snuggled against Lu Changsheng's chest, her face blushing.

These two or three times, naturally, didn't just refer to dual cultivation, but to the restoration of the Dao Foundation through the Yin Yang Energies.

"Let me take a look."

Upon hearing this, Lu Changsheng took Xiao Xiyue's wrist and inspected her Dao Foundation with his Divine Sense.

The cracks and fissures on the Dao pedestal were almost invisible now.

“It seems to be really fast. Xi Yue, didn’t you say that my Yin Yang Energies, not only repair the Dao Foundation, but also resonate with your Dao Foundation, resulting in a transformation?”

“Can you feel how much longer it will take to undergo this change?”

Lu Changsheng, playing with the full and silky skin, piled up like snow, asked out loud.

“I feel that when my Dao Foundation is completely repaired, it will undergo some kind of change,”

Xiao Xiyue said.

“Oh, that’s quite a fortunate turn of events, congratulations to you, Xi Yue,”

Lu Changsheng chuckled softly.

“Changsheng, aren’t you worried that I’ll leave you once my Dao Foundation is fully restored?”

Xiao Xiyue, seeing the casual look on Lu Changsheng’s face, pouted slightly.

“I’ve said before, I will respect all of your choices,”

Lu Changsheng said with a sincere look in his eyes.

“Hmph, Xi Yue doesn’t believe it. You must be saying one thing and thinking another, convinced that I surely can’t escape the palm of your hand,”

Xiao Xiyue snorted softly.

Her mind was sharp and clear, and having been with Lu Changsheng for so long, she had realized that he was not one to let go easily; deep down, he was incredibly possessive and imperious.

These words were just to comfort herself, not wanting to make herself feel upset.

“Of course, while I do respect you, how could my love for Xi Yue be something I can just let go of so easily,”

Lu Changsheng said with a wry smile.

As the two were having a tender conversation, a system notification sounded in Lu Changsheng’s mind.

[Congratulations to the host for your first offspring to break through to the Martial Dao Innate, resulting in Bloodline Effect: 5% increase in the probability of offspring reproduction, and one lottery draw opportunity!]

As the system notification sounded, a surge of vital energy force suddenly entered Lu Changsheng’s body out of thin air.

This strength of an Innate Martial Artist brought no significant enhancement to Lu Changsheng, who had cultivated the Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Technique to the Fourth Level.

The improvement it brought was minute.

However, compared to the feedback when Lu Xianzhi and Lu Quanzhen completed their Qi introduction, it was much stronger.

“Ping’an has broken through to the Innate level,”

Lu Changsheng paused momentarily in thought.

He knew it was his son Lu Ping’an who had broken through to the Martial Dao Innate.

When he had returned to Ruyi Prefecture previously, Lu Ping’an had told him that he would be able to break through to the Martial Dao Innate in a few months.

Counting the time, it was indeed about right.

It had not occurred to Lu Changsheng that the children's breakthrough to Martial Dao Innate would also come with system achievement rewards.

In the past, when his children practiced martial arts, the system had not prompted anything, and the strength displayed on the panel was marked as 'none.'

He had thought that there was no system achievement reward in this regard.

Only after the system notification sounded did he realize that only after reaching the Martial Dao Innate does it meet the condition for triggering achievement rewards.

"It seems that in the system achievements, one is considered to have only started martial arts upon the breakthrough to the Innate level, corresponding to a cultivator's introduction of Qi into the body,"

"For ordinary people, achieving the Martial Dao Innate is extremely difficult, but for me, as long as I am willing to spend money and the children are willing to train, they can basically achieve the Martial Dao Innate by the age of twenty,"

"Indeed, the system achievement rewards cannot depend solely on having children; it is necessary to foster their development,"

Lu Changsheng thought to himself.

He had his children practice martial arts, partly with the idea of enhancing his own martial strength.

However, as his own strength improved, he became less focused on this idea.

Raising his children in martial arts had more to do with strengthening their bodies.

Moreover, it gave them the ability to protect themselves in case of danger in the secular world.

“Previously it was the increase in probability of Spiritual Root amongst the offspring, now it’s an increase in the probability of offspring reproduction,”

“Every time a cultivator breaks through a cultivation realm, reproduction becomes more difficult,”

“I wonder how significant this 5% probability increase is,”

“Moreover, this increase in probability is probably only on my part,”

“But the difficulty of cultivators conceiving increases after gaining strength, and it’s the same for both male and female cultivators,”

Lu Changsheng, looking at the increase of 5% probability for offspring reproduction on the system prompt, pondered silently.

He knew that each major realm breakthrough made reproduction more difficult for cultivators.

But he had no way to judge just how much more difficult it had become.

And there were no records of this in the Cultivation World.

After all, everyone practices different Cultivation Techniques, condenses different Dao Foundations, has different personal situations, and the final outcomes could be different.

Moreover, not many cultivators would study such matters.

“Changsheng, what’s wrong?”

Just then, Xiao Xiyue noticed Lu Changsheng was slightly lost in thought and asked.

“Nothing, I was just thinking about something,”

Lu Changsheng, hearing Xiao Xiyue's voice, immediately came back to reality and chuckled.

Hearing his response, Xiao Xiyue did not inquire further.

The two continued to chat leisurely for a while and then lay down to sleep in each other's arms.

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The next day, Lu Changsheng left Xiao Xiyue's cave abode and went to his own Peace Talisman Hall.

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Although he did not often come here, he still had his own meditation room and talisman room on the third floor.

“System, draw a lottery.”

After arriving at the third-floor meditation room, Lu Changsheng silently evoked in his heart.

Immediately, the System's lottery wheel appeared.

“Start the draw.”

...

Then, a golden light began to rapidly spin on the lottery wheel.

Moments later, the golden light slowly came to a stop on 'Other'.

[Ding! Congratulations to the host on obtaining the Gu Insect 'Hope Gu'!]

[The reward has been sent to the System Space, and the host can check it at any time]

A thumb-sized pattern, resembling a light orb, emerged from the big wheel along with the sound of a system prompt.

“Gu Insect, Hope Gu?”

Lu Changsheng raised an eyebrow upon seeing this reward.

Having the Peach Blossom Gu before, he subconsciously felt good about Gu Insects.

After all, among the more than twenty previous lottery items, the Peach Blossom Gu could be considered a good reward.

It not only improved one’s appearance and temperament but also subtly enhanced one’s peach blossom luck.

It could also guard the sea of consciousness, fear no other Gu insect effects, and resist Divine Sense attacks.

“Just the name Hope Gu sounds strange.”

Lu Changsheng muttered to himself, unable to guess the effect of the Gu based on the name alone.

Right away, his Mental Spirit stirred slightly as he looked toward the System Space.

[Gu Insect: Hope Gu]

[Quality: Celestial Spiritual Gu]

[Description: A miraculous Gu naturally born between heaven and earth that can endow mortals with enlightenment and give birth to the Spiritual Root. As long as there is hope, miracles can happen.]

“Enabling mortals to gain enlightenment and produce Spiritual Roots!”

Lu Changsheng’s heart skipped a beat upon seeing the explanation for the Hope Gu.

Long ago, he had perused books looking for information on how mortals could cultivate and beget Spiritual Roots.

But there were no relevant records at all.

He knew that it was virtually impossible for mortals to practice cultivation.

And treasures that could bestow Spiritual Roots on mortals could only be encountered after reaching the Nascent Soul Stage.

Although he had thought that with the System, he might obtain such treasures and enable mortals to practice cultivation and develop Spiritual Roots,

Lu Changsheng did not hold too much hope.

After all, where there’s hope, there can also be disappointment.

Of course, Lu Changsheng could not deny that he did not have a strong obsession with this aspect.

“Hope Gu.”

“A ray of hope, huh?”

Lu Changsheng, looking at the Hope Gu in the System Space, recalled taking Lu Ping’an and others to test for Spiritual Roots.

After finding no Spiritual Roots, the children returned home with downcast faces.



