

I. Family 621

Chapter 621: Yun Wanshang: Could he possibly possess a peerless Taoist Body!_3

Yan Wuyun, wearing a jade crown and clad in a black robe, his face stern, arrived at the Record Hall to find Lady Meng.

“Executor Yan, what brings you here?”

Seeing Yan Wuyun, Lady Meng thought he came to inform her that the matter involving Lu Changsheng had been dealt with.

She thought to herself that his efficiency was indeed commendable.

“Lady Meng, I’ve reported your collusion with me to the Hall Master!”

“Therefore, the Hall Master has commanded!”

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“Record Hall Elder Lady Meng, as a Sect elder, you abused your power for personal gain, colluded secretly, and framed others. You are to be confined in the Xuan Yin Cave for ten years to reflect on your actions!”

Yan Wuyun stated in a loud, stern voice.

“What? Executor Yan, you can’t just say whatever you like!”

Upon hearing this, Lady Meng’s face darkened, and she rose to her feet abruptly.

The several Record Hall disciples nearby were startled by the scene and exchanged glances.

Recently, Lady Meng had reprimanded Lu Changsheng for blatantly violating the rules and taking over someone else’s spiritual land.

And now the Enforcement Hall was seizing Lady Meng, accusing her of collusion.

What in the world?

The Qingyun Sect disciples present in the Record Hall to handle their affairs were also dumbfounded by the scene, thinking the day's events were quite extraordinary.

“The decree of the Hall Master is here. Lady Meng, do you intend to resist enforcement?”

Yan Wuyun displayed an enforcement token and spoke coldly.

Although he was only at the late stage of Foundation Establishment, he had the Sect's rules to back him and naturally did not fear Lady Meng.

He didn't believe that Lady Meng would dare to lay hands on him in the Sect and resist the decree!

“The decree of the Hall Master, Caiyun True Immortal...”

Lady Meng's face turned ugly as she saw the enforcement token in Yan Wuyun's hand.

She hadn't expected that Yun Wanshang would find out about her reporting Lu Changsheng to the Enforcement Hall.

And that she would order her to be imprisoned in the Xuan Yin Cave.

She was over two hundred years old and had roughly thirty to forty years of life left.

If she were to be locked up in the Xuan Yin Cave for ten years, she would not only waste a decade.

Given her current state of health, she feared she would lose several more years of her life.

“Lady Meng, will you not receive the order?”

Yan Wuyun called out sternly.

Because of Lady Meng's wrongdoing, he too had been confined in the Xuan Yin Cave for three years, so he held a strong grudge against her and was no longer polite.

If she truly dared to resist the decree, her crime would be escalated. She could be directly sentenced to thirty years in the Xuan Yin Cave!

"Lady Meng, receive the order."

Lady Meng took a deep breath and responded.

Although she didn't know why Yun Wanshang would take interest in this matter,

now that Yan Wuyun was present as a witness and Yun Wanshang had taken note, she had no choice but to admit her guilt.

Indeed, she had privately sought Yan Wuyun's help.

Thus, it wasn't just being cast into the Xuan Yin Cave for ten years by Yun Wanshang.

Even if the punishment were harsher, she had no other recourse but to accept her fate.

Although she was a False Core Immortal and an Elder of the Record Hall,

her status, strength, and position were insignificant before Yun Wanshang, the Peak Master of Caiyun Peak and the Master of the Enforcement Hall.

Perhaps, the disparity in their status might not seem significant.

But this gap was as wide as the difference between True Elixir and False Elixir, an insurmountable chasm!

A Nascent Soul Cultivator of the Ninth Grade, even if possessing a low-grade Flawed Core, merely lacked the mana, potential, and foundation in comparison to a mid-grade True Elixir, superior Gold Core.

At least, they are recognized by their peers as Nascent Soul Cultivators.

But a False Core is scarcely considered a true Nascent Soul Immortal in the eyes of high-ranking practitioners.

Are you, someone who relies on external objects to condense a False Core and whose path forward is severed with only three hundred years of lifespan, worthy of being compared with me?

You're graced with the title of Immortal or Fellow Daoist as a courtesy.

If one doesn't give you face, they address you as a junior.

This was also why Lady Meng, although a False Core Immortal and Outer Gate Elder of the Qingyun Sect, was apprehensive of Xiao Xiyue.

Because, besides being a core disciple of the Qingyun Sect,

Xiao Xiyue was also a disciple of Caiyun True Immortal!

"Since that's the case, Lady Meng, please proceed,"

Yan Wuyun spoke upon seeing her acceptance.

After gesturing for her to follow, Yan Wuyun spoke to a Record Hall disciple nearby,

indicating that there was a matter concerning Lu Changsheng that they needed to process promptly.

Once finished, it was to be delivered to the Guest Reception Pavilion.

“Lu Changsheng?”

The Record Hall disciples were shocked upon hearing this.

They knew that it was Lady Meng who had gone to report Lu Changsheng before.

Yet now, Lady Meng was being imprisoned in the Xuan Yin Cave, and Yan Wuyun was urging them to promptly handle Lu Changsheng’s affairs.

Who exactly was this Lu Changsheng!

They wondered with a sense of confusion and disbelief.

“Alright, Brother Yan, I will handle it as soon as possible,”

The Record Hall disciple responded immediately upon hearing this.

“Mmh.”

With that, Yan Wuyun, having said his piece, took Lady Meng towards the Xuan Yin Cave.

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“Lu Daoist, your family establishment at Bi Lake Mountain has been recorded and registered; here is your Family Token.”

In the guest reception pavilion, a Record Hall disciple handed over a Token to Lu Changsheng and spoke.

“Many thanks, Daoist.”

Lu Changsheng took the Token and glanced at it.

Made of green-gold, one side was engraved with the three characters 'Qingyun Sect', while the other bore the five characters 'Bi Lake Mountain Lu Family'.

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"Lu Daoist, since you have established a family under the governance of Qingyun, there are some matters that you need to understand and be aware of," the Record Hall disciple said courteously to Lu Changsheng.

Lu Changsheng nodded and said, "Please speak, Daoist."

"First of all, nobles must remember to offer the resources demanded annually by the Supreme Sect."

"Additionally, when the Supreme Sect issues a command, the subordinate families must comply unconditionally."

"Of course, our Qingyun Sect generally will not have many affairs or commands, but even if there are any, rewards will be given afterwards..."

The Record Hall disciple explained the duties and benefits of a family under the Sect's governance.

In essence, an annual tribute was necessary, and one must obey the commands of the Supreme Sect.

At the same time, should any trouble or disputes arise, one could seek the help of Qingyun Sect.

One could also exchange for celestial materials, Elixirs, and Cultivation Technique inheritances that are rarely circulated in the market through Qingyun Sect.

"May I ask how much the annual tribute will be?" Lu Changsheng inquired.

He had long been aware of the tribute that families under Qingyun's governance needed to offer to Qingyun Sect.

For families like Qing Zhu Mountain, the annual tribute took up nearly forty percent of the Family's revenue.

This was also the reason why families like those on Qing Zhu Mountain were so poor.

After offering up their annual income, what little Spirit Stones were left after covering the family's expenses were scant.

"The tribute resources are assessed based on your spiritual land and the family situation. Currently, the Bi Lake Mountain is to offer the same amount as before, which is twelve thousand Spirit Stones," the disciple said.

"However, our Qingyun Sect will assign certain tasks to the families under its governance, or occasionally seek to purchase celestial materials and treasures. Nobles can mitigate their tribute offering by engaging in these ways."

"Moreover, if a noble has descendants who join Qingyun Sect and excel within the Sect, the Sect will also grant the family a reduction in the tribute offering," the disciple continued.

Saying this, he took out a Jade Scroll for Lu Changsheng to see.

It listed the tribute offering situations for families under Qingyun Sect's control.

