

I. Family 571

Chapter 571: The Flame of Hope, Current Situation of Zhao Qingqing!_2

Everyone's Spiritual Root contains all five elements.

But most tend to be skewed towards one element.

Therefore, everyone chooses their Cultivation Method based on the element with the highest attribute of their Spiritual Root.

Lu Ping'an's Spiritual Root, however, was balanced across all five elements, each just reaching the status of Fifth Grade.

With this attribute of the Spiritual Root, cultivating the "Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Scripture," especially the "Five Luminaries Star Demise Sword Canon," would be quite effective.

"Dad, what grade is my Spiritual Root?"

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Lu Ping'an looked at his father with curiosity and asked.

He knew that Spiritual Roots were classified into nine grades.

So he was a bit curious about the grade of his own Spiritual Root.

“Hmm, your Spiritual Root is Seventh Grade,”

Lu Changsheng thought for a moment before speaking out.

Although a Fifth Grade Spiritual Root didn't seem high from his current perspective,

Comparatively speaking, it was still quite high.

So it was better to say a lower grade.

“Seventh Grade.”

Lu Ping'an heard this, nodded his head, and showed no sign of disappointment.

In his eyes, possessing a Spiritual Root and being able to cultivate was already very satisfying.

His own father was only of Ninth Grade Spiritual Root, and through step by step effort, he had achieved his current status.

With his own Seventh Grade Spiritual Root, what more could he ask for!

As long as he worked hard, he would surely be able to make his mark in the Cultivation World!

After resolving the matter with Lu Ping'an, Lu Changsheng did not widely publicize this affair.

He merely mentioned to his wife, Lu Lanshu, that he just discovered that their son Lu Ping'an had a Spiritual Root.

It either went undetected in his childhood, or the Spiritual Root was hidden; therefore, he was planning to take him back to Qingzhu Mountain.

“What, Ping'an has a Spiritual Root!?”

Lu Lanshu was momentarily stupefied upon hearing this, feeling as if she had been struck by a pie falling from the sky.

She knew her son lacked a Spiritual Root, so she had always wanted him to take charge of the secular Lu Family.

But the boy wasn't interested in that area, being a bit slow on the uptake, which gave her quite a headache.

She didn't expect that now Lu Changsheng would tell her that their son had a Spiritual Root.

She felt an unexpected and delightful surprise.

“Husband, are you serious...”

Lu Lanshu covered her mouth with her hands and spoke with a trembling voice.

“Of course, I am,”

“I’ll let Ping’an come back often, and then you can see for yourself,”

Lu Changsheng said softly.

Lu Lanshu’s heart swelled with joy as she looked at her son and advised him to listen carefully to his father and to take in the words of Aunt Miaoge.

She knew Lu Miaoge was the eldest young miss of the Lu Family and held a special status.

If her own son could gain favor from several of the family’s primary wives, his life on Qingzhu Mountain would be better.

“Mother, I understand, don’t worry,”

Lu Ping'an replied earnestly.

"You're grown up now, Mother won't say anything more,"

Lu Lanshu looked at her son with a beaming smile, her heart filled with joy.

She knew that Lu Changsheng had always been fond of her son.

Now that he had a Spiritual Root, he would surely not suffer on Qingzhu Mountain.

Moments later, she hesitantly asked Lu Changsheng, "Husband, since Ping'an has a Spiritual Root, could Ningjing, Anning, Anran... do they also have Spiritual Roots?"

These were all her children.

She had given birth to six children for Lu Changsheng.

But none of these six children had a Spiritual Root.

"Later, have all the children gather in the backyard, and I'll check them over again,"

Lu Changsheng said after a moment of contemplation.

The matter of Lu Ping'an having a Spiritual Root would definitely not stay hidden.

He planned to take Lu Ping'an back to Qingzhu Mountain and telling Lu Lanshu was a sign he hadn't wished to conceal it.

With that in mind, it was best to recheck all the children in the family.

Yet thinking of these children, he sighed softly, knowing they would have expectations but would ultimately be disappointed.

"You've worked hard, husband,"

Lu Lanshu immediately said, hastily going to spread the news.

Now that he was back in Ruyi Prefecture,

Lu Changsheng naturally also took the opportunity to meet with Hong Yi and inquire about the situation of his son Lu Quanzhen.

However, the Ruyi Marquis told Lu Changsheng that Hong Yi and Lu Quanzhen had gone out on a mission.

And he would immediately have someone send a message to Hong Yi.

The next day,

Lu Changsheng and Lu Miaoge, in the Lu Family's backyard, rechecked the Spiritual Roots of all the children.

But after the examination, no one else was found to have a Spiritual Root.

This led to disappointment among those children and several wives.

Seeing this scene, Lu Ping'an pursed his lips and felt a heaviness in his heart.

He was almost certain that his having a Spiritual Root was the doing of his father, Lu Changsheng.

Thinking of his father's favoritism towards him, he felt an increased sense of heavy responsibility.

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Lu Changsheng stayed in Ruyi Prefecture for five days.

Today, Hong Yi and Lu Quanzhen arrived at the Lu Residence, travel-worn.

“Congratulations to Lu... Elder, for your breakthrough in Foundation Establishment,”

“Son pays respects to Father, congratulating Father on the breakthrough in Foundation Establishment!”

Upon arriving at the Lu Residence, the two of them immediately bowed to Lu Changsheng.

“Haha, Brother Hong, we’ve known each other for so many years, there’s no need for such formality,”

Upon hearing Hong Yi’s term of address, Lu Changsheng knew he’d received news of his own breakthrough in Foundation Establishment.

After all, the Red Leaf Valley Market was near Qingzhu Mountain,

And the Ruyi Marquis’s Mansion had shops there.

Upon receiving such news, it would naturally be relayed back promptly.

“It was I who was too formal, please don’t take offense, Brother Lu,”

Hong Yi said with a smile upon hearing this response, but his demeanor remained somewhat restrained and full of respect and awe.

After all, this was a Foundation Establishment Great Cultivator!

He had never expected that the poor farmer's son he once looked down upon would have achieved Foundation Establishment twenty-something years later!

Once upon a time, the two of them, among six others, went to Qingyun Sect for the Immortal Sects examination.

Three were admitted to Qingyun Sect, and three were not chosen.

Lu Changsheng had the poorest Spiritual Root Talent among all.

Yet now, this person with the poorest Spiritual Root had achieved Foundation Establishment, which truly made him reflect on the unpredictability of the world.

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However, he felt fortunate for his past decision to foster relations and invest in Lu Changsheng.

“Take the elixir medicine.”

Lu Changsheng looked at his son, Lu Quanzhen, with one glance.

Noticing that his breath was slightly disordered, he must have sustained some minor injuries.

He flicked a bottle of healing pills from his storage bag and had his son take them.

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“Father, it’s just some minor injuries, I’ll recover after ten days to half a month.”

Lu Quanzhen took the medicine and spoke respectfully.

“If I tell you to take it, then take it, no need to save money at home.”

Lu Changsheng said.

“Brother Lu, this trip was my fault. I went out to capture a robber cultivator, confident it was a sure success.”

“But unexpectedly, this person actually had a spiritual pet hidden in the shadows that ambushed Quanzhen.”

Hong Yi quickly said.

“It’s fine, where can one be without getting hurt sometimes?”

“Such experiences can also teach a lesson.”

Lu Changsheng waved his hand dismissively upon hearing this.

He then instructed Lu Quanzhen to go and tend to his injuries.

“This child takes his leave.”

Lu Quanzhen, realizing that his father must have had something to discuss with Hong Yi, excused himself immediately.

Shortly after, Lu Changsheng took out drinks and made small talk with Hong Yi, inquiring about his son, Lu Quanzhen's performance over the past two years,

as well as inquiring about some matters of the Lu family.

In this regard, Hong Yi naturally did not dare to conceal anything and reported everything about Lu Quanzhen's performance in detail.

He mentioned that initially, he didn't dare let Lu Quanzhen do anything dangerous, and he only did odd jobs,

but Lu Quanzhen had a steady character and handled the tasks with order and without mess.

Later on, he started to take charge of some affairs and managed everything in a very orderly and proper manner.

Over the past half year, he had been taking Lu Quanzhen with him on some missions to capture robber cultivators and demon beasts,

and Lu Quanzhen had shown to be courageous and tactful, decisive in killing.

