

## I. Family 671

### Chapter 671: Family Great Formation Completed, Planting Trees!\_2

Master Mo spoke these words, allowing the effects of part of the “Heavy Water Suppressing Technique” to fall upon Lu Changsheng, letting him experience it firsthand.

Lu Changsheng immediately felt his body sink, and when he attempted to rise into the air, it was as though he was lifting a tremendous weight, obliging him to expend far more mana to take flight.

“This effect is quite good.”

Lu Changsheng nodded in satisfaction.

He knew that major marketplaces like Nine Dragons Market and Qingyun Market all had flight restrictions in place.

But he had never attempted to fly in these marketplaces before.

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Now, the effect of his family’s “Heavy Water Suppressing Technique” seemed to share a similar remarkable principle.

To know that Foundation Establishment Cultivators, under the effect of the great formation, would need to spend 20 to 30 percent more mana to fly, making it much harder for them to escape once they entered the formation.

Moreover, just a single Oceanic Bead could produce such an effect.

If Ling Zixiao’s health were to recover, and all thirty-six Oceanic Beads of his family were deployed, the effect of the “Heavy Water Suppressing Technique” could likely directly suppress those at Foundation Establishment.

Even Nascent Soul Immortals would be somewhat affected.

It was akin to leveraging the Spirit Vein to activate the Oceanic Bead as a magical treasure.

“Lu Daoist, this is the current state and triple change of the great formation,” Master Mo handed the Array Plate and flags to Lu Changsheng, continuing, “If Lu Daoist has no issues, I will return to report. As for the specific details and aspects of the great formation, with Ling Daoist here, there should be no need for excessive explanation on my part.”

In his speech, he looked towards Ling Zixiao with a hint of regret.

Through regular interaction, he knew Ling Zixiao’s proficiency in formation was not much less than his own.

However, due to health issues, Ling Zixiao’s cultivation had declined greatly, scarcely able to maintain or fully operate the great formation, which was truly regrettable.

“Of course, there’s no problem, Master Mo. You have worked hard these days on arranging and repairing the great formation for my Bi Lake Mountain. It is truly laborious,” Lu Changsheng spoke as he immediately produced a prepared gift.

Although Master Mo had been invited to arrange the formation through the Qingyun Token, and all the materials were provided by his own family,

it was nonetheless a task that took over a year, during which he not only repaired the formation but also arranged for an Earthfire Formation to be set up in the Alchemy Chamber, Artifact Refinement Room, and Puppet Workshop, nurturing the fire vein.

In such a case, it was only proper to show appreciation.

Besides, it was good to be acquainted with such an Array Master and forge some connections.

He then took out two more gift boxes for Master Mo’s two disciples.

Even though these two were still Energy Refining Cultivators and First Grade Array Masters, they also had potential and it was good to make a favorable impression.

“Lu Daoist is being too courteous. In these days of arranging the formation and exchanging insights with Ling Daoist, I have also benefited a lot,” Master Mo gladly accepted the gift without declining.

“Many thanks, Lu Mountain Lord!”

Seeing this, the two disciples politely accepted the gift boxes as well.

“In that case, Lu Daoist, Ling Daoist, I shall take my leave,” Master Mo bowed.

“Master Mo, travel safely.”

Lu Changsheng opened the mountain gate and politely escorted the guests out.

Afterward, Master Mo released a Spirit Boat, taking his two disciples away.

“The three of you have also worked hard during this time.”

Afterward, Lu Changsheng turned to the three Array Masters brought in by Lu Yuanding and spoke.

He paid each of them in Spirit Stones and also gave them each two Second Rank Talismans.

This wasn’t because he had money to spare, but rather because the family was currently in the construction phase, and it was important to build a good reputation on such small matters.

Later, if he wanted to find people for tasks, or to invite someone or recruit Guest Elders, it would be beneficial.

“Many thanks, Lu Mountain Lord!”

“Lu Mountain Lord, you are too kind,” said the three, although they were Array Masters, they appeared both polite and pleasantly surprised.

After all, Lu Changsheng was not only a Foundation Establishment Great Cultivator and a Talisman Master but had also singlehandedly eliminated three Foundation Establishers and now also had a deep connection with Qingyun Sect.

In these circumstances, they naturally hoped to ingratiate themselves with Lu Changsheng and Bi Lake Mountain.

“My Bi Lake Mountain has just been built, and we are currently in desperate need of talent. If any of you have thoughts on the matter, you are welcome to serve as Guest Elders on my Bi Lake Mountain,” Lu Changsheng said after the pleasantries.

Array Masters were in demand by every family,

not only for the family’s great formation but also in many other places where formation was needed.

Even though the skills of the three were quite ordinary, merely top-class Array Masters, they were still sufficiently qualified to serve as Guest Elders.

“This...”

Upon hearing this, the three wished to decline,

For their level in the Formation Path, they could serve as Guest Elders for many families.

“If the three of you serve as Guest Elders on my Bi Lake Mountain and contribute sufficiently, I have the Second Rank Formation Path inheritance and my own insights on the Formation Path to offer,” said Ling Zixiao indifferently.

The three of them immediately looked conflicted.

Over the year, they had witnessed Ling Zixiao’s level in formation,

and if they could receive the Second Rank Formation Path inheritance and guidance from Ling Zixiao, perhaps their formation abilities could advance further.

Eventually, two of them were tempted and expressed willingness to serve as Guest Elders on Bi Lake Mountain.

Immediately, Lu Changsheng signed a Spiritual Contract with the two.

The two would serve Bi Lake Villa, maintaining the family's great formation regularly and teaching formation knowledge to the Lu Family.

Lu Changsheng provided a basic compensation of sixty Spirit Stones per month,

and for tasks like arranging formations, they would receive additional remuneration.

After settling the matter, Lu Changsheng explained the situation of the two to Lu Miaoyun, asking her to rearrange accommodations for them at Bi Lake Villa.

"Zi Xiao, does the family's great formation require any further changes going forward?" Lu Changsheng inquired as he turned to Ling Zixiao.

"Lu Lang, rest assured, the great formation's situation is already completely secure. The only issue is that harnessing the water veins and lake water for the full operation of the formation will affect the ecology of Bi Shui Lake."

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"However, once I've arranged all thirty-six Oceanic Beads into a formation, this problem will naturally be resolved."

Ling Zixiao spoke.

"Zi Xiao, thank you for your hard work."

Lu Changsheng said warmly, holding Ling Zixiao's delicate, white hand.

“Lu Lang need not be so formal, as a member of the family, I should do my part for the family.”

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Ling Zixiao replied with a gentle smile.

She had known Lu Changsheng for three and a half years.

During those three and a half years, she had not completely fallen in love with Lu Changsheng, but her feelings had grown considerably.

Especially in this past year, due to serious injuries, Lu Changsheng gave her the most company and attention.

And every half month, Lu Miaoge would come to treat her, nurturing her meridians and Dantian.

She wouldn't speak too much about these things, but she kept all of them in her heart.

Since Lu Changsheng was willing to offer genuine feelings, she was naturally prepared to respond in kind, heart for heart.

“Zi Xiao, you should have a formation to hide a Third Rank Spirit Plant on you, right?”

Lu Changsheng asked Ling Zixiao.

Now that the family's Great Formation was completely set up, he was also preparing to plant the Luminous Treasure Tree.

“Third Rank Spirit Plant!?”

Hearing this, Ling Zixiao was somewhat surprised.

It should be known that Third Rank Spirit Plants, also known as Heavenly Spirit Plants, were extremely precious and rare.

Apart from some Secret Realms or Immortal Sects, few powers cultivated Third Rank Spirit Plants.

First of all, such Spirit Plants were rare and not easy to come by; to transplant them to one's own home was very difficult.

Even if you managed to transplant them, if the soil or environment was unsuitable, there was a risk of causing the plant to die, thus wasting heaven's gift.

Another point was that they were difficult to cultivate!

Third Rank Spirit Plants needed to be at least planted on a Second Grade Spirit Vein.

The amount of Spiritual Energy they required was no less than what a Foundation Establishment Cultivator needed for cultivation.

To cultivate them properly, it was best to plant them on a Third Grade Spirit Vein.

"Will you be planting the Third Rank Spirit Plant here, my Lord?"

"Now on Bi Lake Mountain, only Bi Yun Peak is a Second Grade Spirit Vein..."

Ling Zixiao didn't question how Lu Changsheng got a Third Rank Spirit Plant.

After all, in her eyes, Lu Changsheng was extremely mysterious, and having a Third Rank Spirit Plant was plausible.