Then he found Bi Lake Mountain, indicating the annual tribute requirement of twelve thousand Spirit Stones.

Afterward, he showed Lu Changsheng the tasks issued by Qingyun Sect and the celestial materials and treasures they were purchasing.

Indicating Lu Changsheng could learn more if he was interested.

If a family disciple was in Qingyun Sect, they could have the tasks published in the Sect sent back to their family.

“Lu understands, many thanks, Daoist,” Lu Changsheng nodded.

Even though more than ten thousand Spirit Stones a year wasn’t a small amount, it seemed manageable to him.

Spending half a month either Making Talismans or Alchemy, he could earn that sum of money.

“Lu Daoist, do you have any other questions? If there is nothing else, then Xu will take his leave,” the Record Hall disciple said courteously.

If it were an ordinary person registering and establishing a family, he wouldn’t have spoken so much or explained in such detail.

But the incident at the Record Hall earlier had incited their curiosity about who this Lu Changsheng was.

It led to one of their elders being cast into the Xuan Yin Cave.

Therefore, they were exceedingly polite to Lu Changsheng.

“No further questions, thank you for your troubles, Daoist,” Lu Changsheng responded while cupping his hands together.

He had already been well-informed about these affairs.

It was just a review at this point.

“Very well, since that is the case, Xu will take his leave,” the Record Hall disciple, upon hearing this, didn’t say more and left the room.

“Whew!”

Watching the other party depart, Lu Changsheng looked at the Token in his hand and let out a sigh of relief.

With this Token, the establishment of his family at Bi Lake Mountain was now confirmed.

In time, he could peacefully and securely develop and build up Bi Lake Mountain.

Then, he took out the Communication Talismans belonging to Han Lin and Zhao Qingqing to send them a message.

He let them know that he was at Qingyun Sect's guest reception pavilion.

About half an hour later,

a woman who appeared to be around twenty-seven or twenty-eight years of age, with an elegant and beautiful appearance, a slim and graceful figure, dressed in a pale green long dress, glided over on a vine and descended gracefully.

"Zhao Daoist, long time no see."

Lu Changsheng, seeing the person arriving, displayed a smile, greeted her with a salute, and said with a smile.

"Lu... Lu Daoist," Zhao Qingqing looked at Lu Changsheng before her, a hint of surprise showing on her face.

The two had not seen each other since their ten-year appointment, which was almost ten years ago.

Back then, Lu Changsheng was already outstandingly elegant, like an orchid or a noble tree, giving off a refreshing feel.

Now, a decade later, Lu Changsheng's appearance had not changed much, but his temperament had become even more transcendent, much like an immortal who had been banished to the mundane world.

And his whole persona exuded a sense of tranquility, detachment, and confident ease, rendering those who saw him awestruck.

“Lu plans to establish a family, and has come to Qingyun Sect to handle some affairs.”

“Thus, I thought to see Zhao Daoist, and Han Daoist as well.”

Though interactions between them had been sparse, now that they had met again, Lu Changsheng naturally didn't let the conversation lapse and took the initiative to chat.

“Establishing a family?” Zhao Qingqing responded with some surprise upon hearing this.

Although she was in Qingyun Sect, she rarely paid attention to outside information.

She was unaware of Lu Changsheng taking over Bi Lake Mountain and preparing to establish a family there.

But hearing about it now, considering the number of Lu Changsheng's children, she found it quite normal for him to start a family.

“Where will Lu Daoist's family be established?” Zhao Qingqing asked out loud.

She knew that establishing a family required a spiritual land to begin with.

And since spiritual lands were precious and limited in availability,

“Bi Lake Mountain, Lu will hold the family establishment ceremony at Bi Lake Mountain in two months' time,”

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“Zhao Daoist, if you're free by then, you must come to the gathering,”

Lu Changsheng invited Zhao Qingqing to sit down. Acting as a host, he took out spiritual tea and sweets from his storage bag.

“Bi Lake Mountain?”

Zhao Qingqing was taken aback upon hearing this.

She had heard of the reputation of the Yu Family of Bi Lake Mountain.

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She knew this family had several members who had achieved Foundation Establishment.

But now, Lu Changsheng mentioned establishing a family on Bi Lake Mountain, and she was filled with confusion.

However, Zhao Qingqing didn’t ask further, and congratulated him with a smile, “Congratulations to Lu Daoist for not only achieving Foundation Establishment, and succeeding in the Great Dao, but also establishing a family. I will surely come to the gathering.”

Her voice was quite wistful.

Among the original group of six, apart from Xiao Xiyue, she had the best conditions.

A Sixth Grade Spiritual Root, a Vegbody, and even taken in as a disciple by the elder of the herb garden.

But now, she was still at the Ninth Level Energy Refinement, with a dim chance for Foundation Establishment.

While Lu Changsheng had not only achieved Foundation Establishment but was also about to establish a family, outstripping her by who knows how many times.

“It’s just a bit of luck, a fluke that I achieved Foundation Establishment,”

Lu Changsheng said with a light laugh.

So, the two of them began to chat leisurely.

Zhao Qingqing didn't talk much, most of the time it was Lu Changsheng speaking.

But she would answer whenever asked, and when some interesting topics came up, she would speak a bit more.

Knowing that Zhao Qingqing was an expert in Spirit Plants, proficient at cultivating all kinds of spiritual medicine,

Lu Changsheng deliberately brought up this topic.

He mentioned that his new family needed to be established from scratch and many spiritual medicines had to be planted, asking if Zhao Qingqing had any suggestions.

Facing this topic, Zhao Qingqing suddenly became interested.

She inquired about Lu Changsheng's needs, such as whether the spiritual medicine was for use or for sale, and what the cultivation environment was like.

Although Lu Changsheng wasn't a Spirit Plant cultivator himself, as a top-tier Second Rank Alchemist, he had considerable knowledge about spiritual medicine and immediately spoke of his requirements.

Zhao Qingqing was surprised as she listened to Lu Changsheng, not expecting him to know so much about spiritual medicine, and the conversation between the two became much more congenial.

"If Lu Daoist has such needs, I could arrange to obtain some spiritual medicine seeds and cultivation methods,"

After a while, Zhao Qingqing picked up her tea, took a light sip, and spoke in a gentle voice.

She was responsible for managing the outer sect's medicine garden on a daily basis.

Thus, she could obtain many rare spiritual medicine seeds that were seldom seen on the market.

"In that case, I'll have to trouble Zhao Daoist,"

Hearing this, Lu Changsheng didn't refuse, and offered his thanks with a smile and a cupped-hands salute.

Based on his years of experience, he knew that in male-female interactions, occasionally letting the other party help with some face-saving small favors can help to strengthen relationships.

And by adhering to the principle of mutual benefit, once there is a first time for reciprocation, there can be more such exchanges in the future.

His family was just getting established, with much to be done. If he could invite a top-level Spirit Plant cultivator like Zhao Qingqing to join the family, it would solve many problems.

The two chatted for about an hour before Han Lin arrived in a hurry.

He explained that he had been detained by his Artifact Refining, thus the delay.

Hearing this, Lu Changsheng naturally didn't mind and asked Han Lin to have a seat.

He then talked about his plans to establish a family.

He mentioned that if Han Lin was free, he could come to the ceremony with Zhao Qingqing.

"I had guessed that Changsheng Daoist would establish a family in the future, but I didn't expect it to come this quickly,"

"I will definitely attend then," Han Lin remarked with some emotion.

He had a very good relationship with Lu Changsheng in the past, always calling him Brother Changsheng.

But while one was in the Immortal Sects and the other in the Cultivation World, they hadn't seen each other for many years, and there was inevitably some estrangement.

Moreover, both were in their thirties, over forty years old, having experienced much, no longer as naive as before.

"Hehe, good, we'll also invite Hong Yi, Xi Yue... Daoist, and everyone can gather together,"

Lu Changsheng said with a smiling nod.

