

I. Family 401

Chapter 401: Hundred Steeds Towering Pagoda Lock, the Mouse Sees the Sun Again!_1

[Ding! Congratulations to the Host on obtaining the Magical Treasure: Hundred Steeds Towering Pagoda Lock!]

[The reward has been issued to the System Space, the Host can check it at any time]

The golden light paused at the ‘Magical Treasures’ category.

Immediately, a black chain with innumerable shadows emerged from the spinning wheel, accompanied by a system notification sound.

“Magical Treasures?”

Lu Changsheng looked at the reward he won from the lottery, his eyebrows raising slightly.

...

If it had been before, winning a magical treasure from the lottery would have felt quite nice.

But now, with the Nine Treasure Jade Ruyi, the Black Dragon Magical Bead, and one magical treasure embryo, the speed of his Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art had already reached its peak.

He no longer felt anything for magical treasures.

After all, with his current Foundation Establishment Cultivation, he couldn’t activate a magical treasure.

Other than using it for cultivating the Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art, it was practically useless, an utter superfluity.

“However, one can never have too many magical treasures.”

“Once I reach the late stage of Foundation Establishment, relying on the Profound Origin Bead, I should almost be able to activate magical treasures.”

“Moreover, magical treasures can also be used by my children.”

“If any of these children can cultivate the ‘Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art’, I can definitely let them infuse the magical treasures into their bodies to assist in their cultivation.”

“Not only would it enable them to advance quickly, but it’s also equivalent to me improving. A single magical treasure, double the benefits.”

Lu Changsheng exhaled softly, murmuring to himself.

He planned to imprint the magical treasure into the body of whichever child could cultivate the Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art in the future.

After all, once the child cultivated, the effects would stack onto himself.

The only issue now was that the children were young, and he wasn’t quite willing to teach Orthodox Level Cultivation Techniques to outsiders.

Moreover, Orthodox Level Cultivation Techniques were not so easy to practice.

He had personally taught Lu Miaoge the Exquisite Level ‘Saturn Solar Sword Technique’ for nearly half a month before she gained a preliminary understanding.

This Orthodox Level ‘Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Technique’ was countless times more difficult.

In the process of cultivation, if there was any carelessness, it could lead to problems and injury to oneself.

Therefore, he must be cautious and handle it with care.

“Sigh, if only I could directly impart cultivation techniques to these children as well.”

Lu Changsheng sighed in his heart, feeling wistful.

After relying on the system to inherit the ‘Soul Dispersion Needle’ from the Red Phoenix True Scripture, he profoundly appreciated how awesome it was to have techniques directly transmitted by the system.

Otherwise, even if he understood all the principles and theories, practicing them was another matter entirely.

Without further thought, Lu Changsheng looked toward the System Space.

He was checking the Magical Treasure he had just won.

[Magical Treasure: Hundred Steeds Towering Pagoda Lock]

[Grade: Superior Quality Magical Treasure]

[Description: Yin Ghost Celestial sought hundreds of demon warhorses that had battled through many wars and tortured them relentlessly, so that their resentful spirits would soar as they died, their souls not dissipating, and refined them into Yin Horses. Eventually, he infused the spirits of a hundred Yin Horses into the Towering Pagoda Chains, creating the ‘Hundred Steeds Towering Pagoda Lock’. When used against an enemy, the hundred Yin Horses charge fiercely, collapsing mountains and tearing the earth asunder, shattering both body and soul of the opponent.]

“Superior quality Magical Treasure!”

“Looks like it belongs to the Demonic Path Magical Treasure.”

“Although the method of refining Demonic Path Magical Treasures is quite cruel, their power and effects are generally impressive.”

“But this description really does illustrate the effectiveness. When facing an enemy, upon unleashing the magical treasure, a hundred Yin Horses barrel through with such force that mountains collapse and the earth splits, scattering the opponent’s body and soul.”

Lu Changsheng nodded slightly, examining the description of the Magical Treasure’s effects.

But after looking at it a couple of times, he didn’t pay it much more attention,

Letting the Magical Treasure remain in the System Space.

He decided to take it out when it was needed in the future.

“I wonder how much my Fourth Grade Spiritual Root has improved compared to before.”

After the lottery draw, Lu Changsheng felt unenthusiastic, thinking about his recently advanced Fourth Grade Spiritual Root.

He immediately closed his eyes and sat in meditation, with his heart open to heaven, channeling the ‘Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Scripture’.

“Hu!”

After cultivating for an hour, Lu Changsheng opened his eyes and exhaled a turbid breath.

From the recent cultivation, he could clearly sense that his speed of cultivation had improved.

About thirty percent compared to before.

Although it was only thirty percent, this effect was already quite remarkable.

It allowed his speed of cultivation to increase significantly.

Moreover, apart from the speed of cultivation, having a superior Spiritual Root also made it easier to break through bottlenecks.

“However, a Fourth Grade Spiritual Root only helps with minor bottlenecks.”

“For my current situation, it won’t have any noticeable effect on the major bottleneck of Core Formation in the future.”

“If I could advance my Spiritual Root to a Heavenly Spiritual Root before Core Formation, then breaking through would pose no bottleneck at all.”

Lu Changsheng thought to himself.

He could not help but look forward to the day when he would be blessed with a stroke of luck, spawning a child with a Heavenly Spiritual Root.

That way, his Spiritual Root would be perfected in one fell swoop, sparing him the slow grind.

Shaking his head to dispel these impractical fantasies, Lu Changsheng stepped out of the meditation room.

After chatting with Xiao Xiyue for a while, he left the cave dwelling and went to the Lu Family Spiritual Talisman Shop.

“Daddy.”

Upon arriving on the third floor, Lu Qingzhu, who was quietly reading a book by herself, saw Lu Changsheng and called out sweetly.

“Little Zhu, where is your mother?”

Lu Changsheng, seeing his daughter alone, showed a gentle smile and asked.

His daughter was six years old now, even more adorable in appearance.

With her chubby and baby-soft cheeks, he couldn't help but pinch them.

"Mommy is in the room drawing talismans."

Lu Qingzhu said in a sweet, milky voice.

Guessing that there must be a customer who ordered or needed a specific talisman, Lu Changsheng didn't go to disturb Lu Miaoge. He walked over and sat beside his daughter, asking, "What are you looking at, Little Zhu?"

"Daddy, look."

Lu Qingzhu handed the album she was holding to Lu Changsheng.

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This is a photo album.

Inside is a forest teeming with all sorts of spiritual beasts living and playing.

Since it's for young children's enlightenment, these spiritual beasts are relatively mild and adorable.

There won't be any ferocious and terrifying demon beasts.

"Little Zhu, do you know what this is?"

...

Lu Changsheng asked, pointing to a purple parrot.

Lu Qingzhu shook her head with a dazedly cute expression.

Then she looked at Lu Changsheng with her innocent, wide eyes, waiting for him to introduce it.

Lu Changsheng smiled at his daughter's antics.

He ruffled her little head, which was tied into two buns, and said, "This is a Purple Jade Parrot. It understands human language and can speak..."

As he spoke, Lu Changsheng tapped the Purple Jade Parrot on the Jade Scroll.

"Hello."

Immediately, the parrot let out a crisp greeting.

"Oh, hello!"

Lu Qingzhu responded with her dazedly cute voice.

"If Little Zhu likes it, daddy will buy one for you,"

Lu Changsheng said to his daughter, who was exhibiting her adorable behavior.

This Purple Jade Parrot was only a low-level demon beast, a type kept for ornamental purposes, and many cultivators domesticated them as pets to keep at home. They were also available for sale in the Red Leaf Valley Market.

"Oh, daddy, this one,"

Lu Qingzhu, hearing this, flipped through the album a couple of pages with her little hand, and pointed to a white-furred hamster to show Lu Changsheng.