"Brother Hong, don't just selectively praise him."

Lu Changsheng raised his eyebrows at this.

He knew his son was precocious and had strong opinions,

but he didn't expect him to receive such high praise from Hong Yi.

"Brother Lu, how could I possibly deceive you about this kind of matter?"

"Quanzhen truly excels in this regard."

Hong Yi said with a wry smile.

As he spoke, he slapped on flattery, “I suppose it’s also due to the influence from growing up under your guidance, Brother Lu, that Quanzhen has shown such excellence.”

“Since that’s the case, let’s continue to have him hone his skills under your mentorship for a few more years, Brother Hong.”

“His mother worries about him every day, and I was thinking that if he doesn’t adapt, he should come back earlier to manage the business in the marketplace.”

Lu Changsheng nodded slightly and said aloud.

He had thought that if his son, Lu Quanzhen, had only shown mediocre performance, there would be no need to keep fighting and killing on this front.

He would bring him back to Qingzhu Mountain and go to Red Leaf Valley Market to be responsible for some affairs.

However, since his son indeed had the talent, he would leave him with Hong Yi to continue his experience.

“Rest assured, Brother Lu, I will certainly take good care of Quanzhen!”

Hong Yi raised his glass and spoke respectfully.

He had initially wanted to marry his daughter, who had a Spiritual Root, to Lu Quanzhen.

But now that Lu Changsheng had made a breakthrough to Foundation Establishment, he felt a bit embarrassed to bring up the subject.

In his heart, he planned that when the time was right, he would have his daughter make an effort to get Lu Quanzhen to bring up the matter with his father.

“I’ll have to trouble you then, Brother Hong.”

Lu Changsheng nodded, clinked glasses in return, and also inquired about Hong Yi’s current situation.

Since the other party was handling all sorts of miscellaneous affairs for him, it was only proper to reciprocate, and naturally, he would also help in resolving some matters in return.

In this manner, as the two of them talked on, they discussed Li Feiyu, Han Lin, Zhao Qingqing, and Xiao Xiyue.

Li Feiyu had gone to Azure Phoenix Immortal City and, apart from writing two letters over the years, there hadn’t been much contact.

Apart from Xiao Xiyue, Lu Changsheng also had not been in touch with Han Lin and Zhao Qingqing.

However, Hong Yi had kept in touch with both Han Lin and Zhao Qingqing and even conducted quite a bit of business with them.

For instance, when they needed to collect some materials or information within the sect, they could leave it to Hong Yi to take care of.

If Hong Yi had any needs, he would also write to the two, as it was a mutually beneficial arrangement.

In the midst of the conversation, Hong Yi relayed the latest news about the two to Lu Changsheng.

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Han Lin had a small talent in artifact refining and was now a superior Artifact Refiner at the Eighth Level Energy Refinement.

Zhao Qingqing had already reached the Ninth Level Energy Refinement and was preparing for Foundation Establishment.

“It seems that in a few years, Daoist Zhao will also be able to break through Foundation Establishment,”

Lu Changsheng said with a smile.

She remembered that Zhao Qingqing possessed a Vegbody and was taken as a disciple by an Outer Sect elder of Qingyun Sect.

Maybe she could exchange for a Foundation Establishment Elixir to break through Foundation Establishment.

“It’s not that simple.”

“Years ago, Daoist Zhao asked me to help keep an eye out for news about Foundation Establishment Spirit Objects.”

“She indicated that her contributions couldn’t exchange for a Foundation Establishment Elixir in the Sect, but only for a ‘Meridian Protecting Elixir’.”

“At that time, she could only rely on Foundation Establishment Spirit Objects to attempt Foundation Establishment.”

Hong Yi shook his head and sighed.

“Oh, doesn’t she have a master?”

“Won’t the master lend a hand and help?”

Upon hearing this, Lu Changsheng was somewhat surprised.

In the Cultivation World, the mentor-disciple relationship is no less significant than the parent-child relationship.

Thus, as a master, most would nurture and help their own disciples.

“I have heard a little about it. Daoist Zhao’s master has a grandchild who is an Inner Sect Disciple of Qingyun Sect.”

“She originally took in Daoist Zhao as a disciple to facilitate a match between Zhao and her grandchild.”

“But Zhao Qingqing was unwilling, so the relationship between master and disciple is not good. Otherwise, with a master who is an Outer Sect elder, Daoist Zhao might have been able to exchange for a Foundation Establishment Elixir.”

Hong Yi sighed as he spoke.

“Indeed, it seems you can’t escape worldly concerns anywhere.”

Upon hearing this, Lu Changsheng also shook his head and sighed.

He had thought that since Zhao Qingqing had awakened a Vegbody and been taken in by Qingyun Sect’s medicine garden manager as a disciple, her future Foundation Establishment was hopeful.

Unexpectedly, she still couldn’t escape the worldly concerns and covetousness.

After chatting idly for a long time, Hong Yi took his leave from Lu Changsheng.

Afterward, Lu Changsheng asked his son Lu Quanzhen if he planned to return home with him or stay here.

“If mother sees my injuries, she’s going to fuss over it again.”

“I’ll visit father and mother at Qingzhu Mountain after some time has passed.”

Lu Quanzhen said.

Ordinarily he wasn't afraid of much, but he did dread his mother's nagging.

If she saw any injuries on him, she would surely worry and prevent him from going out.

At that point, if his mother cried and spoke a few words to his father, his father might just agree to it.

"Alright, you've always been sensible. Take care of these matters as you see fit."

Lu Changsheng nodded without insisting.

After that, he continued, "In the future, if you ever feel uncertain about something or go out on some task, you can take Jiuyou with you for support."

"Jiuyou?"

Lu Quanzhen was taken aback.

"That's Xiao Hei."

Lu Changsheng explained.

Because they had originally brought the Jiuyou back home simply as a companion for the children to play with, they had given it the modest name 'Xiao Hei.'

As a result, these children barely knew the name Nine Netherhound.

"Xiao Hei doesn't seem to be very close to me."

Upon hearing this, Lu Quanzhen scratched his head and said.

He knew that the spiritual pet his father raised was very powerful.

But the Nine Netherhound was mostly close to the children like Lu Ping'an, Lu Wuyou, and Lu Wuyu, who had grown up together.

It did not show much closeness to him.

“Alright, I’ll have a word with it.”

Lu Changsheng said.

He took Lu Quanzhen to meet the Nine Netherhound, asking it to heed Lu Quanzhen’s words from time to time.

He also gave Lu Quanzhen a Spiritual Pet Bag and three bottles of pet-nourishing pills to tend to the Nine Netherhound and keep it inside the Spiritual Pet Bag while traveling.

“Thank you, father!”

Lu Quanzhen bowed and thanked.

After settling all the family matters, Lu Changsheng boarded the Spirit Boat with Lu Miaoge, Lu Ping'an, and a few other children, returning to Qingzhu Mountain.

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Three days later.

A spirit boat descended outside Qingzhu Mountain.

Lu Ping'an looked at the Qingzhu Mountain before him, feeling as if it were a lifetime ago.

He still remembered, at the age of eight, being sent by his father Lu Changsheng to Ruyi Prefecture.

“Great Elder, Miaoge, you have returned.”

The clan elder guarding the mountain gate saw Lu Changsheng and saluted with cupped hands.

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He hurriedly opened the Mountain Gate Grand Formation and let Lu Changsheng and the others enter.

“Elder Yun.”

Lu Changsheng smiled at this elder of the Lu Family, walking through the mountain gate.

He did not behave any differently due to the elevation in his status and identity.

Lu Changsheng saw that Lu Miaoge looked a bit astonished and guessed that she was puzzled about how he became the Great Elder. He spoke up to explain.

“The family said that since I have now made a breakthrough to Foundation Establishment, I should naturally become an elder ancestor for the family.”

“But I found it awkward, so I declined, and as a result, the family promoted me from the Ninth Elder to the Great Elder.”

Lu Changsheng spoke softly.

“Changsheng, now that you have broken through to Foundation Establishment, according to family rules, you naturally become an elder ancestor, and there is nothing wrong with that.”

Lu Miaoge said softly upon hearing this.

In her view, such a matter was entirely normal and to be expected.

Not just in the Lu Family, but throughout the entire Cultivation World, this was the case.

Because for cultivators, each major realm was like a chasm separating heaven and earth!

Foundation Establishment Cultivators are more noble than Energy Refining Cultivators!