He then inquired about the two's recent circumstances and their lives in the Qingyun Sect.

Although he had learned about their general situation from Hong Yi,

Now that they were together, it was the right time to talk about these matters.

"I am currently at the Ninth Level Energy Refinement, far behind Lu Daoist, with little hope for Foundation Establishment..."

Zhao Qingqing spoke with a sense of resignation.

She was just a Sixth Grade Spiritual Root, and without a Foundation Establishment Elixir, her chances of achieving Foundation Establishment were less than twenty percent.

Moreover, she was acutely aware that she was not someone with a particularly strong Dao Heart, lacking the drive to strive forward.

Without going out for trials, tempering her Dao Heart, and obtaining opportunities, there was almost no hope for Foundation Establishment.

But even though she knew this, she wouldn't be satisfied without giving it a try.

“Hehe, Foundation Establishment is such a distant thing, I’m not even thinking about it,”

Han Lin, with his weathered and unremarkable facial features, said with a cheerful laugh, appearing very optimistic.

He expressed that just being able to step onto the path of cultivation was satisfaction enough.

He planned to take on an assignment from the sect and head to the marketplace in a few years.

With his skills as a high-grade Artifact Refiner, he could live quite comfortably.

“I used to think like Han Daoist, never considering Foundation Establishment, but life is unpredictable, and who knows when fortune might arrive,”

Lu Changsheng chimed in.

“Hehe, I hope that Changsheng Daoist’s auspicious words come true,”

Han Lin responded with a cupped-hands salute.

The three chatted sporadically.

In the midst of their conversation, Lu Changsheng thought of Lady Meng’s affairs and asked about some internal matters of the Qingyun Sect,

such as the situation with the Enforcement Hall and the Record Hall.

“Caiyun True Immortal is the Enforcement Hall Master!?”

At this moment, Lu Changsheng heard a piece of news that surprised him.

“Yes, the master of Xi Yue Daoist, Caiyun True Immortal, is indeed the Enforcement Hall Master,”

Zhao Qingqing said with a tone that carried a mix of awe and admiration.

“As I thought, the previous investigations were from Xi Yue’s master, this Caiyun True Immortal,”

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Lu Changsheng pondered in his heart.

After he left the Enforcement Hall earlier, he felt an elusive sensation of being watched and speculated it might be related to Xiao Xiyue’s master.

Now, hearing this, he was almost certain.

It must be Lady Meng who, for some unknown reason, suspected him of killing Meng Yibai and thus reported him.

But luckily, Caiyun True Immortal had just seen him and had rescued him from danger.

“It seems, I should properly express my gratitude to Xi Yue when the time comes,” he thought.

...

“I also wonder if this Caiyun True Immortal could discern my mid Foundation Establishment cultivation level.”

Lu Changsheng hesitated.

Although he had a jade pendant gifted from a Nascent Soul Immortal sister, able to mask the magic aura,

Lu Changsheng was unsure whether the pendant could block the Divine Sense of a Nascent Soul Immortal.

At this moment, Lu Changsheng missed his Misty Sky Bead.

If he had the Misty Sky Bead, he would have no fear of a Nascent Soul Immortal's scrutiny.

As he thought of the Misty Sky Bead, Lu Changsheng's thoughts drifted to Nangong Mili, then to the child in Nangong Mili's womb.

"It's been a year and a half, why hasn't Nangong Mili's child been born yet?" he wondered.

Lu Changsheng pondered in his heart.

He had great expectations for the child in the womb of Nangong Mili, the Nascent Soul Immortal.

But by his calculations, Nangong Mili had been pregnant for a year and seven months now.

Even if the child was extraordinarily gifted, it wouldn't take this long to be born, would it?

After a long casual chat, the small gathering dispersed.

Lu Changsheng originally wanted to visit his nephew Xia Zhaoyang,

however, considering the late hour and that he didn't have a Sensing Talisman for his nephew, he decided against it.

He would have Xia Zhiyue write him a letter later.

As he left Qingyun Sect, Lu Changsheng did not delay. Controlling a purple flying shuttle, he turned into a streak of light and flew towards Bi Lake Mountain.

...

Night had fallen deep.

Outside Bi Lake Mountain.

“My lord, this is one of the weak spots of our ‘Bi Water Sky Blue Great Formation,’” said Yu Ninghu, with a pallid face and sunken eyes, to a man in black robes standing beside him.

“It has only been a month since then; Lu Changsheng and the others surely haven’t altered the Great Formation or redeployed it.”

The man in black robes looked at the misty and hazy Great Formation before him, formed seals with his hands, and offered up a fist-sized black bead.

“Buzz—”

As the black bead’s faint light swirled, streaks of black mist, like little snakes, surged towards the weak point of the Formation before them.

Since he dared to sneak into the family’s territory clandestinely, he naturally possessed the means.

This bead, named ‘Banishing Pearl,’ was indeed a rare treasure.

Against an ordinary First Grade Great Formation, it could break through silently and without a trace.

Facing a Second Rank Great Formation, as long as one found the weak point and spent some time, it was also possible to rip open a crack.

This was also why he had managed to infiltrate Little Jing Mountain without detection,

because the First Grade Great Formation of Little Jing Mountain was nonexistent in front of his ‘Banishing Pearl.’

“Buzz, buzz, buzz—”

As nine black serpentine streaks from the Banishing Pearl surged on the Great Formation, gnawing persistently, the Formation trembled gently, and the swirling mist gradually dispersed, revealing the interior of Bi Lake Mountain.

“Hmm?”

Inside Bi Lake Mountain, atop Bi Yun Peak in Changsheng Hall, Ling Zixiao, with a graceful and pale face, suddenly opened her eyes.

An Array Plate appeared in her hands.

Seeing the Array Plate quivering gently and the needle rotating, Ling Zixiao immediately realized someone was tampering with the Bi Lake Mountain Great Formation.

She stepped quickly out of Changsheng Hall, looking in the direction indicated by the Array Plate’s needle.

She saw two figures in the dark night, doing something to the Bi Lake Mountain Great Formation.

“Rise!”

Ling Zixiao immediately manipulated the Array Plate, fully activating the Bi Lake Mountain Great Formation.

In an instant.

“Whoosh, whoosh, whoosh—”

The previously thin mist enveloping Bi Lake Mountain now churned rapidly, becoming dense with a powerful surge of Spiritual Power emanating outwards,

turning the Great Formation a shade of azure blue under the night, with many colorful runes moving like fish in a sea, carrying a sense of danger.

“It seems we’d been discovered, so be it, directly break the Formation,”

“As long as we create a crack, that will be enough for us to get in.”

Seeing the Great Formation engaging its full power, the man in black robes knew his secret infiltration had failed.

He immediately formed seals with his hands and urged the ‘Banishing Pearl’ with all his might.

The previously faint light around the black bead now flooded it, transforming the snake-like black mist around it into a giant black serpent that struck fiercely at the weak point of the Great Formation.

Yu Ninghu, witnessing this, also conjured a Curved Saber Magic Artifact and slashed it against the Great Formation.

“Boom, boom, boom!”

The entire Bi Lake Mountain Great Formation thundered, shattering the quiet of the night.

“Hmm, what’s that noise?”

“What’s happening?”

“Why is the Great Formation operating at full force?”

Inside Bi Lake Mountain, those who were cultivating or sleeping were startled awake by the noise.

Coming out of their rooms, they saw the fully engaged, azure blue Bi Water Sky Blue Great Formation above and showed signs of confusion on their faces.

They knew that the Great Formation would only operate at its full might in times of crisis.

Now that the Great Formation had suddenly sprung into action and was emitting loud noises, it was clear that something was amiss.

“Everyone, do not panic, stay in your homes, comfort the children, and do not walk around randomly!” Ling Zixiao saw this scene, her graceful pale face showing a touch of solemnity as she spoke loudly with a Spell to amplify her voice.