"Little Zhu, you like this kind?"

Lu Changsheng was taken aback upon hearing this.

He hadn't expected his daughter to prefer the white-furred hamster over the talking Purple Jade Parrot.

But indeed, the white-furred hamster was quite cute.

Its body was snow-white, fluffy, and had an adorable appearance, so it was normal for children to like it.

“Eh,”

At this moment, he remembered he had a similar-looking golden hamster in his spiritual pet bag.

The Earth Spirit Mouse he had gotten from Meng Yibai.

Since this Earth Spirit Mouse was stolen property, he had always kept it in the spiritual pet bag.

Every now and then, he would throw a few Spirit-Rearing Pellets into the bag to feed it.

“Little Zhu, how about this one?”

Immediately, Lu Changsheng reached into the spiritual pet bag and pulled out the Earth Spirit Mouse.

This Earth Spirit Mouse was about the same size as the white-furred hamster in the album, only the size of a palm.

With golden fur and a harmlessly cute appearance, it was very adorable.

“Squeak, squeak, squeak—”

The Earth Spirit Mouse, which hadn't breathed fresh air for more than three years in the spiritual pet bag, was finally seeing daylight again and started calling out happily.

"Oh, a mousey."

Upon seeing the adorable Earth Spirit Mouse, Lu Qingzhu's sparkling eyes widened even further.

Her little head moved slightly forward, and she leaned in to get a closer look at the Earth Spirit Mouse.

"Behave yourself."

Lu Changsheng, holding the hamster, gave it a few rubs and conveyed his thoughts to the Earth Spirit Mouse through the Beast Control Token.

He clearly remembered that this Earth Spirit Mouse possessed no small amount of spiritual intelligence.

It even knew how to acknowledge someone as an adoptive father.

"Squeak, squeak, squeak."

The Earth Spirit Mouse immediately responded to Lu Changsheng.

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It showed that the mouse was the most well-behaved and sensible one.

Lu Changsheng believed this as well.

He dared to bring this Earth Spirit Mouse out for his daughter to play with because he had researched information about it and knew its temperament.

Though it possessed an Earth Grade Bloodline,

it was as timid as a mouse.

Aside from running away, it wouldn't really fight.

Its primary use was treasure hunting.

It had an extremely keen sense of smell for Spiritual Medicine, heavenly materials and earthly treasures, or even for spirit minerals and Spirit Veins.

It could also sniff a particular medicine, heavenly material, or earthly treasure, and as long as someone had touched the Spiritual Medicine or treasure within a short period, it could sniff them out.

Plainly speaking, it was very sensitive to Spiritual Energy and Spiritual Mechanisms.

“Come here, little Zhu.”

Lu Changsheng spread out his hand, letting his daughter touch the golden hamster.

With him beside her, he wasn't worried about how the Earth Spirit Mouse would behave.

If it did anything unexpected, he could stop it immediately.

“Oh.”

Lu Qingzhu stretched out her delicate little hand and carefully touched the Earth Spirit Mouse.

Although the Earth Spirit Mouse was only palm-sized, for an adult that is,

to a six-year-old little girl, it was still quite big.

“Squeak, squeak, squeak.”

The Earth Spirit Mouse played along well, realizing that this scary person brought it to entertain the human child.

It immediately rubbed its little head against Lu Qingzhu’s small hand.

“Oh, Daddy.”

Lu Qingzhu was startled, then grew bolder and petted the Earth Spirit Mouse, calling out to Lu Changsheng.

“Here, you take it.”

Lu Changsheng smiled and handed over the Earth Spirit Mouse to his daughter.

“Oh.”

Lu Qingzhu immediately cradled the golden hamster in her hands and rubbed it in her arms, her little face beaming with happiness.

“Squeak, squeak, squeak.”

The Earth Spirit Mouse continued to cooperate.

“Little Zhu, you can feed it this.”

Lu Changsheng took out a bottle of Spirit Nourishing Pills, poured one out, and handed it to his daughter to feed to the Earth Spirit Mouse.

After all, feeding a pet was also a form of joy.

“Oh.”

Lu Qingzhu cradled the Earth Spirit Mouse with one arm while feeding it the Spirit Nourishing Pill with the other.

Immediately, the little golden hamster showed its two teeth, began nibbling on the elixir medicines, and happily ‘squeaked.’

In its Spiritual Pet Bag, because Lu Changsheng was so busy he had forgotten about it, it often had to go without food.

This made it learn to eat the Spirit Nourishing Pills sparingly.

So, getting an extra meal today made it extremely happy.

“Daddy, look.”

After a while, Lu Qingzhu watched the Earth Spirit Mouse nibble on the elixir medicines by itself, her mouth forming a surprised ‘O,’ and called out to Lu Changsheng.

“Little Zhu, do you like this mouse?”

Lu Changsheng asked his daughter.

If his daughter said she liked it, he would give this Earth Spirit Mouse to Lu Qingzhu.

After all, it was just sitting on him unused, so it would be better if it became a companion for his daughter.

His daughter spent most of her time on Qingzhu Mountain and only occasionally visited the Red Leaf Valley Market.

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He didn’t have to worry about being targeted by Meng Yibai’s False Core elder.

After all, if the elder could really track him down through an Earth Spirit Mouse, he would have already done so.

Moreover, although Earth Spirit Mice are rare, they aren't so rare that people would think too much upon seeing one.

"Daddy, like."

Lu Qingzhu looked at the Earth Spirit Mouse in her hand, then turned towards Lu Changsheng, her sparkling eyes brimming with affection.

"Since that's the case, Daddy will give this little mouse to my little Zhu."

...

Lu Changsheng said with a smile.

"Oh, thank you, Daddy."

Upon hearing this, Lu Qingzhu's little face showed her happiness.

Then she put down the hamster, stood up, and reached out both her arms towards Lu Changsheng.

Seeing this, Lu Changsheng picked up his daughter.

"mua!"

Once picked up, Lu Qingzhu immediately planted a strong kiss on her daddy's face.

She knew her daddy liked to kiss her cheeks to show his affection.

So she kissed Lu Changsheng back to show her affection.

“Hahaha, such a good girl, mua.”

Lu Changsheng laughed heartily, promptly nibbling on his daughter’s chubby cheeks.

“Changsheng, you’re back.”

“What’s making you so happy?”

At this moment, the door to the Talisman Room opened.

Lu Miaoge, clad in a snow-white dress, her visage gentle and lovely, walked out.

Seeing the father and daughter so joyous, a beautiful smile graced her face as she spoke.

“Hehe, seeing my darling daughter and wife naturally makes me happy.”

Lu Changsheng said with a smile.

“Still so slick-tongued even though you’re a father now.”

Lu Miaoge responded with a quip, rolling her eyes affectionately at Lu Changsheng while smiling sweetly.

“Oh, Mommy, mousey.”

At that moment, Lu Qingzhu in Lu Changsheng’s arms pointed towards the Earth Spirit Mouse, which had finished gnawing on the Spirit Pill, and called out to Lu Miaoge.

“Mousey?”

Lu Miaoge looked to the side and instantly noticed the Earth Spirit Mouse.

After scrutinizing it for a moment, she turned to Lu Changsheng and asked in surprise, “Is this... a Seeking Spirit Mouse?”

In the Cultivation World, there were numerous spiritual beasts with treasure-seeking abilities.

These were particularly common among rodents.

Due to their similar appearance, it was difficult to distinguish between them.

Therefore, many referred to these treasure-seeking rodent spiritual beasts collectively as Seeking Spirit Mice.

“That’s right, it’s a Seeking Spirit Mouse.”

“I saw this Seeking Spirit Mouse at a stall earlier and thought about buying it to look for treasure later, but then I realized that I hardly ever leave the house.”