But through their time together, she knew that Lu Changsheng's knowledge of the Cultivation World was limited, and she worried that he might not be aware of these things.

"I've always reserved a section at the back cliff of Lingcui Cliff for planting this Spirit Plant."

“With the conditions at Lingcui Cliff, it is barely sufficient for cultivating the plant.”

“As for plans for Bi Yun Peak, I will arrange that later,” Lu Changsheng said.

He intended to plant the Mount Sumeru Tree King on Bi Yun Peak.

Furthermore, he, Ling Zixiao, and Lu Miaoge would also need to cultivate on Bi Yun Peak in the future.

If he were to plant both the Luminous Treasure Tree and the Mount Sumeru Tree King on Bi Yun Peak, it would severely affect the Spiritual Energy balance of the peak.

As for planting the Luminous Treasure Tree at Lingcui Cliff, he had asked Zhao Qingqing previously, who said that while growth might be somewhat affected, normally there should be no significant problems.

“If the Spirit Plant is not too big, and you simply wish to conceal it and isolate its aura, I have a set of ‘The Celestial Canopy Formation’ that should do,” Ling Zixiao said after some thought.

Lu Changsheng considered this and said, “It’s not very large, but it’s not small either.”

Soon after, the two arrived at Lingcui Cliff.

“Greetings, Mountain Master, greetings, Lady!”

“Father, Aunt Ling!”

The Cultivators and children on Lingcui Cliff immediately paid their respects upon seeing Lu Changsheng and Ling Zixiao.

Because Lu Changsheng disliked the term ‘elder ancestor’ and everyone in the family was not old,

the family Cultivators called him Mountain Master, while they referred to Ling Zixiao and Lu Miaoge, the two Foundation Establishment Cultivators, as Ladies.

Similarly, some concubines also addressed Ling Zixiao and Lu Miaoge in this manner.

Only Lu Miaoyun, Lu Miaohuan, and Qu Zhenzhen, who were relatively close, referred to them as sisters.

“Alright.”

Lu Changsheng nodded in acknowledgement and proceeded to the Lingtian District he had reserved with Ling Zixiao.

“Is this where you intend to plant the Third Rank Spirit Plant, my Lord?”

Ling Zixiao inquired, looking at Lu Changsheng.

“That’s right.”

Lu Changsheng nodded.

“Whoosh, whoosh, whoosh—”

Ling Zixiao nodded and tapped her Storage Bag with her palm. An Array Plate appeared, and numerous array flags scattered out, as she began to form the needed spell and set up the formation.

The ‘Celestial Canopy Formation,’ being a simplified formation with both an array plate and array flags, was completed in a short time.

She activated the formation, filling the surrounding area with a faint white glow, concealing the sector from view.

“Retrieve it.”

Observing the formation, Lu Changsheng took the Profound Origin Bead from his Dantian, then with a subtle nudge of his Mental Spirit, he extracted the Luminous Treasure Tree from the System Space.

As mana flowed from within the Profound Origin Bead, a tree nearly ten feet tall and as thick as a water tank, devoid of leaves, with cracked and coarse bark, but shimmering with a vivacious blue-gold hue, appeared.

It was indeed the Luminous Treasure Tree!

The whole tree looked somewhat unattractive, making it difficult for one to associate it with a Third Rank Spirit Plant.

In fact, it appeared more like a long, massive rock.

However, the roots of the tree shone with blue-gold light, brimming with a rich vitality, revealing the tree's extraordinary nature.

“This is my Third Rank Spirit Plant, the Luminous Treasure Tree, which has been well-preserved within a treasure of Cave Heaven,” explained Lu Changsheng.

Although he knew the general appearance of the Luminous Treasure Tree through the System Space, seeing the actual tree in front of him, he still felt it was somewhat ugly.

He thought to himself, wondering if Lu Miaoyun and the others, who would cultivate the Heavenly Longevity Technique, might find it unappealing.

“The Luminous Treasure Tree? A treasure of Cave Heaven?”

Ling Zixiao turned to glance at Lu Changsheng, feeling an even deeper veil of mystery enveloping him.

Not only did he possess such a precious and rare Third Rank Spirit Plant,

but he also had a legendary treasure of Cave Heaven that could directly store such Spirit Plants.

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She looked towards the Luminous Treasure Tree, measuring it up and saying, “This is the first time your servant has seen such a lively Third Rank Spirit Plant.”

“This Luminous Treasure Tree, every thirty years, will condense Luminous Sweet Dew at its roots.”

“This Sweet Dew, when used to wipe the eyes, can clear and brighten the vision, and also enhance spirit-eye-related Techniques and Divine Skills.”

“Zi Xiao, as an Array Master, you can use this Sweet Dew in the future to wipe your eyes.”

Lu Changsheng said with a smile.

In the midst of talking, he took out a Magical Sword and began to dig a large hole on the spot to plant the Luminous Treasure Tree.

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Afterward, he took out several jars of Spiritual Liquid he had prepared earlier and watered the Luminous Treasure Tree with it.

“Spiritual Liquid to enhance spirit-eye-related Techniques?”

Ling Zixiao, upon hearing this, looked at the Luminous Treasure Tree with a renewed interest.

As an Array Master, she was already cultivating pupil Techniques.

If she could enhance the effectiveness of her pupil Techniques, it would be of considerable help in battle, formations, and other areas.

She said with a twinkle in her eye, “Then I must thank my lord.”

“Between you and me, there’s no need for thanks.”

“However, this Spiritual Liquid will take thirty years to condense; we have quite a wait ahead of us.”

Lu Changsheng said with a laugh.

He then handed a Jade Slip to Ling Zixiao, “Zi Xiao, take a look at this Cultivation Technique.”

This Heavenly Longevity Technique, he had read many times, but he thought of teaching it to Lu Miaoyun and others, so he decided to let Ling Zixiao have a look as well.

After all, through their long acquaintance, he had to admit that Ling Zixiao’s comprehension was higher than his own.

“Heaven and Earth Longevity Technique?”

Upon seeing this Cultivation Technique, Ling Zixiao’s beautiful eyes widened in surprise and she spoke to Lu Changsheng, “My lord, are you preparing for someone to cultivate the Heaven and Earth Longevity Technique with this Luminous Treasure Tree?”

“Yes, Zi Xiao, you know of this Cultivation Technique?”

Lu Changsheng, seeing that Ling Zixiao glanced briefly at the technique, was a bit surprised as he spoke.

“Someone once traded me this Cultivation Technique for a set of formations, so I happen to know of it,” Ling Zixiao nodded and said.

“I see,” Lu Changsheng nodded upon hearing this.

He had originally thought the effectiveness of this Cultivation Technique was quite rare, but it turned out that Ling Zixiao had a copy of it as well.

He did not mind too much and spoke out, “Miaoyun, Huanhuan, Zhenzhen, they all have average Spiritual Root Talent, and it will be very difficult for them to achieve Foundation Establishment in the future.”

“So, I’ve thought about having them practice this Technique, so that in the future they might have the prospect of reaching Foundation Establishment and Core Formation.”

Lu Changsheng took a deep breath and let it out gently, his tone reflective as he spoke.

Upon obtaining the ‘Heaven and Earth Longevity Technique,’ his first thought was of his wives and children at home.

Even though he had been cultivating for many years and knew that, despite having a system, he could not lift everyone up, he would still follow his original intention and help as much as he could.

Ling Zixiao was caught off guard by this sentiment.

In the Cultivation World, she had become accustomed to the warmth and coldness of human relationships and had experienced lots of deceit and manipulation.

Lu Changsheng was the most peculiar person she had encountered.

Clearly a peerless talent with unmatched brilliance who, if he cultivated diligently, could expect to follow the Great Dao.

Yet, he lived like a mortal, surrounded by a bevy of wives and a house full of children, spending a lot of time on his family.

She had seen cultivators like Lu Changsheng before, surrounded by many wives.

But such cultivators often regarded their wives as tools, playthings, or cauldrons.

Never before had she seen someone like Lu Changsheng, who treated each person so earnestly, full of optimism and human warmth.

But now, Lu Changsheng was even considering his wives' Spiritual Root Talent, thinking of helping them to achieve Foundation Establishment and Core Formation.

At this moment, she found herself at a loss for words to describe Lu Changsheng.

You could say he was foolishly devoted, but he had numerous wives.

You could say he was heartless, yet he spent so much time on his wives and children.

He even considered the future prospects of Foundation Establishment and Core Formation for his wives who had little hope of achieving such stages.

Ling Zixiao's emotions churned as she thought about how Lu Changsheng had treated her.