There is an essential difference in the quality of life between the two!

Just as mortals become elevated immediately upon becoming cultivators.

And Energy Refining Cultivators, as long as they break through to Foundation Establishment, would see their lifespan, strength, identity, and status rise exponentially!

This is also why countless Energy Refining Cultivators, despite knowing the difficulty of Foundation Establishment as elusive, still chase after this faint hope desperately, dedicating their entire lives!

“Dad, you’ve become a Foundation Building Great Cultivator!?”

Lu Qingsong, standing nearby, heard the conversation and instantly widened his eyes, looking at his father in amazement.

They had been around Lu Changsheng for so long without knowing about their father’s breakthrough to Foundation Establishment.

Lu Ping’an was also surprised.

He hadn’t expected that his father was actually a Foundation Building Great Cultivator.

He might not be a cultivator himself, but he knew that within the Cultivation World, Foundation Building Great Cultivators were esteemed beings!

And his father, unconsciously, had become a Foundation Building Great Cultivator!?

This inspired a sense of admiration in him!

Admiration for his father who rose from humble beginnings and insignificant origins.

And now, to become an esteemed Foundation Building Great Cultivator within the Cultivation World!

“Yes.”

Lu Changsheng smiled and nodded.

Then, patting Lu Qingsong on the head, he said, “About your brother’s matter, you should take the time to comfort and cajole your mother, understand?”

On this trip home, he naturally had to discuss Lu Qingshan’s circumstances with his wife Lu Miaohuan.

Lu Miaohuan was not as strong as Lu Miaoge.

Knowing that her son was taken as a disciple by a Nascent Soul Immortal, even though she would certainly be thrilled and proud of her son, she would also definitely feel sad and distressed.

“I understand, Dad.”

Lu Qingsong, hearing this, nodded somewhat understandingly yet somewhat not.

He thought that his brother being taken as a disciple by a Nascent Soul Immortal should be a good thing, so why comfort their mother?

In the midst of speaking, they arrived home.

“Husband, Sister Miaoge.”

The house became lively immediately upon hearing that Lu Changsheng and Lu Miaoge had returned.

“Oh, Ping’an is here too.”

Qu Zhenzhen spoke upon seeing Lu Ping’an.

She had looked after Lu Ping’an when he was young and had visited the mortal world on several occasions, so she recognized him.

“Yes, I found during this trip that Ping’an actually possesses a Spiritual Root, so I brought him over.”

Lu Changsheng smiled at Qu Zhenzhen.

“So it’s Ping’an. So many years have passed, and I hardly recognized you.”

Lu Miaoyun also saw Lu Ping’an and cheerfully spoke.

“I have seen Aunt!”

Lu Ping’an, seeing the several aunts before him, respectfully saluted, slightly constrained.

“Husband, sister, where are Qingshan and Qingzhu?”

At this moment, the tall and graceful Second Miss, dressed in a golden luxurious skirt, approached.

She saw Lu Changsheng, Lu Miaoge, Lu Qingsong, and Lu Wangshu, but not Lu Qingshan and Lu Qingzhu. Looking around with her beautiful eyes, she asked.

“Huanhuan, on this trip I took Qingshan and the others to Green River Marketplace, and along the way...”

Lu Miaoge, with a grace and gentleness like flowing water, stepped forward and began to recount to her sister with a hint of guilt on her face.

Although it was a chance occurrence, and a great one at that,

Lu Qingshan had been taken away by a Nascent Soul Immortal to become his disciple without having the chance to say goodbye to his mother, Lu Miaohuan.

Moreover, with Lu Changsheng bringing out Orthodox Level Cultivation Techniques, Foundation Establishment Elixirs, and Foundation Establishment Spirit Objects, she faintly felt,

The children, being by their side, may not be much worse off than becoming disciples of a Nascent Soul Immortal.

“Qingshan has a Gengjin Body Constitution and was noticed by the Nascent Soul Immortal of Yue Country’s Immortal Sects, who took him as a disciple!”

“And Qingshan requested the Immortal to take Qingzhu as a disciple as well...”

Lu Miaohuan, hearing this, was taken aback.

Her delicate and stunning face revealed a look of astonishment.

She never imagined that her own son possessed a one-in-a-million Spiritual Body!

And had captured the attention of a Nascent Soul Immortal, who took him as a disciple to an Immortal Sect for cultivation.

This left her feeling excited and thrilled.

But at the next moment, realizing her son was only ten years old,

And considering his normally mischievous nature, she couldn't help but worry, thinking about him being taken to a far-off Immortal Sect in Yue Country.

“Congratulations, Sister Huanhuan, Qingshan has been accepted as a disciple by a Nascent Soul Immortal!”

“Congratulations, Sister Miaoge, little Zhu has been taken in by the Nascent Soul Immortal!”

“I always said that Qingshan was no ordinary child since his youth, and I never expected he actually has a Spiritual Body!”

“It's said that one-in-a-million cultivators possess Spiritual Bodies, and it seems that Qingshan is certainly destined to become a Foundation Building Great Cultivator!”

“Not only that, perhaps in the future, he could even become a Nascent Soul Immortal!”

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“Qing Shan is such a considerate child, to encounter such an opportunity and still think of bringing his sister along.”

Lu Miaoyun, Qu Zhenzhen, and others beside them were incredibly envious upon hearing this and offered their congratulations one after another.

In their eyes, although parting was sad,

this was a great opportunity, a cause for immense joy; they were filled with envy.

“Hmph, truly worthy of being my son, Lu Miaohuan.”

Lu Miaohuan lifted her delicate chin ever so slightly as she heard everyone's congratulations, pride and satisfaction immediately showing on her face.

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After all, her son possessed a Spiritual Body and had been taken as a disciple by a Nascent Soul Immortal.

It was certain that in the future, he would definitely break through Foundation Establishment and become a Foundation Establishment Great Cultivator!

This made her, as a mother, bask in reflected glory, feeling immensely proud and arrogant!

“Hehe, as the saying goes, ‘blue is extracted from the indigo plant but is more vivid than the plant itself’; who knows, Qing Shan might come back even more powerful than this father of his.”

Upon seeing Lu Miaohuan’s happy face, without a trace of sorrow or pain, Lu Changsheng stepped forward and took her fair and slender hand, chuckling.

Now that Lu Changsheng and Lu Miaoge had returned and brought such news, their home was filled with joy and harmony.

During the evening meal.

“Sister Miaoge, this is Zi Xiao, Ling Zixiao.”

“Zi Xiao, this is my wife, Lu Miaoge.”

Lu Changsheng introduced Lu Miaoge and Ling Zixiao to each other.

One was his wife and the other a Daoist companion; there was also the matter of healing to discuss afterward, so of course, they had to get to know each other.

“I have seen Sister Ling.”

Lu Miaoge, being aware that Ling Zixiao was a Great Cultivator of Foundation Building, greeted her politely and with a warm countenance.

“Lu Daoist.”

Ling Zixiao's elegant, pale face carried a demure grace, and she greeted Lu Miaoge with a gentle and elegant smile.

Her clear and bright eyes of Qiushui studied Lu Miaoge before her.

Lu Changsheng had mentioned that once Lu Miaoge returned, there would be hope of resolving her Dragon Roar Physique.

So, she wanted to know how Lu Miaoge, who had only achieved the Ninth Level of Energy Refinement, could possibly resolve her Dragon Roar Physique.

However, after some casual conversation and seeing Lu Miaoge did not bring up healing, Ling Zixiao didn't inquire either.

She waited for Lu Changsheng to bring it up and make arrangements.

Their initial meeting was quite mundane, and Lu Changsheng didn't pay it too much attention.

After all, neither woman was particularly warm or overly familiar.

It wasn't possible for them to hit it off immediately and become deeply engrossed in conversation.

...

That night.

In a small courtyard.

"Have you got it?"

Lu Changsheng looked at his son, Lu Ping'an, and asked.

He was teaching Lu Ping'an the "Five Elements Star Destruction Sword Canon."

Because Lu Ping'an had not yet started cultivating, he couldn't view the Jade Slip with his Mental Spirit.

So his father had to teach him bit by bit, explaining the sword canon's cultivation methods, brain meditation, technique circulation, and so on, little by little.

Until he completely understood it and committed the technique firmly to memory.

"Dad, I remember it!"

Lu Ping'an nodded vigorously.

