

## I. Family 741

### Chapter 741: The Choice of Two Women!\_2

Even if she refused, with Lu Changsheng's means, if he truly wished to do so, she feared she would have no choice but to passively accept it.

Since that was the case, why not turn passivity into initiative, humiliation into enjoyment?

However, even though Xu Ruyin consoled herself with such logic, her pride and self-respect nevertheless made it impossible for her to do such a thing.

After all, not long ago, she was the cherished direct daughter of the Yu Shui Xu Family, carrying great fortune, and with a future that aspired to Nascent Soul!

But at this moment, she was expected to serve as a slave and maidservant, which was too great a fall from grace.

This moment gave birth to a strong regret in Xu Ruyin's heart.

...

She regretted why she had to carry out such an act, coming to Bi Lake Mountain to steal Spiritual Beasts.

If she had followed Grandfather's arrangements, by now she could have been safely making her Foundation Establishment breakthrough at home.

After successfully establishing her foundation, she could have gone to temper herself in the Myriad Beasts Mountain Range.

Or she could have returned to her family.

Now the Elder Ancestor of the Beast Taming Xu Family had less than a hundred years to live, and the family was vigorously nurturing Nascent Soul Seeds!

If she were willing to return to her family, she could certainly stand out and smooth her way to Core Formation.

But all these, due to her pride and stubbornness, had become but a fleeting dream.

“Senior, take your time to consider,” she said.

“Once you’ve made up your mind, feel free to let Mount Sumeru know,” Lu Changsheng said without urging Hong Lian to make a choice, nor demanding an immediate decision. He put away the Soul Fusion Resurrection Elixir and spoke.

He then walked towards Changsheng Hall with Ling Zixiao.

“Thank you, Young Master Lu,” Hong Lian said, bowing slightly to Lu Changsheng.

Although she had made up her mind to follow Lu Changsheng, she still had some words to say to Xu Ruyin.

After all, after so many years of being together, she knew Xu Ruyin’s personality very well.

She knew that someone with a stubborn and proud nature like her would not easily obey and submit to Lu Changsheng.

Yet, she didn’t want to see Xu Ruyin humiliated, or to simply fade away like a passing fragrance.

“Senior Hong Lian, I’m sorry,” Xu Ruyin said, biting her lip as she faced the senior before her.

“Girl,” Hong Lian sighed softly.

Her ephemeral form then dissipated into numerous tiny red dots, returning to the Ancient Beast Taming Charm. She couldn’t remain outside for long in her current state and needed the charm to maintain her soul body.

Moreover, now within the Mount Sumeru Cave Heaven, it wasn't good for her to converse with Xu Ruyin in such a state.

Entering the Ancient Beast Taming Charm also allowed her to conceal her words.

After Hong Lian entered the charm, she had it return to Xu Ruyin's sea of consciousness.

"Girl, what do you plan to do?" Hong Lian's voice arose, ethereal and gentle.

"Senior Hong Lian, I... I don't know..." Xu Ruyin said, her entire being enveloped in confusion.

Although she was mature beyond her years, she had never experienced any major setbacks since childhood.

Faced with such a situation now, she truly didn't know how to cope.

"Girl, regarding Lu Changsheng, tell everything you know to me," Hong Lian instructed.

Even though she planned to follow Lu Changsheng, she basically had no understanding of him.

The rough information she knew came from what Xu Ruyin had told her previously.

"Senior Hong Lian, I don't know much about him either..." Xu Ruyin said softly.

She then relayed to Hong Lian all that she knew about Lu Changsheng and related matters.

...

Inside Changsheng Hall.

"With Mount Sumeru present, Zi Xiao, feel free to speak your mind," Lu Changsheng said, noticing Ling Zixiao holding her words back, aware she was concerned about Hong Lian overhearing.

“There is nothing much, I only wished to inquire about Young Master’s plans for Miss Xu of the Xu Family and Senior Hong Lian,” Ling Zixiao said with a light smile.

“From what I see, Senior Hong Lian seems to hold a good deal of affection for Miss Xu. If Young Master wishes to tame the senior, arranging for Miss Xu might be troublesome.”

Ling Zixiao had witnessed the entire event and clearly saw that Lu Changsheng wanted to tame both Hong Lian and Xu Ruyin—or rather, primarily Hong Lian.

But to tame Hong Lian, Xu Ruyin couldn’t be released at the moment, which made arrangements somewhat awkward.

“Heh, we’re now the fish on the chopping board, and they’re the knife in our hands; initiative naturally rests with us,” Lu Changsheng chuckled softly and continued, “This Senior Hong Lian is at least a Nascent Soul True Lord; taming her would be beneficial for both us and the family.”

“As for Xu Ruyin, as you, Zi Xiao, mentioned earlier, since she’s come into this Cave Heaven and knows about Mount Sumeru, she can’t be allowed to leave.”

“It happens that this Cave Heaven actually needs a maidservant. If Xu Ruyin is willing to obey, what I said earlier can certainly hold true.”

“But if she’s unwilling to comply, there’s no need to indulge her, and the same goes for Senior Hong Lian,” Lu Changsheng said calmly.

While his nature was carefree and he never coerced others, the fact that both came to his Bi Lake Mountain to thief meant his willingness to offer them a chance was already quite generous.

If neither of them were to appreciate the gesture, he wouldn’t be courteous.

“In my view, Senior Hong Lian seems already tempted, willing to follow Young Master,” Ling Zixiao observed.

“It’s just because of Miss Xu that she’s unwilling to make a decision impulsively and leave.”

“After all, in the Cultivation World, obligations, grudges, and karma are taken very seriously. Senior Hong Lian resides within Miss Xu and is willing to help her, likely due to some karmic entanglement.”

“Therefore, Young Master, for Senior Hong Lian’s sake, it might be fitting to show some leniency towards Miss Xu,” Ling Zixiao suggested.

While she was merely a Foundation Establishment Cultivator with limited exposure,

she was well aware that given Lu Changsheng’s status, even Core Formation and Nascent Soul Cultivators would be surprised to encounter him.

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Especially that ‘Soul Fusion Resurrection Elixir’, it’s useful for reviving others.

In the Cultivation World, everyone strives in their practice for the sake of immortality and carefree living, to live life to the fullest with gusto.

For a Nascent Soul True Lord who is left with only a spirit, there is probably nothing more tempting than resurrection.

And just as Lu Changsheng said, people rise to higher positions just as water flows to lower places, following Lu Changsheng is clearly a hundred times better than following Xu Ruyin!