“Just now, seeing that little Zhu likes this type of hamster, I decided to give it to her as a companion,” Lu Changsheng nodded and explained without any concealment.

After all, it’s easy to recognize a Spirit Mouse with a Seeking Spirit Mouse bloodline; they typically have golden fur and are palm-sized.

“This is such a waste; who spoils their daughter like you do, giving her a Seeking Spirit Mouse as a playmate?” Lu Miaoge said reproachfully upon hearing this.

Seeking Spirit Mice might lack combat ability,

but just their treasure-seeking effect alone made many families and powers eager to obtain them.

Hence, spiritual beasts with treasure-seeking abilities generally had a high value.

Although she didn’t know how many Spirit Stones Lu Changsheng had spent, she felt it was a lavish expense.

“As long as little Zhu is happy, that’s all that matters,” Lu Changsheng smiled and said.

“When little Zhu grows up and starts cultivating, who knows, she might find some treasures with this Seeking Spirit Mouse.”

Every year, Qingzhu Mountain held a Spiritual Root testing ceremony.

This year, Lu Qingzhu was tested at the ceremony and found to have a Seventh Grade Spiritual Root,

which relieved both Lu Yuanding and Lu Miaoge.

They had feared the child would have no Spiritual Root and would have to be sent to live an ordinary life.

Lu Qingshan also had his Spiritual Root aptitude tested,

but it seemed the Qingzhu Mountain testing crystal was too shoddy, as it only confirmed the presence of a Spiritual Root,

and failed to detect Lu Qingshan’s Gengjin Body Constitution.

Regarding this, Lu Changsheng theorized, aside from the poor quality of the testing crystal, it was also because Lu Qingshan’s Gengjin Body Constitution was still growing.

“Just keep pampering her.”

Lu Miaoge smiled and shook her head, no longer saying anything.

Since her husband had given their daughter a playmate, she, as a mother, naturally couldn’t say no.

Moreover, once Lu Qingzhu grew older, maybe she really could find some treasure with the help of the Earth Spirit Mouse.

“Mother.”

Lu Qingzhu pointed to the Earth Spirit Mouse and called out to her mother.

“Oh, such a cute little mouse, does little Zhu like it?”

Seeing this, Lu Miaoge immediately came forward with a gentle smile on her face.

She also picked up the Earth Spirit Mouse to take a closer look.

She wanted to see if it was a mid-grade Gold Seeking Mouse or a high-grade Seeking Spirit Mouse.

“I like it.”

Lu Qingzhu said in her childish voice.

“If you like it, then little Zhu needs to take good care of it, okay?”

Lu Miaoge told her daughter.

“Okay.”

Lu Qingzhu nodded vigorously.

After chatting with her daughter for a bit, Lu Miaoge let Lu Changsheng watch over her.

She went to deliver the Talisman she had just finished making.

Lu Changsheng watched his daughter holding the little hamster, looking at it from every angle, and handed her a bottle of Spirit Nurturing Pills to feed and play with it.

After a short while, Lu Miaoge came back.

She looked at her well-behaved and quiet daughter chatting idly with Lu Changsheng.

“Changsheng, how familiar are you with the Thunder Fire Talisman now?”

At that moment, Lu Miaoge inquired.

“I’m about forty or fifty percent confident.”

Lu Changsheng said out loud.

“That fast!”

Lu Miaoge exclaimed with surprise and delight on her face.

This success rate was not low.

After all, a Second Rank low-grade Talisman could bring about a twenty-fold profit.

Even with a success rate of ten or twenty percent, one could roughly make money.

Of course, that was not counting the accumulated practice over days and months.

Like Lu Miaoge, who was currently practicing Second Rank Talismans, she practiced only once per day when she was at her best condition.

After all, the practice cost of over twenty Spirit Stones was truly heart-wrenching.

Even if the Lu Family’s Talisman paper was made from their own Jade Spirit Bamboo, costing only the price of materials, it was still painful.

“It’s okay, isn’t it? I’ve been improving a bit every month.”

Lu Changsheng said with a smile.

“Who makes progress every month?”

Lu Miaoge felt somewhat struck by her husband’s words.

Talisman Making, much like cultivation, often faced bottlenecks that could last a lifetime without progress.

Even worse, if one’s mentality was affected, one could regress on the Talisman Path.

Possibly even the Talismans they were once able to draw would get worse.

“Heh, that’s what’s happening to me right now.”

Lu Changsheng said with laughter.

“Yes, yes, yes, my husband is the greatest.”

Lu Miaoge’s face broke into an indulgent smile.

She then inquired, “By the way, Changsheng, when do you plan to hold your Second Grade Talisman Master ceremony?”

“In a few more months, I guess. I’ll wait until my success rate improves a bit and I get familiar with a few other Talismans, then I’ll notify the Family Head.”

Lu Changsheng said thoughtfully.

In his view, after holding the ceremony, he would definitely be busy for a while.

Now that Xiao Xiyue was about four months away from giving birth.

If he were to inform the Lu Family now, preparing and sending out invitations would take about a month or two. The timing could easily overlap.

So he planned to wait until after Xiao Xiyue had given birth before organizing the ceremony.

Lu Miaoge nodded.

She knew that the Talisman Path was analogous to other skills; once proficient in one type of Talisman, mastering others would become much easier.

She thought her husband truly approached things with a steady hand.

Even for a ceremony, he insisted on being fully prepared.

This was also thanks to her husband's exceptional talent and rapid progress on the Talisman Path.

Otherwise, for someone else to do the same might take three to five years, or even longer toil.

Chapter 404: Reduce Expenses and Increase Income, 99 Mysterious Talisman Scripture!_1

Three months later.

In the residential area of Red Leaf Valley Market.

Lu Changsheng cycled the 'Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Scripture,' his body surrounded by seven sword radiances, elegant and fierce, fluctuating unpredictably, making his robes billow and flutter.

As nature's spiritual energy continued to sweep over him, the Sword Qi around his body became even sharper, forming a powerful spiritual pressure.

“Boom!”

With a thunderous noise inside his body, the spiritual pressure gradually dissipated.

...

“Three years and seven months, Foundation Establishment Second Level.”

Lu Changsheng opened his eyes, a faint smile forming on his lips.

He then inwardly examined his divine sense to check his condition after the breakthrough.

His Dantian’s sea of Qi had expanded again, able to hold even more liquified mana.

With the breakthrough in cultivation level, his divine sense also improved slightly.

However, as his divine sense had already expanded to 150 zhang under the effects of the Purple Mansion Elixir, this breakthrough only added about another seven or eight zhang to its range.

“I wonder when I will be able to draw alchemy skills through the system.”

“Otherwise, this way, the elixir medicines of the Qi Refinement Realm will be almost useless to me, with very minimal effects.”

Lu Changsheng glanced at the empty bottles of Condensing Energy Elixirs beside him and exhaled softly.

In a large marketplace like Qingyun Market, with big shops like Qingyun Commerce Guild and Elixir Cauldron Pavilion, you can still buy some elixirs that advance Foundation Establishment cultivation if you’re willing to spend the money.

But it’s harder in a marketplace like Red Leaf Valley.

Even elixirs that enhance Energy Refinement Late Stage cultivation level are in limited supply.

Otherwise, with the Seven Luminaries Heart Lamp to refine elixir toxicity and burn mana, his cultivation speed could be twice as fast.

Without thinking too much more, after slightly stabilizing his mana, Lu Changsheng cast a 'Cleansing Technique' on himself.

He cleared away the slight impurities and dust brought by the marrow cleansing during his breakthrough, walking out of the practice room feeling refreshed and clear-headed.

"Congratulations to Mr. Lu on reaching the Second Level of Foundation Establishment!"