She then took out a Transmission Talisman from her Storage Bag and sent a message to Lu Miaoge and Lu Changsheng.

Having just seized control of Bi Lake Mountain and demonstrated their power to outsiders, now someone dared to cause trouble on Bi Lake Mountain and break the Formation; without a doubt, the adversary meant harm and came prepared.

And the method of breaking the Formation made Ling Zixiao realize it was no simple affair.

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So, she immediately used a Transmission Talisman, hoping Lu Changsheng and Lu Miaoge would hurry over to help.

After all, only your own family knows your own affairs.

Her body was weak, and she retained merely a tenth of her mana.

Previously, breaching the Formation had also damaged her meridians and Dantian, leaving her in an extremely weakened state.

Although she had been treated with Lu Miaoge’s Taiyi True Water.

But such healing required a long-term treatment, not something that could take effect just once or twice.

...

“Boom! Boom! Boom!”

The weak points of the Bi Lake Mountain Great Formation were continuously being bombarded.

The man in the black robe was obviously prepared, having even brought Second Rank Talisman to break the ban.

The Talisman struck down, sending out ripples that twisted the operation of the Great Formation.

“Rotate!”

Upon seeing this, Ling Zixiao soared into the sky, sat in meditation above Bi Yun Peak, made hand seals, manipulated the Array Plate, took command of the Great Formation, and fortified the weak points being attacked with all her might.

“Miaoyun, you go pacify Lake Heart Island and keep a close watch on the foreign Cultivators on the island!”

At this moment, Ling Zixiao’s gaze shifted toward Lake Heart Island and then to a small courtyard, where she transmitted her voice to Lu Miaoyun.

Lake Heart Island also housed some foreign Cultivators left behind by the Yu Family, as well as members of the Lu Family from Qingzhu Mountain who came to help with affairs.

Ling Zixiao normally wouldn’t take notice of these Yu Family affiliates, not believing they could pose any real threat.

But at this moment, she had to take precautions.

“Okay, sister Ling.”

Upon hearing these words, Lu Miaoyun immediately responded.

Facing this situation, although she was somewhat nervous and overwhelmed.

She knew that her husband was not at home at the moment, so as the master of the house, she needed to stabilize the situation.

She promptly controlled a Flying Sword and flew toward Lake Heart Island.

“Miaoyun, what’s the situation?”

A Lu Family elder, seeing Lu Miaoyun, immediately asked.

“I’m not sure either, but it seems someone is trying to infiltrate Bi Lake Mountain.”

Lu Miaoyun looked at the condition of the Great Formation and said.

“Isn’t Changsheng at home?”

Upon hearing this, the elder was suddenly startled and also became somewhat flustered.

After all, those daring enough to launch a stealth attack on Bi Lake Mountain were usually well-prepared.

If Lu Changsheng happened to be absent, Bi Lake Mountain would be in danger.

“Grandfather Tong, Uncle Fei, with sister Ling in charge, nothing will go wrong.”

Lu Miaoyun glanced at Ling Zixiao on top of Bi Yun Peak, bit her lip, and spoke.

At the same time, she transmitted her voice: “Grandfather Tong, Uncle Fei, please stay calm on Lake Heart Island and watch over these external Cultivators.”

“Okay.”

Several Lu Family elders heard her and also looked toward Ling Zixiao on top of Bi Yun Peak.

Although they could see that Ling Zixiao was not in good physical health.

They had seen Ling Zixiao's grace in breaking Formations before.

Knowing that she was a Foundation Establishment Great Cultivator and a Second Rank Array Master, they felt reassured with her in control under such circumstances.

"Two Foundation Establishment..."

"Merely two Foundation Establishment Cultivators dare to attempt to break the Formation, they must be well-prepared. Which Family's power is behind this?"

Ling Zixiao, meditating on Bi Yun Peak and managing the Great Formation, observed the black-robed man and Yu Ninghu trying to breach the Formation.

Although she had seen Yu Ninghu before, she couldn't make out his identity now since he was disguising his appearance and aura, and his aura had greatly changed.

"My husband and Miaoge will probably not be able to return in a short time."

"In my current state, I might not be able to hold out until they arrive."

Ling Zixiao looked at the two breaking the Formation, and began to calculate in her mind.

She knew her condition; it was manageable to maintain the operation of the Great Formation for a short period.

If it took too long, her meridians and Dantian would be under strain and unable to sustain.

"In that case, I must turn defence into offence."

"With a Second Rank Great Formation to suppress the enemy, and combined with Third Rank Talismans, killing both of them would not be difficult..."

“It’s just uncertain what kind of methods these two have...”

Ling Zixiao pondered, a serious expression shining in her beautiful eyes.

In her hands were three Third Rank Talismans and several Second Rank Talismans given by Lu Changsheng.

But in her current condition, having to control the Great Formation and activate the Third Rank Talisman would require her to make a killing blow.

If she failed to kill both of them, it would become problematic.

“Let’s first probe them. These two dare to attempt breaking the Formation, they surely have come prepared.

“Not only have they found the weak points of the Great Formation at first notice, but they also possess treasures that can break bans.”

After thinking it over for a moment, Ling Zixiao decided to abandon such a risky plan.

If her plan failed, everyone at Bi Lake Mountain would fall into danger.

She would try to hold out with the Great Formation, hoping that Lu Changsheng could come back in time.

But seeing that her and Lu Changsheng’s yin and yang Sensing Talisman had no reaction, it indicated that Lu Changsheng was still far away from Bi Lake Mountain and would not be able to rush back anytime soon.

“Break! Break! Break!”

Outside the Great Formation, the man in the black robe continued to bombard the Great Formation with the ‘Ban-Breaking Pearl’.

Next to him, Yu Ninghu also wielded his Magic Artifact, bombarding the Great Formation.

“She’s currently operating the Great Formation at full strength, reinforcing this weak point. Yu boy, take these three Talismans and attack the other weak point!”

“If she’s severely injured, she won’t be able to keep managing the Great Formation, the consumption will wear her down!”

At this moment, the man in the black robe also noted that Ling Zixiao had reinforced the weak point in front of her, and said aloud.

“Yes, my lord.”

Yu Ninghu’s face was dark and sullen as he nodded his head in agreement.

As a Yu Family Foundation Establishment Cultivator, he naturally knew of the many weak points of his own Great Formation.

On normal days, they would arrange more people to patrol around these weak points.

But right now, Lu Changsheng clearly didn’t have this capability.

Beyond assigning someone to guard the gate, there were no patrols in other places.

“Boom! Boom! Boom—”

Yu Ninghu, holding the talismans, turned into a streak of light, arriving at another weak point and began to bombard the Great Formation, intending to create a crack.

“How is this possible? They seem to know the weak points of the Bi Lake Mountain Great Formation like the back of their hand.”

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Ling Zixiao watched the scene unfold, her beautiful pupils slightly constricted.

Her gaze turned toward Yu Ninghu, shrouded in a black cloak, trying to discern who the person was.

“The weak points of the Great Formation are a secret power of every family, absolutely not to be leaked to outsiders,” she thought.

“Apart from the Yu Family, no one else could possibly be so familiar with the weak points of Bi Lake Mountain’s Great Formation.”

“And within the Yu Family, only some core high-ranking members would know this secret.”

“Could it really be Ning Hu?”

...

“But Ning Hu has sworn a Heart Demon Oath and signed a Second Rank Spiritual Contract. Should he dare such an act, he would be invaded by the Heart Demon and suffer the backlash of the Spiritual Contract, his cultivation severely damaged, plummeting back to Qi Refinement.”

Ling Zixiao pondered in her heart, speculating whether this person could be Ning Hu.

Considering Ning Hu’s earlier Heart Demon Oath and the Second Rank high-quality Spiritual Contract he had signed,

if the other party dared to break the agreement, the backlash from the Spiritual Contract would surely bring disaster.

