

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

Chapter 6: The Hundred Arts of Cultivation: Talisman Making!_1

“Lan Shu, you’ve worked hard.”

Lu Changsheng, holding the baby, entered the room and saw Lu Lanshu lying on the bed. He sat beside her and gently took her hand.

Although the two of them were bound by a marriage of convenience, with no foundation of feelings,

it is said that love grows over time. Having spent so much time together, especially now that the child had been born, naturally, some feelings had developed.

“Husband.”

Lu Lanshu’s pale face showed a touch of a smile as she weakly called out.

“Don’t move, just rest well.”

Lu Changsheng’s voice was soft.

Holding the child and looking at his wife, at that moment, he felt a sense of happiness in his heart.

He thought it would be quite nice to continue like this forever.

But he remembered the assassination by the Chen Family while on the way to Qingzhu Mountain.

The cruel law of the survival of the fittest in this world.

Lu Changsheng knew that happiness also needed the protection of strength.

Without even looking far, without strength, once he left the Lu Family, even his child would not be his.

And more importantly,

having the fortune to traverse to such a world, with the destiny of Cultivation and a system beside him, he wasn’t content with a mediocre and ordinary life.

Seeing the weak appearance of Lu Lanshu and knowing she needed rest, Lu Changsheng did not talk much. He told her to rest well and handed the baby over to a woman standing by.

It wasn't because the baby had to be given to the Lu Family right after birth, but because he didn't know how to take care of an infant, so he let the woman look after it.

As for the child's Spiritual Root, it would not manifest until they were five or six years old, so it could not be tested now.

After leaving the birthing room, Lu Changsheng returned to his own room and silently called out.

"System, I want to draw a lottery."

Immediately, a pale red virtual lottery wheel appeared before his eyes.

It was divided into seven areas: Cultivation Technique, Skills, Pet Beasts, Elixir Medicines, Magical Treasures, Treasures, and Others.

"It's quite comprehensive."

Lu Changsheng looked at the items available for the draw, his face showing delight.

The only caveat was that the lottery wheel looked a bit like the roulette from the money-grabbing games of the penguin corporation from his previous life.

It made him feel unreliable, somewhat panicky.

Can good things really come out of this?

And besides, the lottery in his previous life depended on spending money, but this life's lottery depended on... spending vitality?

It felt rather strange to him...

Forget it, consider this lottery as the system's gift money.

Lu Changsheng didn't overthink and silently said,

"Start the lottery."

At once, a golden light began to spin on the pale red wheel.

After five seconds, the wheel slowed down, and under Lu Changsheng's hopeful gaze, the golden light stopped on Skills.

[Ding, congratulations to the host for obtaining a Second Rank Talisman-Making Skill!]

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

A talisman-shaped light cluster emerged from the big wheel, accompanied by the sound of the system's voice.

With a slight movement of his mind, Lu Changsheng saw a talisman-shaped light cluster in the System Space, with information appearing on it.

[Second Rank Talisman-Making Skill: Upon use, you can directly comprehend Second Rank full-level Talisman-Making Skill and the corresponding Complete Collection of Talismans.]

“Directly obtained Second Rank full-level Talisman-Making Skill!?”

“System, I apologize, I admit I was a bit narrow-minded at the start, carrying some bias.”

When Lu Changsheng saw the information, his expression was full of surprise.

He hadn't expected to get something this good on his first try at the lottery.

Having been in the Lu Family for a while now, he hadn't just focused on having a child and practising Cultivation.

He had also enriched himself by learning many things about the Cultivation World.

He knew how precious the Second Rank Talisman-Making Skill was and its value.

Just like in the secular world, Cultivators also had many professions and Skills.

For example, Alchemy, Artifact Refining, Talisman Making, Formation, Beast Taming, Gardening, Medicinal Cooking, Spirit Identification, Mining... and so on.

In his previous life, there was a saying that if you have a skill, you will not starve wherever you go.

It applies just the same for Cultivators.

Moreover, not only will you not starve, but you will also be in high demand, esteemed wherever you go.

Because the entry threshold for a Cultivator's skills is much higher—it's not something you can learn just because you want to, nor can everyone master it.

It depends greatly on talent and wealth.

Among all skills, Formation, Alchemy, Artifact Refining, and Talisman Making are especially popular.

Second Rank Talisman-Making corresponds to the Talismans of the Foundation Establishment Stage, which is above Qi Refinement.

With this skill, he could completely become an honored guest, a Guest Elder, in various Families and powers!

Without further thought, Lu Changsheng mentally activated the Second Rank Talisman-Making Skill in the System Space.

In an instant, a surge of knowledge rushed into his mind.

Introduction to Talismans

Complete Collection of Basic Talismans

Complete Collection of First Rank Talismans

Complete Collection of Second Rank Talismans

The Great Art of Talisman Making

How Talismans Are Made

Talisman Making: From Beginner to Grave

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After a while, Lu Changsheng's mind was filled with numerous pieces of knowledge about talismans.

He also felt as if he had been drawing and making talismans for dozens of years.

He quickly approached his desk, picked up a writing brush, and sketched out a mysterious and complex talisman figure on a piece of paper with fluid grace, as if dragons and snakes were racing across the clouds.

"This feeling is simply marvelous!"

"It's as if I've been practicing calligraphy and writing for several decades. There's not the slightest bit of stiffness or unfamiliarity."

“Indeed, anything produced by the system is guaranteed to be a fine product!”

Looking at the talisman on the paper, Lu Changsheng’s face showed a surprised and delighted expression.

He wasn’t scribbling aimlessly; that was the talisman for a lower-grade First Rank Fireball Talisman.

It was just that, since he hadn’t used a talisman brush, talisman paper, spirit ink, or spiritual power, it didn’t become an actual talisman.

He couldn’t quite explain this drawing process himself.

It was like eating and drinking water, something he had done countless times before, that had already become muscle memory.