Then Lu Ping'an looked up with hopeful eyes and asked if one couldn't become a cultivator without a Spiritual Root.

"This Hope Gu, can it only enlighten one person, or..."

Lu Changsheng's Mental Spirit stirred slightly and he extracted the Hope Gu from the System.

Suddenly, the Hope Gu, the size of a thumb and resembling an orb of light, appeared in his hand.

The details about the Hope Gu entered his mind.

Just like the Peach Blossom Gu, it could only be used once, enabling a person to gain enlightenment and produce a Spiritual Root.

As for the quality of the engendered Spiritual Root, it would depend on the individual's circumstances, and be influenced by one's physical condition and the intensity of hope in their heart.

Besides enlightenment and the production of Spiritual Roots, the Hope Gu had another effect.

That is, in the face of desperate situations, as long as hope remained unextinguished in one's heart, the Gu could forcibly trigger one's potential.

"Sigh!"

"I'll give this Hope Gu to Ping'an."

Lu Changsheng looked at the Hope Gu in his hand and let out a breath.

He planned to give the Hope Gu to his eldest son, Lu Ping'an.

This was his first son.

He had been brought up from a young age, to whom he had devoted much affection.

Moreover, this son had always been a source of pride and peace of mind.

Now that Lu Ping'an had broken through to the Martial Dao Innate and obtained a lottery draw, it seemed like a stroke of fate that he got the Hope Gu.

"However, the Hope Gu's ability to enlighten mortals and engender Spiritual Roots is too shocking to the world."

"If I use the Hope Gu to enlighten Ping'an now, it might attract trouble."

"And there's the issue of inequality, not just scarcity."

"The Hope Gu is just one, only able to grant a Spiritual Root to one person."

"Other children, who once thought Spiritual Roots were innate and had accepted reality, may now become upset and resentful upon seeing Ping'an with a Spiritual Root."

"Therefore, the existence of the Hope Gu must absolutely be kept a secret."

Lu Changsheng took a deep breath and exhaled slowly.

He knew many of his children had dreams of cultivation.

Or rather, having been born on Qing Zhu Mountain and raised in such an environment, it was impossible for them not to aspire to become cultivators.

But since Spiritual Roots are innate and they didn't possess them, accepting reality was their only option.

If they saw that he enabled Lu Ping'an to develop a Spiritual Root, it would easily upset the balance.

Even his wives, upon knowing that he possessed such an object and chose to give it to Lu Ping'an, would feel uncomfortable, even if they did not voice it.

"Ping'an has just broken through to the Innate level and is preparing to travel abroad for trials. It's a good opportunity for him to temper himself."

"Later on, I'll see how things go and decide whether to give him the Hope Gu."

"As for the Hope Gu matter, there's no need to let anyone know."

"After all, not every cup of water can be leveled."

Lu Changsheng did not think much of it.

He was no longer the kind of person who would become overly anxious or sentimental over such issues.

He already had plans for the Hope Gu in his mind.

He prepared to wait until Lu Ping'an went out to experience the world, and after some tempering, he would then decide whether to give him the Hope Gu.

Moreover, what he had in mind was that if he used the Hope Gu to open Lu Ping'an's spiritual aperture and birth a Spiritual Root, his eldest son would have to live outside under a different identity from then on.

He could no longer appear before the world as Lu Ping'an.

"A man is not guilty for carrying a gem, but the gem makes him a target."

"I should also visit Ruyi Prefecture later."

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Lu Changsheng took out a jade box, stored the Hope Gu inside, and then placed it into the Spiritual Pet Bag.

Initially, when Lu Ping'an said he wanted to go out for training experiences, he told him to break through to the Innate level first.

Now that he had broken through to Innate, he naturally wouldn't say much more.

But with his son leaving home, as a father, there were naturally some things he needed to explain.

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After speaking with Lu Miaoge and Xiao Xiyue, Lu Changsheng rode the Iron Feather Eagle back to Qingzhu Mountain.

...

After dealing with some minor matters and staying for half a month on Qingzhu Mountain, Lu Changsheng took Bai Ling with him to Ruyi Prefecture.

By now, Bai Ling's Cultivation Level had reached the Third Level of Qi Refinement.

It was estimated that before long, she would break through to the Fourth Level of Qi Refinement.

This rate of progress was truly astonishing.

Lu Changsheng guessed that his earlier assumption of Bai Ling having a high-grade Spiritual Root was actually an underestimation.

Given Bai Ling's speed of cultivation, she was likely to reach Perfection in Qi Refinement and be ready for Foundation Establishment in her twenties.

"Ling'er, aren't you bored being at Qingzhu Mountain every day?"

As the Iron Feather Eagle soared through the sky, Lu Changsheng asked Bai Ling.

"Not at all! Everyone here is so nice. Sister Yun, Sister Zhenzhen, Sister Zhiyue... they all treat me so well..."

"And Ruyi, Xiaoru, Qing Shan, and Xiao Zhu often play with me too..."

Upon hearing this, Bai Ling immediately responded cheerfully.

In her eyes, Qingzhu Mountain was nothing short of a paradise on earth.

Not only did they not dislike or shun her here, but they also liked her very much, took care of her, and played with her.

So, after spending a little over a year on Qingzhu Mountain, Bai Ling's personality had become much more cheerful.

She was no longer the same as before, socially anxious and tense when meeting people, her face timid and afraid.

Of course, this cheerfulness was currently limited to being within Lu Changsheng's estate.

In front of the wives, maids, and children of Lu Changsheng.

Once she stepped outside the estate, facing other people on Qingzhu Mountain, she became quiet and reticent again.

But it was already much better than before.

"That's good. If there's anything, you can talk directly to your Sister Yun.

If it's not convenient, you can also talk directly to your brother."

Seeing Bai Ling's happy face, Lu Changsheng couldn't help but smile gently.

He rubbed the little girl's head, which was adorned with two buns.

This had become a habit of his.

And Bai Ling thoroughly enjoyed being affectionately rubbed on the head by him.

Three days later, the two arrived at Ruyi County City.

Walking along the bustling streets of Ruyi County City, witnessing the passing crowds, the little girl became instantly nervous, holding tightly to Lu Changsheng's hand.

"Big brother is here."

Seeing this, Lu Changsheng gently squeezed her soft little hand and smiled warmly.

Looking at Lu Changsheng's handsome and unsurpassed appearance, his dashing and transcendent aura, and his warm and gentle smile, Bai Ling pursed her lips, feeling much of her tension dissipate.

It was only with Lu Changsheng by her side that she dared to walk on such a busy street filled with people coming and going.

If she were alone, she wouldn't have stepped out in a place with so many people.

"My lord."

“Miss.”

The two arrived at the Lu Residence.

The steward and guards at the entrance of the residence promptly greeted them with a bow.

“Mmm.”

Lu Changsheng nodded his head and entered the mansion with Bai Ling.

“Dad, dad!”

“Husband, Ling’er!”

Returning home was naturally a bustling affair.

All the wives and children came to greet them.

The first batch of children had all grown quite a bit.

They no longer clung affectionately like they did when they were little, eager to be hugged.



As for the younger batch of children, due to spending less time together, their relationship with Lu Changsheng as a father was relatively less intimate.

They greeted their father with respectful salutes.

After briefly caring for and greeting his wives and children, and seeing that most of the people had dispersed, Lu Changsheng looked towards his son Lu Ping'an, who had been standing silently by the side.

"Ping'an, why are you standing there looking lost? Is there something you want to talk to Dad about?"

Lu Changsheng said with a light chuckle.

He knew his son wanted to tell him about his breakthrough to the Innate level.

But he hadn't spoken up as there were always people around.

"Dad, I've broken through to the Innate level!"

Lu Ping'an immediately said with a beaming smile.

"Breaking through to the Innate level, not bad, not bad, worthy of being my son.

I remember you're just over a month shy of turning sixteen."

"Tsk tsk tsk, breaking through to the Martial Dao Innate level before sixteen, you'd be considered a genius in the martial world."