In the Cultivation World, there are many methods, and neither Heart Demon Oaths nor Spiritual Contracts are unsolvable.

But the Yu Family is merely a Foundation Establishment Family.

They absolutely do not have a way to circumvent a Heart Demon Oath and a Second Rank Spiritual Contract without paying a price.

“No, this can’t go on like this,” she muttered to herself.

As time went by and the surging of mana inside her became increasingly burdensome, Ling Zixiao knew she could not continue this stalemate with the opponent.

Otherwise, in the end, she was the one who would be at a disadvantage.

“Turn!”

Channeling her mana, she flicked her wrist over the Array Plate, instantly reinforcing the Great Formation, including the weak point where Ning Hu was located.

Afterward, from her pale lips devoid of color, she gently exhaled, “Rise!”

“Huff huff huff——”

In an instant, the azure sea-like Great Formation churned, with symbols akin to swimming fish converging to form little golden and blue spheres, shooting towards Ning Hu.

These golden and blue spheres looked unimpressive, but each was the equivalent of a full-force strike from an early stage Foundation Establishment Cultivator!

“Boom boom boom——”

However, the moment Ning Hu saw the surging spiritual power of the Great Formation, he immediately transformed into a streak of light and fled.

As the former master of Bi Lake Mountain, he not only knew where the weak points of the Great Formation were.

But he was also very clear about the power of the Great Formation’s attack.

Knowing he was merely at the initial stage of Foundation Establishment,

he absolutely could not withstand the strikes of the Great Formation.

“It seems they not only know my lord is not on Bi Lake Mountain but also that I am injured,” Ling Zixiao took a deep breath as she watched Ning Hu’s actions.

She knew that the opponent had truly come prepared!

They not only brought means to break the formation but also had a thorough understanding of her family’s current situation!

Otherwise, it wouldn’t just be two people coming to break the formation, and they were clearly aiming to fight a war of attrition with her.

“The only option is to rely on a Talisman to catch one off guard,” she thought to herself, having made up her mind.

She planned to catch the opponent off guard with a Third Rank Talisman.

She refused to believe that the enemy also knew she had a Third Rank Talisman at her disposal.

Even she was extremely surprised when Lu Changsheng gave her the Third Rank Talisman.

She wondered where her lord had obtained such a Talisman.

“Array, activate!”

Ling Zixiao manipulated the array plate, directly transitioning from defense to offense, allowing the great formation’s mists to continue surging and tumbling.

Countless prohibition runes converged, turning into numerous small golden-blue orbs, launching precise strikes at Yu Ninghu and the man in the black robe.

“Swoosh—”

Yu Ninghu, who had been attacking the great formation from a distance using spells, immediately fled even farther upon witnessing this scene.

Yet, the man in the black robe faced this onslaught undaunted, conjuring a bronze bell.

“Hum!”

The bronze bell resounded with a boom, bursting forth with an ancient bronze light shield that enveloped the man in black, directly withstanding the Bi Lake Mountain Great Formation’s assault.

“Boom, boom, boom—”

The golden-blue orbs struck the bronze bell, causing a series of intense roaring explosions.

“Foundation Establishment Late Stage!”

Ling Zixiao, upon observing the man in black robe’s actions and seeing his spiritual artifact, the bronze bell, immediately knew that the opponent possessed the cultivation level of the Foundation Establishment Late Stage.

Otherwise, it would be absolutely impossible to withstand so many strikes from the great formation so easily.

“Since you wish to break through the formation, I’ll let you break it!”

Ling Zixiao’s pale and elegant face took on a chilling hue.

She sat cross-legged, her hands forming seals, while the array plate before her buzzed and vibrated.

One could see, on Bi Lake Mountain, the Bi Lake Mountain Great Formation suddenly generated a multitude of ripples, with runes meandering across it, condensing into a dread-inducing Five-Colored Long Spear.

At that moment, Ling Zixiao completely opened up the Great Formation's defenses, allowing the two attackers to strike and create fissures.

"Hmm, getting desperate, are we?"

"Do you really believe you can annihilate us both? Utterly delusional!"

The man in the black robe saw this and his gloomy eyes flashed with a crimson gleam as he formed hand seals.

"Rumble, rumble—"

Suddenly, the 'Prohibition-Breaking Pearl' in front of him erupted with light to its utmost limit, like a Flood Dragon roaring as it collided with the great formation.

"Break for me!"

At that moment, the man in black produced a Second Rank Prohibition-Breaking Talisman in his hand.

"Rumble!"

In an instant, a massive crack appeared in the great formation.

"Swoosh, swoosh, swoosh—"

The man in the black robe, catching sight of this crack, immediately turned into a black mist, tearing through the air like a tempest and rushing into the formation.

"Kill!"

Ling Zixiao, dressed in a blue robe, sat cross-legged with a clear and cold face, her beautiful Qiushui eyes gleaming brightly in the night.

“Whoosh!!!”

In that moment, the Five-Colored Long Spear, formed by the countless prohibition runes on the great formation, suddenly launched toward the man in the black robe.

“Hum—”

The bronze bell above the head of the man in the black robe boomed, soaring into the sky, bursting with a light shield to block the Five-Colored Long Spear.

“Rumble!”

But against the full power of the great formation, comparable to a full-strength strike from the peak of Foundation Establishment, the bronze bell let out a mournful cry as its light shield shattered and the artifact itself revealed a crack.

“You think you can slay me, as if I wouldn’t have made any preparations!”

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The man in the black robe watched as the five-colored long spear charged toward him, sneered, and mana surged within his body, allowing the bronze bell to continue emitting light to block the long spear, while he slapped his Storage Bag.

“Bang!”

A black coffin appeared.

Out came a zombie, its entire body dark as night, muscles bulging, eyes blood-red, and an overwhelming sense of gloom rolling off of it.

“Roar!”

The zombie let out a roar like a wild beast and charged directly towards Ling Zixiao.

...

“A Second Rank Dark Zombie, this is bad!”

Ling Zixiao’s complexion involuntarily changed.

Her original intention was to suppress the man in the black robe with the Great Formation, then use a Third Rank Talisman to obliterate him.

But now, the enemy was directly confronting the Great Formation’s onslaught, sending a Second Rank Zombie after her.

“This is, a Dark Zombie!”

“No good, this person is Xiahou Monie!”

“How could this be, why would Xiahou Monie set his sights on Bi Lake Mountain!”

On Bi Yun Peak, everyone on Lake Heart Island saw this scene and immediately guessed the identity of the man in the black robe, their faces filled with shock and panic.

The fact that Xiahou Clan at Blackwater Pool had been secret nurturers and refiners of zombies for the Heavenly Corpse Sect from Jin Kingdom was widely known.

Over the past two years, Xiahou Monie had been causing chaos throughout Qingyun Region, slaughtering several smaller families.

The appearance of a Second Rank Dark Zombie at the hands of the man in the black robe in this manner virtually confirmed his identity as Xiahou Monie.

“Husband said that in the face of danger, the Golden Armor Bean Mother can transform into a puppet.”

Lu Miaoyun thought of what Lu Changsheng had told her before when she saw this unfold.

However, she had planted the Golden Armor Bean Mother at Lingcui Cliff.

Looking at the current situation, she gritted her teeth and immediately controlled her Flying Sword to fly toward Lingcui Cliff.

“It’s indeed Xiahou Monie.”

Outside the Great Formation, Ning Hu, who was attacking the formation’s weak points, saw the man in the black robe bring out the coffin and release the Dark Zombie, his dark complexion sank slightly.

He had previously suspected that this man in the black robe was Xiahou Monie.

Now that he saw the Dark Zombie, he felt almost certain of it.

“Since he has already fallen into the Demon Path, what difference is there between Xiahou Monie and the others from the Demon Path!”