“With Second Rank talisman-making skills, even if I leave the Lu Family, I’ll be able to stand on my own two feet!”

“No worries about not being able to get a wife or support a wife and children!”

Lu Changsheng took a deep breath, his emotions excited and exuberant.

However, after a moment, he frowned.

“But right now, I can’t reveal these Second Rank talisman-making skills. Otherwise, I won’t be able to explain it, and it may even bring trouble.”

An innocent man incurs blame by possessing a gem.

A son-in-law who was eliminated by the Immortal Sects and has only just started on cultivation, suddenly mastering talisman making will definitely give rise to suspicions and invite trouble.

Besides, he was currently a son-in-law living at the Lu Family’s expense.

If he revealed his talisman-making skills, who knows what attitude the Lu Family would take.

They might go from using him as a ‘breeding’ partner to treating him as a talisman-making tool.

“I can’t rush it. I need to take things slowly. First, I’ll buy a set of talisman-making tools and materials to practice making talismans. Then I’ll gradually reveal my talent for making talismans at the Lu Family, eventually revealing my First and Second Rank Talisman Master skills in a logical progression.”

“That way, it won’t arouse suspicion. Maybe even for my talent in making talismans, the Lu Family will value me more, and my status will rise.”

Lu Changsheng took a deep breath and after pondering for a while, he made up his mind.

Now seeing the effect of the system and possessing Second Rank talisman-making skills, he felt more confident about this world and his future.

He knew that as long as he was careful, had more children, and caused less trouble, even if he didn’t become immortal or an ancestor, his achievements in the future would not be too bad.

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The next morning, Lu Changsheng went out and took out the Magic Flying Sword that Lu Yuanding had rewarded him with before, and headed towards the Hundred Treasures Pavilion in Qingzhu Villa.

The Hundred Treasures Pavilion was akin to a department store.

They sold all sorts of things such as Magic Artifacts, Elixir Medicines, Talismans, Spirit Rice, Spirit Vegetables, Demon Beast meat, and everyday items.

Every month, Lu Changsheng would use the Spirit Stones he received to buy Demon Beast meat and Spirit Vegetables from the Hundred Treasures Pavilion.

Elixir Medicines were effective but too expensive.

For someone as poor as him, eating Spirit Vegetables and Demon Beast meat was more cost-effective.

Today, he came to the Hundred Treasures Pavilion intending to purchase a set of talisman-making tools and materials.

As for the Flying Sword, he was out of money and planned to sell it for cash.

“Shopkeeper, do you sell talisman pens, talisman paper, and spirit ink for making talismans here?”

Upon arriving at the Hundred Treasures Pavilion, Lu Changsheng asked the shopkeeper, who was lounging on a recliner.

“What do you need these items for?”

The shopkeeper was a gray-haired old man and also a cultivator.

“I want to learn talisman-making, so I plan to buy some materials to give it a try.”

Lu Changsheng replied.

“Learn talisman-making?”

The old man appeared to hear a joke and couldn't help laughing.

Looking at Lu Changsheng, he said, “Do you know how difficult it is to learn talisman-making?”

There weren't many cultivators in Qingzhu Villa, only about a hundred or so, and he knew most of them.

Lu Changsheng, being a son-in-law who had fathered five children in one year, had gained some notoriety in Qingzhu Villa, leaving a relatively deep impression on the shopkeeper.

“I don't know, but my talent is limited. Continuing to cultivate like this, I can basically see my limits. So, I might as well try learning a craft.”

Lu Changsheng shook his head, smiling wryly.

He had prepared all these excuses the night before.

“Heh, it's good that you have this thought, but I advise you not to waste your money,”

“Any newcomer who wants to learn talisman-making is likely to fail a hundred times when they start, and if they have poor aptitude, even failing a few hundred times isn't surprising!”

“That's still for the same talisman. If you try making a different talisman, although it gets somewhat easier, the failure rate is still shockingly high.”

“For a novice to become an Elementary Talisman Master, it requires thousands upon thousands of attempts. Think about the costs involved for yourself.”

The shopkeeper, seeing that Lu Changsheng was diligent in the Lu Family, having made five women pregnant within a year, meant well with his advice.

Chapter 7: Talisman Making!_1

Lu Changsheng, upon hearing this, was also somewhat surprised.

Although he had acquired Second Grade talisman-making skills through the system, he was truly unaware of the specific difficulties involved in talisman making.

He had just realized that making talismans was much harder than he had imagined.

For a rookie, it took tens of thousands of practice attempts just to get started and become an Elementary Talisman Master.

This Elementary Talisman Master refers to a First Grade Talisman Master of inferior quality.

First Grade Talisman Masters are categorized based on the talismans they can draw into First Grade Talisman Masters of inferior quality, middle grade, superior grade, and a top-level Talisman Master.

Second Grade Talisman Masters are also classified the same way.

Lu Changsheng, having obtained Second Grade talisman-making skills, was at full mastery of the Second Grade.

That is, a Top-Level Second Grade Talisman Master.

For a newbie to elevate their talisman-making skills to the Second Grade, the time, effort, and money spent are simply immeasurable.

Even dedicating a lifetime of effort might not be enough to achieve it.

At this moment, Lu Changsheng felt that his Second Grade talisman-making skill was far more precious than he had imagined.

“Shopkeeper, I still want to give it a try,”

Lu Changsheng said with a determined look on his face.

No matter how difficult it was, what did it have to do with him? The harder it was to become a Talisman Master, the more valuable this skill would be.

“Alright, since you insist on buying, how could I refuse to sell to you?”

Seeing that Lu Changsheng was persistent, the shopkeeper did not try to persuade him further.

To give advice was already a kind gesture from him.

You know young people, they won't stop until they hit the south wall.