Even though she knew Lu Changsheng's decision to become dao partners with her was full of ulterior motives, after more than three years of genuine exchange of feelings, she indeed reciprocated with sincerity.

"My lord, who do you plan to have practice this Heaven and Earth Longevity Technique first?"  
Ling Zixiao asked softly, looking at Lu Changsheng.

She had looked over the Technique and knew that its practice required a heavenly and earthy Spirit Plant.

And right now, Lu Changsheng only had one such Spirit Plant.

"Miaoyun," he said.

"Miaoyun is actually of a weaker disposition, it's just that as the legitimate wife of the family, she has always been trying hard to fulfill her role."

“She is concerned about everything day-to-day because she feels pressured and lacks a sense of security.”

“Over the years, the family has always been managed by Miaoyun, so I thought of giving her this Luminous Treasure Tree for her to cultivate, to spare her the constant worry,” Lu Changsheng said with a slight sigh.

There was only one Spirit Plant available at present, allowing only one person to practice.

It was not an easy choice for him to make.

But if he had to choose, after much consideration, he decided to give it to Lu Miaoyun.

“If Miaoyun has this Luminous Treasure Tree and practices the Heaven and Earth Longevity Technique, it’s not impossible for her to achieve Foundation Establishment, not to mention Core Formation,” he said.

“Moreover, with this Heaven and Earth Longevity Technique, one can live up to three hundred years upon reaching Foundation Establishment. With your talent, my lord, it seems likely you will achieve Core Formation within a hundred years.”

“Then, you can naturally elevate the Spirit Vein and cultivate this Luminous Treasure Tree properly, making Miaoyun’s prospects of reaching Core Formation hopeful,” Ling Zixiao nodded and smiled as she spoke.

The pace of practicing the Heavenly Longevity Technique is related to the growth of the Spirit Plant.

To make a Third Rank Spirit Plant grow quickly, naturally, a Third Rank Spirit Vein with abundant Spiritual Energy is needed.

“Yes, that’s what I also thought,” Lu Changsheng nodded.

Then he and Ling Zixiao left the formation, indicating that he had set up an array in the Lingtian District behind the cliff and that no member of the family should approach.

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“Yes, Mountain Master!”

“Yes, Father!”

Upon hearing these words, everyone responded respectfully.

After leaving Lingcui Cliff, Lu Changsheng went to the Lu Family Mansion and found Lu Miaoyun. He took out a Technique Jade Slip and said, “Yun’er, spend some time comprehending this cultivation technique.”

“If there is anything you’re puzzled about or don’t understand, come and ask me and Zi Xiao.”

Lu Changsheng handed over the Heavenly Longevity Technique to Lu Miaoyun and spoke out loud.

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“A cultivation technique?”

Lu Miaoyun, upon hearing this, was somewhat surprised but still nodded and replied, “Yes, husband.”

Then she inspected the Technique Jade Slip.

After a moment, her face showed surprise, and in a daze, she said, “Husband, this cultivation technique...”

“That’s right, before venturing outside, I obtained a Third Rank Spirit Plant, which I’ve planted on the cliff behind Lingcui Cliff.”

“Once you’ve comprehended this technique, you can go to the back cliff and refine the Spirit Plant into a ‘Life-bound Spiritual Root.’ That way, you can attempt Foundation Establishment and even Core Formation in the future.”

Lu Changsheng gently pinched his wife's fair and beautiful cheeks and said soothingly with a smile.

Owing to Lu Miaoyun and others' consumption of beautifying elixirs, their appearance still looked like that of someone in their late twenties.

"A Third Rank Spirit Plant."

Lu Miaoyun bit her lip and said softly, "Husband, there's only one Spirit Plant at home. This technique could be given to Huanhuan sister, or Zhenzhen, and Xi Yue for their cultivation..."

"I told you to cultivate it, so be obedient and focus on your cultivation."

"I will naturally have arrangements for Huanhuan and Zhenzhen later on."

Lu Changsheng commanded, his tone leaving no room for doubt.

"Alright, I'll listen to my husband."

Lu Miaoyun, hearing this, showed a smiling face and responded obediently.

"That's the spirit."

Lu Changsheng kissed his wife's cheek and laughed.

He thought about it and mentioned the matter to Lu Miaohuan and Qu Zhenzhen.

After all, he believed in not the scarcity but the inequality of possessions.

He felt it was better to explain proactively to avoid any unhappiness later on from his wife.

Lu Miaohuan, when she heard this, had no objections. She had seen all that Lu Miaoyun had done over the years and greatly approved of her younger sister.

Moreover, practicing the Heavenly Longevity Technique meant not being able to stray too far from the Spirit Plant, making it impossible to leave Bi Lake Mountain.

After the family stabilized, she still intended to visit the Jinyang Sect in Yue Country with Lu Changsheng to see their son.

As for Qu Zhenzhen, she was indifferent, believing it only natural for Lu Changsheng to give the Technique Jade Slip to Lu Miaoyun.

Among the wives at home, she could say she was the most carefree, never competing for anything and always being pampered.

After making this clear, Lu Changsheng thought of the Mount Sumeru Tree King in his System Space.

“The Mount Sumeru Tree King is a Third Rank Demon King. Hiding its aura won’t be simple with ordinary formations.”

“Given Zi Xiao’s current condition, it’s best not to set up a Great Formation just yet. I’ll wait until I’ve refined the Nine Treasure Jade Ruyi, improved Zi Xiao’s health somewhat, and have the formations ready before releasing the Mount Sumeru Tree King.”

After pondering for a moment, Lu Changsheng made up his mind.

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Half a year later.

Changsheng Hall, within the closed-door cultivation cave.

“Boom, boom, boom—”

Lu Changsheng’s form was seated cross-legged, with a thunderous rumble resounding within him, emanating a surge of terrifying aura.

This aura filled the entire cave, causing Lu Changsheng's body to tremble slightly, as if a tiny boat in the ocean about to be capsized by the huge waves.

“Clang, clang, clang—”

The mana and spiritual light surged and tumbled in Lu Changsheng's chest, causing his face to show a look of pain.

He was undergoing the final step of fusing the Nine Treasure Jade Ruyi into his Life-bound Treasured Bone!

As the Nine Treasure Jade Ruyi was about to transform into his Life-bound Treasured Bone, Lu Changsheng's ribcage seemed to be forged by countless divine craftsmen, resounding with sonorous sounds.

Spiritual energy rushed wildly into his ribcage at that moment.

Lu Changsheng also extracted several Spirit Stones and Elixir Medicines, swallowing them to stimulate the fusion of the Life-bound Treasured Bone.

“Boom!”

Time was indiscernible, but eventually, his chest suddenly grew hot, shining with dazzling brilliance, bursting forth with a terrifying fluctuation of aura.

This terrifying force was felt by Xi Yue and Ling Zixiao inside Changsheng Hall, and many people on Bi Yun Peak sensed this aura at that moment as well.

“Huff, huff, huff—”

Above Changsheng Hall, clouds and mist tumbled and surged, even forming a small vortex of spiritual energy in sync with the rise and fall of Lu Changsheng's chest.

“What's happening with Changsheng?”

“Such a terrifying aura!”

Ling Zixiao and Xi Yue both looked towards Lu Changsheng’s closed-door cultivation cave, unsure of the situation inside.

“What’s going on?”

“A vortex of spiritual energy—could it be that someone is attempting Foundation Establishment?”

“I previously saw Lady Miaoge’s breakthrough to Foundation Establishment, which was clearly much larger than this.”

“Who in our home is now capable of breaking through to Foundation Establishment?”

People on Bi Yun Peak were all confused, not understanding the commotion happening at home.

Lu Changsheng was unaware of the disturbance he was causing.

At the moment, his chest was heaving, and his Life-bound Treasured Bone was gradually taking shape, shining like a bright sun, brilliantly luminous.

As the divine power from the Life-bound Treasured Bone ebbed and flowed, strands of nine-colored radiance moved through his body, making him acutely aware of a mysterious and profound power awakening within him.

Above his ribcage, densely packed, complex, and mysterious runes emerged, like inscriptions from a heavenly book.

This was Divine Skill!

Innate Divine Ability!

Energy Refining Cultivators and Foundation Establishment Cultivators could only practice techniques.

Only Nascent Soul Immortals began to comprehend and master Divine Skills!

And at this moment, with the aid of the Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art and the Nine Treasure Jade Ruyi, Lu Changsheng, still in the Foundation Establishment Stage, began to grasp Divine Skills!

Not just any Divine Skills, but Nine Great Divine Abilities!