Ning Hu’s eyes darkened as he didn’t give it too much thought and focused all his energy on bombarding the weakest point of the formation before him.

Since the Great Formation had already given up on defense, all he needed to do was breach it and join forces with the man in the black robe—they would surely capture Ling Zixiao.

“Sister Ling!”

Atop Bi Yun Peak, Lu Miaohuan saw the Dark Zombie charging at Ling Zixiao and quickly retrieved a two-meter tall, ink-black metal puppet from her Storage Bag, wielding a sabre in one hand, a shield in the other, and carrying five dark black spears on its back.

“Go!”

Lu Miaohuan, using the Puppet Control Technique taught by Lu Changsheng, controlled the Second Rank Puppet with her Mental Spirit to intercept the Dark Zombie.

“Whoosh whoosh whoosh—”

The moment the Second Rank Puppet moved to engage the Dark Zombie, the five spears on its back shot out like thunder and lightning, simultaneously striking at the Zombie with fierce dominance.

Lu Miaohuan didn’t have much combat experience, and her knowledge of the puppet was limited to what Lu Changsheng had introduced and her subsequent curious fiddling.

So faced with the Dark Zombie, she struck with all her might.

“Clang clang clang!”

Each of these spears, carrying the weight of a Foundation Establishment strike, pounded on the Zombie’s body, immediately causing a sound like the clashing of gold and iron.

“How can this be!?”

Lu Miaohuan saw the Second Rank Puppet’s all-out strike merely leave a series of gashes on the undead creature, failing to penetrate it.

“Roar!”

Facing this onslaught, the undead creature instantly flew into a rage, letting out a furious roar as dark energy billowed around its body, charging towards the Second Rank Puppet.

Suddenly, the Second Rank undead creature and the Second Rank Puppet began to fight.

But it was clear to see that the Second Rank Puppet was no match for the undead creature.

Each fierce strike from the undead creature left the Second Rank Puppet with a dent.

“Second Rank Puppet, now is the time!”

Ling Zixiao, watching this scene, immediately activated the Great Formation to its fullest to suppress the man in the black robe.

Subsequently, a purple talisman appeared in her hand and flew out towards the man in the black robe, intending to blast him to death with the talisman.

“Not good!”

Seeing this, the man in the black robe immediately guessed that Ling Zixiao must have some sort of contingency in place.

He promptly formed hand signs, mana surging around him, and sacrificed a black bowl.

At the same time.

“Boom!”

Yuning Hu broke through the Great Formation, transforming into a streak of light that rushed in, wielding a Curved Saber and striking at Ling Zixiao.

“Damn it!”

Seeing Yuning Hu suddenly attack, Ling Zixiao’s expression darkened slightly.

She quickly manipulated the Array Plate, causing the Formation to operate and exert a suppressing force on Yuning Hu as another talisman appeared in her hand.

Second Rank Supreme Talisman—Thunderfire Truth Talisman!

In her current state, she could at most use one Third Rank Talisman!

Moreover, she could tell that Yuning Hu’s strength was at the initial stage of Foundation Establishment.

Such strength did not warrant the use of a Third Rank Talisman!

“Boom boom boom—”

The talisman in Ling Zixiao’s hand soared into the sky, turning into endless thunder and earth fire, sweeping towards Yuning Hu with an awe-inspiring might.

“Not good!”

Yuning Hu’s body suddenly felt heavy as he saw the talisman’s assault, his ashen face turning drastically pale.

He hastily sacrificed several talismans, creating multiple barriers in an attempt to escape.

But at this moment, the invisible force of the Great Formation suppressed him like a mountain, his legs sinking into a swamp, unable to move.

“Boom boom boom—”

Yuning Hu was suddenly engulfed by the endless thunderfire.

“Puh!”

Ling Zixiao spat out a mouthful of fresh blood, her already pale face turning as white as paper at that moment.

Operating the Formation for such a long time had already placed a severe strain on her.

Now, forcing the Formation to its limit to suppress Yuning Hu and activating the Second Rank Spirit Talisman had caused her already fragile meridians and Dantian to suffer damage.

“A splendid opportunity!”

Seeing Ling Zixiao spitting out blood, the man in the black robe immediately showed elation.

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As for the situation at Yu Ninghu Lake, he paid it no attention.

After all, Yu Ninghu was merely a puppet he had turned into a Corpse Puppet.

Even though it was a waste of a corpse seed, compared to the current Ling Zixiao and the opportunity of Lu Changsheng, there was no comparison.

“Kill them all!”

The man in the black robe, while resisting the Five-Colored Long Spear, slapped his Storage Bag and three coffins appeared, out of which three zombies emerged.

However, these three zombies were not as powerful as the previous one, they were merely First Grade zombies.

...

“Boom boom boom—”

Meanwhile, the Second Rank Puppet controlled by Lu Miaohuan was battered into near-deformation by the shadow corpse and sent flying backward.

“Roar!”

The shadow corpse let out a furious roar and continued to charge towards Ling Zixiao.

“No, if I use another Second Rank Talisman, I won’t be able to use a Third Rank Talisman at all,” Ling Zixiao thought as she faced the charging Second Rank shadow corpse, her hand clutching a Divine Thunder Talisman and her face grave.

However, just then.

“Swoosh!”

From atop Lingcui Peak, a streak of golden light shot towards this place.

“Bang—”

The golden light impacted the Second Rank shadow corpse, sending it flying.

A towering figure appeared, draped in golden armor, majestic and overwhelming, with a presence that could rival the bulls in combat.

“What is this?”

Ling Zixiao was taken aback upon seeing this scene.

How could there be so many contingencies at home?

Had she known about the Second Rank Puppet at home, and this unknown golden-armored person, she wouldn’t have had to plan this way.

“What is this!?”

The man in the black robe was also startled by this turn of events.

His shadow corpse, which he had raised to the Middle Stage of Second Rank, was just sent flying by this golden-armored person!

“This Lu Changsheng’s family must have plenty of contingencies; the opportunity he has secured is definitely not simple—it’s a great opportunity!”

“Moreover, this Ling Zixiao, she definitely still has Talismans in her hand. There is no need for me to clash head-on; better to return and report this to the elder!”

The man in the black robe watched the scene, thinking that Ling Zixiao had rushed towards him, certainly intending to use a Supreme Second Rank Talisman against him.

The situation at hand left him unsure of how many contingencies the other party still held.

Right then, the man in the black robe decided to give up and used a “Restriction Breaking Bead” to blast at the Great Formation, preparing to leave.

“Thinking of leaving!?”

Ling Zixiao, seeing this, would obviously not let the other party escape.

Given her current condition, what if the other party decided to turn back and launch a surprise attack after escaping!

“Suppress!”

Ling Zixiao maneuvered the Array Plate, sealing the Great Formation to prevent the other party from escaping, pouring a continuous stream of liquid mana into the Third Rank Talisman in her hand.

Hum!

The purple talisman flew high into the sky, emitting a powerful humming sound and spiritual pressure.

It then transformed into a heaven-piercing, earth-shattering Nine Heavens Divine Thunder!

A Third Rank, Lower Grade Talisman—Divine Thunder Talisman!

This Talisman’s power was comparable to a strike from a Nascent Soul Immortal!

Boom!

The purple thunderlight unfurled, an endless sea of lightning illuminating the entire night sky as bright as day.

This moment, Bi Lake Mountain became a world of thunder and lightning.

The violent brilliance of the thunderstorm shimmered, turning into a sea of thunder, engulfing the man in the black robe.

Subsequently, a proliferation of thunderstorms enveloped the area, making every inch of space full of terrifying brilliance.

“Boom boom boom—”

Even the might of the thunderlight was unyielding, blowing open a corner of the Bi Lake Mountain Great Formation where the man in the black robe was located.

The entire land turned scorched black under the purple thunder, littered with pits and entrenched with the breath of thunder that destroys everything.