“A regular wolf-hair talisman brush, twenty Spirit Stones each, can be used approximately two hundred times,”

“First Grade regular talisman paper, one Spirit Stone for a pack of ten sheets,”

“First Grade regular spiritual ink, one Spirit Stone per box, can be used about fifty times,”

the shopkeeper quoted the prices.

Upon hearing this, Lu Changsheng nodded and took out his flying sword, saying, “Shopkeeper, would you please appraise this flying sword for me?”

“Is this the one the Family Head rewarded you with?”

The shopkeeper was somewhat surprised, having not expected that Lu Changsheng would sell his flying sword just to make talismans.

But then again, as a man who had married into the family, where else would he get the money if not by selling the flying sword?

“Indeed,”

Lu Changsheng nodded.

“For this flying sword, I won’t shortchange you—fifty Spirit Stones,”

the shopkeeper stretched out a hand.

“Deal.”

“Then, please give me a wolf-hair talisman brush, ten packs of talisman paper, and two boxes of spiritual ink,”

Lu Changsheng said, nodding and placing the flying sword on the counter.

The shopkeeper indeed did not underquote him; if sold elsewhere, the flying sword would fetch just a few more Spirit Stones.

Considering that Lu Lanshu had given birth and Lu Zi’er and Lu Qing’er were also about to give birth, Lu Changsheng added,

“Please also give me one jin each of ginseng, licorice, angelica, Solomon’s seal, and goji berries.”

These were medicinal herbs grown by the Lu Family themselves, categorized as Spirit Plants, with the effect of nourishing the primordial spirit and replenishing energy.

“Alright, that comes to a total of thirty-seven Spirit Stones. I’ll give you thirteen Spirit Stones as change,”

the shopkeeper said as he put away the flying sword, took out the items Lu Changsheng had requested, and gave him thirteen Spirit Stones.

“Thank you, shopkeeper,”

Lu Changsheng expressed his gratitude and left with his purchases.

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Inside the study,

Lu Changsheng neatly arranged his entire set of talisman brushes, talisman paper, and spiritual ink on the desk.

Beside them, there were also copies of “Introduction to Talismans” and “Complete Collection of Basic Talismans.”

The skill information given by the system included many kinds of talismans.

But to put on an act, it must be thorough.

It couldn’t be that he became a Talisman Master without ever looking at a book, right?

That would be a bit unreasonable.

So, for the sake of caution, Lu Changsheng decided to put on an act and made a trip to the Lu Family’s library, spending one Spirit Stone to borrow two books about talismans.

“The materials for making a hundred talismans cost about twenty-two Spirit Stones,”

“A First Grade inferior quality basic talisman can be sold for 1-2 Spirit Stones. If all are made into talismans, the lowest profit would be fivefold, and at most, it could be tenfold.”

“If all can be made into First Grade middle-grade talismans, then the profit could go up to over twentyfold!”

“Tsk tsk, such high profit indeed.”

“My talisman-making belongs to full mastery at Second Grade, so to draw all these materials into First Grade middle-grade talismans will be a piece of cake.”

Lu Changsheng skillfully ground and mixed the spirit ink, calculating in his mind.

Different grades of talismans required different materials.

The wolf hair talisman brush he had bought was the most common type, suitable for beginners to use, and could only be used to draw basic talismans and lower and middle-grade first-grade talismans.

It wasn't entirely true that it couldn't be used to draw upper-grade and supreme first-grade talismans.

It just greatly affected the success rate of the talisman, and the brush was prone to wear and tear, leading to its disposal.

Generally, a talisman master who could draw middle, upper, and supreme first-grade talismans wouldn't care about this amount of money.

They would always try to buy the best materials and tools to increase their success rate in making talismans.

Similarly, the talisman paper and spirit ink were also divided into ordinary, advanced level, and supreme, three grades.

The ordinary kind was at most used for drawing middle-grade first-grade talismans.

The advanced level was suitable for drawing middle and upper-grade first-grade talismans.

The supreme kind was suitable for drawing upper-grade and supreme first-grade talismans.

After grinding and mixing the ink, Lu Changsheng laid out the talisman paper, took the talisman brush in hand, took two deep breaths to calm his mental spirit, and began to try making talismans.

If he were a beginner, he would also have to bathe and change into new clothes and perform rituals like adjusting his body, mind, and breath, among others.

But Lu Changsheng was experienced, and these practices were already second nature to him, so naturally, he did not need them.

He dipped the talisman brush into the ink.

Afterward, spiritual power surged from inside his body to his palm, through to the talisman brush in his hand, and then to the tip of the brush, making the tip soaked in spirit ink emit a faint luminescence.

As the tip touched the blank talisman paper, he began to move it swiftly and boldly, splashing the ink with great fluency.

The whole process was smooth and uninterrupted, without a moment's delay.

Lu Changsheng lifted his hand.

One could see a layer of light emerge on the talisman paper on the table, emanating faint fluctuations of spiritual energy, which quickly solidified the spirit ink.

After a short while, the spirit ink solidified, the light on the talisman paper circulated and then gradually dimmed, disappearing from sight.

A lower-grade first-grade talisman, the Flame Bullet Talisman, was complete!

“Hoo!”

Seeing this scene, Lu Changsheng also let out a long breath and a smile appeared on his lips.

Acquiring related skills was one thing, but successfully making a talisman himself was another.

“Making talismans really depletes spiritual power. With my level of qi refinement, I can at most draw two or three lower-grade first-grade talismans.”

“If I were to draw a middle-grade first-grade talisman, I reckon I could only manage one at most.”

Lu Changsheng examined the Flame Bullet Talisman he held in his hands closely.

By injecting a trace of spiritual power, one could activate the talisman, releasing a fire bullet.

As for its power, it was about the same as the Flame Bullet Technique of the third level energy refinement.

This was the formidable aspect of talismans.

Lu Changsheng, only at the first level of qi refinement, would deplete all his spiritual power using a single Flame Bullet Technique.