In the living room, Xiao Xiyue looked at Lu Changsheng, her stunning face breaking into a gentle smile.

Nine months pregnant, her abdomen was now prominently round.

But this did not detract from her beauty.

Instead, it added a mature and full-bodied charm to her figure.

Her icy skin and bone structure, along with her pure and serene face, also began to exude an enchanting maternal charm over time.

It turned her original coolness entirely into a gentle beauty.

Her every move revealed a holy and pure beauty.

"It's just a minor breakthrough," he remarked.

"If it weren't for this little one, Xi Yue, you would have been close to breaking through as well," said Lu Changsheng, looking tenderly at Xiao Xiyue.

“Even without this little one, I wouldn’t have broken through to the Second Level of Foundation Establishment so quickly,” Xiao Xiyue gently said, touching her belly.

Although she had cultivated alongside Lu Changsheng and made rapid progress, she still spent time consolidating her cultivation foundations after each dual cultivation session.

Unlike Lu Changsheng, who constantly burned mana with the Seven Luminaries Heart Lamp to refine his foundations.

Moreover, aside from cultivating, she also had to take time out every day to practice her techniques and divine skills.

Therefore, she was quite surprised at how quickly Lu Changsheng had broken through to the Second Level of Foundation Establishment.

After all, she knew from her daily interactions with Lu Changsheng that he only spent two or three hours a day on cultivation.

And after witnessing Lu Changsheng deal with two Foundation Establishment robber cultivators, she instinctively thought he must have spent a lot of time cultivating his divine technique and skills.

Otherwise, how could he possess such divine abilities?

Having to spend time with his wives and children, as well as cultivate divine technique and skills, and also focus on the Talisman Path,

it was naturally surprising to her that his cultivation could progress so swiftly under these circumstances.

However, she did not ask further, knowing that Lu Changsheng had great secrets and a rare spiritual or possibly Taoist body.

Otherwise, with a Ninth Grade Spiritual Root, such speed in cultivation would be impossible.

“You’ve worked hard, Xi Yue,” Lu Changsheng said gently, taking a seat beside her.

He tenderly stroked Xiao Xiyue's rounded, fair, and soft belly with his palm.

"It's not hard work. For me, this is also cultivation, an experience," Xiao Xiyue gently shook her head.

Since becoming pregnant, she could clearly sense a change in her mental state.

It allowed her new insights and understandings of the Supreme Forgetful Love Technique, considering it as part of the myriad experiences and practices of mortal life.

Lu Changsheng's mouth twitched slightly upon hearing this.

He thought to himself that this Supreme Forgetful Love Technique really made one continuously associate everything with cultivation.

After chatting with Xiao Xiyue for a while, Lu Changsheng mentioned he'd return to Qing Zhu Mountain for a visit.

Although Xiao Xiyue was pregnant and he was spending more time and energy here,

he couldn't just neglect Qing Zhu Mountain and Ruyi Prefecture.

He would still go back every month or two to handle various matters, check on his wives and children, and additionally, work on conceiving more children.

Now, the total number of his children had reached one hundred forty-six.

After returning to Qing Zhu Mountain, as usual, Lu Changsheng inquired about the cultivation situations of his children and Bai Ling.

His son Lu Xianzhi had been stuck at the Middle Stage of Qi Refinement and remained at the Third Level.

Lu Changsheng hadn't given him any Breakthrough Elixir,

allowing him to gradually overcome the bottleneck on his own.

After all, using Breakthrough Elixirs at this stage would inevitably affect later progress.

Despite being a Ninth Grade Spiritual Root with basically no potential for further growth, Lu Changsheng believed it was best to break through on one's own if possible, and there was no rush for time.

Lu Quanzhen had also reached the Third Level of Qi Refinement.

His daughters Lu Ruyi and Lu Yun, on the other hand, were at the Second Level.

As for Bai Ling, she had long since broken through to the Fourth Level of Qi Refinement,

and it was estimated that before long, she would reach the Fifth Level.

This pace left Lu Changsheng astounded.

In just three short years, even without his provision of elixir medicines, she had cultivated to the Fourth Level of Qi Refinement and was close to breaking through to the Fifth Level

Chapter 405: Cutting Costs and Increasing Income, The 99 Mysterious Talisman Scripture!_2

This speed is not at all inferior to that of Xiao Xiyue's initial progress and even surpasses it by a notch.

Afterward, Lu Changsheng inquired about the situation of his other children.

The fifth child with a Spiritual Root has also reached twelve years of age, and has started the cultivation process.

But he has not yet completed the drawing-in of Qi.

“Starting from next year, the children who are able to cultivate will experience a minor burst in growth.”

Lu Changsheng spent an entire day caring for and inquiring after all his children.

...

He knew that in the next four years, he would have fifteen children with Spiritual Roots stepping onto the path of immortality.

This was thanks to his frenetic sowing when he first arrived at Nine Dragons Market.

In just five short years, he had fathered sixty children.

On average, one child per month.

If it hadn't been for the Second and Fourth Elders persuading him to take care of his body and show some restraint, the number might have been even higher.

“Nine Dragons Market.”

Lu Changsheng reflected on the days when he bought maids from the White Jade Tower in Nine Dragons Market.

“It feels like it's time to select some more maids.”

He couldn't help but think to himself.

Among these wives and maids, apart from Lu Miaoge who had only given birth to one, Lu Miaohuan had borne two.

The others had at least three or four each.

Some of the concubines had gone as far as having five or six children.

In Lu Changsheng's view, this number was about right.

Although the purchased maids had no rights.

They couldn't be treated solely as breeding machines.

Empathy was key; the concubines needed to be devoted to him wholeheartedly.

Otherwise, when the children grew up, seeing their mothers treated like this, they would feel uncomfortable too.

"If the outflow is to be stemmed, the source must be widened by increasing the number of maids."

"Moreover, I now have the money to go to the White Jade Tower and purchase maids with Middle Grade and even Upper Grade Spiritual Roots."

Lu Changsheng thought to himself for a moment; he decided to visit the White Jade Tower in Nine Dragons Market when he had some free time.

It wasn't just about income and expenditure.

All his maids were of Lower Grade Spiritual Roots.

This had a certain influence on the Spiritual Root talent of the children born.

Now that his circumstances had improved, it was time for a further step in selective breeding.

After all, the higher the parents' Spiritual Roots, the better the children's Spiritual Roots would be.

After staying in Qingzhu Mountain for ten days, Lu Changsheng prepared to return to Red Leaf Valley Market.

“Boom!”

Just then, a relatively dense cultivation level surged into Lu Changsheng’s body from nowhere.

He immediately knew that his son, Lu Xianzhi, had broken through the bottleneck of the middle stage of Qi Refinement.

He had reached the Fourth Level of Energy Refinement.

“The Fourth Level of Energy Refinement, if not counting the quality of Spiritual Power and mana, is about one percent of my current cultivation level.”

“It’s equivalent to saving me a month and a half of arduous cultivation.”

Lu Changsheng closed his eyes to feel the incoming cultivation strength and roughly estimated.

“If we calculate this way, a hundred cultivators at the Fourth Level of Energy Refinement would be equal to one Foundation Establishment.”

“However, the quality difference in mana allows a Foundation Establishment Cultivator to easily slaughter a hundred cultivators in the middle stage of Energy Refinement.”

Lu Changsheng shook his head slightly, knowing such calculations were not feasible.

“But reaching the middle stage of Energy Refinement at least has some effect on me.”

“When breaking through to the Second and Third Levels of Energy Refinement earlier, there was no perceivable impact on me.”

“Now that I’m at the Foundation Establishment level, for my children to impact me, they need to be at the late stage of Qi Refinement.”

“But waiting for a child to cultivate to the late stage of Energy Refinement will probably take another ten to twenty years.”