Chapter 675: Nine Treasures Ruyi Bone, Beast Calamity!\_1

“Boom! Boom! Boom!”

Inside the seclusion chamber, Lu Changsheng’s breastbone emitted light continuously, with tadpole-like symbols and bone inscriptions intertwining, deducing, and blooming.

As the Life-bound Treasured Bone took shape, Lu Changsheng’s blood surged, and mana boiled and surged.

Every inch of skin, every slice of flesh, bone, sinew, Dantian, and even his Dao Foundation seemed to be baptized.

He sat cross-legged, his eyes tightly closed, his body enveloped in nine-colored radiant light, intense and boundless, feeling as if soaking in a hot spring, utterly comfortable, quietly experiencing the mystic baptism.

“Hum—”

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Time passed, and at some point, the checkpoint of Lu Changsheng’s Fourth Level of Foundation Establishment started to loosen.

The Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Scripture began to circulate, and the Seven Luminaries Sword Qi seeped out through his body, swirling around him, sharp, domineering, and elegant.

“Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh—”

Under the immense external spiritual pressure, copious amounts of nature’s spiritual energy converged in his Dantian, continuously being refined into liquid mana.

“Boom!”

When the liquid mana reached four hundred drops, Lu Changsheng’s cultivation straightforwardly broke through from the Fourth to the Fifth Level of Foundation Establishment.

“I didn’t expect that fusing with the Life-bound Treasured Bone could also lead to a breakthrough in realm.”

“No, it was because I fused the heavenly Spiritual Treasure into my Life-bound Treasured Bone that my flesh, mana, and Divine Sense were all baptized and enhanced.”

“If it weren’t for my recent breakthrough to the Sixth Level of the Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art, I might have even broken through that as well.”

Lu Changsheng’s face revealed a smile, his eyes fiery and profound as he murmured to himself.

He could clearly feel that not only his cultivation realm had broken through, but his physical body and Divine Sense were all enhanced.

The progress of the Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art had dramatically improved by a large margin.

Meanwhile, his Divine Sense had nearly increased from the original two hundred and thirty zhang to about two hundred and eighty zhang.

This level of Divine Sense was almost at the limit of the Foundation Establishment peak.

Lu Changsheng did not think further, closing his eyes again, quietly sensing the changes in the Life-bound Treasured Bone in his chest.

Time passed by.

Three days later, the divine light in Lu Changsheng's chest gradually retracted, and the brilliant light flowing through his body began to dim.

“Nine Treasure Jade Ruyi, since it's like this, this Life-bound Treasured Bone shall be named the Nine Treasures Ruyi Bone!”

Lu Changsheng opened his eyes, which were brilliant like stars, and lightly caressed the Treasured Bone in his chest, only feeling it brimming with a turbulent and surging power.

Even he himself felt a bit apprehensive in the face of this terrifying power.

“Nine Treasures Ruyi—Essence, Qi, Spirit!”

Lu Changsheng attempted to activate the three major Divine Abilities within the Life-bound Treasured Bone.

In an instant, the runes on his breastbone interwove, bursting forth with dazzling light. Inside Lu Changsheng, his blood, mana, and Divine Sense roared like a tsunami.

A one-fold increase!

A two-fold increase!

A three-fold increase!

An endless rush of intense vital energy exploded within Lu Changsheng, his muscles bulging to almost another size, his bones ‘cracking’ noisily. He seemed like a volcano erupting, his aura ascending step by step.

Within his Dantian, the Seven Luminaries Mana flowed unrestrained like a breached river, filling the meridians and Dantian, emitting a terrifying spiritual pressure, almost surpassing the peak of Foundation Establishment.

At that moment, the Profound Origin Bead within him also vibrated crazily, and the effect of its enhancement began to weaken continuously.

Four-fold increase!

Five-fold increase!

As the Nine Treasures Ruyi Bone continued to be activated, Lu Changsheng's body was enveloped in a radiance resembling a dazzling sun, dense runes emerging on his skin.

“Is this the power of Divine Skills!?”

Lu Changsheng marveled, feeling that at this moment, he was brimming with strength, invincible in the world.

Not just his physical body and mana.

His Divine Sense too, at this moment, was like a vast ocean, as if he could see everything at Bi Yun Peak in a single glance.

Yet he could distinctly feel that his physical body, meridians, Dantian, and spirit were all under strain.

He immediately stopped the Divine Abilities of the Nine Treasures Ruyi Bone, and the surrounding spiritual pressure receded like a tide, leaving Lu Changsheng feeling weak all over, hollow.

“With my current physical body and meridians' capacity, under normal conditions, an increase by two or three times is about right.”

“If the increase is too much, it will impose a burden on myself. If pushed to the limit for a while, I fear my body, meridians, and Dantian might break.”

Lu Changsheng took a deep breath and exhaled for a long duration.

He realized that using the Nine Treasures Ruyi Bone and its impacts were related to his physical body and the cultivation level of the Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Technique.

“However, a two or three times increase is sufficient. In this state, with the Profound Origin Bead’s enhancement still in effect, facing a False Core should not be a problem.”

“Plus, as long as the mana and Divine Sense are boosted, my proficiency in talisman formations will also rise to a new level!”

Lu Changsheng’s mouth curved upward, revealing a smile.

With the Nine Treasures Ruyi Bone, he was confident in slaughtering those at Foundation Establishment as easily as slaughtering chickens.

To kill a False Core Immortal, that shouldn’t be too difficult either.

As for a Nascent Soul Immortal, if he used all his methods, while he didn’t claim he could slay one, he certainly had the power to fight!

Looking at the Nine Treasures Ruyi Bone in front of his chest, Lu Changsheng’s spirit moved again.

“Nine Treasures Ruyi—Sealing!”

Lu Changsheng activated the Seventh Divine Ability of the Nine Treasures Ruyi Bone, the Sealing Divine Light, partially sealing his own physical body and mana.

Instantly, dark golden light flowed over his breastbone, causing his entire body to look pale, his bones loose, and his muscles soft and flabby.

The mana of the Middle Stage of Foundation Establishment also regressed, falling to an unstable state of Foundation Establishment.

“Hiss, this sensation is indeed uncomfortable.”

“Even entertaining ten women over night doesn’t feel this weak.”

After using the Nine Treasures Ruyi Bone to seal part of his vitality and mana, Lu Changsheng felt uneasy throughout his body.

It was like after he had depleted his lifespan and Origin Source energy to heal Ling Zixiao, leaving his spirit wilted.

But upon checking with his Divine Sense, it really didn’t look like he had a body refined to the Foundation Establishment Middle Stage.

It seems this Innate Divine Ability has something to it.

Chapter 676: Nine Treasures Ruyi Bone, Beast Calamity!\_2

“

“Although the sealing state can be lifted at any time, encountering a sudden and unforeseen killing intent would still pose danger,”

Lu Changsheng realized the downside of the Seal of Banishment right away.

If he sealed away all of his physical strength, he would be vulnerable to dangers and his defenses could easily be broken through.

Or in a rush to activate a mana shield, he wouldn’t be able to bring its power to the pinnacle instantly.

“Under normal circumstances, there’s no need to maintain the seal,”

...

“Moreover, the Seal of Banishment consumes mana.”

With a thought, Lu Changsheng released himself from the state.

He felt it was better to only seal himself when necessary; otherwise, it was indeed quite stifling to remain in that state continuously.

After briefly experiencing the effects of the Nine Treasures Ruyi Bone, Lu Changsheng sat back down cross-legged, closed his eyes, and concentrated on consolidating his state.

Half a month later, Lu Changsheng stood up and stepped out of his cave dwelling.

“My lord!”

“Changsheng!”

Outside the cave, Ling Zixiao and Xiao Xiyue saw Lu Changsheng emerge and immediately expressed their concern.

“Mm, Zixiao, Xi Yue, is there something wrong?” Lu Changsheng asked with some surprise upon seeing the two women waiting outside.

“My lord, previously there was quite a commotion, and I, together with Daoist Xiao, were worried that something unexpected might have happened, so we waited here,” Ling Zixiao said with a pale and graceful face, smiling gently.

As she spoke, she sized up Lu Changsheng before her.

Although there weren’t any notable changes in Lu Changsheng’s appearance or aura,

she could see that he was brimming with vitality, his eyes bright and spirited, clearly in excellent condition.

“Caused quite a commotion?”

At these words, Lu Changsheng was taken aback, guessing it was due to him assimilating his Life-bound Treasured Bone.

“That’s right...”

Xiao Xiyue’s voice was clear and captivating as she recounted the events of that day.