Lu Changsheng patted his son's shoulder and said with a beaming smile, observing his son closely.

Thanks to practicing martial arts from a young age, Lu Ping'an had a very robust stature.

But he didn't appear overly muscular, exuding a feel of being tall and vigorous.

His height was almost 1.75 meters, only slightly shorter than him.

He guessed in another two years, the boy would catch up with him.

The son's appearance couldn't be considered handsome, only fair.

And he only bore a slight resemblance to his father's profile.

This was entirely due to Lu Changsheng practicing the Immortal Beauty Technique and the improvements from Peach Blossom Gu.

Moreover, Lu Ping'an's features were fair with a hint of firmness and toughness.

While Lu Changsheng himself was handsome and transcendent, smooth and jade-like.

The father and son exuded completely different temperaments.

"Hehe, it's all thanks to your upbringing, Dad.

If it weren't for eating Spirit Rice and spiritual meals every day, how could my martial arts have progressed so quickly?"

Lu Ping'an scratched his head and said with a wide grin.

"You mentioned before that you wanted to travel, and Dad told you to wait until you've broken through to Innate.

Now that you've achieved Innate, Dad naturally won't stop you. Do you have any plans in mind?"

Lu Changsheng sat down with his son on the side and asked aloud.

In truth, he wasn't very reassured about Lu Ping'an's journey outside.

Because his son had a kind and honest nature.

Under Lu Lanshu's education, although he had become somewhat shrewd, he was still straightforward.

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"I don't have any grand plans, just thinking of visiting Grandpa Li's place first."

"Instructor Zhao, Instructor Mu, and Uncle Li, Uncle Hong have all said that the Jianghu is dangerous. Before, Uncle Li mentioned that if I wanted to go out and travel, I could first go to the Crimson Whale Gang to see the perils of Jianghu and then decide whether or not I want to venture far."

Lu Ping'an spoke honestly.

"It's good that you have this idea; going to the Crimson Whale Gang to gain some experience is also a good start."

Hong Yi nodded in agreement upon hearing this.

Because of their relationship with Hong Yi and Li Feiyu, the three families had much more interaction with each other.

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Under the care of Hong Yi, Li Feiyu's Crimson Whale Gang had been thriving, consistently handling Jianghu affairs for the Ruyi Marquis Mansion.

It was not a bad idea for Lu Ping'an to gain some experience at the Crimson Whale Gang, at least he would face some real situations.

Otherwise, letting his son wander around aimlessly was something he, as a father, couldn't be at ease with.

“Dad, there’s just Mom’s side that I’ll need you to talk to.”

Lu Ping’an scratched his head, looking somewhat embarrassed as he spoke.

“What, she learned you wanted to travel and she objected, didn’t she?”

Lan Shu burst into laughter upon hearing this.

His wife Lu Lanshu had the demeanor of a well-brought-up lady and naturally disliked her son engaging in fights and killings.

Especially since Lu Ping’an was the eldest son, she always hoped that he would read more, learn to conduct himself in society, and manage family affairs.

Initially, she had consented to allow the child to practice martial arts because Lan Shu had said all the children were training for the sake of strengthening their bodies and maintaining health; otherwise, she would be reluctant to let Lu Ping’an be engrossed in martial arts training.

“I mentioned it to Mom before. Not only did she refuse, but she also said that I’m not getting any younger and asked me what I think of Sister Xue’er.”

“But I’ve always seen Sister Xue’er as if she were my own sister.”

Lu Ping’an said, feeling helpless.

The Sister Xue’er he referred to was named Li Xue’er, the daughter of Li Feiyu.

She was two years younger than Lu Ping’an, gentle and sensible, also favored by Lu Lanshu.

Therefore, she also wished for this young girl to become her daughter-in-law.

“However, your mother is also right, you’re indeed not young anymore.”

Lan Shu stroked his chin and said.

In this world, being married at sixteen was considered normal.

Although Li Xue'er was still a little young, Lan Shu had brought up the matter to set things in motion early on.

"Dad..."

Upon hearing this, Lu Ping'an's face immediately fell.

"Alright, alright, I'll talk to her about your mom's side in a bit."

"However, it's true that you're old enough to start considering these things."

"If you don't like Xue'er, that's fine; after all, you grew up together."

"When you go out to travel in the Jianghu in the future, if you meet a girl you like, be sure to bring her back, you understand?"

Lan Shu said cheerfully.

Although his children's children would also bring benefits to him,

he might even be eligible for system achievement rewards.

But Lan Shu would not pressure his children to marry and have children.

If they were willing, that would be the best.

He would give them considerable support and substantial rewards.

If they didn't want to, he wouldn't force them, just letting things take their natural course.

"Yes, Dad."

Seeing his father also address the matter, Lu Ping'an's face showed resignation, as if he had deflated.

"Don't look so down. Dad's not forcing you, just don't let a good match pass you by."

"Let's go, I'll talk to your mother."

Lan Shu, seeing his son like this, gave the boy's head an affectionate yet exasperated tap.

He suddenly understood the feelings of parents who urge their children to marry.

If Lu Ping'an wasn't getting married now, he wouldn't be in a hurry or worried;

after all, he was still young.

He had several children too.

But if his children grew older and he only had one or two kids, then surely he would be a bit anxious.

Soon after, the two of them came to the backyard.

"Lanshu."

Lan Shu looked towards his wife Lu Lanshu.

Lu Lanshu was the same age as him.

They had been married for nearly seventeen years now.

Although she didn't look as youthful as he did—still in his twenties—

she had taken beautifying elixirs and, thanks to the nourishment of Spirit Rice over a long period, her skin was white and delicate, her face as tender and lovely as a lotus flower, relatively untouched by the traces of time.

Her figure was also slender and graceful, showing no signs of having given birth to three children.

“My lord, Ping'an.”

Lu Lanshu, seeing her husband and son, walked forward gracefully.

Her hair was neatly coiffed, adorned with a jade hairpin on the side.

Dressed in a light turquoise palace gown, she exuded an air of dignified grace.

As the wife of Lan Shu, she had come to manage many affairs of the Lu Residence, developing an air of majestic elegance.

“Lanshu, I already know about what's concerning Ping'an.”

“He's not young anymore. Since he wants to go out and see the world, let's allow him.”

Lan Shu looked at his wife, taking her hand, and spoke warmly.

He understood his wife's sentiments.

She hoped that Lu Ping'an would inherit the family's secular business.



Upon hearing this, Lu Lanshu immediately glared at her son, causing Lu Ping'an to lower his head, unable to look at his mother.

She bit her lip and said, "My lord, I really can't rest at ease with Ping'an's character; if he goes out, who knows what will happen with all the fighting and killing out there..."

Her reluctance to let Lu Ping'an go out was not solely because she wanted her son to settle down early and take over the family business,

but also because she knew what her son was like: easy to take advantage of and too naive for the outside world.

"Lanshu, I understand how you feel, you hope for Ping'an to be safe and sound. I, too, wish for Ping'an to always be safe, which was why I chose his name with that intention.

"But an eagle must eventually soar to the heavens, facing the abyss, the winds and the waves, alone. It's an essential part of growing up."

"Although Ping'an could avoid these experiences, it's also a good thing if he's willing to face them."

"That way, I can trust him with more responsibilities in the future."

Lan Shu smiled gently, speaking to his wife.

After a bit of casual conversation, Lu Lanshu finally nodded in agreement.

Though it was extremely hard for her to let go,

If Lan Shu spoke up, she couldn't continue to object.

After all, Lan Shu was the head of the family.

At the Lu Residence's back courtyard, the training ground.

“This is a low-grade attack talisman. Activate it with your true qi, then shoot it towards the target,”

Lu Changsheng took out a stack of talismans, letting his son Lu Ping'an get acquainted with their use.

Since the child was going to travel far, as a father, he naturally prepared some self-defense measures.

This was also one of the reasons he had Lu Ping'an break through to Martial Dao Innate before leaving.