But with that same amount of spiritual power, he could draw two or three talismans with the power of the Flame Bullet Technique at the third level of energy refinement!

Straightaway, Lu Changsheng drew another Featherweight Talisman and Rejuvenation Insignia.

Both were lower-grade first-grade talismans.

Feeling that continuing to draw would not only deplete his spiritual power but also tire his mental spirit, Lu Changsheng stored the three talismans away and began to sit in meditation to cultivate.

The next day, Lu Changsheng opened his eyes.

After sitting in meditation all night, his spiritual power and energy had fully recovered.

Perhaps the act of drawing talismans the previous day had consumed his spiritual power and mental spirit to some extent, making the cultivation last night more effective than usual.

“Talisman making depletes spiritual power and spirit, yet it seems to slightly assist cultivation?”

Lu Changsheng was somewhat surprised.

But he didn't pay too much attention to this slight effect.

He came to the desk, picked up the wolf hair talisman brush, and prepared to try drawing a middle-grade first-grade talisman.

Without hesitation, he dipped the brush in ink and began to draw.

The touch of the brush emitted a faint spiritual light, wildly scribbling on the talisman paper, flowing smoothly and successfully, without any mishap.

However, the moment he finished the stroke, sweat appeared on Lu Changsheng's forehead, his face turned pale, and he looked completely drained, slumping back into the chair behind him.

After a long while, Lu Changsheng let out a long breath, sat up, and picked up the talisman from the table.

A middle-grade first-grade talisman—the Golden Light Insignia.

Once activated, it released a layer of golden light to protect oneself, capable of withstanding a strike from the sixth level of energy refinement.

“Right now, a middle-grade first-grade talisman is still a bit strenuous for me,” Lu Changsheng thought, as he stored and hid the talisman away.

In the days that followed, besides cultivating, he also took up making talismans.

Almost every day, he drew two or three lower-grade first-grade talismans.

Or one middle-grade first-grade talisman.

He kept all these talismans hidden in the cupboard in his study, to be taken out when the opportunity arose.

Chapter 8: Both Sons and Daughters, Talents Revealed!_1

Time flew by, and in the blink of an eye, a month had passed.

Lu Changsheng's wife, Lu Qing'er, gave birth as well.

It was a son.

This time, the system did not appear to grant any reward.

Having tasted the sweetness of the system's rewards, Lu Changsheng felt somewhat disappointed.

However, upon reflection, it seemed normal; if childbirth triggered an achievement and earned a reward every time,

there would be no need to raise children at all, one could just keep having them and take off oneself.

After the child was born, Lu Changsheng did not immediately name him.

He planned to wait for half a month until the child of Lu Zi'er was also born to name them together.

This was also the idea of his wife, who wanted to name the children of the two sisters at the same time.

For such a small request, Lu Changsheng naturally agreed.

Twenty days later, Lu Zi'er's child was born.

It was a daughter.

The system still did not respond, presumably a certain number had to be reached to trigger the achievement reward.

But Lu Changsheng was still very happy.

It was not a matter of favoring boys over girls, but rather that he was now blessed with both a son and a daughter.

For these two children, Lu Changsheng and his wife discussed and decided to name the boy Lu Wuyu and the girl Lu Wuyou.

The meaning was the same as the previously thought-of Ping'an and Xile.

They hoped their children could grow up safely and carefree.

And that his own path of cultivation could also proceed smoothly without trouble.

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A month later.

On this day, Lu Changsheng went to the Hundred Treasures Pavilion, took out five unpromoted Basic Talismans, and asked,

“Shopkeeper, do you take this Cleansing Talisman, and how much is it worth?”

To reveal his identity as a Talisman Master would naturally require a gradual process.

So, after spending nearly three months, he finished drawing on the ten stacks of talisman paper he had bought, with Lu Changsheng keeping five blank talismans and crafting them into the simplest of the Basic Talismans, the Cleansing Talisman.

After all, the shopkeeper had said that it was normal for a novice in Talisman Making to fail a hundred times.

So if out of a hundred attempts at making Cleansing Talismans, he succeeded in five, it might be considered a bit of talent, right?

“Cleansing Talisman!?”

On hearing this, the shopkeeper was stunned.

He looked at Lu Changsheng and remembered the latter's sale of his Flying Sword to practice Talisman Making.

Then, showing surprise, with some disbelief, he said, “You made Spirit Talismans out of the one hundred sets of materials you bought last time!? And you made five of them?”

Although the Cleansing Talisman is the simplest of the Basic Talismans,

for a novice who had never touched Talisman Making, succeeding in creating five talismans in a hundred tries was quite remarkable.

“Yes, I kept failing at first, but after one success, it felt much better, so I made these five talismans,”

“I wanted to ask the shopkeeper if these talismans are worth anything?”

Lu Changsheng said.

Thinking that he might often have to act in the future, Lu Changsheng had also been practicing his acting skills in front of a mirror during these days so that he could appear more natural when speaking nonsense.

“Let me take a look at the talismans,” said the shopkeeper.

Faced with this statement, he was somewhat at a loss for words.

He hadn't expected Lu Changsheng, a 'breeding' outsider of the family, to possess such talent in Talisman Making!

Lu Changsheng placed the talismans he was holding onto the countertop.

Subsequently, the shopkeeper picked up the talismans and examined them.

As a Cultivator, he naturally had some understanding of talismans.

He could tell that, although the lines of these five talismans were not very smooth and the quality was not high, they were indeed successful and had no issues.

The shopkeeper said with some emotion, “To be able to craft five talismans out of one hundred sets of materials, even if they are the same type of Spirit Talisman, shows that you have considerable talent in Talisman Making!”

“But Cleansing Talismans are just Basic Talismans and are not worth much, as few people need them.”

He paused before continuing, “However, our Lu Family has an encouragement plan to motivate family members to learn skills.”