“You had us worried. I was practicing a Divine Skill,”

“And just a few days ago, I finally mastered it, which is why there was a bit of a disturbance,” Lu Changsheng said with a light chuckle.

He hadn’t expected that assimilating his Life-bound Treasured Bone would cause such a major disturbance.

At the time, he was completely absorbed in the process and didn’t realize the extent of the commotion.

This made him think how convenient it was to be at home.

If he were outside or on Qingzhu Mountain, causing such a commotion would not be easy to explain and could attract trouble.

“A Divine Skill!?”

Ling Zixiao and Xiao Xiyue both displayed surprise and curiosity in their eyes upon hearing this.

Spells are divided into primary, intermediate, and advanced levels.

Above advanced spells are Divine Skills!

Divine Skills can only be cultivated and mastered by Nascent Soul Immortals!

Foundation Establishment Cultivators like them simply cannot practice Divine Skills.

Unless one is extraordinarily gifted, born with innate Divine Skills!

But such innate Divine Skills are exceedingly rare, countless times rarer than Spiritual Bodies.

Moreover, they are more often encountered among Demon Beasts.

Some Demon Beasts with noble bloodlines, once their cultivation matures, might awaken some kind of innate Divine Skill.

At this moment, Lu Changsheng's claim to have cultivated a Divine Skill left the two women incredibly astonished.

"That's right, Zixiao, this Divine Skill has a healing effect. Come, let's see if it can help your meridians and Dantian,"

Without elaborating further, Lu Changsheng spoke to Ling Zixiao.

He wanted to try using the fifth Divine Skill of the Nine Treasures Ruyi Bone to treat Ling Zixiao.

"A healing effect?"

Upon hearing this, Ling Zixiao's heart trembled.

She hadn't expected Lu Changsheng's first use of his cultivated Divine Skill to be for treating her meridians and Dantian.

This made her wonder if Lu Changsheng cultivated this Divine Skill specifically for her.

It wasn't that she was vain,

but it was entirely in Lu Changsheng's character to do something like this, in her view.

Besides, as far as she knew, most Cultivators practiced offensive or protective Divine Skills,

unless their Cultivation Technique included it, or they were a Pharmacist or Healer. Very few practiced healing Technique or Divine Skills.

After all, every Technique or Divine Skill required time and energy to practice.

And as a Sword Cultivator, Lu Changsheng's spontaneous cultivation of a healing Divine Skill truly made her think of this possibility to the exclusion of others.

"Come, Xi Yue, you take a look too."

Lu Changsheng led the two women back into the cave, with Ling Zixiao lying down on a white jade soft bed.

"Zixiao, relax."

Lu Changsheng looked at Ling Zixiao on the bed, her face graceful and figure voluptuously elegant, and spoke in a gentle tone.

Then he took a deep breath, activated his Life-bound Treasured Bone, and a dazzling and sacred light of life burst forth from his chest, enveloping Ling Zixiao.

"Mmm~"

Ling Zixiao felt as if she was immersed in the fountain of life, her whole body tingling. Her withered and damaged meridians and Dantian seemed to be nourished by the life force as if receiving sustenance from the womb.

"Chah!"

Seeing the results, Lu Changsheng pushed the Nine Treasures Ruyi Bone to its limit.

His chest radiated endless brilliant light, and one mysterious and magnificent rune after another emerged, interweaving and blooming, containing an indescribable secret force that entered Ling Zixiao's body.

“This...”

Xiao Xiyue, watching from the side, showed a look of astonishment on her strikingly beautiful face.

Although she had never observed a Divine Skill up close,

through the radiant Spiritual Light and mysterious, profound runes that seemed to contain the essence of the Great Dao, she knew Lu Changsheng's Divine Skill was extraordinary.

Lu Changsheng vigorously operated the Nine Treasures Ruyi Bone, mana flowing like water from his body, furiously draining away.

Moments later, most of his mana had been consumed, and he even began to feel a touch of exhaustion.

The fifth Divine Skill of the Nine Treasures Ruyi Bone refined the user's body into a divine medicine, consuming not only mana but also the origin energy.

Under the Healing Divine Light, Ling Zixiao's body was suffused with auspicious light, and visible to the naked eye, her pale face gained a bit more color.

The treatment wasn't simply focusing on her meridians and Dantian.

It also nourished her body, blood, hidden injuries, and everything else in the process.

Chapter 677: Nine Treasures Ruyi Bone, Beast Calamity!\_3

“Phew!”

After half a quarter of an hour, Lu Changsheng had nearly depleted his mana, and he ceased using the Nine Treasures Ruyi Bone. He exhaled fatigue

He looked at Ling Zixiao with concern and asked, “Zixiao, how do you feel?”

“The congestion in my meridians and dantian has noticeably eased, and I feel much more relaxed and comfortable.”

“At this rate, it’s estimated that it will only take three to five years for the condition of my meridians and dantian to be resolved,” said Ling Zixiao with a tender smile, pressing her lips together lightly.

She had been severely injured before and was kept alive by Lu Miaoge’s Taiyi True Water.

...

Even with the intervention from Lu Miaoge and Lu Changsheng, it was expected to take more than ten years to fully recover.

However, after Lu Changsheng’s recent treatment, she felt an immediate improvement.

She estimated that in just three to five years, she could restore her withered meridians and dantian and return to cultivation.

Sitting up, she embraced Lu Changsheng with tenderness in her eyes and said softly, “Lu Lang, you have worked hard.”

“Haha, as long as it’s effective, that’s good,” Lu Changsheng responded with a smile upon hearing her words.

He had genuinely worried that the Nine Treasures Ruyi Bone might not resolve the issues with Ling Zixiao’s meridians and dantian.

After all, problems with meridians and dantian have always been a major concern in the Cultivation World.

Suddenly, the three of them chatted idly about household matters, and Lu Changsheng inquired about Ling Zixiao's family's recent situation.

Although he had not been in seclusion for half a year, he still had not left his retreat in the past few months.

Ling Zixiao informed Lu Changsheng that there were no issues with her family, only that the Zheng Family and Xu Family had formed a marriage alliance not long ago, and her family had sent gifts over.

However, a major incident had occurred in the Imperial Spirit Sect's Domain.

"What kind of major incident?" inquired Lu Changsheng, curious.

"A beast calamity that occurs only once in a hundred years erupted in the Imperial Spirit Sect, and it is rumored that a Core Formation ancestor perished during this calamity," Ling Zixiao disclosed.

"A Core Formation ancestor perished?" Lu Changsheng exclaimed in surprise.

The Imperial Spirit Sect was situated close to the Myriad Beasts Mountain Range, bordering Azure Phoenix Immortal City, and it served as a strategic point for fending off beast tides.

These beast tides came every few years, or sometimes decades, and many cultivators would deliberately go to them.

While dangerous, these tides represented a mix of risk and opportunity, offering the chance to hunt numerous rare demon beasts and even obtain second-rank special monster cores for crafting Foundation Establishment Elixirs.

However, the fact that a beast tide resulted in the death of a Core Formation ancestor from the Imperial Spirit Sect was truly alarming.

The Imperial Spirit Sect was renowned for beast taming, daring to establish marketplace strongholds at many junctions of the Myriad Beasts Mountain Range, and naturally had methods for dealing with demon beasts.

“Hmm, but I’m not very clear about the specifics,” Ling Zixiao added softly, shaking her head.

“I’ve heard that it was a Demonic Path Cultivator colluding with a Demon King who set an ambush, which led to the death of the Imperial Spirit Sect’s Core Formation ancestor,” Xiao Xiyue chimed in.

Although she was stationed at Bi Lake Mountain, she still had channels to information from the Qingyun Sect.

“Will this beast tide affect Azure Phoenix Immortal City?” Lu Changsheng asked.

The boundaries of the Imperial Spirit Sect and Azure Phoenix Immortal City were adjacent, and given the severity of the beast tide, it could affect Azure Phoenix Immortal City, making him think of his friend Li Feiyu.

Two years ago, he had written to Li Feiyu but had not yet received a reply, which made him worry about his friend’s situation.

“It’s hard to say, but this beast tide might well be called a beast calamity, so it’s very likely Azure Phoenix Immortal City will be impacted,” Xiao Xiyue spoke softly.

“My husband, what’s wrong?” Ling Zixiao noted Lu Changsheng’s concerned expression and asked.

“Nothing much; I just have a good friend living in Azure Phoenix Immortal City,” Lu Changsheng sighed lightly.

“He makes his living by hunting demon beasts, so hearing about this event, I’m somewhat concerned for him,” he continued.