Lu Changsheng took a deep breath and exhaled slowly.

The path of cultivation seemed long and distant.

After all, aside from Lu Qingshan and the previously mentioned son with a Fourth Grade Spiritual Root, Lu Qingxuan, the Spiritual Roots of his current children were mediocre at best.

There were only two with Sixth Grade Middle Spiritual Roots.

All the others were of Lower Grade Spiritual Roots.

“But indeed, as I suspected, there was no achievement reward for the child breaking through to the middle stage of Qi Refinement.”

“Could it be that such cultivation-related achievement rewards won’t trigger again until they break through to Foundation Establishment?”

“If that’s the case, it’s way too difficult.”

Lu Changsheng saw no system notification and shook his head inwardly.

Although he had anticipated this, he still held a faint hope.

He wanted to see if breaking through to the middle stage of Qi Refinement would trigger an achievement reward.

“Xianzhi is also fifteen or sixteen now, having broken through to the middle stage of Qi Refinement, it’s time to let him gain some experience in Red Leaf Valley Market.”

Seeing Lu Xianzhi's breakthrough to the middle stage of Qi Refinement, Lu Changsheng thought about his son who was no longer young.

He planned to let him go out to broaden his horizon and get tempered.

After all, flowers cannot be grown in a greenhouse.

These children were his future foundation.

They would need them to manage the family later on.

Even with average Spiritual Roots, they must be well-cultivated.

Thereupon, Lu Changsheng walked towards Lu Xianzhi's courtyard.

"Dad, I've broken through to the middle stage of Energy Refinement."

At that moment, Lu Xianzhi emerged from the courtyard, his face bright with joy.

Seeing Lu Changsheng, he spoke with excitement.

"Not bad, far stronger than your father back in the day," Lu Changsheng said, not sparing on praises.

"How could the child dare to compare with you, Father."

"Back then you relied on your own efforts to progress step by step."

"If it weren't for the resources you spent and the environment you provided, how could I have broken through to the middle stage of Energy Refinement so quickly?" Lu Xianzhi quickly responded.

The praise from his father, though thrilling,

he was very aware that his current wealth was entirely due to standing on his father's shoulders.

Guided by his grandmother's teachings and interaction with other Lu Family disciples, he knew that many Lu Family Disciples didn't have conditions as favorable as his brothers and sisters.

His father had used all his cultivation resources to support them.

Especially since he only has a Ninth Grade Spiritual Root, deemed unworthy of cultivation, yet his father chose to treat him no differently.

Chapter 406: Open Sources and Save Expenditures, The 99 Mysterious Talisman Scriptures!_3

Therefore, in his heart, Lu Xianzhi still held immense admiration and respect for his own father.

"Haha, your father strives hard in the hope that your path will be smoother and you will go farther than I have."

Upon hearing his son's words, Lu Changsheng smiled and patted him on the shoulder, saying.

He then continued, "Now that you've broken through to the middle stage of Qi Refinement, I plan to take you to the marketplace to broaden your horizons and gain some experience. What do you think?"

"Son will follow Father's arrangements."

Upon hearing this, Lu Xianzhi immediately nodded in agreement.

...

Having been in Qingzhu Mountain for so many years, he naturally yearned for the cultivation world and wanted to go out and see it for himself.

"Good, prepare yourself."

“Tomorrow, come with me to the Red Leaf Valley Market.”

Lu Changsheng nodded his head and said.

He told Lu Xianzhi to go and say farewell to the family and friends.

“Congratulations, Brother Xianzhi.”

“Congratulations to the seventh brother for breaking through to the middle stage of Qi Refinement.”

The other children in the courtyard, upon hearing that Lu Xianzhi had broken through to the middle stage of Qi Refinement and that Lu Changsheng was going to take him to the Red Leaf Valley Market, expressed their envy and congratulations.

Lu Miaoyun, Lu Miaohuan, and Qu Zhenzhen, the aunties, also heard the news and each gave gifts to encourage him.

After all, being the first child in the family to break through to the middle stage of Qi Refinement had its special significance and was worth celebrating.

Under these circumstances, Lu Xianzhi seemed to take on a bit more responsibility.

Although he was the seventh in the family,

those ranked ahead of him like Lu Ping'an, due to the lack of a Spiritual Root, had all been sent into the secular world.

Therefore, in Qingzhu Mountain, he was effectively the eldest, bearing the responsibilities of an older brother.

After a small celebration, the next day, Lu Changsheng rode atop an Iron Feather Eagle, taking his son, Lu Xianzhi, with him to the Red Leaf Valley Market.

First, he took Lu Xianzhi to the Lu Family's Spiritual Talisman Shop to meet Lu Miaoge.

Although he planned to have Lu Xianzhi stay at the Peace Talisman Hall,

he had to bring him over to meet with her since he was here.

With him often absent, Lu Xianzhi could come to Lu Miaoge if he had any issues.

In the Red Leaf Valley Market, Lu Miaoge was quite an influential figure.

“Xianzhi, feel free to come by your auntie’s place when you have the time.”

Lu Miaoge said with a gentle and amiable expression.

She was much more well-off than the other wives and concubines of Lu Changsheng and gave Lu Xianzhi a Magic Artifact as a gift.

“Many thanks, Auntie.”

Lu Xianzhi seldom met with this auntie, Lu Miaoge, and did not feel very close to her, slightly restrained.

After accepting the gift, he bowed respectfully.

After a brief chat, Lu Changsheng took Lu Xianzhi to visit the Peace Talisman Hall.

“Peace Talisman Hall, Dad, is this our family’s shop?”

Lu Xianzhi looked at the shop in front of him and asked aloud.

He knew that besides owning a hundred mu of spiritual land on Qingzhu Mountain,

his father also owned a spirit talisman shop and a mansion in the Red Leaf Valley Market.

The reason why he and his siblings had such comfortable conditions was due to this spiritual land and the shop and mansion.

“That’s right, this is our family’s spirit talisman shop.”

Lu Changsheng nodded and said, “I didn’t bring you here to learn Talisman Making.

“Instead, I want you to broaden your horizons and understand the ins and outs of managing a shop, doing business.”

“Aren’t you interested in Puppets? Now that you’ve broken through to the middle stage of Qi Refinement, you can spend some time on this.”

“If there’s anything you don’t understand, come and ask your father.”

“Once you become a Puppet Master, your father will open a shop for you.”

Lu Changsheng spoke to his son.

His son might not have a talent for Talisman Making, but he did have some for Puppets.

Since he had just begun cultivation, Lu Changsheng hadn’t wanted him to be distracted by Puppets.

Now that he had broken through to the middle stage of Qi Refinement, Lu Changsheng was willing to let him spend some time on it.

After all, the art of Puppets was also an important part of his future that needed to be passed on.

“Yes, Father!”

Upon hearing this, Lu Xianzhi looked at the words ‘Peace Talisman Hall’ and pursed his lips, showing determination in his eyes.

“Shopkeeper.”

“Shopkeeper.”

As the two entered the shop, the greeters and Shopkeeper Gao He immediately greeted them resoundingly.

“Xianzhi, this is your Uncle Gao.”

Lu Changsheng introduced to Lu Xianzhi.

“Uncle Gao.”

Lu Xianzhi promptly called out.

On the way over, Lu Changsheng had briefly explained the situation of the Spiritual Talisman Shop.

He knew that this man with a round face and slightly aged appearance was the shopkeeper of the spirit talisman shop.

“Old Gao, this is my son, Lu Xianzhi.”

“I plan to place him in the shop as an apprentice, to gain some experience and understand how the shop is managed.”

“You won’t need to teach him about making talismans, but I’ll trouble you to instruct him in other aspects.”

Lu Changsheng spoke to his old friend Gao He.