“For such Basic Talismans, we're willing to buy them for one Spirit Stone per three talismans.”

“Although you are an outsider to the family, you can also enjoy this benefit,” said the shopkeeper.

As Basic Talismans have limited uses, mostly just for daily life, they are not very impactful for Cultivators.

Thus, not many buy them, and the price is low.

One Spirit Stone for three talismans.

Hearing this price, Lu Changsheng had also anticipated it.

After all, many basic first-grade talismans were only worth one spirit stone apiece.

With this price in mind, his 100% success rate in talisman making could still earn him eight spirit stones.

But it was not possible for him to make money this way.

Not to mention a 100% success rate in talisman crafting was too outrageous.

If he had to toil for two to three months just to earn this small amount, he would be treating himself like a slave.

However, Lu Changsheng had no intention of making money through basic talismans; he presented these five basic talismans merely to showcase his talent for talisman making.

“Alright.”

Lu Changsheng placed three Cleansing Talismans on the counter.

Then, he took out eleven spirit stones and said, “Shopkeeper, please give me ten stacks of talisman paper and two boxes of spirit ink.”

“I’ll take all five of your talismans, and I’ll charge you two spirit stones.”

The shopkeeper, seeing Lu Changsheng’s gift for talisman crafting, was willing to offer a deal.

Although he was old, he also had descendants.

If Lu Changsheng indeed became a talisman master, there might come a time when they would need his help.

“Thank you, Shopkeeper.”

Lu Changsheng immediately expressed his gratitude, placed the remaining two talismans on the counter, and took back one spirit stone.

The shopkeeper accepted the talismans and the spirit stone, handing over ten stacks of talisman paper and two boxes of spirit ink to Lu Changsheng.

“Thank you, Shopkeeper.”

Lu Changsheng thanked him once more and turned to leave.

“Remarkable, indeed.”

“What a pity he’s not a Lu Family Disciple.”

Watching Lu Changsheng walk away, the shopkeeper shook his head and sighed.

If he had been a blood descendent of the Lu Family with such a talent for talisman crafting, the family would definitely be willing to spend resources to cultivate him.

But after all, Lu Changsheng was a foreign family member, a son-in-law, and not considered one of their own.

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Late at night.

Afterwards.

Lu Changsheng looked at the jade-like body stretched out on the big bed.

Sitting up, he took a Cleansing Talisman from beside the bed and slapped it on himself.

Instantly, a breeze blew, whisking away the stickiness on his body, leaving him feeling refreshed.

“These Cleansing Talismans are quite useful.”

Lu Changsheng was rather satisfied after testing the Cleansing Talisman.

On the bed, Lu Lanshu, with her face flushed from the exertion and her eyes lustrous with intoxication, saw Lu Changsheng use the talisman to cleanse his body and said softly, “Husband, this is too wasteful, let your wife attend to you.”

“It’s fine, these are self-drawn by me, not really worth much.”

Lu Changsheng waved his hand and said.

“You drew these talismans!?”

Lu Lanshu's lips parted slightly in surprise upon hearing this, her gentle face showing astonishment.

Over the past few months, the fact that Lu Changsheng had often been drawing talismans in his study was something she was naturally aware of as one of his wives.

Although she herself didn't practice cultivation, living in such a family environment, she had heard about it.

She knew that talisman making was difficult, and being able to create talismans was considered very impressive.

Initially, like the others in her group who had married the group of Immortal Seedlings, aside from the rewards given by the Lu Family, they mainly took the plunge in the hopes of riding on their children's coattails.

They didn't hold much expectation or desire regarding their husbands because it was clear from the start that these Immortal Seedlings were highly unlikely to achieve anything.

But understanding was one thing.

If their husband turned out to be capable, that would, of course, be more than welcome.

Whether for future livelihoods, conversations with sisters, or returning to the secular world, it was a matter of pride.

After all, besides children bringing honor to their mothers, wives can also gain prestige through their husbands.

"Yes, your husband seems to have some talent in the domain of talisman making. Once I become a talisman master, I promise to give you all a good life," Lu Changsheng said gently with a smile.

There was no need to keep hidden matters related to talismans; it was something he would eventually reveal.

The Lu Family might even investigate and inquire about his talisman-making from those close to him.

So there was no point in concealing it—divulging some of this information to his wives might help keep the harmony in the inner chambers.

"Your wife believes in you," Lu Lanshu replied softly, looking at Lu Changsheng with eyes full of tenderness.

Chapter 9: Martial Arts and Cultivation!_1

Seasons changed, spring turned to autumn and winter to summer in a cyclical dance, and before he knew it, Lu Changsheng had been at Qingzhu Mountain for over a year.

During this time, he hadn't once stepped foot outside Qingzhu Villa, leading a life that could be said to be utterly mundane and dull to the extreme.

However, with daily cultivation, talisman making, and spending time with his wives and concubines, his days were still quite fulfilling.

As for having children, that had slowed down for now.

Lu Lanshu, Lu Zi'er, and Lu Qing'er had just given birth not long ago and needed time to recover their vitality.

The two maids who had been elevated to concubines were also pregnant, and were due to give birth in a few months.

As for the two maids sent later by Uncle Fu, due to Lu Changsheng being busy with talisman making over the past few months and his limited energy, he hadn't been able to get them pregnant.

After all, he was nothing more than a Qi Refinement First Level weakling.

His body and energy were limited.

Moreover, Lu Changsheng did not see his several wives and concubines merely as birthing machines.

He would usually spend some time to develop a bit of affection and smooth over their relationships.

The Lu Family may treat him as a breeding partner, but he would not see himself as a mere sowing tool.

His wives and concubines also had nice personalities.

Indeed, just as Uncle Fu had said, they were graceful and educated daughters of the Lu Family's secular world, dignified and virtuous, without an ounce of pretentiousness or affectation.