“Karmic debts and grudges? Okay, I understand.”

“Now, it’s up to that Miss Xu to make her choice.”

...

Lu Changsheng nodded and smiled, understanding the principle, before leisurely chatting with Ling Zixiao.

He mentioned that his Pill Furnace and Elixir Medicines were still in the process of refinement. In a little while, little Wangshu should also wake up; he needed to go and watch over her.

“Go ahead, my lord, your concubine will keep watch here.”

Hearing this, Ling Zixiao thought to herself that Lu Changsheng truly doted on Lu Wangshu.

Although Lu Changsheng was kind to all the children in the family,

she could see that he was clearly more affectionate toward certain ones.

This couldn't but make her think of herself.

Having been with Lu Changsheng day and night for so many years, her relationship with Lu Changsheng had long transcended the original bargain of him healing her in exchange for her being his cultivation partner and helping him build the family.

She had already developed affection for him over time.

So, seeing that Lu Changsheng truly liked the children, she also considered whether she should have children with Lu Changsheng.

After all, over the years, she had come to see Bi Lake Mountain as home, feeling a sense of belonging and wanting a child for herself.

It was only because of physical reasons that she was not suitable for pregnancy and having children at the moment.

But now, with the treatment from Lu Changsheng and Lu Miaoge, she estimated that another three to five years of recuperation should be enough for her body to recover.

By then, she could consider having children with Lu Changsheng.

Yet, seeing so many children, she sometimes wondered whether Lu Changsheng would also show the same affection and favoritism to her own children as he did to Lu Wangshu.

Although with her as their mother, her future children would certainly not be at a disadvantage, she too hoped that Lu Changsheng, as their father, would show more favoritism to her children.

...

Lu Changsheng walked out of Changsheng Hall.

Upon seeing Lu Changsheng, Xu Ruyin, who was restrained in the air, revealed indescribably complex emotions in her beautiful eyes.

Then she pursed her lips and called out to Lu Changsheng, "Lu... Senior Lu."

"Hmm?"

Lu Changsheng, upon hearing this, looked towards Xu Ruyin and raised an eyebrow.

He wondered if she had come to a decision?

The next moment.

"Whoosh!"

An ancient talisman flew out from between Xu Ruyin's brows, and as the talisman emitted colorful light, numerous crimson specks appeared, taking on the form of a red lotus.

"Has Senior Hong Lian come to a decision?"

Lu Changsheng faced the ethereal and peerlessly elegant figure of Hong Lian, his face breaking into a smile as refreshing as a spring breeze.

"Young Master Lu, if you wouldn't mind, Hong Lian is willing to follow you..."

Hong Lian, with her slender and graceful figure, came before Lu Changsheng and offered a graceful curtsy.

Even though Lu Changsheng's cultivation was only at the level of Foundation Establishment, since she had decided to follow him, she adjusted her mindset accordingly.

After all, Lu Changsheng was the reincarnation of a mighty being starting anew.

If she still maintained an air of superiority, it might displease him.

“Senior Hong Lian...”

Xu Ruyin, seeing Hong Lian behave in such a way, bit her lower lip firmly.

In her view, one of the reasons Hong Lian was doing so was for her own sake.

“Senior Hong Lian is being too polite. Since you are willing to follow me, I, Lu, am naturally most welcoming and honored.”

Lu Changsheng said with a radiant smile, like a genteel gentleman giving others a sense of spring's warmth.

“Young Master Lu, if you don't mind, from now on, you can call me Hong Lian. It's very inappropriate to call me 'senior'.”

Hong Lian continued to speak.

Although she was many times older than Lu Changsheng, she naturally did not dare to act superior in front of him.

“Hmm?”

Lu Changsheng was inwardly surprised.



He had not expected that the mighty soul and Nascent Soul predecessor before him would be so easy to talk to?

Her attitude was almost excessively pleasant!

But since Hong Lian said so, he naturally would not demur.

After all, calling the future mother of his children ‘senior’ did indeed sound strange.

Well, though it also had a kind of charm.

“Fine, since that’s the case, I will call you Hong Lian from now on,” Lu Changsheng said, smiling and nodding. “Now that you are willing to follow me, Hong Lian, you may also put forth any conditions you may have.”

He had always believed in reciprocating respect; if others show respect to him, he would return it manifold.

Since Hong Lian was so amenable, he would be likewise.

“Thank you, Young Master!”

Hong Lian felt a touch of gratitude upon hearing Lu Changsheng’s straightforward approach.

After all, although she chose to follow Lu Changsheng for the benefits, she did not wish to seem too mercenary by making immediate demands.

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“Hong Lian only wishes for the young master to give Ruyin a chance,”

Hong Lian said with a slight sigh.

She knew that Lu Changsheng couldn't possibly let Xu Ruyin go at this moment.

In their recent conversation, after gaining a detailed understanding of Lu Changsheng's various actions and deeds, she also made some judgments in her heart.

She believed that Lu Changsheng, this person, shouldn't be some reincarnated old monster from the Demon Path or Heretical Path, and that his character was relatively decent.

...

Therefore, she had also done some ideological work with Xu Ruyin, preparing her mentally.

After all, although now they were trapped in a difficult situation, life was just so—seizing the opportunity could turn a predicament into an opportunity!

And Xu Ruyin's initiative in calling out to Lu Changsheng clearly showed she had made a decision in her heart.

“Hehe.”

Lu Changsheng laughed upon hearing this.

Then, with a smile that was not quite a smile, he turned to Xu Ruyin and said, “Right now in my Cave Heaven, I just happen to need a servant girl. In consideration of Hong Lian, as long as she is obedient and performs well, I'll honor all my previous words and will not treat her badly.”

“Thank you, young master,”

Hong Lian said, giving a deep bow, and did not continue to speak.

“Don't you have any other conditions you wish to ask for?”

Seeing this, Lu Changsheng's brow arched, thinking that the Hong Lian before him was far too agreeable.

Or rather, her attitude was unbelievably accommodating, and the process of subduing her was going too smoothly.

Logically speaking, as a Mighty Soul and a Nascent Soul True Lord, shouldn't she be full of arrogance?

But the Hong Lian before him showed not the slightest arrogance and even seemed somewhat humble, which made him somewhat uncomfortable.

"Hong Lian has not yet made any contributions to the young master, I dare not ask for too much."

"Moreover, I believe that in the future, the young master will not treat me unfairly, just as the young master promised before—to restore my body and return to the peak,"

Hong Lian said in an elegant and gentle voice.