As a grandmaster of martial arts, his memory was extraordinary.

Although the technique was mystically profound, with Lu Changsheng's detailed explanation, he was able to memorize it all.

"Good, with that being the case, start cultivating and try to draw the Qi into your body."

Lu Changsheng nodded to this, encouraging Lu Ping'an to begin cultivating.

"Yes, Dad!"

Hearing this, Lu Ping'an immediately closed his eyes, sat cross-legged according to his father's instructions, and began cultivating.

Time passed by slowly.

No one knew how long had passed.

"Forget it, you keep cultivating, and once you can enter the state, tell me."

Seeing that his son hadn't been able to enter the proper state, Lu Changsheng shook his head slightly.

The "Five Elements Star Destruction Sword Canon," as a Peripheral Sect Level technique, naturally wasn't easy to comprehend.

The first step of cultivation, drawing Qi into the body, required harmonious body and mind, clear and empty mental spirit, and a stance towards heaven with the contemplation of the five elemental stars, which carried certain difficulties.

It wasn't like the Returning Origin Technique, a basic cultivation technique, where one simply needed to silently sense the spiritual energy of heaven and earth to proceed.

However, Lu Changsheng was roughly certain that his son's comprehension abilities were quite ordinary.

After seeing his son open up a Fifth Grade Spiritual Root under the Hope Gu's influence, he'd harbored a small expectation that his son would surprise him in other areas.

It seemed he had hoped for too much.

"Dad, am I really bad at this?"

Lu Ping'an opened his eyes and scratched his head rather sheepishly.

"This is normal, usually, it takes about ten days to half a month to get a knack for it."

Lu Changsheng did not discourage his son, instead offering reassuring words.

"Okay."

Lu Ping'an nodded upon hearing this,

determined to work hard in the coming days, to master the technique, and to not disappoint his father.

“Alright, if you have any issues or questions, come find me at any time.”

Lu Changsheng patted his shoulder and said.

As he looked at the moonlight streaming through the haze of the night, he exhaled softly, walked out of the small courtyard, and went over to Lu Miaohuan’s.

He could sense that Lu Miaohuan hadn’t gone to rest yet.

“Huanhuan?”

Arriving at the courtyard, Lu Changsheng saw Lu Miaohuan dressed in a golden gown, sitting by the window with knees hugged to her chest, gazing blankly at the moonlight outside.

He knew she must be worrying about her son, Lu Qingshan, and stepped forward to wrap his arms around her shoulders.

“My husband...”

Lu Miaohuan’s eyes reddened upon seeing Lu Changsheng, and her face showed signs of distress and sadness.

“What’s the matter, are you missing Qing Shan?”

Lu Changsheng held his wife close in his arms and spoke softly, smiling.

“Qing Shan is still so young, and he loves to be mischievous. What if he doesn’t make his master happy after going to Jinyang Sect, or what if he’s bullied by others?”

Lu Miaohuan’s eyes were rimmed with red, and she murmured with concern.

She was okay during the day.

Facing the congratulations and praises of others, thinking of her son being taken as a disciple by a Nascent Soul Immortal, her heart was filled with happiness and pride.

But during the still of the night, the thought of her son, only ten years old,

and now taken away to cultivate in Jinyang Sect in far-off Yue Country,

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I'm afraid it might be many years before we see each other again.

Which is why the more I think about it, the more I miss him, and a wave of sadness washes over my heart.

“How could that be? Qing Shan is able to have a Nascent Soul Immortal personally accept disciples, and even took in Xiao Zhu for Qing Shan's sake; how could they not be favored by their master?”

“Besides, even though Qing Shan is a bit mischievous, he is very sensible and will naturally be liked by the master.”

“With a Nascent Soul master to support him, who would dare to bully him?”

...

Lu Changsheng said in a comforting tone.

However, despite saying this, he couldn't help but worry about his son and daughter.

His daughter, Lu Qingzhu, was fine, with her gentle nature, never causing trouble or conflicts with others.

But his son, Lu Qingshan, had a vein of pride in him and was of a particularly competitive nature.

With such a character, stepping onto the path of immortality was bound to invite strife.

“But when I think of Qing Shan being so far away, I feel terrible.”

“When Qing Shan comes back, will he have forgotten about me, his mother, wuwuwu...”

Lu Miaohuan said, her eyes red and she began to weep softly.

It's common for children to gradually grow distant from their families and parents after they leave for Immortal Sects at a young age.

Thus, thinking about her son being so young and not only going to a sect...

But possibly unable to see each other for ten or twenty years, she was overwhelmed by sadness.

“It's all right, it's all right, in a few years, once the family is stable and we have time, we'll go to the Jinyang Sect to visit Qing Shan and Xiao Zhu.”

“In the Azure Phoenix Immortal City, there's a Jinyang Sect's Spiritual Vessel every year, so we can go there and take the Spiritual Vessel to visit them.”

Lu Changsheng said, trying to soothe Lu Miaohuan.

His words were not only to appease Lu Miaohuan.

Lu Miaoge had mentioned that Tianyuan True Immortal had said that once the children reached Foundation Establishment, they would be allowed to return home to visit.

But even if Lu Qingshan was extraordinarily talented, possessing a Sixth Grade gold-attributed Spiritual Root and the Gengjin Body Constitution, it would still take at least more than ten years to break through to Foundation Establishment.

After more than ten years without seeing them, he too was uneasy about his son being away.

Therefore, he planned to visit the Jinyang Sect to check on his children's situation when he had the time.

However, traveling to the Jinyang Sect entailed a long journey, and dangers could arise at any moment.

With so many matters at hand right now, he couldn't possibly go.

So he was thinking of waiting for another three to five years. By then, after establishing his family and having more time, he would take Lu Miaoge and Lu Miaohuan to visit the sect.

By that time, after having infused his 'Nine Treasure Jade Ruyi' into his Life-bound Treasured Bone and armed with Third Rank Talismans, even if he faced a Nascent Soul Immortal, he would have the power to fully defend himself.

"Really?"

Upon hearing this, Lu Miaohuan looked at Lu Changsheng with red, tear-filled eyes, looking pitiful and aggrieved.

"When have I ever lied to my Huanhuan?"

Seeing the Second Miss looking so distressed, Lu Changsheng said with a gentle smile, wiping the tears from the corner of her eyes.

Continuing, he said: "Now that Qing Shan and Xiao Zhu have gone to the Jinyang Sect, as their father, I naturally miss them dearly and want to see how they are doing."

"Let's wait a few years for the family situation to settle down, then we'll go visit Qing Shan and Xiao Zhu. Huanhuan, don't be upset anymore."

Lu Changsheng held his wife in his arms, speaking softly.

"Mmm."

After hearing this, Lu Miaohuan turned her cries into laughter, quietly snuggling into her husband's embrace.

...

When Lu Miaochoang learned that Lu Changsheng had brought Lu Miaoge back, he began to arrange a family feast, which caused quite a stir in the Lu Family.

"Congratulations to the Great Elder on his breakthrough to Foundation Establishment, with a Golden Core on the horizon and a reputation that will certainly spread across the four seas!"

"Great Elder is powerful; Qingzhu Mountain will surely rise to even greater heights!"

"Congratulations to father on Foundation Establishment!"

"..."

On this day, as the family banquet commenced, Qingzhu Mountain was bedecked with lanterns and colorful banners, overflowing with joy as they celebrated Lu Changsheng's Foundation Establishment feast.

Lu Changsheng, Lu Miaoge, Lu Miaohuan, Lu Miaoyun, Qu Zhenzhen, Ling Zixiao, and others seated in the place of honor, accepting the congratulations and celebrations of the guests.

Even though it was a family banquet, the neighbors and smaller families still sent representatives early to present their gifts and congratulations.

Several families brought their daughters to toast, hoping that Lu Changsheng might take a liking to one.

In response to this, Lu Changsheng flatly refused.

One reason was that he was too busy with a heap of important matters to handle.

Furthermore, the quality of these women was mediocre.

Most of them possessed Lower Grade Spiritual Roots, and they no longer caught the eye of Lu Ancestor.

He had now a Fourth Grade Spiritual Root, with one hundred fifty-three children, and thirty-nine of them possessed Spiritual Roots.

Aside from Lu Qingshan, Lu Qingxuan, Lu Wangshu, and Lu Ping'an, who obtained Fifth Grade Spiritual Roots through the Hope Gu, there were only two other children with Sixth Grade Spiritual Roots.