To Lu Changsheng, a transmigrator, they were unbelievably simple and easy to appease.

Adding to that, all three wives and four concubines were from the Lu Family, they got along quite well, so his domestic life had always been very harmonious.

Today, after his cultivation session and drawing two talismans in his study, Lu Changsheng saw the weather outside was nice and took his two-month-old daughter out to the courtyard to bask in the sun.

Qingzhu Mountain, being such a place, also experienced climate changes along with the four seasons, complete with spring, summer, autumn, and winter.

It was currently spring, with the sunlight being very mild and comfortable, perfect for sunbathing.

After half an hour in the sun, Lu Changsheng heard some noise from the neighboring courtyard and went over with his daughter to visit Li Feiyu's home.

Li Feiyu was practicing martial arts in his small courtyard, his prowess quite astonishing.

To be not at all exaggerated, he could take out someone like Lu Changsheng with just one punch.

Even though he was a cultivator, Li Feiyu had not abandoned the martial path.

Seeing Lu Changsheng come over, Li Feiyu stopped and finished his practice. He wiped off his sweat with a towel and casually remarked.

"I heard you've been busy with talisman making recently, what brings you to my place?"

"Just busying myself with nothing much,"

Lu Changsheng laughed in response.

Since he had a good relationship with Li Feiyu, and their wives often chatted when idle since they were neighbors, it was natural for Li Feiyu to know about his talisman making.

"How's the talisman making going? I've heard it's quite an expensive endeavor,"

Li Feiyu sat by the stone table in the courtyard, picked up the teapot, and poured a cup of brewed tea.

"Not bad, there's some hope,"

"I'm not asking for much, just a craft to feed my wives and children in the future will do,"

Lu Changsheng also took a seat, then said.

Although he had a good relationship with Li Feiyu, he naturally wouldn't divulge matters concerning himself and kept the same explanation for outsiders.

"That's pretty good, having a craft to rely on means you can make a living anywhere in the future,"

Li Feiyu nodded, lifting the teapot to pour Lu Changsheng a cup of tea.

"What about you, what are your plans?"

"The Lu Family can't possibly let you continue like this, can they?"

Lu Changsheng took the tea, sipped it lightly.

Of the twelve Immortal Seedlings who came to the Lu Family together, all but Li Feiyu had sired children.

Lu Changsheng even heard that Li Feiyu's wife was still untouched.

"I cannot lose my virginity before reaching Innate according to the Red Sun Heart Method I cultivate. I've explained this to Uncle Fu, so the Lu Family won't pressure me for now,"

Li Feiyu said so.

As a Seventh Grade Spiritual Root, the Lu Family was somewhat more lenient with him, and the pressure would not start at this stage.

"What about after breaking through to Innate?"

Lu Changsheng asked.

Li Feiyu was silent for a moment before saying, "Having signed the contract and used the Lu Family's resources, I, Li Feiyu, will naturally honor the agreement."

"In at most one year, I'll be able to break through to Innate and also be able to lock in my essence to ensure that my vital yang doesn't leak, using it only for having children,"

Li Feiyu stated.

Awesome!

Hearing this, Lu Changsheng couldn't help but express his admiration.

He hadn't realized martial arts had this kind of function.

Should he start practicing it too?

After all, he now had three wives and four concubines, which required considerable effort.

And as for cultivation and Qi Refinement, they did not greatly enhance his physical condition at present.

He looked at Li Feiyu curiously and asked, “Feiyu, once your martial arts break through to Innate, how does your strength compare to a cultivator?”

Previously, on the road to Qingzhu Mountain, when facing a Wind Blade from a Chen Family Cultivator, Li Feiyu was able to tackle him down promptly.

Martial Dao Innate practitioners should be able to exchange blows with Cultivators.

But as for specifics, Lu Changsheng wasn’t clear.

After all, he had never experienced the strength of a Martial Dao Innate expert.

As for Cultivators, he’d only seen them once.

“Breaking through to Innate and possessing Innate True Qi should be about the same as the Spiritual Power of the Qi Refinement Third Level.”

“So if it comes to a fight, it’s all about whether you can get in close.”

“But for a Qi Refinement Third Level Cultivator, who can control objects and wield Magic Artifacts, it’s too difficult for martial artists to get close.”

Li Feiyu said, a bitter smile appearing on his face.

A Martial Dao Innate expert was already a top-level expert in the jianghu.

He had been practicing martial arts since he was a child, enduring the harshness of the summers and the cold of the winters, and after more than ten years of hard training, he was only considered a first-rate expert.

It was only because of his time with the Lu Family over the past year, eating Spirit Rice and being nourished by Spiritual Energy, that his martial cultivation was able to progress so quickly, allowing him to break through to Innate so rapidly.

Yet a Cultivator who reached the Qi Refinement Third Level was comparable to an Innate master.

There was simply no comparison between the two.

The reason why he hadn't given up on martial arts and still spent time on it was that he had reached this stage and had some persistence in his heart.

Lu Changsheng nodded his head, having a general understanding.

Innate masters and Qi Refinement Third Level Cultivators were like warriors and mages.

If a warrior could get close, he could win, but if he couldn't get close, he would essentially be kited to death.

But as one could imagine, it was very difficult for an Innate martial artist to get close to a Cultivator.

After all, apart from Magic Artifacts, if a Cultivator also had protective Vestment robes, Talismans, and other means, how could a martial artist fight?

"Are there realms above Innate?"

Lu Changsheng looked at his daughter in his arms and continued to ask.

He suddenly thought that if his children did not have a Spiritual Root, he could send them to train in martial arts.

After all, if only one parent has a Spiritual Root, the chances of the children having a Spiritual Root are very small.

Only a one to two percent chance.

This was also the reason why the Lu Family demanded the birth of fifty children.

The world was so dangerous; his children couldn't possibly spend their entire lives in Qingzhu Mountain without going out.