Once Martial Dao Innate is achieved, a martial artist's true qi can also activate first grade middle-grade and low-grade talismans.

...

“Yes, Dad,”

After hearing this, Lu Ping'an took a Fire Bullet Talisman and activated it with his true qi.

Instantly, the talisman transformed into a fire bullet and shot towards the iron target ahead.

With a ‘bang,’ the iron target melted from the hit of the fire bullet.

“Hiss, such formidable power. If I were to be hit by this fire bullet, I fear I'd turn to ash,”

Lu Ping'an was surprised at the fire bullet's power, his eyes filled with shock.

He knew cultivators were very formidable.

But he had never seen a cultivator's methods before.

Now seeing the power of a simple talisman, he couldn't help but be astonished.

"That's why when you're out and about, if you encounter a cultivator you must be extremely careful,"

"If you meet a cultivator and there's no mortal enmity, you can also mention Qingzhu Mountain's name,"

Lu Changsheng said.

Although Qingzhu Mountain was only a Foundation Establishment family,

Such cultivation families still held a certain reputation and prestige in the secular world.

Just like before, Hong Yi had also heard of Qingzhu Mountain's renown.

"Dad, I understand,"

Lu Ping'an nodded earnestly.

"This is a Fire Cloud Talisman, you must be very careful when using this talisman; otherwise, it's easy to injure yourself,"

"This is a Rejuvenation Insignia. If you're injured, you can use the Rejuvenation Insignia to stop the bleeding and heal wounds,"

"This is a Wooden Shield Talisman, which can transform into a wooden shield for defense,"

"This is a Windwalking Talisman. If you encounter danger, you can use it on yourself or on your horse to speed up,"

"These types of talismans belong to the defensive and assistance category; they won't hurt you, so you don't need to be so cautious,"

Lu Changsheng informed his son about the remaining types of talismans and reminded him to remember their effects.

“Dad, these many talismans, aren’t they very expensive?”

Lu Ping’an, seeing the thick stack of talismans his father had – probably forty or fifty sheets, asked.

Although he didn’t understand much about cultivation,

He occasionally interacted with those involved in that world and knew that cultivation materials were very precious.

“Have you forgotten that your dad is a Talisman Master?”

Lu Changsheng gave his son a tap on the head.

After Lu Ping’an practiced using each kind of talisman and understood their effects, Lu Changsheng handed him several vials and pots.

They contained elixirs for healing wounds, recharging energy, among others.

Although they were nothing to cultivators,

They were all treasures within the secular world.

“This pendant has a calming and protective effect,”

“Remember, if this pendant activates automatically, you must run away immediately, understand?”

“This soft armor is impenetrable by blade or spear, and it also has a protective effect; remember to wear it against your skin at all times,”

Lu Changsheng then took out two magic artifacts.

These two artifacts were also carefully selected from those he had acquired at the Red Leaf Valley Market before.

He didn't give more, not because he was reluctant to do so.

One reason was to not attract attention.

These two artifacts could be worn on the body without others easily noticing.

Moreover, most magic artifacts required mana to activate.

Martial artists simply couldn't employ magic artifacts.

Having these two was enough.

"Thank you, Dad,"

Lu Ping'an looked at the purple jade pendant and the silkworm soft armor in front of him, his face showing joy.

"I don't need to elaborate the principle of not showing wealth, right?"

Lu Changsheng spoke out.

"Dad, rest assured, I understand these things,"

Lu Ping'an used a nod to convey his understanding.

"Let's go, let's pick out a good horse at your Uncle Hong's,"

Lu Changsheng said to his son.

They then went to the Ruyi Marquis Mansion, where he caught up and chatted with Hong Yi.

He talked about his son Lu Ping'an and also about his son Lu Wuyu, asking Hong Yi to make arrangements.

Hearing these words, Hong Yi naturally agreed to each request with pleasure.

After staying in Ruyi Prefecture for more than half a month, sorting out various family matters, Lu Changsheng finally took Bai Ling back to Qingzhu Mountain.

...

Two months later.

Red Leaf Valley Market.

Inside a cave dwelling, Lu Changsheng and Xiao Xiyue finished dual cultivation.

“Pop!”

Xiao Xiyue rose and sat cross-legged, her visage cool, pure, majestic, and utterly sacred.

Her ice-fleshed and jade-boned figure, with undertones of rosiness, looked like a fairy's form, a perfectly crafted work of art, too beautiful for words, bathed in a faint moonlight glow.

Her graceful and elegant composure was filled with a holy air.

Seeing this, Lu Changsheng knew that Xiao Xiyue's Dao Foundation flaw had been perfected through his efforts and was now flawless.

At that moment, with the Dao Foundation restored, a mysterious transformation had started happening to it, beginning to evolve.

He sat quietly by her side, waiting for Xiao Xiyue to awaken.

Time passed slowly.

Half a month later.

The long-lashed, meditating Xiao Xiyue fluttered her eyelids and slowly opened her cool moonlike eyes.

“Changsheng,”

Seeing Lu Changsheng in front of her, her eyes immediately softened.

“Xi Yue, congratulations,”

Lu Changsheng said with a faint smile, sensing the subtle changes in her aura, aware that her Dao Foundation had evolved.

“It’s all thanks to Lu Lang,”

Xiao Xiyue’s eyes brimmed with happiness, her gaze tender and joyful.

A Dao Foundation is the basis of one’s cultivation,

The more robust the Dao Foundation, the further one can go in the future.

Now, not only was her Taiyin Mysterious Moon Dao Foundation flawlessly repaired,

It had also experienced a mysterious change under the baptism of the Yin Yang Energies, advancing even further.

## Chapter 396: Xiao Xiyue Is Pregnant, Revealing Second Rank Talisman Making!\_2

Naturally, it filled her with unparalleled joy.

“Hehe, this is our joint effort.”

Lu Changsheng smiled.

Then, curious, he asked, “Xi Yue, what transformation has your Dao Foundation undergone?”

“My Dao Foundation is now known as the Lunar Primordial Spirit Foundation.”

“It allows me to absorb and refine nature’s spiritual energy at an increased rate.”

...

“And I can consume my Origin Source to transform nature’s spiritual energy into Lunar Mana for my own replenishment.”

Xiao Xiyue spoke out, describing the effects of her Dao Foundation’s transformation.

“The increased rate of absorbing and refining nature’s spiritual energy, and the ability to consume the Origin Source to transform nature’s spiritual energy into Lunar Mana.”

Hearing this, Lu Changsheng nodded his head.

He knew this effect sounded simple, but it was astonishing.

The speed of absorbing and refining nature’s spiritual energy improved both Xiao Xiyue’s cultivation speed and recovery rate.

And converting nature’s spiritual energy into Lunar Mana meant that in times of crisis, when Mana was low, she could replenish it quickly.



After all, not all cultivators were like him, with a Profound Origin Bead at their side, free to use Mana as they pleased.

Most cultivators had to consider their Mana consumption on a regular basis.

Between two cultivators of the same rank, the one with deeper and more enduring Mana would have a greater advantage.

“Not bad, it seems much more powerful than my Yin Yang Five Elements Foundation Base.”

Lu Changsheng said cheerfully.

“How could it compare to Lu Lang?”

Xiao Xiyue leaned her pretty head against Lu Changsheng’s chest and whispered softly.

Indeed, after its transformation, her Dao Foundation produced remarkable effects.

But to her, the effects of Lu Changsheng’s Dao Foundation, which could repair someone else’s Dao Foundation, were even more astonishing.

“Xi Yue, what are your plans next?”

Lu Changsheng inquired of Xiao Xiyue.

From their previous conversation, he knew Xiao Xiyue had come down the mountain on an approved mission for external experience.

She couldn’t stay out forever.

Now that her Dao Foundation’s cracks were mended, she was likely preparing to return to the Sect.

Xiao Xiyue was holding Lu Changsheng's slender and jade-like palm, comparing the sizes of their hands.