The two had known each other for more than ten years and had been employer and employee for six years.

Since Lu Changsheng had always been an absent shop owner, and Gao He managed the shop well, their personal relationship remained quite good.

“Sure, no problem.”

Gao He, upon hearing that this was the young shop owner, immediately smiled and agreed.

This practice of placing family children in the shop to learn was quite common.

As long as Lu Xianzhi wasn't a spoiled brat, he naturally wouldn't have any objections.

Moreover, having been a shopkeeper for so many years, he had a good eye and could tell that Lu Xianzhi didn't seem to be a troublesome person.

After Lu Xianzhi was settled in, Lu Changsheng left for his mansion to check on Xiao Xiyue's condition.

After all, according to the timeline, Xiao Xiyue was due to give birth this month.

The thought of Xiao Xiyue's child being soon born inevitably filled Lu Changsheng with anticipation.

However, after waiting for a month, the child in Xiao Xiyue's womb did not arrive as expected.

Lu Changsheng was not worried about this situation; instead, he showed a look of delight.

Because children who are born later than expected are either problematic or naturally extraordinary with potentially excellent Spiritual Root quality.

Chapter 407: Save and Earn, 99 Mysterious Talisman Scriptures!_4

He and Xiao Xiyue were both Foundation Establishment Cultivators and naturally were able to sense the general condition of the child, there were no issues with vitality.

Therefore, there was a high probability that the child possessed a fairly good Spiritual Root, or even a Spiritual Body.

Thus, Lu Changsheng awaited the birth of the child with a calm heart and anticipation.

Before the child was born, seven days later, a faint flow of energy, accompanied by a system notification, sounded.

[Congratulations to the Host, five offspring have completed the absorption of Qi into their bodies, stepping onto the path of cultivation, and received the Bloodline Effect: a 5% increase in the probability of the offspring's Spiritual Roots and one lottery draw!]

“Hmm? Five, Kexin has completed the absorption of Qi into her body.”

...

Through this flow of energy and the system notification, Lu Changsheng knew that his fifth child with a Spiritual Root, Lu Kexin, had completed the absorption of Qi into her body.

He wasn't surprised by this.

After all, according to the timing, Lu Kexin should have completed it by now.

Now that it was done, it was even slower than those like Lu Xianzhi and the others before her.

It was just slightly surprising that an achievement lottery was triggered with just five children.

He had thought it would take ten.

“But this increase is quite good, at this rate, won't all my future descendants basically have a Spiritual Root?”

Lu Changsheng, seeing the increase in the probability of his offspring's Spiritual Roots, nodded slightly with joy.

After all, his children were his foundation.

“System, draw the lottery.”

Lu Changsheng exhaled lightly and began the lottery draw.

A pale red virtual lottery wheel appeared and quickly started spinning.

[Ding, congratulations to the Host for obtaining the Cultivation Technique “Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture!”]

[The reward has been issued to the System Space, where the Host can check it at any time]

An image of a translucent Jade Scroll appeared, accompanied by the system notification.

“Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture?”

“A Talisman Inheritance?”

Lu Changsheng, seeing this Cultivation Technique, raised an eyebrow slightly, showing a trace of interest.

The Cultivation World possessed a hundred arts of cultivation.

Each art was profoundly complex and could evolve into a path.

Although he had a Second Rank full-level Talisman-Making Skill,

It was merely an array of basic Talisman skills.

He did not possess any profoundly mysterious Talisman Inheritance.

Or rather, such profound Skill inheritance was not only rare but also required a high threshold for cultivation.

Besides certain demands on the Spiritual Root, there were other requirements as well.

For example, Spirit Taming Sect, one of the Three Great Immortal Sects of Jiang Country, and as famous as Qingyun Sect,

The Sect was renowned for “Beast Taming.”

However, such Sects not only looked at the talent of one’s Spiritual Root but also at the compatibility between an individual and Spiritual Beasts.

In the Immortal Sects’ assessments, even if you had a Lower Grade Spiritual Root but you naturally resonated and were compatible with certain Spiritual Beasts, they would still admit you into the Sect.

“I remember that there are no Sects with Talisman inheritance in Jiang Country.”

“On the other hand, in Yue Country next door, there is a Sect known as ‘Beast Talisman Sect.’

“Famous for Talisman Path, their Sect-protecting Cultivation Technique, Beast Talisman Scripture, can integrate demon beasts and talismans together, creating an extremely formidable power.”

Lu Changsheng thought to himself.

The Southern Wilderness Cultivation Realm was vast, and Jiang Country was but a corner of it.

Through various epistles and travel notes, Lu Changsheng knew that Jiang Country was only considered a mid-sized nation, and there were many more nations outside.

Each country would have different inheritances and Sects.

Although Jiang Country had the Beast Taming Sect,

Because of the country's Overlord-level Sect, the Heavenly Sword Sect,

When other countries' Cultivation Realms talked about Jiang Country's Cultivation Realm, the first thing they thought of were Sword Cultivators.

Lu Changsheng did not dwell on it further, turning his attention to the System Space to check the details of the Cultivation Technique he had just drawn.

[Cultivation Technique: Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture]

[Grade: Orthodox Level]

[Description: The Mysterious Talisman Sect's Sect-protecting Technique, containing ninety-nine unique Spiritual Patterns. Reflect on talismans for mental cultivation, with accomplished practice, one can draw talismans in the void, refine talismans into formation, and sacrificing talisman soldiers; its methods are profound and its power is boundless.]

"This Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture really lives up to being an Orthodox Level Cultivation Technique, it's so comprehensive!"

Lu Changsheng, looking at the description of Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture in front of him, was pleasantly surprised.

"System, transmit the inheritance!"

His Mental Spirit stirred immediately, and he used the Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture.

Instantly, the method for cultivating the Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture and related content, all the essential pointers, poured into Lu Changsheng's mind like enlightenment.

Lu Changsheng stood still, immersing his Mental Spirit in comprehending this Orthodox Level Talisman Inheritance Technique.

Chapter 408: The Second Spiritual Body Child!_1

“True to a Talisman Inheritance Technique, this Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture is indeed complex and profound.”

Lu Changsheng opened his eyes and exhaled lightly.

Just now, through the system inheritance and a thorough infusion of knowledge, he had fully comprehended the “Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture.”

As for the cultivation methods and related content within it, he knew all key points by heart, mastering them perfectly.

Yet even so, he couldn’t help but marvel at the complexity and mysteries of this Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture.

The core of the technique lies in the eighty-one special spiritual patterns within the scripture.

...

Each of these eighty-one patterns could evolve into hundreds or thousands of intricate runes.

Combining and arranging these spiritual patterns and derived runes, one could create 129,600 types of spirit talismans.

This number was astounding.

To know, as a fully-leveled Second Rank Talisman Master, Lu Changsheng’s total number of mastered talismans barely surpassed a thousand.

As for Lu Miaoge, currently a top-level First-Grade Talisman Master.

The number of talismans she mastered didn’t even reach a hundred.

Because human energy is limited.

Each talisman requires time to practice and master.

Even Second or Third Rank Talisman Masters, who could easily draw First Rank talismans, still needed to invest time and energy.

And yet, the Eighty-One spiritual patterns in this Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture encompass 129,600 spirit talismans.

That's why these eighty-one spiritual patterns are each incredibly profound and difficult to comprehend.

Therefore, to fully understand and accurately depict all eighty-one patterns is exceedingly difficult, too difficult.

Enough to consume the lifetimes of many Core Formation, Nascent Soul, and even Divinity Transformation cultivators.

Beyond these eighty-one spiritual patterns, this scripture also involves formations.

Talisman Formations.

Talisman Refinement Formation!

Ordinary cultivators, and even Talisman Masters, employ talismans in relatively simple ways.