If they trained in martial arts from a young age, not only would they become strong and healthy, but they would also have some self-defense ability if they ever went out.

Moreover.

Because of the system's second feature, Lu Changsheng always felt that his current three children probably didn't have Spiritual Roots.

The "Blessings of Many Children" system would add the talents and Cultivation Levels of his children to him.

A child's Spiritual Root would manifest at around the age of five or six and could be detected, but that didn't mean there was no Spiritual Root before then.

Yet with the birth of the three children, Lu Changsheng did not feel any slight changes in his own Spiritual Root.

So he had this faint guess in his heart.

Of course, the specific situation would only be known after the children were older and tested, so Lu Changsheng was just guessing and not sure.

"Above Innate, there are Innate Grandmasters and Great Innate Grandmasters."

"But even a Great Innate Grandmaster is only on par with a Qi Refinement Fifth or Sixth Level Cultivator."

"To my knowledge, there are not many Great Innate Grandmasters in the entire jianghu, so the two cannot be compared at all."

Li Feiyu shook his head as he spoke.

Lu Changsheng nodded his head, gaining a rough understanding of martial arts.

Even if one cultivated to the limit, they could only be comparable to the middle stage of Qi Refinement.

Thinking of his children's talents and how their strength could be added to his own,

Lu Changsheng couldn't help but think that if his dozens or hundreds of children cultivated to the level of Great Innate Grandmasters, whether he could, under this enhancement, be comparable to the Energy Refinement Late Stage, or even to Foundation Establishment?

This thought made Lu Changsheng feel that in the future, his children could practice cultivation if they had a Spiritual Root, or martial arts if they didn't.

As for practicing martial arts himself, Lu Changsheng just thought about it and had no real intention of acting on it.

Currently, cultivation and Talisman Making, along with his wives and concubines, took up most of his energy.

He did not have extra time or energy to spend on martial arts.

...

Time flew by, and another month had passed.

Lu Changsheng's fourth child was born.

It was the fourth child born by one of his concubines, a girl.

Lu Changsheng named her Lu Xile.

He had thought of the name from the beginning.

At this time, Lu Changsheng also realized a problem.

If he kept having children like this, naming them would also become a problem that would make heads bald.

He thought about establishing a family naming sequence, which would make it much simpler to name future children.

As for another concubine, she would also give birth in two months.

It's worth mentioning that through testing, this concubine was found to be carrying twins.

Chapter 10: The Second Revelation of Talent!_1

In the study.

Lu Changsheng turned the last piece of talisman paper into a First Grade, Middle Grade talisman.

He still found it somewhat difficult to draw First Grade, Middle Grade talismans.

It wasn't a problem of skill.

Talisman making was very consuming of spiritual power and mental spirit.

If it weren't for his Second Grade Talisman Master skills, with his Third Level Qi Refinement cultivation level, it would simply be impossible to draw a First Grade, Middle Grade talisman.

After resting for a moment, he picked up the talisman and then opened a nearby locked cabinet.

Inside the cabinet, neatly stacked, was a thick pile of talismans, amounting to hundreds.

It had been almost half a year since he won the talisman-making skill from the lottery.

And these talismans were the fruits of his labor over the past half year.

“Sigh, so many talismans, yet there’s no way to sell them for money.”

As Lu Changsheng looked at these talismans, he couldn’t help but shake his head and sigh.

Having bought twenty bundles of talisman paper, apart from the few he tried with his crafty hands, attempting several more difficult First Grade, Middle Grade talismans and failing due to insufficient spiritual power, all others were successfully made into talismans.

To say he had a one hundred percent success rate in making talismans wasn’t an overstatement at all.

But Lu Changsheng didn’t dare sell a single one of these First Grade talismans; he could only let them gather dust here.

After all, last time he had only taken five Basic Cleansing Talismans to the Hundred Treasures Pavilion and that made the shopkeeper show a look of astonishment.

If he were to take out First Grade talismans, he feared it would directly alarm the higher-ups of the Lu Family.

As for secretly selling them somewhere else, that wasn’t realistic either.

Not to mention that he would have to apply to the Lu Family to leave Qingzhu Mountain.

The idea of him going out alone to sell things in the marketplace of an immortal town made Lu Changsheng himself feel somewhat afraid.

In this cultivation world, there was nothing like laws.

What if he encountered robber cultivators who might rob and murder him?

After all, he was only a Qi Refinement Third Level weakling who had not learned any spells.

He was just a bit more agile and nimble than ordinary people and could only rely on talismans for protection.

“No need to rush, take it slowly.”

Lu Changsheng took a deep breath and told himself that one must never be too hasty in matters, as prudence was the best policy.

He then picked up the nine Cleaning Talismans, six Garment Purification Talismans, and three Dust Avoidance Talismans he had drawn earlier and headed towards the Hundred Treasures Pavilion.

He intended to exchange these eighteen Basic Talismans for spirit stones.

At the same time, it was also to showcase his talent in talisman making once again.

“Shopkeeper, could you please exchange these talismans for spirit stones?”

Upon arriving at the Hundred Treasures Pavilion, Lu Changsheng called to the shopkeeper and placed the eighteen Basic Talismans on the counter.

“Hiss, you’ve managed to make eighteen talismans this time?”

“And not just the Cleansing Talisman, but also the Garment Purification Talisman and the Dust Avoidance Talisman!”

The shopkeeper picked up the talismans and immediately recognized the other two types, astonished.

“I am now quite confident with the Cleansing Talisman and the Garment Purification Talisman, but the Dust Avoidance Talisman still needs some work,” Lu Changsheng said with a deep sigh, “You were right before, shopkeeper, talisman making is too difficult and costly.”

“At this rate, I don’t know how long it will take before I can draw First Grade talismans and become a Talisman Master.”

Lu Changsheng feigned a sigh of hardship.