The rest were all possessed Lower Grade Spiritual Roots.

In such circumstances, Lu Changsheng naturally wanted to practice selective breeding as much as possible.

The mothers of his children had to have at least Middle Grade Spiritual Roots, preferably Fourth or Fifth Grade.

This way, with his own Fourth Grade Spiritual Root and mothers with Fourth Grade Spiritual Roots, the likelihood that the children would have decent Spiritual Root Talents was high.

Otherwise, mindlessly reproducing wouldn't only be a waste of time, but it wouldn't be good for himself or for the children.

Moreover, his children were gradually growing up.

The task of having many offspring could be handed over to them.

With the Many Children, Many Blessings system in place,

when the children of Lu Changsheng had their own offspring, the Spiritual Roots and Cultivation Levels of these grandchildren would also grant him bonuses.

Although not as much as from his own offspring, diminishing by fifty percent each generation, once the children began to reproduce, this snowball effect would start rolling.

In time, the effect could be many times better than him producing offspring by himself.

He could then truly soar without effort.

Immediately thereafter, Lu Changsheng announced that his son, Lu Xianzhi, was nineteen this year.

If there were any suitable young ladies, they could consider setting up a marriage.

Under normal circumstances, with Lu Xianzhi's Ninth Grade Spiritual Root, Fourth Level Energy Refinement cultivation level, and status as a Lower Grade Puppet Master, it would be difficult for him to marry a decent wife.

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However, with Lu Changsheng, the Second Rank Talisman Master and Foundation Establishment Great Cultivator as his father, these families were willing to marry their daughters to Lu Xianzhi.

In the end, Lu Xianzhi and a girl with a Seventh Grade Spiritual Root from a smaller family took a liking to each other and nodded in agreement.

For this, Lu Changsheng directly gave away three Second Rank Spirit Talismans as a dowry to settle the marriage.

Faced with this generosity, the smaller family felt incredibly honored and flattered.

You have to know, three Second Rank Spirit Talismans were worth thousands of Spirit Stones!

The value of such a dowry could not be considered anything but high!

...

But to Lu Changsheng, this was of little concern.

His children were many, and in the future, most of them would need to marry, or even take concubines.

And there were only so many families, big and small, around.

There weren't enough female cultivators to marry everyone.

In such a situation, it was only natural for him, as a father, to manage his reputation well.

Only then would the surrounding families be willing to marry their female cultivators into his family.

Perhaps in the future, many female loose cultivators wandering outside, upon hearing of his family's good reputation, would also be willing to marry into his household.

Otherwise, with so many children, if everyone wanted to marry a 'fairy,' establishing a family would be an enormous challenge in the future.

This scene made many onlookers envious.

As a Second Rank Talisman Master and a Foundation Establishment Great Cultivator, he had the luxury to be capricious!

Given that one son's engagement could warrant giving away talismans worth thousands of Spirit Stones as a dowry.

This made everyone think that since the Foundation Establishment Great Cultivator, Lu Changsheng, was unwilling to take concubines, they might as well set their sights on his children.

And so, the Foundation Establishment family banquet ended in a lively and bustling atmosphere.

Nevertheless, many from the Lu Family who witnessed the banquet were somewhat surprised that Lu Changsheng did not take any concubines or maids.

They had even made bets beforehand, guessing how many concubines Lu Changsheng would take this time.

...

Evening.

The night fell quietly, the moon shone like frost.

In the courtyard with pavilions and towers amid rustling bamboo, goldfish frolicked, playfully distorting the moon's reflection in the pond.

“Hoo-hoo-hoo—”

The sound of the wind rose suddenly, howling as it passed, causing the jade-green bamboo in the courtyard to rustle melodically.

Inside the chamber, a warm light suffused the air.

From the head of the bed's incense burner, thick white threads of incense smoke curled up lazily, filling the room with a faint, tranquil fragrance.

“Zi Xiao, how did it go?”

Lu Changsheng asked tenderly as he cradled Ling Zixiao, her hair disheveled, cheeks flushed, and delicate body limp and powerless.

Today, while healing through dual cultivation with Ling Zixiao, he suddenly thought that since his Yin Yang Energies could nourish the Nourishing Elixir for Nangong Mili, it might also have a healing effect.

Therefore, he thought that using his Yin Yang Energies to nurture Ling Zixiao's Dao Foundation might also benefit her meridians and Dantian.

After all, the Dao Foundation is the very foundation of a Foundation Establishment Cultivator.

If he could nurture her Dao Foundation, it might benefit her whole being.

No sooner said than done.

However, it was only when Lu Changsheng used his Yin Yang Energies to nourish Ling Zixiao's Dao Foundation that he learned.

Due to her Dragon Roar Physique, when Ling Zixiao had broken through to Foundation Establishment, her Dragon Roar Physique erupted and Yang Energies scorched her body, leading to mana disarray, an unsteady foundation, and flaws in her Dao Foundation.

She formed a flawed Dao Foundation.

And it was rather poor for a 'flawed Dao Foundation.'

It had several evident cracks and fissures, almost reaching the point of a shattered Dao Foundation.

"Thank you, my lord, I can feel the cracks in my Dao Foundation being nourished and repaired,"

Ling Zixiao nestled in Lu Changsheng's arms, her beautiful face blushing, and spoke softly.

She had not expected Lu Changsheng to possess such Origin Source Qi that could nurture and repair her Dao Foundation.

She had intended, once the issue with her Dragon Roar Physique was fully resolved, to seek heavenly materials and earthly treasures to heal her Dao Foundation.

Unexpectedly, Lu Changsheng could directly solve this problem for her.

This gave her another layer of understanding of the mystery surrounding Lu Changsheng.

“As long as it is effective, that’s good. I’ve been so concerned about your Dragon Roar Physique issue that I forgot to pay attention to the Dao Foundation. Zi Xiao, rest assured, almost every month, my Origin Source Qi will be able to nurture your Dao Foundation once. Over time, your Dao Foundation can be fully recovered,” Lu Changsheng said while gently stroking her smooth, white skin.

“Mmm...”

Ling Zixiao hummed softly in response.

After a moment, she lifted her lovely face and asked Lu Changsheng, “My lord, you once mentioned establishing a family power; may I ask what preparations have been made so far?”

When they met, she had asked Lu Changsheng about his intentions for her.

Lu Changsheng said he planned to establish a family power and needed an Array Master to stand guard.

Now, they had been back at Qingzhu Mountain for over a month.

Seeing Lu Changsheng busy every day without any preparation towards establishing a family, she couldn’t help but be curious.

Although in her eyes, Lu Changsheng had a shortcut.

He could usurp Qingzhu Mountain for himself.

But after being together for so long, she knew that he probably wouldn’t do such a thing.

“I had planned, upon returning this time, to purchase a Spiritual Vein Blessed Land from the Qingyun Sect to establish as the Family Spirit Land, or to inspect the situation of the surrounding

families and see if any of them had lost an elder in the battle at Blackwater Pool and were looking to sell their Family Spirit Land,”

“But as you know, since coming back, I’ve been so busy I haven’t had the time to investigate the Spirit Land situations around us,”

“Moreover, given the current situation of the Lu Family, it’s not appropriate for me to branch out on my own,” Lu Changsheng sighed slightly and said.

In fact, he felt quite an urgency to establish his own family.

First of all,

Learning about Jin Kingdom’s invasion by the Demon Path in Jiuxiao Immortal City, he was reminded that if such a situation were to recur, it added a sense of urgency in his mind.

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He felt that he must enhance his strength as soon as possible and make a breakthrough to the Core Formation stage.

However, Lu Changsheng was keenly aware that relying solely on his cultivation would certainly not work.

Even now, with a Fourth Grade Spiritual Root, a Gengjin Body Constitution, and Supreme Condensation Elixirs at his disposal, it would still take him several decades to break through to Core Formation.

Therefore, if he wanted to quickly improve his strength, he still had to rely on marrying, taking concubines, having children, raising them, and letting the children have more children!

If he established his own family power, his children would then have a better growth environment.

Whether in cultivation or in starting a family and establishing a career, everything would be much simpler and more conducive to raising children and letting the children have more children.

...

Secondly.

In his System Space, he had the Luminous Treasure Tree, the Mount Sumeru Tree King, and the Spiritual Eye Spring; these items had to be used on his own family's ancestral lands!