“This this this...”

“What terrifying might!”

“Could this be the legendary Third Rank Talisman!”

Everyone at Bi Yun Peak and Lake Heart Island, witnessing the daytime-bright, heaven-and-earth-destroying thunder, were too shocked to speak.

“Spit!”

Ling Zixiao spat out another mouthful of blood when she saw this, collapsing weakly.

At this moment, her mana was nearly depleted, and her meridians and Dantian throbbed with pain.

The mana required for the Third Rank Talisman far exceeded her expectation, almost completely draining the mana from her body.

“Sister Ling.”

Lu Miaohuan, upon seeing this, swiftly maneuvered her Flying Sword, rushing out from Bi Yun Peak to catch Ling Zixiao.

She took out a bottle of Elixir Medicines from her Storage Bag, fed them to Ling Zixiao, and also used a healing Talisman on her.

“Roar!”

The Second Rank shadow corpse, witnessing this, roared furiously.

“Bang—”

The Golden Armor Warrior once again unleashed a thunderous punch, sending the Second Rank shadow corpse flying.

“The rest... I leave to you,” Ling Zixiao said with an exceptionally weak voice.

“Don’t worry, Sister Zi Xiao,” Lu Miaohuan replied with clenched teeth.

Immediately, she took out several Talismans and attacked the three First Grade shadow corpses.

In their hands, all of these people held several Talismans given to them by Lu Changsheng.

At that moment, Lu Miaoyun also arrived from Lingcui Cliff, took out several Talismans, and bombarded the three First Grade shadow corpses.

Soon after, the battle ended.

The three First Grade shadow corpses were annihilated by the two women, and the Second Rank shadow corpse was suppressed by the Golden Armor Warrior.

“Zhenzhen, Zhiyue, Ling’er, Xianzhi, Yun’er, Xiaoru, keep an eye on the surroundings,” Lu Miaohuan said, taking a deep breath and addressing the other girls and children in her family.

Now that Ling Zixiao was nearly unconscious, they all needed to stabilize the situation.

Immediately, Lu Miaoyun commanded the Golden Armor Warrior to guard the breach in the Great Formation.

The few other women and several children took Talismans from the hands of Lu Miaoyun and Lu Miaohuan and took on a battle-ready stance.

Time ticked away slowly.

This night was one of sleepless vigil for Bi Lake Mountain.

It’s uncertain how much time had passed when, as the sky began to brighten with the light of dawn, a figure adorned in snow-white garments with a beautiful and serene face alighted outside Bi Lake Mountain.

“Sister Miaoge!”

“Sister!”

“Auntie!”

Seeing this figure, the people at Bi Lake Mountain immediately showed a look of joy.

Meanwhile, Ling Zixiao in Lu Miaohuan’s arms completely lost consciousness at this moment.

Chapter 629: Xiahou Wuwo, he'll surely go without return!_1

Bi Lake Mountain.

“Yun’er, what has happened?”

Lu Changsheng, looking at the condition of his home and the effects caused by the Divine Thunder Talisman, had a somewhat grim expression on his face.

On his way back, he received a message from Ling Zixiao, and he immediately realized that something must have happened to Bi Lake Mountain.

However, he did not expect the battle to be so intense that the Family’s Great Formation had been breached.

“Husband...”

...

Lu Miaoyun immediately stepped forward and began to recount the events of the previous night to Lu Changsheng.

“Xiahou Monie...”

When Lu Changsheng heard this, his eyes revealed a fierce glint.

He had not expected that while he was away at the Qingyun Sect, his home would suffer chaos at the hands of Xiahou Monie.

And according to Lu Miaoyun’s description, Xiahou Monie had clearly come prepared, having set his sights on their home long before.

He had been waiting for Lu Changsheng to leave Bi Lake Mountain before making a move.

“How is Zi Xiao doing?”

Upon hearing that Ling Zixiao was unconscious, Lu Changsheng immediately asked about her condition.

“Sister Miaoge is treating Sister Ling right now, I’m not clear about the specifics,” said Lu Miaoyun, pursing her lips lightly.

After Lu Miaoge had arrived and Ling Zixiao had become unconscious, she, along with the Golden Armor Warriors and her children, had been defending the area the entire time to prevent any further incidents from occurring.

“Alright, Yun’er, you’ve worked hard. I’ll go see how Zi Xiao is doing,” said Lu Changsheng.

Upon hearing this, Lu Changsheng immediately turned into a burst of Escape Light, flying towards Bi Yun Peak.

When he arrived at Changsheng Hall, Lu Changsheng immediately saw Ling Zixiao’s pale face as she lay on the white jade bed.

Lu Miaoge was at her side, using Taiyi True Water to treat and nourish her physical body.

“Sister Miaoge, how is Zi Xiao now?” Lu Changsheng approached and inquired.

“Changsheng, you’re back,” said Lu Miaoge with a voice gentle as water.

“Sister Ling is out of danger now, but several of her meridians are too fragile and have ruptured. Her current condition is not good,” continued Lu Miaoge, her voice gentle.

Her own face seemed somewhat pale, clearly indicating that treating Ling Zixiao’s condition had depleted much of her vitality.

“You’ve worked hard, Sister Miaoge,” said Lu Changsheng, looking at the two women, feeling a heaviness in his heart.

He immediately took out a bottle of Healing Pills from his Storage Bag and passed it to Lu Miaoge.

He then took Ling Zixiao's wrist to check her condition.

He saw at once that Ling Zixiao's internal state was a mess.

Fragile, withered meridians were ruptured, and her Dao Foundation within the Dantian was dim and lackluster.

He felt that if it weren't for Lu Miaoge's treatment, Ling Zixiao might have been in mortal danger.

This added a few more heavy layers to Lu Changsheng's heart, as well as his killing intent towards Xiahou Monie.

"Sister Miaoge, go get some rest. Keep an eye on the outside; leave this place to me," said Lu Changsheng deeply inhaling, then addressing Lu Miaoge as he prepared to apply the 'Yin Yang Nirvana Technique' and 'Life Transference Technique' to treat Ling Zixiao.

"Alright," Lu Miaoge replied softly, knowing that Lu Changsheng was going to heal Ling Zixiao.

"Huff!"

Lu Changsheng looked at Ling Zixiao's pale, bloodless face and exhaled a deep breath.

He felt that this incident was indeed due to his own lack of thorough consideration.

Although he had given Ling Zixiao and others like Lu Miaoyun and Lu Miaohuan some means of protection,

those measures were only effective against common dangers and your average Foundation Establishment Cultivators.

He had not considered thoroughly enough, such as the potential consequences of his killing the three Foundation Establishment Cultivators and the glory from taking Bi Lake Mountain, which could attract attention from ill-intentioned people like Xiahou Monie.

“Since my breakthrough to Foundation Establishment, I’ve gained more and more abilities, gradually losing that initial cautious attitude,” he reflected to himself.

“Now, it’s not just me, but an entire family that I must consider in all matters,” Lu Changsheng quietly mused.

“Just like this trip to the Qingyun Sect, I thought that the matter with Meng Yibai was over and didn’t take it to heart.”

“But had it not been for my teacher Xi Yue, there could have been a lot of trouble,” he continued his self-reflection.

Lu Changsheng became aware that he had lost the vigilant mindset he used to have when first starting out.

Before, his wives, concubines, and children were all on Qingzhu Mountain, with the Lu Family there to help look out for them.

But now, having left Qingzhu Mountain for Bi Lake Mountain, he had to consider everything more carefully.

Without further thought, he began to undo Ling Zixiao’s clothing and stripped down.

Looking at the curvaceous, jade-like body in front of him, Lu Changsheng only felt sympathy, with no trace of desire.

He undressed himself and gently embraced Ling Zixiao, initiating the ‘Yin Yang Nirvana Technique’ as he entered her like a Flood Dragon diving into the sea, using his Yang essence to heal her and nourish her meridians and Dantian.