Although all three talismans were Basic Talismans, their difficulty varied and increased gradually.

“You’re already doing very well. You indeed have a talent for talisman making, and if you keep it up, you will certainly become a Talisman Master,” the shopkeeper said with a face full of emotion, finding it incredible.

As of now, since Lu Changsheng could draw three kinds of Basic Talismans, he was considered a talisman-making apprentice.

As long as he persisted, he was guaranteed to become a Talisman Master.

He took the talismans and handed over six spirit stones to Lu Changsheng, encouraging him with a “Keep it up.”

“Thank you, shopkeeper.”

Lu Changsheng grabbed the spirit stones and left without buying anything else.

“Aren’t you buying talisman paper this time?”

The shopkeeper was surprised to see Lu Changsheng leave with only the spirit stones.

“The previous talisman brush I had is worn out and can’t be used anymore, so I’m planning to wait a bit until I have more spirit stones to buy a new talisman brush,” Lu Changsheng replied, shaking his head with a bitter expression.

Although the expression was false, the words were true.

The wolf hair talisman brush was said to be usable two hundred times, but really, after one hundred eighty uses, it barely functioned.

The rest depended solely on Lu Changsheng’s Second Rank skills to keep using the damaged brush for talisman making.

With his current income of three spirit stones a month, even if he saved continuously, he couldn’t afford a new talisman brush.

“Unless he sells the vestment robe he’s wearing.”

However, Lu Changsheng had worn this robe for so long and had grown quite fond of it, he didn’t want to sell it.

The shopkeeper also remembered that Lu Changsheng had been using the same talisman brush for a long time as well.

After a brief thought, he said, “Lu Changsheng, what is your success rate now for drawing basic talismans?”

“For the Cleansing Talisman and Garment Purification Talisman, I’m already familiar with them and am seventy to eighty percent confident.”

“For the Dust Avoidance Talisman, it’s about thirty percent, and for the peace charm, I’ve tried a few times but failed each time.”

Lu Changsheng didn’t know why the other party was asking this, but he was certain there was a reason, so he replied after some thought.

The difficulty of the Dust Avoidance Talisman is one level higher than that of the peace charm.

If he were about seventy to eighty percent confident with the peace charm, he could try challenging a Lower Grade Basic Talisman.

“Good,”

The shopkeeper nodded upon hearing this and didn't say anything further.

Lu Changsheng bowed and turned to leave.

At that moment, a fair-skinned young girl with pretty features, wearing a long green dress, happily approached the Hundred Treasures Pavilion, passing by Lu Changsheng.

The girl glanced indifferently at Lu Changsheng, a look of disdain apparent in her eyes.

Then she walked straight into the Hundred Treasures Pavilion and excitedly called out to the shopkeeper, “Grandpa, I've broken through to the Third Level Energy Refinement!”

The shopkeeper's face immediately lit up with a smile upon hearing this, “You've broken through to the Third Level Energy Refinement! Very good, whatever reward you want, grandpa will give it to you.”

“Grandpa, I want a Flying Sword!”

The girl immediately made her request.

“No problem, at the Third Level Energy Refinement you're able to wield a magic artifact, grandpa has already prepared it for you,” said the shopkeeper delightedly, as he led the girl to fetch the Flying Sword.

“Thank you, Grandpa!”

The girl said cheerfully.

She casually asked, “Grandpa, what was that brat doing just now? I saw he didn't buy anything and he chatted with you for quite a while.”

“Heh, he's practicing talisman-making and brings some basic talismans here to sell,” the shopkeeper replied.

“Talisman-making? That social-climbing son-in-law dares to practice talisman-making,” the girl scoffed upon hearing this.

Most of the Lu Family disciples from Qingzhu Villa looked down on Lu Changsheng and other outsiders like him, and she was no exception.

Especially given Lu Changsheng's reputation for continually taking wives and concubines, it made her feel disdainful.

Now hearing that he was actually practicing talisman-making, she naturally disdained it even more.

"Yue'er, what has grandpa always taught you!" the shopkeeper said sternly, looking at his granddaughter, "Although Lu Changsheng is a son-in-law who married into our family and came from another clan, he has been diligent and practical over the past year and has done right by our Lu Family. If your words spread, it would make our Lu Family appear petty and intolerant."

"Moreover, this Lu Changsheng is quite extraordinary; he has a talent in talisman-making and is already an apprentice. As long as he persists, he will surely become a Talisman Master in the future!"

"So, such talk is forbidden from now on, and when you meet him in the future, try to get along well. Once he truly becomes a Talisman Master, it will be beneficial to you as well!" the shopkeeper instructed.

"Really?"

"That upstart... Lu Changsheng, is an apprentice in talisman-making? He could become a Talisman Master?" the girl exclaimed in disbelief after hearing her grandfather's words.

It should be known that there were only two First Grade Talisman Masters in the Lu Family.

One was the Fourth Elder and the other was the eldest daughter.

But now, her grandfather was saying that an in-law, a nobody, could actually become a Talisman Master.

This was something she found hard to believe.

"Of course it's true, why would grandpa lie to you?" said the shopkeeper as he affectionately ruffled his granddaughter's hair bun.

"Why him, and besides, as an in-law, where would he get the money to buy materials to practice talisman-making?" the girl still couldn't believe it and grumbled unhappily.

She had attempted talisman-making before but discovered she had no talent for it.

Now, hearing from her grandfather that a social-climbing in-law actually possessed such a talent, she felt outdone and quite irked, as it was a blow to her pride.

“A Spiritual Root doesn’t define everything. Some people just have a natural gift in certain areas, and that’s something nobody can predict,”

“Now, when you meet him in the future, you don’t have to flatter him, just be a bit more polite,” the shopkeeper taught and comforted his granddaughter.

As he spoke, he took out a Lower Grade Magical Instrument Flying Sword from the cabinet and handed it to the girl.