She was dressed in a gorgeous palace gown, wearing a pearl crown, her face refined and perfect, giving off a sense of sacred nobility.

Yet, before Lu Changsheng, she was like a servant girl, offering a great sense of accomplishment.

"Alright, Hong Lian, rest assured, once the time is right, I will restore your body,"

Lu Changsheng said with a nod and a smile.

In his heart, he thought, truly worthy of being a Mighty Soul.

This attitude of maintaining a proper balance regardless of the situation made him extremely comfortable and his favorable impression soared.

“By the way, Hong Lian, at your peak, what was your cultivation level, where did you come from, and how did you end up in such a state?”

Lu Changsheng asked.

His purpose in subduing Hong Lian was mainly with the thought of making her his child’s mother.

But since she was currently in a state of soul without a physical body, she still needed to serve other purposes.

Leaving everything else aside, just having Hong Lian with her vision and strength to instruct his children would be very good.

At present, the cultivation of his children was primarily overseen by Lu Miaoyun and Ling Zixiao.

Although the two of them were capable, honestly speaking, they were not that great.

“Replying to the young master, at my peak I was at the Seventh Level of Nascent Soul, from the Northern Plains Cultivation Realm, the Vermilion Bird Palace,”

Hong Lian said softly, “As for how I ended up in such a plight...”

“Originally, my Sect’s disciples discovered a mysterious cave dwelling, suspected to be the Sect ruins of the Feathering Ice Palace from the ancient times.”

“I led the Sect’s disciples to fully explore and attempt to solve the ruins. The Ice Divine Palace attacked us during this, and in this great battle, we accidentally broke open the ruins’ restrictions.”

“As soon as the ruins were broken open, there were countless treasures bursting forth, which made both sides go completely insane, fighting one another.”

“Reflecting on it now, at that time, there was a mysterious force affecting our Mental Spirit and consciousness.”

“In that battle, I was gravely injured, and for some reason, I didn’t think of retreating. Instead of escaping into the Great Void with my Nascent Soul, I chose to self-destruct my Nascent Soul, to die alongside the enemy.”

“But at the moment of my Nascent Soul’s self-destruction, a mysterious power captured my soul. When I awoke, I was inside this Ancient Beast Taming Charm, awakened by the young lady Xu,”

Hong Lian said without hiding anything, slowly explaining how she had fallen to such a state.

She still couldn’t figure out what had happened to her at the time.

Not just her—all the people present at the scene were severely affected, leading to such an intense and devastating battle.

Otherwise, not just Nascent Soul True Lords,

but even Nascent Soul Immortals, in a battle of equals, wouldn’t fight to the death like that.

After all, everyone cultivates for Changsheng.

Once you become a Nascent Soul Immortal, you have a lifespan of five hundred years, why would you fight others to the death?

So, she also wanted to see if Lu Changsheng, this Mighty senior, might know what was going on with her situation.

“Nascent Soul Seventh Level! Northern Plains Cultivation Realm? Vermilion Bird Palace, Feathering Ice Palace, Ice Divine Palace? Self-destruction of Nascent Soul? Woke up inside an ancient charm!”

Upon hearing Hong Lian’s words, Lu Changsheng’s expression was filled with surprise and disbelief.

He had not heard of the Northern Plains Cultivation Realm, nor of the three Sects.

However, based on their names, he roughly guessed that this Northern Plains Cultivation Realm must be similar to the Southern Wilderness Cultivation Realm.

As for Hong Lian's cultivation level, Nascent Soul Seventh Level, it also surprised him a little.

Keep in mind that the number one Cultivator of Jiang Country, Li Duanxuan, was probably only at the Early Stage or Middle Stage of Nascent Soul!

Yet the Hong Lian before him was a late-stage Nascent Soul Cultivator!

This was quite astonishing.

But Hong Lian's experience also made him feel deeply moved.

A late-stage Nascent Soul Cultivator, having gone through a battle over a secret realm's ruins to the extent of self-destructing her Nascent Soul.

This was simply outrageous...

"So that's why, Hong Lian senior, you have fallen into such a situation,"

It was only then that Xu Ruyin beside him came to know of these matters.

Previously, Hong Lian had not disclosed to her why she had fallen to such a state.

"Hong Lian, is this Northern Plains Cultivation Realm similar to the Southern Wilderness Cultivation Realm?"

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Lu Changsheng inquired curiously.

"Hmm?"

Upon hearing this, Hong Lian's heart immediately filled with surprise and doubt.

She had not expected Lu Changsheng to be unaware of the Northern Wilderness Cultivation Realm.

“Young Master, as a reincarnated great being, how can you not know about the Five Great Cultivation Realms!?”

“Could it be... he is not from the Five Great Cultivation Realms, but from beyond the Five Domains?”

...

“But I have never heard that beyond the Five Domains, there are other cultivation continents?”

“However, looking at his reaction, he seems to truly be unaware of this, and even appears very astonished by this information.”

“Could it be....”

Seeing Lu Changsheng looking this way, Hong Lian's thoughts raced endlessly in her mind.

She did not continue to ponder further but spoke out to explain to Lu Changsheng, “That's right, the Northern Wilderness Cultivation Realm and the Southern Wilderness Cultivation Realm are both part of one of the Four Great Cultivation Realms.”

“Besides the Southern Wilderness Cultivation Realm and the Northern Wilderness Cultivation Realm, there are also the Eastern Sea Cultivation Realm, the Western Desert Cultivation Realm, and the Central Continent!”

Hong Lian explained this way.

“The Eastern Sea, the Western Desert, the Southern Wilderness, the Northern Wilderness, the Central Continent.”

Lu Changsheng nodded thoughtfully upon hearing this.

He had just realized how vast the Cultivation World actually was.

According to what he knew, the Southern Wilderness Cultivation Realm alone consisted of several hundred cultivation nations.

Jiang Country was but a small corner within the entire Southern Wilderness Cultivation Realm.

And apart from the Southern Wilderness, there were four other immense cultivation realms.

He did not continue to ask further.

After all, he was currently at the Foundation Establishment Stage himself and had not even ventured beyond Jiang Country Cultivation Realm, making places outside the Southern Wilderness far too distant for him.

“Hong Lian, rest assured, should the opportunity arise in the future, I will help solve the mysteries of your past and avenge you,” Lu Changsheng spoke confidently.

Although he was but a minor Foundation Establishment Cultivator, the system by his side gave him the confidence and assurance to say these words to a Nascent Soul Soul.

“Thank you, Young Master.”

Hong Lian was influenced by Lu Changsheng’s calm and self-assured demeanor, momentarily startled, still pondering over Lu Changsheng’s circumstances.