“Feiyu has grown up roaming the world and isn’t the kind to recklessly risk his life. He should be fine,” Xiao Xiyue reassured him, knowing Lu Changsheng was referring to Li Feiyu.

“I hope so,” Lu Changsheng agreed, nodding.

Over the years, because correspondence was inconvenient, he had only exchanged a few letters.

Li Feiyu hadn’t mentioned any worries and indicated that he was doing well.

In fact, in the last letter, he mentioned he had broken through to the Energy Refinement Late Stage.

But Lu Changsheng could tell from this message that Li Feiyu must certainly have been risking his life, putting his head on the line to make such quick progress.

Otherwise, how could he possibly have made such rapid advancement to the Energy Refinement Late Stage?

Lu Changsheng did not linger on this topic and shifted the conversation to other matters, asking about the Spiritual Body and whether the two women had heard of the Flawless Heavenly Fragrance Body.

“The Flawless Heavenly Fragrance Body?” Both women shook their heads, indicating they had not heard of this Spiritual Body.

Lu Changsheng did not pursue the matter further.

After a casual conversation, he left Changsheng Hall and went to the Lu Family Mansion to spend time with his other wives and children.

During this time, he took an interest in the progress of Lu Miaoyun’s Heavenly Longevity Technique.

Lu Miaoyun had already comprehended the Heavenly Longevity Technique.

The next step was to wash the Spirit Plant daily with Spiritual Power and vital essence to establish a connection.

Once connected, the Spirit Plant could be refined into a “Life-bound Spiritual Root,” which would initiate cultivation.

This process was somewhat similar to Lu Changsheng’s own infusion with the Life-bound Treasured Bone and was very time-consuming.

Lu Miaoyun felt it would take a year or two to establish the connection.

As for refining it into a Life-bound Spiritual Root, she was not sure.

Lu Changsheng comforted her, advising her not to rush and to take things slowly.

Subsequently, Lu Changsheng also checked on Bai Ling’s situation.

Bai Ling estimated that she would be able to convert all her mana into the Black Dragon Codex within a month.

Hearing this, Lu Changsheng praised the young girl, and that evening, he rewarded her, Lu Miaoyun, Qu Zhenzhen, and others for their efforts.

Chapter 678: Azure Phoenix Immortal, The Twelve Capital Demon Gods Scripture!\_1

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Azure Phoenix Immortal City.

Majestic and towering, the city walls resembled a sprawling dragon, with many cultivators standing by in full battle array.

Outside the walls, wave after wave of black ‘tides’ could be seen relentlessly battering the Azure Phoenix Immortal City.

This was an army of demon beasts, forming a beast tide.

These demon beasts were either flying in the sky or running on the ground, swarming out of the Myriad Beasts Mountain Range, charging toward the Immortal City fearlessly, as if welcoming death.

...

Within the dark tides, one could occasionally see cultivators scurrying in panic, swallowed up by the masses.

These were cultivators who had remained outside or had just returned from hunting demon beasts in the Myriad Beasts Mountain Range.

“Boom boom boom—”

On the walls of the Azure Phoenix Immortal City, cultivators stood in ranks, constantly casting techniques to attack the demon beasts outside.

Above the Great Formation, the sacred and majestic phantom of an Azure Phoenix materialized.

“Boom boom boom—”

The Azure Phoenix spat thunderous flames, effortlessly sweeping through the beast horde, turning countless First Grade demon beasts into ash, and reducing many Second Rank demon beasts to charred corpses.

“Roar!”

Just then, a heaven-shaking roar erupted, creating a powerful sonic blast like a hurricane.

Under this roar, all the demon beasts seemed to be inspired, while the human race cultivators all groaned simultaneously, feeling dizzy and nauseous, their blood churning, with some even falling to the ground.

“Not good, a Third Rank Demon King!”

On the city wall, a man around thirty, with a heroic face, dressed in dark armor, and tall and robust build, grunted.

He turned to an elder who had fallen to the ground beside him, helped him up, and said in a deep voice, “Old Luo, are you alright?”

“Cough cough... I’m fine.”

“A Third Rank Demon King is truly terrifying. Despite such distance, and with The Celestial City Formation in between, a single roar has caused my spiritual power to become uncontrollable.”

“It’s still Li Feiyu who is impressive, not affected at all.”

Referred to as Old Luo, the elder’s face was slightly pale, with fresh blood oozing from his mouth, as he spoke.

However, as soon as he finished speaking, he saw another mountain rushing towards the Immortal City from a different direction.

It was a Golden Gigantic Ape holding up a mountain.

“Boom!”

The Golden Gigantic Ape soared into the sky, its momentum terrifying, with the mountain top ablaze with roaring flames, like a fiery meteor, a falling sun fiercely smashing towards the Immortal City.

“Rumble—”

The rocks from the mountain crashed onto the Great Formation of the Azure Phoenix Immortal City’s walls, creating huge noises and shaking the entire formation violently.

“Pfft!”

Li Feiyu turned pale from the violent shaking, stumbled and struggled to stand firm.

The elder beside him spit out a mouthful of blood even more so.

Not only them, but all the Energy Refining Cultivators on the wall were in dire straits, with only the Foundation Establishment Cultivators barely managing to stabilize the situation.

“This... Another Third Rank Demon King! Why is this beast tide so terrible, producing two Demon Kings!”

The elder wiped the blood from the corner of his mouth and said with a pale face.

“No, there are three!”

Li Feiyu looked up at the sky with a grim expression and said.

The elder followed Li Feiyu’s gaze and immediately saw a huge Purple Thunderbird in the clouds.

“Three Demon Kings, could it be... Azure Phoenix Immortal City is about to fall!”

In the elder’s eyes, despair emerged.

“Screech!”

Just then, within the Azure Phoenix Immortal City, a crisp and melodious screech sounded.

Behold, rising from the Qing Luan Peak in the center of the Immortal City, a majestic and unrivaled cyan bird took off into the sky.

Its wings extended, its feathers splendid, resplendent with flowing light, like a proud peacock, yet also like a noble phoenix, its body ablaze with cyan flames.

“A Third Rank Qing Luan, it’s Azure Phoenix Immortal!”

“Greetings to the City Lord!”

“This is the number one Loose Cultivator of Jiang Country, Azure Phoenix Immortal!”

“I’ve been in Azure Phoenix Immortal City for twenty years, and it’s my first time seeing the City Lord!”

“Azure Phoenix Immortal hasn’t made a move in nearly a hundred years; I wonder if she can repel these three Demon Kings!”

“It’s hard to say; that Golden Gigantic Ape is a Heavenly-Rank Bloodline Demon Beast, the Diamond Ape King, and that Purple Thunderbird in the sky is also a Heavenly-Rank Demon Beast, the Thundercloud Sparrow. In such circumstances...”

“Azure Phoenix Immortal’s steed, the Qing Luan, is a Third Rank Demon King, and with the five hundred Azure Phoenix Dao Soldiers, she’s undoubtedly the most powerful below the Nascent Soul. She will surely be able to repel the three Great Demons!”

“It is rumored that Azure Phoenix Immortal has not shown herself in recent years because she sustained severe injuries. She has been recuperating all these years...”

Inside the Azure Phoenix Immortal City, as everyone witnessed this scene, they were all stirred up, their voices a buzz of discussion as they focused their gazes on the cyan phoenix in the sky.

Upon the cyan phoenix stood a tall, curvaceous woman clad in radiant cyan and gold armor.

She was incredibly beautiful, seemingly in her thirties, with brows sharp as swords, eyes vast as the sun, moon, and stars, a nose as refined as a prominent mountain, and lips as curved as a crescent moon bow.

Her entire face was strikingly defined, giving off an indescribable sense of sharpness, majesty, and authority, akin to a high and mighty female war deity, commanding involuntary submission and worship at her feet.

However, her cold solemnity and majesty combined with her lofty and graceful stature hidden beneath the cyan and gold armor, brought a unique beauty that was truly exceptional.

Especially her eyes, which shone like suns, moons, and stars, round and elongated with upturned corners like water droplets, they captivated the soul with an alluring chill.

Seeing Azure Phoenix Immortal, countless people's hearts raced with nervousness, excitement, and adoration.

For they were seeing a legendary figure!

Azure Phoenix Immortal, rising from a background of a loose cultivator, with no backing, attained True Elixir, challenged a cultivator in the Core Formation Late Stage while in the Initial Stage of Core Formation, became the number one Loose Cultivator of Jiang Country, and established the Azure Phoenix Immortal City as a sacred land for loose cultivators!

For many cultivators, such a person was the stuff of legend!