Otherwise, these things could only collect dust in the System Space.

As for using them on Qingzhu Mountain, it was completely out of consideration.

The Luminous Treasure Tree alone would be alright.

But the Mount Sumeru Tree King and the Spiritual Eye Spring were of significant importance.

He would definitely not reveal them lightly to outsiders.

So, he had to establish his family's ancestral land.

Moreover, with his family's ancestral land and the Mount Sumeru Tree King, it would be equivalent to having a Nascent Soul Immortal in charge of his family, adding a sense of security.

Third.

It was the issues he realized upon returning to Qingzhu Mountain.

With his current middle stage Foundation Establishment cultivation level, if he fully absorbed nature's spiritual energy at the Spiritual Eye Spring, it would definitely alert Lu Yuanzhong to something amiss.

Lu Yuanzhong would realize that he hadn't just broken through to the Foundation Establishment Stage.

Then, when Lu Miaoge managed to reach Foundation Establishment and Ling Zixiao recovered and started to cultivate,

four Foundation Establishment Cultivators would put a certain burden on Qingzhu Mountain's spiritual energy.

Under these circumstances, if another Lu Family member reached Foundation Establishment, or if there was a need to activate a Great Formation, there would be a problem of insufficient spiritual energy, affecting the operations.

So it would be better to establish his own family as soon as possible.

“Through Qingyun Sect, purchase Spiritual Vein Blessed Land.”

“Investigate the surrounding families' situation...”

Ling Zixiao thoughtfully nodded at these words.

As an Array Master, she often arranged formations for others, including great family formations, and she had come into contact with many families and understood quite a lot about these matters.

She naturally knew that the first step to establishing a family was a suitable ancestral land.

Without the family's ancestral land, the idea of establishing a family was completely nonsensical.

Buying ancestral lands for sale by neighboring families was naturally better than acquiring Spiritual Vein Blessed Lands from the Immortal Sects.

She was very clear that the Immortal Sects' spiritual lands were often rented out to Loose Cultivators as residencies.

To use them for establishing a family would require building from scratch, which would be a troublesome task and consume time and resources.

“If my lord doesn’t have the time, this matter can be handed over to me,”

“I haven’t anything significant to do at home anyway and could investigate to understand the situation of the surrounding families’ ancestral lands.”

“To see if there is any suitable land available, which families have ancestral lands for sale,”

After pondering for a moment, Ling Zixiao spoke softly.

She didn’t bring up the matter of Lu Changsheng establishing a family out of boredom.

It was also through her observations over the past days.

She could tell that Lu Yuanzhong, the Lu Family Ancestor, didn’t have much life left.

And Lu Changsheng, in the prime of his life and an external member of the Lu Family, had over a hundred descendants.

In such a situation, if the Lu Family disciples showed no thoughts or opinions about Lu Changsheng, it was absolutely impossible.

So why continue to nest in the tiny Qingzhu Mountain?

In her eyes, Qingzhu Mountain was but a small pond.

How could it contain Lu Changsheng the Flood Dragon!

“Alright, since that is the case, I’ll trouble you with this matter, Zi Xiao. I indeed have many things to attend to in the coming times and simply cannot be distracted,”

Lu Changsheng said, smiling and nodding in response to her words.

He had a myriad of matters to deal with next and truly no time to attend to these.

As for letting someone else handle it, he also didn't know who to entrust such tasks to at the moment.

Since Ling Zixiao was willing to share his worries, he saw no issue with it.

"In addition to the family's ancestral land, are there any other aspects you need to prepare for, my lord?"

"If there are any problems, you can discuss them with me."

"I used to deal with many family powers when I was in the Immortal City, arranging formations for them and managing the spirit veins, so I do understand quite a bit about family matters,"

Ling Zixiao said softly, her pale face flushing slightly.

"Oh!?"

Surprised by her words, Lu Changsheng raised his eyebrows.

He hadn't expected Ling Zixiao to have insight into these matters, which was a pleasant surprise indeed.

Immediately, he shared his own thoughts, concerns, and considerations with Ling Zixiao.

Actually, in terms of establishing a family, he was more or less able to handle the main issues such as ancestral land, family formations, finances, and even relationships.

The real problem still lay with people.

Currently, he indeed had many children.

But among them, including Lu Ping'an, there were only five with a Spiritual Root who were of adult age.

These children were currently unable to contribute significantly to the family's construction.

Therefore, he still had to rely on his wives and maids.

Yet these wives and maids could only be used to manage family affairs; he couldn't expect them to do other tasks, especially those that were arduous and laborious.

But once a family was established, there would be basic tasks such as managing the spirit fields and medicinal gardens—these required people to handle them.

Also, his plan to build a Puppet Factory would need a lot of workers.

These issues were not ones that could be solved in a short time.

Hearing all this, Ling Zixiao chuckled softly.

Her jade-like fingers traced circles on Lu Changsheng's chest and she said, "My lord is really overthinking, making things seem troublesome."

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"Oh? I would appreciate Zi Xiao's guidance,"

Lu Changsheng said as he held the warm and soft jade in his arms, shifting to a more comfortable position and asked.

"After establishing a family, why rush to handle all matters and prepare everything in such haste?"

"Moreover, how could all these tasks be completed at once?"

"What your lordship has mentioned, all these tasks require time to be completed step by step."

“Currently, you’re not short of Spirit Stones and you have the reputation of a Second Grade Talisman Master. If willing, you could recruit Spiritual Plant Masters and Beast Tamers.”

...

“It shouldn’t take long to find people responsible for the spiritual fields, the medicinal gardens, and the breeding of Spiritual Beasts.”

“As for the spirit farmers and menials, there are as many as you could want.”

“In the Cultivation World, there are plenty of people willing to take on such jobs.”

“Regarding the family business and resource extraction, if there is a lack of manpower, it’s not a big deal to cooperate with other families or forces. Let them do the mining, and we’ll take a share of the profits. Once we have the people available, we can take over the operations,”

Ling Zixiao shook her head and said with a soft laugh.

She didn’t expect Lu Changsheng to be struggling with such matters.

“It seems I’ve overthought the matter and made it too complex,”

Having heard this, Lu Changsheng immediately realized that he had indeed been overthinking and complicating matters.

Indeed.

As Ling Zixiao had said, after establishing the family, it was impossible to have everything arranged all at once!

These unimportant matters could wait until after the family was established, considering the initial years as the preparatory phase.

After all, he was not short of Spirit Stones during this period and could use his current ones to invest in and develop the spiritual land.

As long as the family was gradually getting on the right track and the children were also growing up, these problems would be easily solved.

“Your lordship is indeed overthinking these matters.”

“If Lu Lang finds these matters burdensome, let your concubine handle them,”

Ling Zixiao continued.

In recent days, she had been feeling quite bored on Qingzhu Mountain and was looking for some things to do, to contribute to Lu Changsheng’s cause.

At the same time, she could also use this to gauge Lu Changsheng’s attitude towards her.

To see if he fully trusted her and was truly sincere.

“Since that is the case, I’ll trouble you with it, Zi Xiao.”

“These days, I need to help Sister Miaoge change her Cultivation Technique and prepare for her Foundation Establishment, so I don’t have much time,”

Lu Changsheng said with a delighted expression.

Given that Ling Zixiao had established herself in Jiuxiao Immortal City on her own, he believed these matters would be no issue for her at all.

“Changing Cultivation Techniques?”

Ling Zixiao was somewhat surprised when she heard this.

Generally, a Cultivator wouldn’t switch Cultivation Techniques.

Because changing Cultivation Techniques not only wasted time but also resulted in a loss of Cultivation Level.

The higher the Cultivation Level, the greater the loss, which was a significant waste of time.

Lu Miaoge was currently at the Ninth Level of Energy Refinement and about to undertake her Foundation Establishment. If she changed her Cultivation Technique, not to mention the substantial loss, she would at least be delayed by a year.

“Yes, on my recent journey, I acquired a Cultivation Technique that is suitable for Sister Miaoge.”

“And the opportunity to treat your Dragon Roar Physique lies within this technique.”

“Therefore, I need to prepare Sister Miaoge to switch to this Cultivation Technique in the coming days,”

Lu Changsheng said aloud.

He directly revealed the matter of Lu Miaoge changing her Cultivation Technique.