Just like casting techniques, they activate and use the talismans.

Even if they have a vast amount of talismans, they just use them in a simple barrage.

This method not only wastes talismans, but its power and effectiveness are also mediocre.

Sometimes, because of too many and too messy talismans, activating too many at once can be difficult to control, leading to mana flux and self-harm.

However, the Talisman Formation within the Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture perfectly solves this drawback.

It links talismans together in harmonious compatibility.

Not only reducing the demands for divine sense control but also allowing dozens, hundreds, or even thousands of talismans to activate simultaneously, with their power stacking up to form a Talisman Formation.

Though it cannot be maintained for long, it's faster and simpler than a formation tool.

The moment thousands of talismans scatter down, the formation takes shape instantly with astounding power.

“Phew, this Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture is excessively complex, only someone with extraordinary talent and genius in the Talisman Path can cultivate it,” Lu Changsheng murmured as he exhaled deeply.

“Otherwise, even if one cultivates the power of this scripture, if they cannot fully comprehend the spiritual patterns, they won't be able to showcase the true might of these techniques.”

Lu Changsheng took another deep breath and released it gently.

He clearly recognized that the difficulty of this scripture was not in the cultivation of the technique, but in the understanding and the delineation of the eighty-one spiritual patterns.

Only by grasping the core spiritual patterns of this technique could he maximize the myriad methods contained within the scripture, such as the Life-bound Divine Talisman, Void Drawing of Talismans, Talisman Refinement Formation, and Sacrificial Refinement of Talisman Soldiers.

Otherwise, even with access to the scripture, if one couldn't comprehend the spiritual patterns, they would only have slightly denser mana than ordinary cultivators,

Unable to unleash the true capabilities of this scripture.

"Perhaps it is due to the challenging nature of this technique that there are few sects specializing in it,"

"For cultivators, even though they cultivate divine skills and techniques, in the end, the Cultivation Realm is the foundation,"

"If too much effort is spent on other aspects, it will inevitably delay one's cultivation," he pondered.

"However, if I were to fully comprehend and grasp the entire Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture, once the Talisman Formation is formed, its lethality would be even more fierce and domineering than the Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Scripture I'm currently cultivating."

Lu Changsheng thought silently to himself.

Through the transmission of the technique, he knew clearly the most powerful aspect of the Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture,

Making it plaything-like to overcome enemies above one's rank with hundreds or thousands of talismans formed into a Talisman Formation.

With proper preparations and enough talismans, even those at the Foundation Establishment Stage could have a chance to subdue Core Formation cultivators.

Of course, as powerful as it was,

it truly was exorbitantly expensive.

After all, such a Talisman Formation needed to be built with actual talismans,

It couldn't be said that the Talisman Formation could also be formed with Void Drawing of Talismans.

The so-called Void Drawing of Talismans was just a supplementary technique to this cultivation practice,

Allowing one to condense talismans to combat enemies without relying on talisman materials, simply consuming mana.

“Although I won't switch to cultivating this Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture and won't be able to condense a Life-bound Divine Talisman,”

“Relying on the eighty-one spiritual patterns and the 129,600 derived talismans, along with Void Drawing of Talismans and Talisman Refinement Formation techniques, I can display about seventy percent of this scripture's potency,” Lu Changsheng declared, before admitting,

“However, the effectiveness is still several degrees less than cultivating the scripture itself.”

He spoke softly to himself,

Although the scripture was formidable, he had no intention of switching his cultivation practice.

After all, the Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Scripture he was currently cultivating was no less remarkable than the Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture.

The Seven Luminaries Heart Lamp within the Sword Scripture was an excellent tool for cultivation.

Without it, his cultivation speed would perhaps be half as slow.

Moreover, mastering these eighty-one spiritual patterns and numerous techniques from this scripture were already enough for him.

There was no need to insist on obtaining a Life-bound Divine Talisman or several other methods.

“Setting everything else aside, with the 129,600 talismans from this Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture, I can dominate a market niche with these exclusive spirit talismans, attractive to countless people,” he considered.

Chapter 409: The Second Spiritual Body Child!_2

Lu Changsheng chuckled softly.

Most of the talismans in the market were common ones.

Only a small number of people, and powers, held a few exclusive talismans and talisman inheritances.

And how many of these powerful exclusive talismans existed in the Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture was anybody’s guess.

From Lu Changsheng’s perspective, in the future, his family could completely rely on these various talismans to establish a foothold and occupy a segment of the market in the cultivation world.

“Although I don’t cultivate the Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture, besides the one hundred and twenty-nine thousand six hundred talismans, it also contains methods for crafting several Talisman Instruments.”

...

“Among them, there is one Talisman Instrument—the Ninety-Nine Mysterious True Strategy, which assists in talisman refinement formation. It is very suitable for me; I could try to craft a simplified imitation.”

“As for talisman warriors... according to the cultivation technique, crafting talisman warriors consumes a lot of time and energy, as well as cultivation level to nurture them.”

“Currently, my cultivation level only allows me to craft ordinary Force Talisman Warriors.”

“Such talisman warriors can only do rough work and are not capable of fighting against others. To me, they are a waste of time and energy.”

“Only when my cultivation level is higher and I have time and am willing to invest effort in crafting advanced level talisman warriors, will they have some combat effectiveness.”

“However, within this scripture, there is a rather good Talisman Nurturing Method.”

“It involves drawing spirit talismans with excellent talisman materials and then spending time continuously nurturing the talismans, enabling a First Grade talisman to exhibit the power of a Second Rank Talisman, and a Second Rank Talisman to exhibit the power of a Third Rank Talisman.”

“Currently, I can only draw Second Rank Supreme Talismans, but with this Talisman Nurturing Method, I can nurture several Third Rank Talismans for self-defense. That way, if I encounter a Nascent Soul Immortal, I will also have some ability to protect myself.”

Lu Changsheng pondered silently to himself.

Considering what aspects of the Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture could be beneficial to him at the moment.

Apart from mastering many powerful talismans.

He could also craft a Formation Path Talisman Instrument.

After all, Talisman Refinement Formation can be considered the essence of this Cultivation Technique.

It would allow him to elevate his combat capabilities by a level.

And with the Talisman Nurturing Method from the Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture, he could nurture a few life-saving talismans.

In this way, even if he encountered Nascent Soul Immortals or False Core Immortals, he would have some means of self-protection.

“But to craft a simplified version of the Ninety-Nine Mysterious True Strategy, I need to use rare materials like Black Obsidian Essence Iron and the Iron of the Five Metals.”

“Several of these materials are Third Rank heavenly treasures and it is clearly impossible to gather them all in the Red Leaf Valley Market.”

“Also, to nurture Third Rank Treasure Talismans, I must use Third Rank materials to draw the talismans.”

Lu Changsheng furrowed his brows slightly.

After all, the Red Leaf Valley Market was just a newly established marketplace.

Even among medium-sized markets, it was considered relatively inferior, at the bottom of the scale.

Thus, purchasing Third Rank materials in the market was very difficult.

Unless one had fortuitous luck, otherwise acquiring such materials was nearly impossible.

“After Xi Yue and the Lu Family affairs are dealt with, I’ll first go to the Qingyun Commerce Guild in the Nine Dragons Market to see,”

“If the Nine Dragons Market doesn’t have them, I could take a trip to Jiuxiao Immortal City and just happen to pick up the rewards for the two robbers I hunted.”

Lu Changsheng mused softly in his heart.

In his view, it was worth making a trip out to craft a talisman instrument and nurture treasure talismans.

With his current strength comparable to the late stage of Foundation Establishment, heading to the Immortal City wouldn’t be dangerous as long as he didn’t run into any Nascent Soul Immortals.