Upon hearing this, she lifted her pretty head and, with a pitiable look, said, "Is Lu Lang finding me bothersome, wanting to send me away?"

"I never said that, I'd actually prefer you to stay by my side forever."

Lu Changsheng said with a light chuckle, sniffing the fragrance from Xiao Xiyue's hair.

"Hmph."

Xiao Xiyue let out a coquettish grunt, her fair cheeks blushing as she spoke softly, "Lu Lang, wouldn't it be nice if Xi Yue bore you a child?"

"What?"

Lu Changsheng was taken aback, thinking he had heard wrong.

But he immediately guessed Xiao Xiyue's thoughts.

Did she feel that she couldn't repay the favor and wanted to have his child as compensation?

"Xi Yue, there's no need for that."

Lu Changsheng frowned slightly.

He did fancy the idea of having a few children with Xiao Xiyue.

See what the children's Spiritual Root Talent would be.

But feelings develop over time.

After so many years together, they had built quite a relationship.

To bear children simply to repay a debt of gratitude, he was unwilling to do so.

Moreover, a child and the child's mother were things he could distinguish between.

"It's not about repaying Lu Lang's favor with this,"

"I just genuinely want to have a child with Lu Lang."

"That way, even if Xi Yue is gone in the future, this child can stay by Lu Lang's side."

Xiao Xiyue pursed her lips and spoke softly, sharing her thoughts.

Back in Qingyun Market, Lu Changsheng had jokingly said if she felt bad, they should have a few children.

After hearing that, the idea planted itself in her heart and started to grow.

Gradually, she began to feel there was sense in what Lu Changsheng had said.

Have a child to commemorate their relationship.

If she were gone, the child would remain by Lu Changsheng's side for companionship.

As for concerns about leaving and the child lacking a mother, she had come to terms with it.

Firstly, with Lu Changsheng around, the child would surely not be bullied.

Additionally, it wasn't as if she would sever all ties with Lu Changsheng and leave after giving birth.

Only when preparing to attempt Core Formation would she need to truly penetrate the void of delusions and forget all attachments.

She would still get to watch the child grow up.

Furthermore, after all her experiences, she came to believe that forgetting all attachments didn't necessarily mean completely abandoning love and affection.

“Xi Yue, if you have a child won't your master blame you?”

Lu Changsheng voiced his concern.

Having a child was an affair that wasn't too problematic for female cultivators, though it still had significant impacts.

Three months into pregnancy, cultivation would become nearly impossible.

In the later stages, it would affect their Cultivation Level, leaving them in a weakened state.

And after giving birth, they'd need to recover their vital energy for about a year or so.

While the impact might seem negligible,

for cultivators, the nature of this was different.

After all, the prime age for giving birth is also the best age for cultivation.

If they have several children, that time could be considered wasted.

It would require much effort to make up for the lost time.

And Lu Changsheng felt her master would blame her for a simple reason.

The relationship between a master and disciple in this world was very intimate, like that of parents.

Any parent seeing their child with a promising future suddenly have a baby might feel discontent.

Especially within an Immortal Sect like Qingyun Sect.

This was not just about having a child,

but also about the disciple's heart for cultivation and worldly attachments.

“We'll just keep it a secret from my master.”

Xiao Xiyue said, her eyes downcast and her voice slightly guilty.

She didn't dare let her master, Yun Wanshang, know about this matter.

After all, she had previously sworn adamantly that she could break free from all ties with Lu Changsheng.

Chapter 397:

If Master knew how deep I've fallen, that I'm even having a child with Lu Changsheng, I dare not even imagine what she would do.

Even if Master dotes on me, she would probably be furious.

“Hehe, what if your Master finds out?”

Lu Changsheng looked at Xiao Xiyue with a smile and said.

“Hmph, if you don't want to, then forget it.”

Xiao Xiyue retorted with a snort.

...

It took her a great deal of courage to say these words.

After so many years of anticipation.

She had waited until the day her Dao Foundation was fully repaired to tell Lu Changsheng.

“Willing, I’m naturally willing.”

Lu Changsheng chuckled lightly, leaned down gently, and captured Xiao Xiyue’s lips.

Now that she had expressed her feelings so clearly, he had no reservations anymore.

Having a child, it would add yet another bond between him and Xiao Xiyue, another concern.

...

In the following time, Lu Changsheng spent most of his days in the Hongye Marketplace, devoting himself to Xiao Xiyue.

Perhaps because both were Foundation Establishment Cultivators, getting pregnant was much more difficult.

After over a month of effort without any reaction.

Having no other choice, Lu Changsheng had to resort to his secret technique, the ‘Five Aggregates Proliferation Method.’

This secret method could be practiced by men to increase the likelihood of pregnancy.

Women could also practice it to boost their chances.

Both partners cultivating together would naturally double the effect.

“Changsheng, I think I’m pregnant.”

And so, after another month of effort, Xiao Xiyue felt the signs of pregnancy and happily told Lu Changsheng.

“We’re pregnant!”

At her words, delight immediately shone on Lu Changsheng’s face.

Xiao Xiyue had a Fourth Grade Spiritual Root and a Moonlight Spirit Body and was also a Foundation Establishment Cultivator.

He too was a Foundation Establishment Cultivator, with a Fifth Grade Spiritual Root and a Gengjin Spirit Body.

Under such conditions, the chances were high that the child would be extraordinarily talented.

Therefore, regarding the child in Xiao Xiyue’s womb, he couldn’t help but harbor some expectations.

He looked forward to the child bringing them surprises.

“Very good, Xi Yue, take extra care of yourself from now on. Is there anything in particular you want to eat?”

Lu Changsheng said warmly.

“I know.”

Seeing Lu Changsheng so happy and excited, Xiao Xiyue couldn’t help but show a slightly annoyed smile on her gorgeous face.

She thought to herself that Lu Changsheng truly loved children.

Normally, when they were together, she seldom saw him so thrilled and excited.

Afterward, Lu Changsheng spent some time chatting with Xiao Xiyue, mentioning some prenatal care tips.

He took her out of the cave dwelling to stroll around the streets and relax.

After all, now that she was pregnant, maintaining both physical and mental health was a must.

...

“As a Second Rank Talisman Master, it’s about time I made it known.”

After spending time with Xiao Xiyue, Lu Changsheng considered his progress in Talisman Making.

He felt that the time was about right.

Now that Xiao Xiyue was pregnant, he would need to devote more thought to this matter, and there was no point in delaying any further.

Being a Second Rank Talisman Master would make acting more convenient.

Soon after, Lu Changsheng went to the Lu Family’s Spiritual Talisman Shop.

After a chat with Lu Miaoge, and some conversation, he entered the Talisman Room and began crafting talismans.

After a long while, Lu Changsheng stepped out of the Talisman Room with a newly crafted Second Rank Talisman in hand, a look of excitement and joy on his face.



“Sister Miaoge, I did it!”

“I’ve successfully crafted a Second Rank Talisman!”

Lu Changsheng stated, his face lit up with joy and excitement.

He handed the Second Rank Talisman he held to Lu Miaoge for inspection.

“A Second Rank Talisman!?”

“Changsheng, you’ve succeeded.”

Lu Miaoge, her delicate and gentle features first stunned, then lit up with excitement too.

She had always kept an eye on Lu Changsheng’s progress in talisman crafting.

Knowing that he was just one step away from becoming a Second Rank Talisman Master, she believed fervently that he could take that step.

But hearing now that Lu Changsheng had advanced to a Second Rank Talisman Master still felt surreal, causing an irrepressible excitement and joy.

After all, the difference between First Grade and Second Rank was like a chasm, vast as that between Qi Refinement and Foundation Establishment.

Now, having crossed this chasm and ascending from First Grade to Second Rank Talisman Master, how could she, his wife, not be thrilled?

“Changsheng, I always knew you could do it, that you would make it.”

Lu Miaoge looked at Lu Changsheng with sparkling eyes, full of tenderness and love.