After all, he had previously mentioned that bringing Lu Miaoge back would likely solve Ling Zixiao’s Dragon Roar Physique issue.

Now that he was talking about changing the Cultivation Technique, it was also a way to explain the situation.

“It would be hard for both Lu Lang and Miaoge...”

Ling Zixiao was slightly taken aback when she heard this.

She hadn’t expected that Lu Miaoge’s switch to a new cultivation technique would be related to resolving her own Dragon Roar Physique.

This caused the emotions in her heart to stir slightly.

“No problem.”

Lu Changsheng chuckled lightly and then said, “By the way, regarding matters like assessing the neighboring families or recruiting talents, if there’s a need to spend Spirit Stones, Zi Xiao, you can speak directly to me.”

Before leaving Jiuxiao Immortal City, the sponsorship from five well-intentioned robber cultivators had once again filled his storage bag, so for the time being, he wasn’t worried about spending money.

“I still have plenty of Spirit Stones.”

“Besides, as your wife and partner, I should naturally contribute to the family’s establishment.”

Ling Zixiao said with a light smile.

“Good.”

Upon hearing her words, Lu Changsheng nodded his head and didn’t stand on ceremony with Ling Zixiao.

Everyone needs to be needed by others.

Sometimes, letting them help out more and take care of little things can also foster a deeper relationship between two people.

...

After entrusting the establishment of the family to Ling Zixiao, Lu Changsheng focused his whole attention on Lu Miaoge’s transition to the cultivation of the “Water of Virtue Technique.”

Back in Green River Marketplace, in Ruyi Prefecture, Lu Miaoge had already started delving into this cultivation technique.

However, many parts still required Lu Changsheng's guidance to unravel and explain in detail.

Thinking about his own plans to establish a family, Lu Changsheng felt it was necessary to inform Lu Miaoge.

Otherwise, if he mentioned it after Lu Miaoge had just completed her Foundation Establishment, it would seem as if he had always been intentionally hiding it, which could affect their marital relationship.

“Establishing a family?”

Lu Miaoge showed no great surprise upon hearing Lu Changsheng speak of his plans to establish his own family.

During the many years as his wife,

she had already sensed that her husband didn't fully consider Qingzhu Mountain his home.

Previously, when she learned that Lu Changsheng had refused to become the patriarch of the family, she vaguely guessed that Lu Changsheng might be thinking of leaving or starting his own clan.

However, she wouldn't bring up the subject on her own.

“When I heard that you, Changsheng, refused to be the family patriarch, I began to suspect.”

“It's fine, Qingzhu Mountain is ultimately too small. If you, Changsheng, wish to establish a family, you can directly tell father and the old patriarch now. I believe they would understand and can offer some help.”

Lu Miaoge said with a gentle voice.

If in the past she thought her husband was extraordinary,

seeing the Orthodox Level Cultivation Techniques, Foundation Establishment Elixirs, and Foundation Establishment Spirit Objects he provided, she understood that Lu Changsheng was even more exceptional than she had imagined.

Such a person could not possibly be limited to Qingzhu Mountain.

“Given the current situation of the family, how could I bring up starting my own clan with my father-in-law and the old patriarch.”

“I just wanted to give you, Sister Miaoge, a heads-up that I have this intention and plan.”

“After Sister Miaoge breaks through to the Foundation Establishment, you might relieve Elder Yuan Zhong’s injury and help stabilize Qingzhu Mountain.”

“Then, I can go out and establish my own clan.”

Seeing that Lu Miaoge did not mind, Lu Changsheng felt a sense of relief and voiced his thoughts.

“Hmm.”

Lu Miaoge nodded gently in response.

She inquired about Lu Changsheng’s current thoughts and shared some tips with him about establishing a family.

She expressed that she would have someone keep an eye out for nearby families willing to sell their spiritual lands.

After chatting idly for a long time, Lu Changsheng continued to guide Lu Miaoge in her cultivation of the “Water of Virtue Technique.”

At the same time, he began cultivating the “Taiyi Seed Way Art,” preparing to condense the Taiyi Dao Seed.

Chapter 579: Taiyi Cultivation, The Situation of the Spiritual Land!_1

One month later.

“Condense!”

Lu Changsheng’s eyes suddenly opened, his hands forming seals rapidly.

Spiritual blood surged throughout his body, mana flowed, and the Yin Yang Five Elements Foundation Base trembled continuously.

“Hum hum hum—”

Within the Qi Ocean Core, the Yin Yang fish formed by the Yin Yang Energies was frantically swallowing and spitting the Origin Source within his body, along with the surrounding nature’s spiritual energy, gradually forming a crystal clear, semi-liquid semi-solidified, soybean-sized golden seed!

...

“Phew! It has finally formed!”

Seeing this ‘Taiyi Dao Seed’ take shape, Lu Changsheng let out a long, weary breath.

This Taiyi Dao Seed was not easy to condense.

It had cost him more than a month of time.

It also caused no small loss to his spirit, mana, and the foundation of his Dao.

He estimated that it would take three to four months, or even half a year, to recover.

However, cultivating the “Taiyi Shengshui Jue” required this step to be inevitable.

If not for this seed, Lu Miaoge would not be able to practice the “Water of Virtue Technique.”

So, in his view, the price was acceptable.

It was just a loss of vitality, which he would recover from with some rest.

Lu Changsheng did not immediately take this Dao Seed to Lu Miaoge.

He took out an elixir medicine and swallowed it down, regulating his condition through cultivation.

Three days later.

Lu Changsheng walked out of his cave dwelling, heading to the nearby one.

This cave was originally arranged for Ling Zixiao to cultivate.

However, due to the peculiarities of Ling Zixiao’s Dragon Roar Physique, meridians, and Dantian, she temporarily did not need this cave.

Therefore, Lu Changsheng mentioned it to Lu Yuanzhong, and they let Lu Miaoge use this place for daily cultivation.

“Changsheng.”

Inside the quiet and elegant cave dwelling, Lu Miaoge, dressed in a plain white robe, was cultivating in an upright sitting position.

From afar, she resembled a celestial snow lotus, pure and detached from this world.

Hearing the movement, Lu Miaoge opened her beautiful eyes and looked towards Lu Changsheng, gently calling out his name.

In this period, she had nearly comprehended the “Water of Virtue Technique.”

But because she lacked the ‘Taiyi Dao Seed,’ she could not start practicing it, and had been honing her spiritual power within.

Now, the spiritual power of the Saturn Solar Sword Technique she possessed had been refined to be round and perfect, Ruyi, ready for Foundation Establishment at any time.

“Sister Miaoge, I have condensed the ‘Taiyi Dao Seed;’ you can start practicing the Water of Virtue Technique now,” Lu Changsheng said, clasping her hand, his face showing a smile as he stepped forward.

“Changsheng, you’ve worked hard,” said Lu Miaoge, noticing that Lu Changsheng’s complexion had lost some of its color. Her lips pressed together lightly, expressing concern.

Although she had only studied the “Water of Virtue Technique,” she also had some understanding of the “Taiyi Seed Way Art.”

She knew that condensing the ‘Taiyi Dao Seed’ required the consumption of spirit, vitality, and the essence of one’s Dao.

It would cause certain injuries to the one cultivating the seed.

“Hehe, it’s nothing serious, I’ll recover after some rest,” Lu Changsheng chuckled light-heartedly, not worrying at all.

Looking at the serene face before him, gentle and bright, he spoke directly, “Sister Miaoge, I will now transfer the Dao Seed to you.”

After saying this, he gently embraced her slim shoulders, leaning in and capturing her tender and luscious lips.

Transferring the ‘Taiyi Dao Seed’ to someone else was quite simple,

It could be done just by mouth-to-mouth transfer.

As the familiar breath washed over her, Lu Miaoge's eyelashes tremored, her arms enclosing Lu Changsheng, tenderly responding to him.

Strands of sweet fragrance filled the space between their lips and teeth.

“Mmm~”

After a long while, Lu Miaoge's cheeks flushed, her body felt weak, and her breathing sped up, intending to remind Lu Changsheng that they ought to be transferring the Dao Seed.

Hearing her tender moan, Lu Changsheng's wandering hands stopped, realizing he had forgotten about the Dao Seed transfer.

Immediately, he activated the “Taiyi Seed Way Art,” allowing the soybean-sized ‘Taiyi Dao Seed’ in his Qi Ocean Core to rise and flow gently into Lu Miaoge's mouth.