“That’s right, it must be so. There are rumors of ancient beings transcending to breakthrough their realm, reincarnating to re-cultivate their paths amidst the mortals!”

“The Young Master must be aiming to follow a path similar to that ancient Saint King of the Central Continent, with all memories sealed, reducing the essence of the Dragon Emperor Physique and the Dao of the Central Continent’s Saint King to instincts, his goals set for this life!”



“Even with the memories sealed, resembling an ordinary cultivator, this temperament and poise are clearly not something an average person could possess.”

“This also clarifies why he lingered so many years in the secular world before!”

“It must be that as the True Spirit gradually awakens, he was able to retrieve the measures prepared in the previous life, allowing him to rise steadily.”

Hong Lian mulled this over in her heart, the more she thought about it, the more it seemed plausible, guessing Lu Changsheng’s situation roughly.

This brought her some joy.

After all, serving the master was like accompanying a tiger.

Being in the presence of an old monster reincarnated from a great being truly made her anxious.

She feared offending him in some way, which might displease Lu Changsheng.

But if the other had reincarnated and did not possess memories of his previous life, her interactions with him would obviously be much more relaxed.

During this time, she could also cultivate feelings with Lu Changsheng as much as possible.

“Hong Lian, do you happen to possess any Skills? What are you proficient in?” Lu Changsheng suddenly inquired.

Besides the perspective of a Nascent Soul True Lord, which could prevent the household children from deviating in their cultivation journey, he also wanted to see what else Hong Lian knew and could teach.

“Young Master, I have some understanding of Beast Taming, Formation, Alchemy, Artifact Refining, and Talisman Making,” Hong Lian said softly.

“Some understanding?” Lu Changsheng raised his eyebrows, asking for details.

“A Third Rank top-tier Beast Tamer, Third-Order Superior Alchemist, Third Rank middle-grade Array Master, Third Rank lower-grade Artifact Refiner, Third Rank lower-grade Talisman Master,” Hong Lian stated.

As a Nascent Soul Cultivator who had lived for a thousand years,

apart from cultivating, she naturally spent time delving into various Skills.

Moreover, many Skills that proved difficult for Qi Refinement and Foundation Establishment Cultivators,

were much easier for Nascent Soul Cultivators.

Lu Changsheng: “???”

Well played, you got me there.

Is this what you call “some understanding”?

In that moment, Lu Changsheng couldn’t help but feel impressed, truly worthy of a Nascent Soul True Lord, to know so much!

To have raised five skills to the third rank! Encompassing all four mainstream Cultivation arts.

This made him curious to ask if Hong Lian, now in her soul state, was still capable of setting up arrays, refining pills, and refining artifacts.

However, this question he planned to ask later, speaking out, “Hong Lian, you’re aware of my situation, aren’t you?”

“I’m aware of some of it.”

Hong Lian nodded in response.

“Now, with so many children at home, I don’t have much time to instruct them in cultivation and skills, so I want to entrust this task to you,” Lu Changsheng contemplated aloud.

“Hong Lian will certainly fulfill the task and teach the young masters and misses of the house well!”

Hong Lian hadn’t expected Lu Changsheng to trust her so much that he would entrust such an important matter to her right from the start.

After all, if Lu Changsheng were to follow the path of the Saint King of Central Continent, establishing a kingdom within the family, these children would be the foundation.

The cultivation and education of these children were of utmost importance.

If she were able to properly instruct and nurture these children, it would be a significant contribution.

Earlier, she was still considering how she might prove her worth to Lu Changsheng.

Seeing that Lu Changsheng entrusted such an important matter to her now relieved her.

“Good, since that’s the case, the cultivation issues of the children at home will be your responsibility from now on,” Lu Changsheng declared.

He planned to organize the family’s Sutra Pavilion when the time came and let Hong Lian be in charge.

Or perhaps he would allow Lu Miaoyun to come teach the children with the ancient charm.

“Yes, Young Master,”

Hong Lian replied with a curtsy.

She then spoke, “Young Master, this ancient charm where my soul resides is named the Ancient Beast Taming Charm.”

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“It’s helpful for nurturing demon beasts. If the young master’s pet beasts need cultivating, you can entrust them to me for nurturing,”

“However, this Ancient Beast Taming Charm is very compatible with Ruyin... If possible, I hope the young master can continue to let Ruyin wear it.”

Hong Lian said this.

Upon hearing that Elder Hong Lian was still looking out for her, Xu Ruyin felt touched, and her guilt towards Hong Lian deepened.

“Ancient Beast Taming Charm? Nurturing demon beasts?”

Upon hearing this, Lu Changsheng felt a pause in his heart and his expression brightened with joy.

...

He had just been wondering whether Hong Lian, as a top-tier, Third Rank Beast Tamer, knew how to cultivate a Cold Blue Dark Turtle, a Nine Netherhound, or a Six-Winged Golden Silkworm.

Unexpectedly, Hong Lian took the initiative to mention an Ancient Beast Taming Charm that could assist in nurturing pet beasts.

“As for the matter of the Ancient Beast Taming Charm, I’ll leave it to you, Hong Lian.”

“Could you tell me what specific effects or functions this charm has?”

Lu Changsheng asked.

Although he recognized that the charm was a treasure, he didn't actually think of carrying it on himself.

Because he had many secrets.

If he carried the charm, would it not mean that Hong Lian could see everything, leaving no privacy or secrets?

After all, though Hong Lian had pledged her allegiance, he still did not trust her much and needed Mount Sumeru to keep a close watch all the time.

"Thank you, young master,"

Seeing Lu Changsheng agree so readily, Hong Lian was somewhat moved.

On one hand, she made this request hoping to protect Xu Ruyin through the charm.

On the other hand, the charm's choice of Ruyin made her speculate that there must be some reason behind it all.

She spoke up, "Currently, the charm only has two effects: taming demon beasts and nurturing them, which is why I call it the Ancient Beast Taming Charm."

"The charm likely has other secrets, like the 'Beast Technique' cultivation method that Miss Xu practices, which I obtained from this charm,"

Hong Lian said openly, without any concealment.

"Taming demon beasts, nurturing demon beasts, Beast Technique."

Lu Changsheng raised an eyebrow.

The two effects of the charm sounded simple, but he found them to be extremely powerful.

Because most Dao Soldiers are made from demon beasts!

This charm could tame and nurture demon beasts; it was simply a treasured item for cultivating Dao Soldiers!