“This time was just a fluke.”

“But I believe, with time, I will be able to fully master this Second Rank Thunder Fire Talisman.”

Lu Changsheng spoke, his voice carrying a hint of confidence.

He, too, considered himself somewhat accomplished by now.

If he kept being too modest, always speaking of luck, it would seem fake.

“Yes, I believe you can do it, Changsheng.”

“I’ll go and inform the Family Head, Fourth Elder, and our ancestors about this news,” Lu Miaoge said excitedly.

Advancing to Second Rank Talisman Master was an event that would merit a celebration for the whole Qingzhu Mountain.

“I’ll return to Qingzhu Mountain in a few days.”

“So I’ll tell Grandma myself when the time comes.”

Lu Changsheng said with a smile.

He could imagine the Fourth Elder’s feelings upon hearing about his promotion to Second Rank Talisman Master.

The old man had always believed in him and eagerly anticipated the day he would become a Second Rank Talisman Master.

“Alright, it is best for you to tell Grandma in person.”

Lu Miaoge nodded, her face still beaming with happiness.

She also knew that the Fourth Elder would be overjoyed to hear the news.

Once she calmed her emotions, she began examining the Second Rank Thunder Fire Talisman in Lu Changsheng's hands.

The lines on the talisman were not as smoothly executed as they could be, and the spiritual power was a bit unstable, making it seem slightly rough.

But it was indeed a genuine Second Rank Talisman.

Lu Miaoge held it in her hands, examining it over and over, the more she looked, the happier she became.

Seeing his wife so, Lu Changsheng felt a deep satisfaction in his heart.

Chapter 398: Grand Ceremony Celebration, Promoted to Fourth Grade Spiritual Root!\_1

Three days later.

Lu Changsheng and Lu Miaoge returned to Qingzhu Mountain.

"Husband, Sister Miaoge."

"Dad, Mom, Auntie."

Seeing Lu Changsheng and Lu Miaoge return, the wives and children of the Lu Family instantly created a commotion.

Reunions with family were always bustling and after chatting and eating a meal together, Lu Changsheng and Lu Miaoge stood up to pay their respects to the Fourth Elder.

...

They were prepared to share the news of becoming a Second Rank Talisman Master with the Fourth Elder.

“Yun’er, call little Yun’er and come visit Grandma with me.”

Lu Changsheng also called for his wife, Lu Miaoyun, and son, Lu Yun.

Lately, the Fourth Elder’s favorite had been her own son, Lu Yun.

Lu Yun had also turned twelve, and two months earlier, he had begun Qi Refinement, achieving the induction of Qi into the body.

Now, he had four children who had begun cultivation, achieving the induction of Qi into the body.

But there was no new achievement reward triggered.

This made Lu Changsheng quietly wonder in his heart if the number had to reach ten to trigger subsequent draws.

At the same time, he was curious if his children could obtain a draw reward if they broke through to the middle stage of Qi Refinement.

“Yes, Husband.”

Lu Miaoyun was not at all surprised.

Every time Lu Changsheng returned, he would pay a visit to the Fourth Elder.

She immediately called over her son Lu Yun.

However, hearing the news, their daughter Lu Yu also followed along.

Facing this, she naturally wouldn’t refuse and brought along the several children.

The group arrived at the Fourth Elder’s courtyard.

“Changsheng, Yun’er, Miaoge, why have all of you come?”

The Fourth Elder, with her hair elegantly coiffed into a silver bun, was dressed in a deep azure robe, basking in the sun in the backyard.

Upon seeing Lu Changsheng and the others, a smile immediately graced her face.

“We’ve come to see you.”

Lu Changsheng said with a smile.

“Great Grandma.”

The children approached the elderly woman and sweetly called out.

“Ah, my dears...”

The Fourth Elder looked at the children with a kindly smile, touched their heads, and retrieved Spirit Fruits and sweet treats from her Storage Bag.

The butler Zizhu also came forward with tea.

The family chatted with the elder.

“Changsheng, how are your Talisman-Making Skills these days?”

After chatting for a while, the Fourth Elder inquired about Lu Changsheng’s Talisman-Making Skill.

This was something she always cared to ask about every time.

She worried that Lu Changsheng might divert his attention and neglect the Talisman Path.

“Grandma, I came here this time to tell you that I’ve successfully drawn a Second Rank Talisman.”

Lu Changsheng replied with a smile.

“What, Changsheng, you… you’ve advanced to Second Rank Talisman Master!”

The Fourth Elder was shocked and incredulous upon hearing Lu Changsheng’s words.

Lu Miaoyun and the children at her side were also surprised and incredulously happy, looking at their husband and father.

They naturally understood what successfully drawing a Second Rank Talisman signified.

It meant that Lu Changsheng had stepped into Second Rank, essentially becoming a Second Rank Talisman Master.

Currently, there was not a single Second Rank Talisman Master in all of Qingzhu Mountain.

Yet now, their husband and father had become a Second Rank Talisman Master.

The news filled them with boundless joy and pride.

“Yes, Grandma.”

“A few days ago, I was fortunate to successfully draw a Thunder Fire Talisman.”

“So after arranging marketplace affairs with Sister Miaoge, I came back to tell you the news.”

Lu Changsheng said to the elder before him.

After speaking, he handed over the Thunder Fire Talisman he had successfully drawn for the Fourth Elder to examine.

The Fourth Elder took the Thunder Fire Talisman, inspecting it carefully and with great interest in her hands.

The several youngsters, although they did not understand, were curious and peeked at the talisman.

They had never seen a Second Rank Talisman before.

“Good, good, good.”

“Changsheng, you haven’t let Grandma down.”

After examining the talisman for a while, the Fourth Elder took a deep breath and expressed her approval repeatedly, her face beaming with joy and unable to contain her happiness.

At her age, she had already seen and let go of many things.

The only things she still kept in mind were the prosperity of the Family and the accomplishments of her descendants.

Lu Changsheng, as her grandson-in-law, had been treated like her own grandson and was laden with her high expectations.

Now, seeing that her beloved grandson had achieved the rank of Second Rank Talisman Master, she was truly delighted from the bottom of her heart.

“This is also thanks to your continuous guidance, Grandma, as well as the Second Rank heritage and annotations on Talisman Making you gave me. Otherwise, Changsheng wouldn’t have been able to reach this step so quickly.”

Lu Changsheng said with a beaming smile.

“Hehe, you don’t have to flatter Grandma, spouting these nice words.”

“The fact that you’ve reached this step is all thanks to your own efforts and talent. The help Grandma can offer is limited.”

The Fourth Elder said with a laugh.

She naturally knew that Lu Changsheng was flattering her.

After all, she had never been stingy with her guidance and teaching for Lu Miaoge.

Initially, she had even invested more effort in Lu Miaoge.

Yet compared to Lu Changsheng, Lu Miaoge was clearly no match.

“Have you told the Family Head about this matter?”

The Fourth Elder asked aloud.

“Not yet. Sister Miaoge and I just got back not long ago and came straight here to tell you the news.”

Lu Changsheng replied.

“Changsheng, that’s very thoughtful of you.”

“Such a joyous occasion also needs to be reported to the Family Head and the elders, so the Family can hold a grand celebration.”

The Fourth Elder said, holding her grandson-in-law’s hand with a face full of gratification.

Now that the Family had produced a Second Rank Talisman Master, they wouldn’t keep it under wraps; a grand celebration was in order.



Perhaps even a grand ceremony, inviting neighboring families, spreading the news far and wide, to elevate the Family's prestige.

"A grand celebration for this seems a bit much."

Lu Changsheng said with a twitch in his mouth upon hearing this.

He hadn't expected that merely advancing to a Second Rank Talisman Master would warrant a grand ceremony.

Usually, at least a breakthrough to Foundation Establishment would warrant such a grand ceremony.

"It's necessary, it's necessary. This is about becoming a Second Rank Talisman Master, our Lu Family's very first. It must be celebrated properly."