...

A few days later.

“Mmm~”

Under Lu Changsheng’s treatment, Ling Zixiao’s eyelashes trembled, and a soft moan escaped her lips.

“Zi Xiao, you’re awake!” exclaimed Lu Changsheng, his face lighting up with joy as he turned towards Ling Zixiao.

“My Lord...”

Ling Zixiao gently opened her beautiful eyes, looked at Lu Changsheng, and managed to summon a weak smile on her pale face.

“Zi Xiao, don’t talk yet, stabilize your breath,” said Lu Changsheng gently, speaking softly.

He increased the effect of the ‘Life Transference Technique’ to stabilize Ling Zixiao’s current state.

“Hmm~”

The faint blush on Ling Zixiao’s pallid face turned a delicate red as she hummed softly, weak and docile.

Time passed gradually.

It was hard to tell how much time went by, but eventually, Ling Zixiao’s complexion was no longer deathly pale.

“Zi Xiao, you’ve put in a hard effort this time,” said Lu Changsheng, holding the tender and fragrant body in his arms, his face showing remorse.

If Ling Zixiao hadn’t acted bravely, the consequences would have been unthinkable.

“My Lord...”

Ling Zixiao showed a gentle smile, snuggling into Lu Changsheng’s embrace.

She could feel the concern and guilt in his eyes.

In a weak voice, she said, “My Lord, you need not blame yourself. This matter is not your fault.”

In her view, Lu Changsheng did indeed have some responsibility.

The distribution of the treasures prepared by the family was too scattered, he wasn’t aware of them, and thus he couldn’t make the best arrangements.

Nevertheless, Xiahou Monie clearly came well-prepared, and such circumstances were genuinely difficult to anticipate.

Chapter 630: Xiahou Wuwo, he’ll surely go without return!_2

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“If I had been more cautious, this wouldn’t have happened,” Lu Changsheng sighed lightly.

“My lord, Xiahou Monie evidently came prepared...” Ling Zixiao said softly, gripping Lu Changsheng’s hand.

It implied they had intimate knowledge of Lu Changsheng’s movements, his physical condition, and the weak points of the Bi Lake Mountain Great Formation.

There was clearly a problem!

“It seems, this matter is inextricably linked to the Yu Family!” Lu Changsheng’s face tensed as he spoke coldly.

...

Though he had concerns about saving face and had spared the Yu Family so far,

should they truly be involved in such matters, he would no longer consider any face-saving measures!

“I also suspect the Yu Family’s involvement,”

“But Yu Ningu is a smart man. The entire Yu Family relies on his support. He wouldn’t rashly risk danger and cooperate with the demonic path,”

“Moreover, he’s bound by the Heart Demon’s oath and a Second Rank Spiritual Contract.”

“There’s also the possibility that he was coerced by Xiahou Monie,” Ling Zixiao murmured.

In her view, Yu Ningu was unlikely to resort to such actions.

But under the coercion of Xiahou Monie, it was not so certain.

After all, their own Family’s formation had been breached by Xiahou Monie.

The formation on Xiao Jing Mountain was merely First Grade.

If Xiahou Monie wanted to move against Yu Ningu, it would be effortless.

And for Xiahou Monie to act against their Family, using the Yu Family, and Yu Ningu, to learn about their situation was all too normal.

“I will send a message to the Ji Family later to check on the situation in Xiao Jing Mountain,” Lu Changsheng nodded and said.

He had taken Xiao Jing Mountain as a vassal to keep an eye on the Yu Family.

“If the Yu Family is indeed related to this matter, my lord could leave it to Qingyun Sect to handle,” Ling Zixiao whispered.

“Very well,” Lu Changsheng nodded upon hearing this.

He knew that if the collusion between the Yu Family and Xiahou Monie was confirmed, Qingyun Sect would deal with the Yu Family, and he wouldn’t need to intervene.

“My lord, we also need to report the matter of Xiahou Monie to Qingyun Sect.”

“Moreover, as far as I know, among the members of Xiahou Monie, the old ancestor Xiahou Wuwo has been missing, without a trace.”

“Now that they have lost a Foundation Establishment Late Stage cultivator in our Family, they might seek revenge,” Ling Zixiao continued.

“Xiahou Wuwo,” Lu Changsheng’s eyes narrowed slightly upon hearing the name.

He said coldly, “If he dares to come, I want to see how he plans to seek revenge!”

Armed with the Ninety-Nine Mysterious True Strategy and more than ten Third Rank Talismans,

if the enemy dared to come, he could ensure they would not return!

“As a Demonic Path Cultivator, this person has evaded the Qingyun Sect’s pursuit for so long; he certainly has many tricks up his sleeve. You should still be careful, my lord.”

“Even if you are not afraid, we have many children at home to consider in the face of such a threat,” Ling Zixiao advised, seeing Lu Changsheng’s confidence and knowing he was unafraid of False Core individuals.

In the Cultivation World, anyone who could break through the False Core was not ordinary,

Especially someone like Xiahou Wuwo.

Not only was he a False Core Immortal, but he had also taken many treasures of the Xiahou Family during the battle at Blackwater Pool and surely had many methods at his disposal.

“At this stage, I intend for the children to stay home and focus on their cultivation until the clamor subsides; there’s no need for them to go out.”

“As for the external Family businesses, just hand them over to others to manage, or engage in profit-sharing cooperation with other Family powers,” Lu Changsheng said decisively.

With the Family currently in the spotlight, there was always the possibility that people would target his children.

“That also works,” Ling Zixiao nodded gently upon hearing this.

She knew that Lu Changsheng was unlike other families.

He didn’t need to rely on numerous Family businesses to make money.

The current output of Bi Lake Mountain was sufficient to sustain all members of the Lu Family.

After chatting a bit more with Ling Zixiao, Lu Changsheng suggested she rest well.

“Sigh!”

Exiting Changsheng Hall, Lu Changsheng looked at the vast expanse of Bi Shui Lake, took a deep breath, and exhaled slowly.

“I need to plant the Mount Sumeru Tree King as soon as possible,” he thought to himself.

He had planned to deploy the Mount Sumeru Tree King after all arrangements for the Family were in place.

After all, with a Third Rank Demon King stationed at the Family, their safety was assured.

However, if the Third Rank Demon King's presence were revealed, it could also attract significant trouble and danger.

So, his idea was to ensure thorough preparation.

"Sister Miaoge,"

Lu Changsheng called out as he arrived at the mountain gate, addressing Lu Miaoge.

This point of the formation had been weakened since the man in the black robe used a banishment pearl and a powerful Third Rank Talisman, effectively shattering it, causing the array flags buried there to malfunction; an Array Master was needed for repairs.

Otherwise, a notable vulnerability would persist here in the Great Formation, making it easily breachable.

"Changsheng, how is Sister Ling feeling?" Lu Miaoge approached with a gentle smile, her voice soft.

"She has awakened, there's no serious harm, but her body can only recover slowly through care," Lu Changsheng sighed.

Ling Zixiao's health had marginally improved,

But because of this incident, her condition had worsened.

After conversing with Lu Miaoge for a while, Lu Changsheng went to inspect the items left behind by Xiahou Monie.

Under the effect of Ling Zixiao's Talisman, both individuals were reduced to ashes.

Only a Second Rank Yin Corpse, a few treasures, and Storage Bags remained.

“Hmm?”

Lu Changsheng noticed the two Storage Bags with narrowed eyes.

One bag contained many items, including rare materials and several Demonic Path Magical Instruments.

The other was quite empty.

Aside from a few Elixir Medicines, some Talismans, and one Spiritual Artifact, there was nothing else.

Lu Changsheng inquired with Lu Miaoyun about whom the Storage Bags belonged to.

“Yu Family, Foundation Establishment Early Stage.”