He wanted his own Blackwater Dragon Spirit Weapon cultivated and thus asked aloud, “Hong Lian, this charm should be able to nurture Dao Soldiers, right?”

“Any Dao Soldier that is a demon beast can be nurtured, but the charm also needs to consume energy.”

“If nurturing too many Dao Soldiers, I might trouble the young master to provide Spirit Stones, and heavenly and earthly treasures, to replenish the charm’s energy,”

Hong Lian said melodiously.

“That’s not a problem, as long as it can nurture, that’s fine.”

Lu Changsheng didn’t mind the consumption of Spirit Stones or heavenly and earthly treasures.

He laughed and said, “At the moment, there is a Dao Soldier at my home that requires nurturing, and I’ll trouble you with it when the time comes.”

“By the way, may I take a look at that ‘Beast Technique’?”

Through what he knew about Xu Ruyin, he guessed that this cultivation technique involved cultivating through demon beasts.

He currently had four pet beasts!

Pet beasts like the Cold Blue Dark Turtle and the Nine Netherhound were rather underwhelming due to their slow growth.

If this cultivation technique could let someone improve talent through demon beasts, he could allow his children to practice it at home.

He could let his children use the pet beasts he obtained from system draws to practice this cultivation technique.

“Of course, you may, young master,”

Hong Lian said softly.

Then she directed the Ancient Beast Taming Charm to Lu Changsheng’s forehead, where it bloomed with colorful rays of light, and a cultivation technique emerged in Lu Changsheng’s mind.

After a while.

“

“Beast Technique, this cultivation technique is truly profound...”

Having briefly looked over the technique, Lu Changsheng couldn’t help feeling that it was incomparably mysterious.

It was completely different from the few techniques he had acquired so far.

If cultivated normally, it would be a mere common level technique.

But this technique could evolve!

Through contracting with spirit beasts, the technique could evolve and ascend in rank!

And the technique would tailor itself to the type of pet beast, fitting perfectly and thus aiding in breaking through cultivation bottlenecks!

The stronger the bloodline potential of the spirit beast, the greater the enhancement of the technique!

For example, by forming a contract with an Earth Grade Bloodline spirit beast, this technique would then be about equivalent to a custom-tailored Peripheral Sect Level technique.

If one could contract with a Heavenly-Rank Bloodline spirit beast, then the technique could be promoted to Orthodox Level!

If one could contract with a True Spirit, the technique could advance even further!

This made Lu Changsheng realize that the potential of this technique could even surpass that of Orthodox Level Cultivation Techniques!

Using it himself and contracting and refining the Mount Sumeru Tree King, he feared the technique could exceed the Orthodox Level.

However, Lu Changsheng had no intention of cultivating this technique.

Firstly, cultivating this technique was very difficult.

Not only did one need to comprehend the technique itself, but also the various accompanying techniques and divine skills would require much time to fathom.

Cultivating this technique would be far less efficient than cultivating his Seven Luminaries.

Secondly, cultivating this technique would require investing a lot of time in nurturing demon beasts.

Not to mention he didn't have this leisure.

With the current state of the spirit vein at home, Mount Sumeru wouldn't be able to obtain much growth.



So, using the Mount Sumeru Tree King for cultivation might be beneficial now, but it would become a burden later.

Thirdly, it made more sense for the children at home to cultivate this technique, as the cost-performance ratio was obviously higher.

Fourthly, Lu Changsheng still held some expectations for the advanced level draw techniques within the system.

He had obtained Orthodox Level Cultivation Techniques from the regular draws.

The techniques from the advanced draws would obviously be higher than the Orthodox Level and wouldn't be weaker than this Beast Technique!

"This technique is not bad, are there any restrictions on cultivating it?"

Lu Changsheng withdrew his divine sense and asked Hong Lian.

"Young Master, as long as one's comprehension is sufficient, and naturally if one has decent talent in beast taming, even better," said Hong Lian.

"Alright, let's leave it at that for now," said Lu Changsheng.

"Come with me to seize the spirit weapon," he said without further inquiry.

"Yes, Young Master," replied Hong Lian, before his faint form dissipated, turning into red light points that returned to the Ancient Beast Taming Charm.

The charm quietly landed in front of Lu Changsheng.

Lu Changsheng reached out and picked up the charm.

The material of this ancient charm was unknown.

Unlike gold or jade, nor like stone or wood, it felt curiously soft and comfortable in his hand.

With the charm in hand, Lu Changsheng walked out of Mount Sumeru Cave Heaven and went to his own fish farm.

Xu Ruyin felt a sense of emptiness as she saw Lu Changsheng take away the charm and leave.

But thinking about the attitude of the venerable Hong Lian in front of Lu Changsheng, she felt an indescribable sense of frustration and discomfort.

It was as if one's cherished love was taken away, powerless to stop it and having to watch as that love catered and sacrificed itself for someone else. Moreover, during the process, one had to...

It was like a knife twisting in her heart!

“

Chapter 746: Family Heritage Enhancement, Conditions to Return to the Peak!\_1

“Hong Lian, can these Dao Soldiers of mine, beings of the aquatic kind, be placed into the Ancient Beast Taming Charm?”

Lu Changsheng pointed at the Blackwater Dragon Fish and Blackwater Dragon Serpents in the fish farm and spoke aloud.

“My lord, there's no problem,”

Hong Lian communicated to Lu Changsheng through divine sense.

Subsequently, the ancient charm flew out, its colorful radiance pervading the area, collecting all twenty-one Blackwater Dragon Fish and eighteen Blackwater Dragon Serpents from the fish farm within it.

“My lord, currently, the space within the ancient charm can roughly enhance the growth rate of the Dao Soldiers by thirty percent. Should the energy be sufficient and if cultivated with full effort, the increase can reach double,”

...

Hong Lian’s voice continued to ring out.

“Thirty percent, double.”

Lu Changsheng nodded his head.

This rate of growth may sound ordinary, but in reality, it is quite exaggerated.

These demon beasts, having been refined into Dao Soldiers, are already equipped with methods of cultivation, making their growth speed faster than that of ordinary demon beasts.

On top of that, to have such an enhancement in their growth rate, it is truly astonishing.

In other words, with full effort in nurturing them, it is estimated that in thirty to forty years, a considerable number of Dao Soldiers will be able to advance to the Second Rank.

By then, Bai Ling would have already broken through the Foundation Establishment stage, commanding these Dao Soldiers, likely possessing the combat power to contend with Core Formation!

However, thinking of Bai Ling’s temperament, Lu Changsheng felt there must be a few among his children capable of cultivating the Black Dragon Codex, otherwise, it would be somewhat wasteful for these Dao Soldiers.