Chapter 399: Grand Ceremony Celebration, Promoted to Fourth Grade Spiritual Root!\_2

The Fourth Elder said with a chuckle.

Then, he looked at Lu Miaoge and said, "Miaoge, how is your talisman making going now?"

"Fourth Grandma, I am also preparing to try drawing Second Rank Talismans," Lu Miaoge said with a gentle smile.

Under Lu Changsheng's usual guidance and teaching, she had also made continuous progress in talisman making.

Now, in the realm of First Grade, she belonged to the top-level talisman masters and could attempt to practice Second Rank Talismans.

"Very good, very good. You and Changsheng should communicate more; who knows, maybe our Lu Family will have two Second Grade Talisman Masters in the future," the Fourth Elder said, feeling somewhat excited at the thought.

...

Although a Second Grade Talisman Master wasn't as prestigious as a Foundation Establishment Great Cultivator.

Their status and identity were still extraordinary.

Even Foundation Establishment Great Cultivators would show them some respect.

If Qingzhu Mountain had two Second Grade Talisman Masters stationed there, it would rise and prosper even more.

"Don't worry, Grandma," Lu Changsheng and Lu Miaoge said to the elder with a smile, nodding their agreement.

"Congratulations to my husband on advancing to Second Grade Talisman Master!" At this moment, Lu Miaoyun also beamed with joy as she congratulated Lu Changsheng.

Looking at her handsome husband before her, she couldn't help but remember how, when Lu Changsheng became a Middle Grade Talisman Master, the Family had arranged for her to marry him.

More than a decade had passed in the blink of an eye.

The once son-in-law of the Lu Family had become a Family Elder, advancing to Second Grade Talisman Master.

This filled her heart with joy, but also with a tinge of melancholy.

Feeling that her husband was so powerful and outstanding, yet her own cultivation level was still stuck at the bottleneck of the Sixth Level Energy Refinement, and she hardly had any way to help Lu Changsheng.

"Congratulations, Daddy, congratulations, Daddy!" The children nearby also immediately congratulated Lu Changsheng.

“Hahaha, very good, very good,” Lu Changsheng laughed and nodded.

“Let’s go, Changsheng. I’ll take you to see the ancestor,” the Fourth Elder said, eager to announce the news to Lu Yuanzhong.

“Yes, Grandma,” Lu Changsheng replied, as it was his first time seeing the elder in such a state, so he went along with her.

Straight away, the Fourth Elder took Lu Changsheng to the Qingzhu Great Hall to see the Family Head, Lu Miaochang.

“What? Changsheng, you’ve advanced to Second Grade Talisman Master!” The new Family Head of the Lu Family was equally overjoyed at the news of Lu Changsheng’s advancement.

After all, the addition of a Second Grade Talisman Master meant an increase in the depth of the Lu Family’s resources.

It would not only make the business of the Lu Family’s Spirit Talisman shop better.

But it would also add to their external deterrence.

Moreover, they could attract some Talisman Master Guest Elders to serve the family through Lu Changsheng, the Second Grade Talisman Master.

Immediately, he was thrilled and excited to send a message to Lu Yuanzhong.

This Foundation Establishment Ancestor, Lu Yuanzhong, spent most of his days cultivating in seclusion deep in Qingzhu Valley.

Except for major family matters.

Or events like previously in Red Leaf Valley, such as auctions, he rarely went out.

Soon after, an Escape Light from the depths of Qingzhu Valley flew towards them.

It was the Lu Family Ancestor, Lu Yuanzhong.

Through his Foundation Establishment Late Stage divine sense, Lu Changsheng recognized the Ancestor's cultivation level at a glance.

Foundation Establishment Second Level.

Considering the time, it was within expectations.

It had been over seven years since the great battle between the Lu Family and the Chen Family.

And by that time, Lu Yuanzhong had already broken through to Foundation Establishment.

Now, seven or eight years later, advancing from the First Level to the Second Level of Foundation Establishment was quite normal.

After all, like Energy Refinement, the small realms of First, Second, and Third Level of Foundation Establishment did not have bottlenecks.

It was only when advancing from the Third to the Fourth Level, from the early to the middle stage of Foundation Establishment, that bottlenecks were encountered.

"Fourth Aunt, Changsheng, you are here too, is there something wrong?" Lu Yuanzhong asked as he looked at everyone.

Although he was the Lu Family Ancestor, he didn't usually put on airs in private.

"Ancestor..." Lu Miaochang immediately relayed the information about Lu Changsheng becoming a Second Grade Talisman Master to Lu Yuanzhong.

"A Second Grade Talisman Master!"

“Very good, very good, excellent,” Lu Yuanzhong, the Foundation Establishment Ancestor, repeated, his eyes shining with delight as he praised the news.

As the Family's Foundation Establishment Ancestor, the pressure on him was immense.

The entire Family relied on him for support.

He could not afford the slightest accident.

If anything happened to him, the whole Family would be affected.

Now, with Lu Changsheng as a Second Grade Talisman Master, at least the Family's outward circumstances would improve.

After all, it was success with the Red Leaf Valley Chen Family that made them, and defeat by them as well.

Initially, by relying on the defeat of the Chen Family to establish the Red Leaf Valley Marketplace, the Family gained a batch of Spirit Stone resources, setting them on an upward trajectory.

But also because of this, Red Leaf Valley Marketplace was targeted by many forces.

If the Lu Family encountered any trouble, those people would pounce like fierce tigers.

“Changsheng, the joyous occasion of your advancement to Second Grade Talisman Master naturally calls for a grand celebration,” Lu Yuanzhong declared.

“How about we choose an auspicious day to hold a ceremony, invite guests far and wide, and celebrate properly?” he suggested, looking at Lu Changsheng.

His thoughts aligned with the Fourth Elder's.

He hoped Lu Changsheng would hold a grand ceremony to announce it far and wide.

To make sure the neighboring families knew that the Lu Family had a Second Grade Talisman Master in residence.

Hearing this, Lu Changsheng didn't say anything.

If it were up to him, he wouldn't really want to make such a fuss.

After all, it was only a Second Grade Talisman Master.

No need for such splendor.

But looking at Lu Yuanzhong, the Fourth Elder, and Lu Miaochange, he roughly understood their thoughts and meanings.

The current situation of the Lu Family required a raise in the Family's prestige.

A Second Grade Talisman Master could bring a significant increase in prestige for the Lu Family.

"Ancestor, although I've successfully drawn a Second Rank Talisman, the success rate is too low, so I don't consider myself a true Second Grade Talisman Master," Lu Changsheng said.

"Therefore, in my view, the matter of this grand ceremony is not urgent," he concluded.

Chapter 400: Grand Ceremony Celebration, Promoted to Fourth Grade Spiritual Root!\_3

“

"Once I'm more familiar with Second Rank Talismans and my success rate in Talisman Making improves, it won't be too late to hold the ceremony."

Lu Changsheng mused for a moment.

Since a grand ceremony was involved, there could be disruptions with people causing trouble, provocation, or even questioning it.

Although he was equipped with Second Grade Talisman-Making Skills and feared no challenges or doubts,

it wouldn't be good to show his remarkable abilities too soon after becoming a Second Grade Talisman Master.

...

Therefore, he would wait and, should such a situation arise, he would be better prepared to address it.

"Alright, let's follow Changsheng's suggestion."

"Just let Miaochang know when you're ready,"

Lu Yuanzhong said, nodding his head upon hearing this.

He found Lu Changsheng's words to make sense.

"Good, Changsheng, just let me know when you're ready,"

Lu Miaochang immediately nodded and said.

He also mentioned that if Lu Changsheng needed to draw from the family's Talisman Making materials, he could simply speak to him directly.

As for the other benefits, since Lu Changsheng was already a Family Elder, there was no way to promote him further,

they could only increase his monthly supply of materials for Second Grade Talisman Making.

To this, Lu Changsheng didn't have much to say.

He was aware that a family's resources were limited and that they couldn't completely dedicate them to supporting one person's advancement to Second Grade Talisman Master.