“Later I’ll craft some sets of talismans that can form a talisman formation. That way, encountering late Foundation Establishment or even False Core Robber Cultivators shouldn’t be a big deal.”

Lu Changsheng thought to himself in secret.

Now, with his divine sense comparable to the late stage of Foundation Establishment and the Profound Origin Bead at his side,

he could easily deploy some talisman formations as long as he had enough talismans.

If he formed a talisman formation with a hundred Second Rank Talismans, he was confident he could suppress a cultivator at the late stage of Foundation Establishment.

As for False Core Immortals, Lu Changsheng had never encountered one, so he was unsure of their strength.

But based on the power of a talisman formation composed of a hundred Second Rank Talismans, even if he couldn’t kill the opponent, he could at least cause them severe damage.

...

Since Xiao Xiyue could give birth at any moment,

Lu Changsheng, aside from occasionally visiting the Lu Family’s Spiritual Talisman Shop and Peace Talisman Hall, spent most of his time accompanying Xiao Xiyue, waiting for the child to be born.

One month later.

Inside the cultivation cave, Lu Changsheng held Xiao Xiyue’s delicate, boneless palm tightly.

“Wah—”

A clear cry of a baby echoed.

At the same time, a profound and intense fluctuation burst forth.

Accompanied by a system notification sound.

[Congratulations on the birth of your second child with a Spiritual Body, you have won a lottery chance!]

“What, a Spiritual Body!?”

Even though Lu Changsheng had previously guessed that this child would have good talent, he was startled when he heard this system notification.

He hadn’t expected Xiao Xiyue’s child to actually have a Spiritual Body.

And moreover, to receive a system reward after giving birth to a Spiritual Body child for the second time.

But considering the rarity of a Spiritual Body, Lu Changsheng also felt somewhat relieved.

He didn’t dwell on it and quickly regained his composure, turning his attention back to Xiao Xiyue.

He used a Gentle Breeze and Dewdrop Talisman on Xiao Xiyue to adjust her body and replenish her damaged vital energy.

“Xi Yue, I’ve made you go through so much.”

Lu Changsheng held the child with one hand and performed a Cleansing Technique before embracing his beloved wife.

“I have finally borne a child for Lu Lang.”

Xiao Xiyue nestled in her lover’s embrace, her slightly pale and weak face glowing with a radiant maternal smile.

During her pregnancy, she had been looking forward to the child's birth,

wondering whether it would be a boy or a girl, and whether the child would have a Spiritual Root Talent.

True, she had prepared a Secret Art Technique during her time in Qingyun Sect,

and had nurtured the child with her Moonlight Spirit Body, significantly increasing the chances of the child having a Spiritual Root with good talent.

But there was no way to be absolutely certain.

Chapter 410: The 2nd Spiritual Body Child!_3

“Lu Lang, look at this child, she's actually not crying, she's looking at me and smiling.”

Xiao Xiyue said to Lu Changsheng, holding the baby in his arms, in a soft voice.

This child was a girl.

Her skin was like jade, fair with a rosy undertone, and two large eyes, clear-cut in black and white, were looking at Lu Changsheng and Xiao Xiyue.

“Yes, this child, Xi Yue, you carried her for eleven months before giving birth, she is surely extraordinary.”

“Look at these eyes, this nose, so much like yours.”

...

Lu Changsheng looked at the child and laughed.

Thanks to the improvements from the Immortal Beauty Technique and Peach Blossom Gu, Lu Changsheng had extraordinarily handsome features, which meant his children were all either strikingly handsome or beautiful.

There were no ugly children.

“Lu Lang, you’re always so flattering, she’s so little, how can you even tell?”

Xiao Xiyue looked at the child’s facial features, also very happy, revealing a blissful smile.

Then she asked, “Lu Lang, have you thought of a good name for this child?”

“I have, of course, thought of one,” Lu Changsheng replied immediately upon hearing this.

“Since it’s a girl, I hope she can be like you, Xi Yue, akin to the Guanghan Fairy of the Nine Heavens Bright Moon.”

“So, as for the name, how about Wangshu? What do you think?”

Lu Changsheng smiled and said aloud.

Wangshu, in ancient mythology, is the deity who drives the moon’s chariot and is also a poetic reference to the moon itself.

He now enjoyed picking names with meanings related to his wife’s name.

“Wangshu, Lu Wangshu,” Xiao Xiyue repeated the child’s name, a smile appearing on her somewhat pale and weak face.

She obviously also heard the meaning in the name.

“If Xi Yue has thought of any good names, that’s fine too,” Lu Changsheng continued.

Having picked hundreds of names, he wasn't particularly concerned about the names of his children.

Any name his wife fancied would be fine.

"Xi Yue is very satisfied with this name," Xiao Xiyue said with a gentle smile.

Then, the two of them held their child, whispering sweet nothings to each other, filled with endearment and affection.

Meanwhile.

Qingyun Sect.

Atop the luxurious palace on Caiyun Peak, a breathtakingly beautiful woman stood quietly at the balustrade, gazing into the distance.

Her beauty was difficult to describe with mere words like "nation toppling."

Tall and slender, her graceful figure was dressed in a gown that resembled flowing rosy clouds.

Her long, luscious black hair was elegantly styled in a bun, fastened with a phoenix-shaped hairpin, conveying her nobility and grace beyond compare.

Even standing still, she emitted a presence that made others feel unworthy and dared not to defile her majestic beauty.

"More than three years have passed, and I wonder how Xi Yue is doing."

Yun Wanshang gazed into the distance, a surge of emotions suddenly filling her heart, prompting thoughts of her disciple Xiao Xiyue, who had left the mountain.

When Xiao Xiyue had left the mountain, she told her that this period of trials could last a short three years or as long as five years.

Now that three years had passed, an unexpected rush of emotions made her think of Xiao Xiyue's circumstances.

Although Xiao Xiyue's trials were not supposed to be very dangerous,

Yun Wanshang still couldn't help but worry.

In her spare time, she pondered the Supreme Forgetful Love Technique.

With the insights Xiao Xiyue had previously provided, Yun Wanshang had different realizations upon reflection, gaining a deeper understanding of the profound mysteries of this Cultivation Technique.

She understood that the Supreme Forgetful Love Technique's process from attachment to detachment made it easier to become deeply ensnared with each advancement in cultivation.

One careless step, and one might never be able to extricate oneself.

After all, everyone has their emotions and desires.

Even those with firm Dao Hearts find it difficult to contend with the complexities of emotions.

"Master."

Just then, a woman in a white palace gown approached the pavilion and bowed to Yun Wanshang.

This woman appeared to be around twenty-five or twenty-six years old.

She had a striking, well-defined face, with sharp, narrow eyes that combined feminine softness with a hint of brisk coldness.

Her nose was shapely and her lips tender, naturally rosy without the need for rouge.

Her long black hair was simply tied back in a ponytail, and she carried an azure, wavering spiritual sword on her back. She exuded a cool, aloof aura, like a peerless sword fairy.

“Qing Yi, you’re back. Is there any progress?” Yun Wanshang asked as she turned to look at the woman.

This disciple was Chu Qingyi, her eldest one, who had been sent out on a mission.

“Master, according to my investigation, there are indeed issues with the Xiahou Family; they show signs of practicing Demonic Techniques,” Chu Qingyi reported, her voice crisp and cold.

“Have you been able to determine which Demonic Technique these traces originate from? Could it be the work of a spy from another nation?” Yun Wanshang asked, not surprised by the news.

“I haven’t discovered relevant information yet,”

“But through certain clues, it seems the Xiahou Family’s Demonic Techniques are related to the practice of refining corpses,” Chu Qingyi stated.

“Refining corpses,”

Upon hearing this, Yun Wanshang’s starry, brilliant eyes showed a trace of coldness.