“Hong Lian, aside from Spirit Stones, what heavenly materials and earthly treasures do you need?”

Lu Changsheng put away the ancient charm and asked aloud.

He was not concerned whether Hong Lian wished to use this as a means to restore her soul and strength.

As long as she could properly nurture his family's spiritual beasts and Dao Soldiers, and her demand for Spirit Stones was not excessive, everything was negotiable.

After all, as long as it was within the domain of the Mount Sumeru Tree King at Bi Lake Mountain, she presumably wouldn't be able to play any tricks.

"My lord, in terms of heavenly materials and earthly treasures, mainly Monster Cores and Spiritual Medicine..."

Hong Lian spoke and indicated that the Ancient Beast Taming Charm could absorb Monster Cores and Spiritual Medicines, transforming them into some kind of Spiritual Liquid that aids in the growth of demon beasts.

"Monster Cores, Spiritual Medicines, good."

Lu Changsheng nodded once again, transforming into an escape light that returned to the Alchemy Room at Bi Yun Peak.

Seeing his daughter still sleeping soundly on the couch, his eyes revealed a touch of tenderness.

He then took out ten thousand Spirit Stones, several Monster Cores, and a pile of Spiritual Medicines from two Storage Bags.

The spoils he had obtained from the six Robber Cultivators causing trouble in Red Leaf Valley Market had not yet been dealt with or converted into Spirit Stones.

Because dealing with them was not only troublesome, but also he would have to sell at a lower price.

Right now, he was not in need of money; with his family's support, he could slowly process them or gradually sell them through other channels.

"You keep these Spirit Stones and Spiritual Medicines first, and let me know if you need more later,"

Lu Changsheng said to Hong Lian.

“Yes, my lord,”

Hong Lian responded softly.

Looking at the Pill Furnace in the center of the Alchemy Room, she felt somewhat astonished and doubtful.

She had not expected Lu Changsheng to also be skilled in Alchemy.

She had chatted with Xu Ruyin before and had not heard that Lu Changsheng possessed Alchemy Skills.

Afterwards, she saw Lu Changsheng, with his movements gentle and cautious and a face full of affection, cradle Lu Wangshu in his arms.

“Rumors say that the ‘Dragon Emperor Body’ not only makes nurturing children easier, but the offspring are also likely to be born with exceptional talents...”

As Hong Lian thought of the rumors about the Dragon Emperor Body, she had a thought.

She had previously been with Xu Ruyin and seen Lu Wangshu.

But at that time, she only sensed her from a distance and did not scrutinize her closely.

Now seeing how much Lu Changsheng doted on this daughter, Hong Lian couldn’t help but observe her seriously.

“This... this little girl, she must possess some kind of latent Spiritual Body!”

After observing for a while, Hong Lian felt a surge of astonishment as she noticed something unusual about Lu Wangshu.

Although she couldn't determine what specific Spiritual Body Lu Wangshu possessed, she could tell she likely had some kind of Spiritual Body!

This revelation left her extremely surprised.

Spiritual Bodies are rare, one in a million.

And through her conversations with Xu Ruyin, she knew that the talents of Lu Changsheng's wives and concubines were nothing noteworthy.

In such circumstances, to have a daughter casually possessing a rare and uncommon Spiritual Body was astonishing.

"Is this the power of the Dragon Emperor Body, truly terrifying..."

Hong Lian mumbled to herself, no longer doubting the truth of Lu Changsheng's Dragon Emperor Body.

Yet, she couldn't help but be curious about how many of Lu Changsheng's hundred-plus children possessed exceptional talents.

Inside the Alchemy Room, Lu Changsheng held his daughter Lu Wangshu in one arm while drawing Talismans with the other hand.

Hong Lian watched Lu Changsheng's Talisman-Making Skill flow like water, and she was mildly taken aback again.

Because she could clearly see that Lu Changsheng's Talisman-Making Skill was nearly at the level of Dao, absolutely proficient.

Even though her Talisman-Making Skill was at the Third Rank, she dared not say that she could draw Second Rank Talismans as smoothly as Lu Changsheng did.

“What kind of existence was he in his previous life? His Spiritual Root Talent is merely low-grade, yet his skills and talents are so terrifying...”

Hong Lian was inwardly astonished.

As a Nascent Soul True Monarch, there were hardly any matters that could make her stirred on a regular basis.

But today, everything about Lu Changsheng left her incessantly wondering and moved.

She felt as if the man before her was like a fog, the more she observed, the deeper and more unfathomable he seemed, making her, a Nascent Soul True Monarch, unable to see through him.

As time slowly passed, the sky began to lighten.

“Mmm~”

Lu Wangshu woke up, bleary-eyed, and stretched languidly.

Seeing that Lu Changsheng was still holding her, she immediately beamed and said cheerfully, “Daddy, good morning!”

“Hehe, you’re awake.”

Lu Changsheng looked at his daughter and his mood naturally improved as he gently pinched her chubby, fair cheek.

“Eh... Daddy, what about alchemy, the alchemy? Why didn’t you wake me up!”

Lu Wangshu looked around and, remembering about the Elixir Medicines, thought that Lu Changsheng had already finished making them, pouting in a grievance.

Chapter 747: Family Heritage Enhancement, Conditions to Return to the Peak!\_2

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“The elixir medicines aren’t ready yet, look, they will be ready soon.”

Seeing his daughter in this state, Lu Changsheng’s face showed an indulgent smile.

He then set her down and struck a series of spells towards the alchemy furnace, reactivating the sealed furnace.

As the flames in the furnace rekindled, the spiritual mechanism of the alchemy furnace surged, and Lu Changsheng exclaimed softly, “Open!”

“Boom!”

...

Billowing heat waves spread from the alchemy furnace, and after a moment, a stream of spiritual light flew out into Lu Changsheng’s hand.

“Wow, Daddy, you’re so amazing!”

“I want to see, I want to see!”

By his side, Lu Wangshu, upon seeing this, immediately clapped her hands with excitement, wanting to see the elixir medicines in Lu Changsheng’s hand.

Lu Changsheng chuckled, squatted down, and handed the crystal-clear and plump Spirit Nurturing Elixirs to his daughter to see.

“It smells so good, Daddy, can I eat one?”

Lu Wangshu said, unable to resist biting her finger as she looked at the elixir medicines.

“?”



Lu Changsheng glanced at his daughter.

Immediately, he said, “These ‘Spirit Nurturing Elixirs’ are for the turtle to eat, we can’t eat them.”