That night.

"Yun'er, what's on your mind?"

Lu Changsheng noticed that his wife, Lu Miaoyun, seemed to be preoccupied with thoughts.

"Husband, am I useless?"

Lu Miaoyun looked up with pursed lips and asked.

Lu Changsheng, upon hearing this, had a hunch that his revealing of being a Second Grade Talisman Master today might have put pressure on Lu Miaoyun, making her feel insecure, so he couldn't help but think more about it.

He immediately reassured his wife by holding her delicate shoulders, saying, "How could that be? If it wasn't for you managing our home so well, how could I focus on cultivating the Talisman Path with such ease."

"You shouldn't overthink it. We are husband and wife, bound to progress together for the rest of our lives."

Lu Changsheng embraced his wife, comforting her with his warm voice.

Despite typically being knowledgeable and sensible, the epitome of the wise matron managing the household well,

Lu Changsheng knew that Lu Miaoyun was actually of a more delicate and gentle nature.

Now, facing his situation, she, as his wife, felt some pressure, which made him think further.



“Husband.”

Lu Miaoyun’s moist and glossy lips barely parted as she stared blankly at her own husband.

“Your husband is here, always by your side.”

“Don’t overthink things; if you have something on your mind, just speak to me about it directly.”

Lu Changsheng looked at her face, beautiful as the blooming flowers, and spoke with a tender voice.

He wasn’t a heartless man.

Although marrying and having children were parts of his life, he would still fulfill his responsibilities.

A virtuous wife supports my lofty aspirations; in turn, I’ll reward my virtuous wife with a wealth of gold.”

“Husband.”

Lu Miaoyun’s eyelashes trembled slightly as she called out softly, nestling into Lu Changsheng’s embrace.

“Let’s sleep.”

Lu Changsheng chuckled softly, revealing his wife’s previously cute and naive side.

“Mhm.”

As Lu Miaoyun heard his words, she softly replied, the tic toc of her lashes indicating her tranquil state as she gradually fell asleep.

Lu Changsheng watched his petite, lovely wife in his arms, listening to her steady breathing, feeling a profound sense of peace in his heart.

...

Time flew like water, and in the blink of an eye, half a year passed.

On this day, Lu Changsheng was accompanying Xiao Xiyue on a stroll through the streets.

Being six months pregnant, Xiao Xiyue's belly was quite obvious now.

And as the pregnancy progressed, this normally aloof and pure Fairy of the Moon Palace was no longer as indifferent as before.

She would occasionally touch her protruding belly with a look of maternal radiance on her face.

"Changsheng, the baby is kicking me."

Xiao Xiyue said, acting coquettishly to Lu Changsheng as she felt the baby's movements.

"Alright, I've noted it, and once he is born, I'll discipline him for you."

Lu Changsheng immediately stroked the Fairy's jade-like belly, speaking softly.

"Humph, what kind of father holds a grudge against his own child?"

Xiao Xiyue said, pinching Lu Changsheng in response.

"If someone bullies my wife, of course, I'll hold a grudge."

Lu Changsheng hummed.

Just then, a mysterious tremor came, accompanied by the sound of a system notification.

“

[Congratulations, Host, for reaching a count of 35 descendants with Spiritual Roots, you have earned one lottery opportunity!]

This mysterious vibration was not a fleeting one.

Rather, it caused a tremor throughout his body, filling Lu Changsheng's heart with an indescribable joy.

He knew that his Spiritual Root had ascended.

It had advanced from a Fifth Grade Spiritual Root to a Fourth Grade Spiritual Root.

“This child's Spiritual Root is at least a Fifth Grade, and possibly even a Fourth Grade!”

Lu Changsheng thought to himself with excitement.

Previously, he had only three descendants with a Sixth Grade Spiritual Root.

With such Lower Grade Spiritual Roots, it was somewhat difficult for his own Fifth Grade Spiritual Root to advance to a Fourth Grade.

Now that his own Spiritual Root had directly advanced to Fourth Grade, he knew that this child's Spiritual Root was exceptionally good.

“It's about time. After having one hundred and forty-one children, I've finally had a stroke of good luck.”

Lu Changsheng muttered to himself.

However, glancing at Xiao Xiyue beside him, he held his peace, reined in his spirit, and pretended as if nothing had happened, continuing to stroll with her casually.

After the two had wandered for another half an hour, they returned to their cave dwelling.

And at that time, Lu Changsheng went to the quiet room by himself.

“System.”

Lu Changsheng mentally called out.

[Name: Lu Changsheng]

[Identity: Ninth Elder of Qingzhu Mountain]

[Cultivation Level: Foundation Establishment, First Layer]

[Lifespan: 35/269]

[Talent: Fourth Grade Spiritual Root, Gengjin Body Constitution (Intermediate Spiritual Body)]

[Cultivation Technique: Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art, Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Scripture, Yin Yang Harmony Technique, Immortal Beauty Technique]

[Spells: Seven Luminaries Sword Light, Seven Luminaries Sword Shield, Seven Luminaries Sword Escape...]

[Items: Nine Treasure Jade Ruyi, Luminous Treasure Tree, Golden Armor Bean Mother, Black Dragon Magical Bead, Book of Malevolent Curses and Fates, Life-Substituting Talisman, Profound Origin Bead, Coagulation Crystal Elixir...]

[Skills: Talisman Making (Second Rank), Puppetry (Second Rank), Spirit Slaughterer (Second Rank)]

[Spiritual Pets: Nine Netherhound, Peach Blossom Gu, Six-Winged Golden Silkworm, Hope Gu]

[Descendants: 141/144]

“A Fourth Grade Spiritual Root, just one more step and I’ll have an Upper Grade Spiritual Root.”

Lu Changsheng looked at the accurately displayed Fourth Grade Spiritual Root on the system panel, feeling elated.

Then he glanced at the descendant section.

With a slight move of his spirit, he found his newly born child.

[Name: Unnamed]

[Lifespan: 1/79]

[Talent: Fourth Grade Spiritual Root]

[Cultivation Level: None]

“A Fourth Grade Spiritual Root, it really is a Fourth Grade!”

Lu Changsheng looked at this child with great surprise.

He had previously guessed that this child was at least a Fifth Grade Spiritual Root, and possibly even a Fourth Grade.

Now, seeing it confirmed on the system panel, he was finally assured.

“With a Fourth Grade Spiritual Root, apart from Qingshan, this child has the best talent among all my children.”

Lu Changsheng was very pleased.

The most talented of his children was originally Lu Qingshan with a Sixth Grade Spiritual Root, who possessed the Gengjin Body Constitution.

This child's Fourth Grade Spiritual Root, although not as good as Lu Qingshan's, was still quite excellent.

He believed that with his guidance, this child would have no trouble achieving Foundation Establishment in the future.

"A Fourth Grade Spiritual Root, if I so desire, I could even consider sending him to an Immortal Sect later."

Lu Changsheng thought to himself.

Although he felt capable of nurturing the child himself, he also entertained the idea of diversifying.

Some children he could cultivate at home, others he could send to Immortal Sects.

This approach not only saved resources and provided better growth environments for the children, but could also expand the family's network of connections.

Moreover, sending a child to the Qingyun Sect would mean Xiao Xiyue could help look after them.

"However, there's a downside to everything; sending children to Immortal Sects would undoubtedly diminish their proximity and connection to the family."

"And sending them to Immortal Sects with all the competition and Sect responsibilities, it may not necessarily be better than being in the family."

"Well, that's still a ways off, no need to rush."

Lu Changsheng exhaled lightly, not dwelling on the matter.

Mentally, he said: “System, draw the lottery!”

Since he was entitled to a lottery, he naturally wouldn’t hold onto it, instead planning to use it right away.

Immediately, the system’s attribute panel blurred and transformed into the familiar lottery wheel.

“Draw the lottery!”

Looking at the lottery wheel, Lu Changsheng’s spirit stirred as he began to participate in the draw.