Chapter 679: Azure Phoenix Immortal, The Twelve Capital Demon Gods Scripture!\_2

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“Kill!”

“`

The Azure Phoenix Immortal, tall and slender in stature, summoned a green-gold long halberd in her hand, akin to a female war deity, she burst forth from the Great Formation, charging towards the Diamond Ape King.

Her entire body shone with divine splendor, even her hair strands seemed to be tinged with a pale golden luster beneath her armor.

“`

...

“Boom!”

“\

The green-gold halberd slashed across, erupting with endless radiance, almost tearing the very fabric of the heavens and earth.

“\

“Screech!”

“\

The Azure Phoenix Immortal’s third rank Qing Luan, perched beneath her, also shrieked, its wings unfurled as the winds howled and the hurricane swiftly arose, accompanied by waves of azure flames, targeting the Diamond Ape King.

“\

“Roar—”

“\

Facing this onslaught, the Diamond Ape King roared towards the heavens, its fur shining brilliantly like an indestructible glaze of vajra, its fists, mountainous, hurtled towards the Azure Phoenix Immortal.

From a distance, the third rank Demon Kings, the Thundercloud Sparrow and the Iron-Backed Kui Bear, also joined the fray.

Simultaneously, from within the Azure Phoenix Immortal City, orderly ranks of luan birds ascended to the sky, covering it dome-like, stationed above the Immortal City, they formed a mysterious array, impressively powerful, radiating an intimidating spiritual pressure that bore an indescribable oppression.

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“Everyone, please remain calm. Our Azure Phoenix Immortal City has the absolute capability to ensure everyone’s safety...”

“Moving forward, please cooperate with our defense operations. In return for your contributions, early-stage Qi Refinement practitioners will receive one battle merit daily, mid-stage practitioners will receive three, and late-stage practitioners will get ten...”

“\

At this time, the person in charge within the Azure Phoenix Immortal City spoke, their voice spreading throughout the entire city, urging all to lend their strength to the defense.

...

Bi Lake Mountain, Bi Yun Peak.

A simple and spacious Alchemy Room.

Lu Changsheng sat crossed-legged on a cushion, watching the crimson flames flicker beneath the pill furnace.

He could smell waves of fragrance wafting out from the furnace; Lu Changsheng immediately struck the furnace with several spells, followed by a sweeping motion of his hand.

The furnace lid blasted open. Hot waves tumbled and surged as a burst of light sprang forth from within the furnace.

Lu Changsheng instantly took a jade bottle in hand, capturing the radiance inside.

“Not bad, eighteen pills in a single furnace run.”

He looked at the elixir medicines in the jade bottle, his face showing satisfaction.

Soon after, Lu Changsheng went to his own fish nursery, pinched a spell between his fingers, and seven Blackwater Dragon Fish and five Blackwater Dragon Serpents rose to the surface of the water.

“

“Go!”

“

Lu Changsheng fed the ‘Spirit Nurturing Elixirs’ from the porcelain jar.

Then, with another gesture of his hands, he alternately cast the ‘Spiritual Light Method’ and ‘Commanding Generals and Soldiers Method’ over the twelve Dao Soldiers, nurturing their innate spirit and dragon nature to accelerate their growth.

After completing this series of tasks, Lu Changsheng sighed, “It’s no wonder there are so few powers that breed Dao Soldiers.”

“This thing is not only expensive but also time-consuming. I find it troublesome with just twelve. How do those powers manage to raise hundreds of them?”

Lu Changsheng lamented as he gazed at the Dao Soldiers in the lake.

He planned to wait until Bai Ling broke through to the Foundation Establishment stage before letting Bai Ling raise the Blackwater Jiao Dragon Dao Soldiers.

Since she practiced the Black Dragon Codex, once she formed her Dragon King Dao Foundation, she would have an enhanced effect on nurturing aquatic species, especially the Blackwater Jiao Dragon Dao Soldiers.

After feeding his Dao Soldiers, Lu Changsheng took a quick tour of the fish nursery and then returned to the Lu Family Mansion to spend time with his wives and visit the son born by Xia Zhiyue.

Even though the child benefited from Xia Zhiyue's 'Spirit Nurturing Physique,' he possessed only a Fifth Grade Spiritual Root.

On this matter, Lu Changsheng wasn't overly concerned.

With the advancement of his Spiritual Root to Second Grade, his pursuit of spiritual root potential had become much more indifferent.

After all, whether it was Fifth Grade or Fourth Grade, they were almost the same, certainly not up to his own Second Grade.

After having lunch with his wives, Lu Changsheng returned to Changsheng Hall to heal Ling Zixiao with the Nine Treasures Ruyi Bone.

At that moment, a system notification echoed in Lu Changsheng's mind.

[Congratulations to the host on the breakthrough of thirty descendants to Martial Dao Innate, earning a bloodline effect: Increments in offspring propagation probability by 5%, plus one chance for a lucky draw!]

“`

“Hm, thirty, huh.”

“`

Upon hearing the system notification, Lu Changsheng revealed a slight smile.

After he finished treating Ling Zixiao, the two shared a tender moment before Lu Changsheng made his way to his private cultivation cavern.

[Bloodline Effect: +25% Spiritual Root Probability, +20% Offspring Propagation]

“

“With such bloodline effects, it would be a pity not to have more children.”

“

Lu Changsheng noted the effects listed under the bloodline section of his system panel, thinking to himself.

Considering that he had only sired eight children in the last three years, he felt he had been too sluggish.

Currently, the family was still in a semi-seclusion state, with Ling Zixiao still recovering from serious injuries, and Xiao Xiyue stationed in Bi Lake Mountain, he couldn't very well go out philandering.

Although White Jade Tower was an option, now was not a good time to visit.

“

“Still, there aren't many suitable maids left at home now. It's time to add a few more.”

“

Lu Changsheng planned to visit White Jade Tower once things had stabilized at home and Ling Zixiao had mostly recovered.

“

“System, draw the lottery!”

“

After a moment of wishful thinking, Lu Changsheng silently invoked the command in his mind.

Suddenly, the system roulette emerged, gleaming with golden light.

[Ding, congratulations to the host for obtaining the cultivation technique “Twelve Capital Demon Spirit Art!”]

[The reward has been distributed to the System Space, the host may check at any time]

A radiant jade scroll pattern appeared, accompanied by the system notification sound.

“Another cultivation technique? And it’s a demonic cultivation technique?”

Lu Changsheng furrowed his brows as he saw the reward.

He really didn’t want to draw cultivation techniques from the lottery wheel anymore.

Because he had so many cultivation techniques, drawing more had become impractical.

The last lottery draw resulted in a cultivation technique, and this time, it was yet another cultivation technique.

Moreover, by the name of it, it was a demonic cultivation technique.

In Jiang Country where he resided, an orthodox force strictly struck down on the Demon Path.

Under such circumstances, he couldn’t possibly cultivate an excellent demonic cultivation technique if given one.

Lu Changsheng looked at the cultivation technique inside the System Space.

[Cultivation Technique: Twelve Capital Demon Spirit Art]

[Grade: Orthodox Level]

[Description: Contemplate on the twelve Capital Demon Spirits, gather demon thoughts, refine the body, mana, and spirit, and sacrifice to the twelve Capital Demon Spirits!]

“Contemplate on the twelve Capital Demon Spirits, refining body, mana, and spirit?”

Lu Changsheng’s eyebrows twitched as he looked at the introduction of the cultivation technique in front of him.

Currently, for his physical body, he had the Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art.

For mana, he had the Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Scripture.

But for spirit and divine sense, he only had the “Purple Mansion Nourishing Spirit Art” given to him by Xiao Xiyue.

Since the effects of this technique were average, Lu Changsheng didn’t cultivate it much.

He had always wanted a more powerful spiritual cultivation technique that could give him a shortcut like the Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Technique.

“I wonder if this Twelve Capital Demon Spirit Art contains such an advanced spiritual method.”

Lu Changsheng looked at the cultivation technique within the System Space, his mind slightly moved, and he activated it.

Let’s see if this cultivation technique could bring him some surprises.

The next moment, the details, relevant content, and crucial points on how to practice the “Twelve Capital Demon Spirit Art” surged into his mind like divine inspiration.

“The Twelve Capital Demon Spirit Art is one-third Qi Refinement, one-third Body Refinement, and four parts Spirit Refinement.”

“Once cultivated successfully, twelve Demon Spirits are refined within the body, each capable of reaching the same cultivation realm as the cultivator, and the twelve Demon Spirits can form the Twelve Capital Demon Evil Formation...”