“If you want to eat, you can only eat this candy bean.”

While talking, Lu Changsheng took out an Elemental Elixir to feed to his daughter.

But Lu Wangshu still kept eyeing the Spirit Nurturing Elixirs in his hand, wanting to taste one.

In the end, Lu Changsheng, holding his daughter, left the alchemy room, fed a ‘Spirit Nurturing Elixir’ to the Cold Blue Dark Turtle, and told her that these candy beans were not for her to eat. Lu Wangshu then gave up the idea of tasting them.

Looking at the Cold Blue Dark Turtle in front of him, Lu Changsheng wondered whether to apply the Ancient Beast Taming Charm for nurturing.

But considering that his daughter would still need to feed and play with it every day, he decided against it for the time being.

He planned to visit Ruyi Prefecture later and bring the Nine Netherhound back to nurture it with the Ancient Beast Taming Charm.

Otherwise, more than twenty years had passed, and the Nine Netherhound was still at the late stage of First Grade; he didn’t know how long it would take to break through to the Second Rank.

“Hong Lian, in your current state, are you still able to refine elixirs or cast techniques?”

After handing his daughter to Qu Zhenzhen, Lu Changsheng asked Hong Lian.

If Hong Lian was currently able to perform alchemy, artifact refining, talisman making, and array setting, it would be of great help to him and to the entire Bi Lake Mountain.

“My lord, in my current state, my spirit is weakened, and I cannot stay away from the Ancient Beast Taming Charm for long, so I can only refine some simple elixir medicines.”

“If my lord’s needs aren’t high, I can do a bit of alchemy, artifact refining, talisman making, and array setting.”

Hong Lian said so.

“Good, later I will give you the cultivation method of the spirit weapon, and from now on, you will handle this matter.” Lu Changsheng said, planning to entrust the nurturing of the Blackwater Dragon Spirit Weapon to Hong Lian.

“Yes, my lord.”

Hong Lian responded.

Back in Mount Sumeru Cave Heaven.

Lu Changsheng looked at Xu Ruyin, who was still bound in the air with her delicate and cold features, shining supple hair, snow-white radiant skin, wearing only a fiery red dress with golden phoenix embroidery, her expression one of amusement, and said, “Miss Xu, have you decided?”

Xu Ruyin shuddered upon hearing this and, after a long while, said in a low voice, “I... I have decided.”

“Decided what?”

Lu Changsheng’s eyebrows raised as he asked.

“Sigh.”

Hong Lian within the Ancient Beast Taming Charm sighed softly.

She knew that at this juncture, it was all up to Xu Ruyin herself.

If she could overcome this obstacle, she could turn a dire situation into an opportunity.

If not, there was nothing Hong Lian could do to help.

“I am willing to serve Lu... Master, as a slave and a maid,” Xu Ruyin said with clenched teeth, struggling through her words.

The time Lu Changsheng had left with Hong Lian felt like years to her, as she was constantly battling internally.

She knew that Lu Changsheng and Senior Hong Lian were right.

She was indeed a captive.

Hoping to leave this place clean and unscathed was simply not possible.

He could easily have her if he wanted.

What was the point of her struggling?

So, she could only hope that he would keep his promises, which would be a considerable fortune amidst the misfortune.

“Mount Sumeru.”

Lu Changsheng watched as Xu Ruyin lowered her proud head and chuckled lightly.

In an instant, Xu Ruyin, who had been bound, fell from the air; her long, snow-white legs slightly wobbled, and she stumbled as she landed in front of Lu Changsheng, causing her chest to quiver.

“Truly pitiable. I remember when I first met Miss Xu at the Zheng Family, she had an air of elegant nobility,” Lu Changsheng said as he stood in front of Xu Ruyin, the two of them very close to each other, nearly brushing her delicate nose.

He extended his hand, stroked her forehead gently, and twined a few strands of her fiery red shiny hair around his finger, saying, "To transform the esteemed pearl of the Xu Family into an obedient and docile maidservant has indeed some unique allure for Lu."

"...."

Upon hearing these words, Xu Ruyin felt a sharp pain in her heart.

Her proud self-esteem seemed to be trampled by Lu Changsheng.

Once upon a time, she was the esteemed pearl of the Xu Family.

Whether it was within the family or outside, everyone was courteous to her, let alone touching her like this.

And now, she was being played with at will by Lu Changsheng.

She wanted to slap his hand away and reprimand him fiercely.

But she knew that Lu Changsheng was doing this on purpose, to make her submit, so she had to endure it.

"Miss Xu, do you know the proper attitude of a maidservant?"

Lu Changsheng eyed Xu Ruyin, who stood tall and graceful, with disheveled hair and a strong, defiant look in her eyes. He lifted her delicate chin teasingly and said.

Yet, in his heart, he couldn't help but feel a dark desire that every man harbors, to pull a high-born fairy down to hell, to dominate and play with her at will.

Although the Xu Ruyin before him did not possess the untouchable and lofty status of a fairy,

As the pearl of the Xu Family, her status was indeed noble!

Especially during their first meeting, she left him with a rather good impression.

Thus, seeing her currently standing in front of him with a stubborn and humiliated expression, being toyed by him, truly had its own unique flavor.

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However, he knew that Xu Ruyin before him still required proper training.

“...”

In Xu Ruyin’s stubborn and beautiful eyes, confusion and helplessness emerged.

As a young lady of her family, how could she possibly know what the attitude of a maidservant was like.

Yet, thinking of how the maids at home served her, her slender, jade-like hands clenched into fists, and she bit her lip.

...

Eventually, with a trembling figure, she knelt before Lu Changsheng, bowing down, “Ruyin... pays her respects to the young master.”

“Hmm!?”

Lu Changsheng was somewhat surprised.

He didn’t expect Xu Ruyin to adapt so quickly.

He stroked his chin and said with a light laugh, "Take off your clothes."

Xu Ruyin didn't speak; her soft and fair jade arms lifted, somewhat trembling as she undid her undergarments.

With the undergarments falling to the floor and resting on her beautiful feet, her naked, exquisite body was fully revealed.

"Tsk, tsk, tsk, this adaptability, this change of heart, truly is extraordinary."

"But even here it is fiery red..."

Lu Changsheng regarded the seductive figure of Xu Ruyin before him, clicking his tongue inwardly.

However, even though Xu Ruyin seemed submissive, kneeling before him, there was still a trace of haughtiness and inviolability in her expression.

Not at all like the maids in the White Jade Tower who had been trained, their eyes dull and lifeless.