As soon as the Dao Seed entered her mouth, Lu Miaoge immediately felt the immense and vigorous energy within.

Feeling that the energy contained in this ‘Taiyi Dao Seed’ was much more robust than her own spiritual power,

“Is this the Perfect Foundation Base...” Lu Miaoge murmured to herself.

She knew that the strength of the ‘Taiyi Dao Seed’ depended on the spirit, vitality, and foundation of the one who formed it.

Such an extraordinary seed in her mouth indicated that Lu Changsheng's foundation of mana was even stronger than she had imagined.

“Sister Miaoge,” Lu Changsheng said as he let go of Lu Miaoge, reminding her to merge with the Dao Seed.

Hearing this, Lu Miaoge quickly came back to her senses and did not dare to delay. She sat down cross-legged and began circulating the “Water of Virtue Technique.”

Lu Changsheng also settled down beside her, operating the “Taiyi Seed Way Art,” slowly infusing his mana into Lu Miaoge’s body, aiding her refinement of the Dao Seed.

“Taiyi Shengshui Jue!”

As both practiced their techniques, they transformed into the Taiyi Shengshui Jue. Their energies merged, allowing the Dao Seed to enter Lu Miaoge’s Qi Ocean Core slowly.

“Hum—”

As soon as the Taiyi Dao Seed entered Lu Miaoge’s lake of Qi, a powerful and vast energy, a surge of mana, began to flow and diffuse within her body.

It cleansed her organs, meridians, flesh, bones, and spiritual power.

It allowed her body and spiritual power to become compatible with the Dao Seed and Lu Changsheng’s mana.

As the energy of the Dao Seed spread, Lu Miaoge felt her body flooded with strength, enough to attempt Foundation Establishment immediately!

Naturally, she would not do so and continued to focus and circulate the “Water of Virtue Technique.”

During this process, under the influence of the ‘Taiyi Dao Seed,’ the “Water of Virtue Technique” began to operate on its own, undergoing subtle changes.

As the technique circulated continuously, subtle improvements emerged, gradually forming a unique Cultivation Technique.

Lu Miaoge knew this was the “Taiyi Shengshui Jue,” the most remarkable aspect of this Orthodox Level Cultivation Technique!

“The Water of Virtue Technique” cultivators will adapt themselves based on the “Taiyi Dao Seed” condensed by the practitioners of the “Taiyi Dao Seed Technique”.

Thus, they will acquire some of the spell techniques and mana characteristics of the “Seed Cultivators”, forming a brand new cultivation method!

Only in this way, will the two be able to cultivate together in the future and nurture the vital essence of all things, refining their Dao Foundation!

Time passed, and Lu Miaoge’s internal breath settled.

She looked at the golden Dao Seed within her Qi Ocean Core.

She could clearly feel that, through this Dao Seed, there was an inexplicable connection between her and Lu Changsheng....

Through the Dao Seed, she could vaguely sense their respective locations.

Moreover, Lu Changsheng could replenish her mana through the Dao Seed.

She could also supplement Lu Changsheng’s mana through the Dao Seed. “Changsheng...”

Lu Miaoge opened her beautiful eyes, gazing tenderly at Lu Changsheng.

She indicated that the Dao Seed and the Water of Virtue Technique were almost complete.

Next, what she needed to do was to convert all her spiritual power into mastery of the Water of Virtue Technique.

And as Lu Changsheng had previously said, since the Saturn Solar Sword Technique and the cultivation technique Lu Changsheng practiced were inherited from the same line, her conversion of spiritual power was not likely to suffer great loss. “Good.”

Upon hearing this, Lu Changsheng nodded, and voiced several issues Lu Miaoge needed to pay attention to in her next cultivation session.

He instructed her to ask him if she encountered any problems during cultivation.

After leaving Lu Miaoge, he went to check on his son Lu Ping'an's cultivation progress at his small courtyard. "Ping'an, how is it going?"

Lu Changsheng asked his son about his cultivation of the "Five Luminaries Sword Scripture". "Dad..."

Lu Ping'an scratched his head, somewhat embarrassedly discussing his cultivation experience.

It had been over a month, and although he had made initial progress and could sense nature's spiritual energy, he always felt clumsy and struggled while cultivating. "Struggling?"

Lu Changsheng frowned slightly upon hearing this.

Why would he struggle with cultivating at the mere stage of drawing energy into his body?

After all, Lu Ping'an was said to possess a Fifth Grade Spiritual Root.

Could there be a problem with the man-made Spiritual Root imparted by the Gu of Hope?

He said to Lu Ping'an, "Can you show me your cultivation now?" "Yes."

Upon hearing this, Lu Ping'an immediately sat down and began the process of drawing in spiritual energy.

Lu Changsheng silently observed Lu Ping'an cultivating by his side.

About a quarter of an hour later, Lu Ping'an gradually entered the right state.

The spiritual energy from the surroundings slowly gathered towards him, entering his body.

Then, this spiritual energy traveled along with the circulation of the cultivation method through his meridians, completing a cycle.

This circulatory process was indeed slower than the average for a Fifth Grade Spiritual Root.

Immediately, Lu Changsheng reached a conclusion.

Unsuitable!

Lu Ping'an was not very suited to this cultivation method.

For peripheral sect level methods like the "Five Luminaries Sword Scripture", there are certain requirements for one's disposition, perception, and natural talent.

If there's a mismatch, even if one has entered the gate of cultivation, the process will be somewhat forced and clumsy. "Ping'an, that's enough."

Lu Changsheng's voice echoed in Lu Ping'an's mind. "Dad, I've let you down."

Lu Ping'an looked at his father, ashamed to admit his poor performance.

His father had finally set him on the path to cultivation, and here he was, performing so poorly at the very first step, thoroughly ashamed. "It's okay, it seems you don't have much talent in the way of sword scriptures." "You're not very suited to this technique."

Lu Changsheng waved it off, not overly concerned.

Initially, when he first obtained the "Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Art", he intended to make it the foundational cultivation method for his clan.

But as he grew more knowledgeable about the Cultivation World and his own cultivation techniques became more extensive, he gradually discarded this idea.

After all, not everyone is suitable to practice sword techniques.

Lu Miaoge's practice of the "Saturn Solar Sword Technique" was also only moderate in his eyes.

If Lu Ping'an was not suitable for this technique, naturally he should switch to another one. "Do you have any thoughts on this?"

Lu Changsheng inquired. "I will follow whatever you arrange, Dad."

Lu Ping'an spoke solemnly.

When Lu Changsheng first taught him a cultivation method, he had asked whether Lu Ping'an liked sword techniques, to which he naturally nodded and affirmed, claiming he liked them, partly because he had heard and read many stories about sword immortals since childhood.

On the other hand, he had once asked Qin Yi why she wanted to become a Great Sword Immortal, and she had replied that it's because sword cultivators are powerful!

The largest Immortal Sect in Jiang Country – Heavenly Sword Sect – consisted of sword cultivators!

Therefore, her dream was to join the Heavenly Sword Sect and become an unrivaled sword immortal!

This also made Lu Ping'an somewhat yearn to become a sword cultivator.

But now, realizing he had no aptitude for it, he did not insist on continuing. "In that case, then..."

Lu Changsheng pondered, considering which cultivation method to give his son.

Among the methods he currently possessed were the Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Scripture, Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art, Yin Yang Harmony Technique, Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture, and Taiyi Shengshui Jue.

The Seven Luminaries were definitely unsuitable for Lu Ping'an.

If the Five Luminaries did not fit well, it was impossible to consider practicing the Seven Luminaries.

As for the Exquisite Level Cultivation Methods derived from the Seven Luminaries, in his view, they were perhaps worth a try.

For example, the "Town Star Saturn Sword Technique".

Given Lu Ping'an's somewhat straightforward nature, he should fare much better practicing this sword technique.

But considering that this method was ultimately inherited from the "Five Luminaries Sword Scripture", even if it could be slightly better, it probably wouldn't make a significant difference.

As for other methods, like the Ninety-Nine Mystical Talisman Scripture, it was clearly unsuitable.

This Talisman Path required a great deal of perceptiveness.

Having spent time together, he knew his son had, at best, average perception.

The Taiyi Shengshui Jue belonged to a partner-oriented cultivation method, needing two people to cultivate it, and thus Lu Ping'an could not practice it alone.