“Hiss... this cultivation technique is quite badass.”

Lu Changsheng opened his eyes, digesting the cultivation technique in his mind.

He couldn't help but marvel at the domineering power of this technique.

It felt even more formidable than the Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Scripture that he was practicing.

It not only cultivated spirit, Qi, and mana jointly.

But also contained various formidable techniques and divine skills.

For instance, contemplating the thoughts of heaven and earth demons, sacrificing twelve Demon Spirits—once the twelve demons reach minor accomplishment, one could basically be invincible at the same rank.

If the twelve Demon Spirits reach major accomplishment, fighting beyond one's realm is not an issue at all.

There's also the Life-bound Magic Treasure, the Capital Demon Evil Flag.

Once the seventy-two Demon Evil Flags are raised, they are in no way inferior to the Seven Luminaries Star Sword Formation from the third layer of the Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Scripture.

Beyond these main techniques, there are also “Capital Demon Flame”, “Capital Demon God,” “Capital Demon God Dismantling Technique”, “Capital Demon God Blood Ignition Escape Technique”....

“Do demonic and heretical cultivation techniques usually come with more complementary techniques and divine skills?”

Lu Changsheng pondered as he looked at the “Twelve Capital Demon Spirit Art.”

Of all the cultivation techniques he had obtained from the lottery.

The one with the most included techniques was “Yin Yang Harmony Technique.”

Next would be this “Twelve Capital Demon Spirit Art.”

Although each layer of his Seven Luminaries Great Freedom Sword Scripture had its unique effects and complementary cultivation techniques, comparatively, there were fewer.

“Sigh, but no matter how powerful, it’s useless.”

“I can’t abandon the Seven Luminaries to switch to cultivating this demonic technique.”

“I can only wait till I reach Nascent Soul Stage, then see which family member has the talent for the Demon Path, and pass this technique on.”

“For now, the useful parts of this cultivation technique for me are the ‘Demon God Contemplation Technique’, the mental cultivation method, and the two techniques for escaping danger when one’s life is threatened: the ‘Capital Demon God Dismantling Technique’ and ‘Capital Demon God Blood Ignition Escape Technique’.”

Lu Changsheng shook his head slightly and sighed, somewhat disappointed.

He felt this cultivation technique will just gather dust.

## Chapter 680: Looking Back After 25 Years\_Part 1

A month later.

Qingyun Sect.

On the misty White Jade Square filled with celestial aura, hundreds of young men and women left with heavy hearts and low spirits.

“Yunlou, Xingyue, remember to cultivate diligently within Qingyun Sect and feel free to send a message home if anything comes up,”

“You can also seek help from your uncles Han and Zhao, and your Auntie Zhao.”

Lu Changsheng spoke to his children before him.

...

Today marked the once-every-five-years Immortal Sects exam of Qingyun Sect.

Since Hong Yi had sent his son, Hong Xuanji, to participate in the Immortal Sects exam at Qingyun Sect,

Lu Changsheng thought it over and decided to have several of his children take the exam as well.

After all, cultivating at an Immortal Sect and learning skills in many aspects was indeed better than at home.

Moreover, Qingyun Sect wasn't far from home; sending the children there meant they would not only receive the family's training but also that of the Sect.

However, only those under eighteen could participate in the Qingyun Sect exam, so naturally, Lu Ping'an, Lu Yun, and Lu Quanzhen couldn't take part.

Hence, out of the eight children he chose to send for the Immortal Sects discipleship exam, only his son Lu Yunlou and daughter Lu Xingyue, both with Sixth Grade Spiritual Roots, passed the assessment.

The other six children, along with Hong Xuanji, failed to make it through the exam.

Through connections, Lu Changsheng also had a rough understanding of Qingyun Sect's criteria for accepting disciples.

Spiritual Root, perseverance, comprehension, Dao Heart.

The assessment was based on these four areas.

But there was another unspoken criterion: age.

Like Hong Xuanji with a Seventh Grade Spiritual Root, performed well in all three aspects of the exam but was disqualified because he was eighteen years old.

"Brother-in-law, rest assured, I will take good care of Yunlou and Xingyue,"

said a good-looking young man in his late twenties, standing tall and wearing the Qingyun Sect disciple's magical robe, next to him.

It was Xia Zhizue's brother, Xia Zhaoyang.

With a Fourth Grade Spiritual Root, he was doing quite well in Qingyun Sect, with a cultivation level of Eighth Level Energy Refinement, and he had hopes to reach Foundation Establishment in the future.

"Alright, in that case, I'm counting on you to look after Yunlou and Xingyue,"

Lu Changsheng said to his brother-in-law with a nod and a smile.

He hadn't interacted much with Xia Zhaoyang, only conversing a few times.

However, his impression of the man was decent, not one of heartlessness or unfaithfulness.

After giving his instructions, Lu Changsheng walked down from the White Jade Square, leaving with the six children who had been eliminated and Hong Xuanji.

“Xingyue, Yunlou, although you’ve passed the exam, you are only outer disciples,”

“Besides cultivation, you need to choose a skill to learn. Which skill do you plan to study?” Xia Zhaoyang asked, turning to the two nieces and nephews.

However, the look he gave Lu Xingyue was noticeably more affectionate.

He had been cared for by his sister Xia Zhizue since he was a child.

Over the years at Qingyun Sect, Xia Zhizue often sent him a portion of her own cultivation resources and accumulated Spirit Stones.

Thus, he always kept this familial love in his heart.

“Father said I can choose medicine,”

Lu Xingyue replied crisply.

Although she had met this uncle several times, she still wasn’t very familiar with him, and her voice held a hint of estrangement.

“Father told me to choose Artifact Refining,”

Lu Yunlou said.

“Good, I’ll take you there,”

Xia Zhaoyang said, nodding his head and leading them away.

Even though Qingyun Sect had uniform arrangements,

as a disciple of Qingyun Sect, he knew some of the ins and outs.

For instance, if the Sect knew someone had a family member there, they were typically escorted by that member, which meant the outer disciples in charge might show a little more care and attention.

....

At the entrance of Qingyun Sect.

Many young men and women who failed to pass the exam left with sorrowful and disappointed expressions, some even crying out loud.

Under such circumstances, Lu Changsheng's other six children were also downcast, pressing their lips tightly together.

Seeing this scene, Lu Changsheng couldn't help but reminisce about his own feelings upon learning that he had been rejected by Qingyun Sect twenty-five years ago.

He patted his children's heads and said with an air of calm, "It's alright if you didn't pass, I wanted you to gain some experience by bringing you here."

"Xuanji, you shouldn't take it too hard either,"

Lu Changsheng didn't feel too strongly about the children's failure to pass because he had anticipated it,

and he also maintained an indifferent attitude about it.

They walked out of the mountain gate,

where Hong Yi was eagerly waiting outside.

His face immediately fell upon seeing Lu Changsheng and his son exiting.

He had high hopes for his son, Hong Xuanji, wanting him to join an Immortal Sect and surpass himself.

But now, seeing his son walk out of the gate, he knew the boy hadn't passed the exam.

"Brother Lu, Xuanji,"

Hong Yi greeted Lu Changsheng with a hand-over-fist salute.

"Xuanji did well in several areas of the exam, but he was disqualified because he's a little too old,"

Lu Changsheng explained to Hong Yi.

"Father, I have let you down,"

Hong Xuanji said, slightly bowing his head to his father.

He knew how much his father wished for him to be accepted into Qingyun Sect.

"Ah, it's okay,"

Hong Yi sighed deeply, patted his son's shoulder, and didn't say much more.

Many others, like Hong Yi, showed sadness and disappointment when they saw their children or younger family members walking out of the gate.

Most of them, being Loose Cultivators, understood the hardship of such a path and wished for their offspring to be admitted into an Immortal Sect.

“Brother Hong, Xuanji is quite talented and intelligent, and he will not fare poorly in the future even if he hasn’t joined an Immortal Sect,”

“We ourselves were once rejected by Qingyun Sect as well, weren’t we?” Lu Changsheng said to comfort him.

“If Xuanji’s future turns out a bit like mine, that would be decent, but it’s audacious to compare him with you, Brother Lu,”

Hong Yi said, with a bitter smile on his face.

Then, turning to Lu Changsheng, he said with a hand-over-fist salute, “Brother Lu, I have an audacious request.”

“Ha ha, Brother Hong, just speak freely,”

Lu Changsheng laughed lightly and replied,

guessing somewhat what Hong Yi was about to ask.

“I was hoping, Brother Lu, that you could let Xuanji continue to work at Bi Lake Mountain,”