"But having light in her eyes, slowly training her myself, seems more interesting."

Lu Changsheng touched his chin and said.

Xu Ruyin, though incapable of actively flirting and serving in a charming manner, even clumsy and inexperienced in serving,

if she were to completely submit under his training, it seemed to him that there could indeed be a different kind of interest and sense of achievement.

"That's enough, tidy yourself up. Just stand by the side, I will call you if there's anything I need,"

Lu Changsheng, feeling somewhat heated at the sight of the enticing body before him, said to Xu Ruyin.

He didn't directly pluck the tempting fruit before him.

After all, such things are more interesting when done slowly.

And he didn't want Xu Ruyin to change so noticeably all at once.

After speaking, he returned the Ancient Beast Taming Charm to Xu Ruyin.

He didn't want to go too far, it was also to give Hong Lian some respect.

The Ancient Beast Taming Charm returned to the sea of consciousness in Xu Ruyin's forehead.

Hong Lian said nothing, knowing that at this time, Xu Ruyin needed to be left alone quietly.

Xu Ruyin also didn't speak, her expression wooden.

She knew the moment she called for Lu Changsheng to stay, she could only obediently listen and cooperate.

In fact, deep down, she didn't have the courage to resist Lu Changsheng.

After all, even the senior Hong Lian had submitted to Lu Changsheng, her resistance would be nothing but self-inflicted suffering.

"Mmm~ My lord..."

In the grand hall's bedroom, Ling Zixiao was suddenly embraced by Lu Changsheng and let out a soft whine through her nostrils.

...

Three days later, Lu Changsheng returned to Ruyi Prefecture for a while and brought the Nine Netherhound back to Bi Lake Mountain.

“This... another Heavenly-Rank Bloodline Demon Beast!”

Hong Lian was shocked to see Lu Changsheng bringing back a Heavenly-Rank Bloodline Demon Beast.

Although to her, a Nascent Soul True Lord, a Heaven-Rank beast was not exceedingly rare, it wasn't commonplace either.

Xu Ruyin also saw the Nine Netherhound.

This caused her to be shocked, and at the same time, to believe in Lu Changsheng's words a bit more.

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After all, Lu Changsheng had already revealed three Heavenly-Rank Bloodline Demon Beasts and one True Spirit Level Demon Beast.

Who knew if there were any more Heavenly-Rank Demon Beasts.

As long as she behaved and performed well, it didn't seem like a big deal to give herself one.

Subsequently, Lu Changsheng briefly explained the situation with Hong Lian to Lu Miaoyun.

He stated that for the children's cultivation, they should consult with Hong Lian directly.

On the first day of each month, they would bring the Ancient Beast Taming Charm to their children for cultivation guidance and pointers.

At the same time, Lu Changsheng gave Hong Lian the cultivation methods of the Blackwater Dragon Spirit Weapon as well as all other techniques from the system.



After all, in order to have Hong Lian give guidance in cultivation, he definitely had to pass on the techniques to her.

Faced with this situation, Hong Lian forthwith disclosed her inheritance from Vermilion Bird Palace.

It included two Orthodox Level Cultivation Techniques, seven Peripheral Sect Level Cultivation Techniques, more than ten Exquisite Level Cultivation Methods, and the inheritance of five Third Rank Skills.

One could say that with this contribution from Hong Lian, Lu Changsheng's family became the number one in Jiang Country regarding the foundation of cultivation techniques!

"Would this be too much?"

Seeing Hong Lian disclose so many inheritances, Lu Changsheng said somewhat apologetically.

"Hong Lian is now the Young Master's person; these techniques and inheritances naturally belong to the Young Master,"

Hong Lian said deferentially.

"The favor of a lady is indeed hard to accept."

Lu Changsheng felt somewhat at a loss due to Hong Lian's actions.

After all, he had promised to restore her physical body and bring her back to her peak.

But now he hadn't done anything yet, and here Hong Lian was, starting to cultivate Demon Beast Dao Soldiers for him and teach his children.

Moreover, she contributed so many techniques and inheritances all at once, which really made him feel a bit embarrassed.

“Hong Lian, you are now only left with your divine soul. If you want to restore your body and return to the peak, just the ‘Soul Fusion Resurrection Elixir’ might not be enough, right?”

Lu Changsheng asked Hong Lian.

“Young Master, with the Soul Fusion Resurrection Elixir, as long as I have a body, I will be able to merge with it and come back to life.”

“However, in such a state, returning to the peak would be almost hopeless. To return to the peak, I must have a suitable body that can match and accommodate my divine soul.”

“Moreover, my divine soul is currently weak. I can only rely on the Ancient Beast Taming Charm for nourishment, and to return to the peak and perfectly fuse with a body, my divine soul must also recover to its peak.”

Hong Lian spoke, her voice tinged with bitterness.

With the ‘Soul Fusion Resurrection Elixir,’ resurrection was simple for her.

The challenge was returning to her peak strength!

If she randomly chose a body and took the Soul Fusion Resurrection Elixir, not to mention returning to her peak, even returning to the Nascent Soul stage would be hopeless.

“A suitable body? Restoring the divine soul?”

Hearing this, Lu Changsheng’s brows raised and he said, “What exactly qualifies as a suitable body?”

“Young Master, for example, the bones of a Nascent Soul Cultivator can be used to refine an external incarnation of spiritual objects from heaven and earth, or a body shaped by some heavenly materials and treasures,”

Hong Lian, knowing that Lu Changsheng was unfamiliar with these details, explained.

“The bones of a Nascent Soul Cultivator, refining an external incarnation of spiritual objects from heaven and earth, a body shaped by heavenly materials and treasures.”

Upon hearing this, Lu Changsheng’s mouth twitched.

He felt that, aside from relying on the system, it was nearly impossible for him to obtain these items at the moment.

He spoke, “Alright, I will keep an eye out for these things for you.”

Although he wouldn’t immediately resurrect Hong Lian even if he had such treasures now, he naturally couldn’t speak poorly given her expression of intent.

“Thank you, Young Master.”

Hong Lian’s voice was soft and pleasing as she spoke.

In addition to the matter of mentoring the children, upon seeing Ling Zixiao still setting up the ‘Divine Wood Great Formation’ by herself, Lu Changsheng promptly asked Hong Lian to assist Ling Zixiao with the formation and exchange knowledge about formations with her in their spare time.

After all, as a Third-Rank Array Master, Hong Lian’s pointers would be greatly beneficial to Ling Zixiao.

Chapter 749: The Auction Begins, Heavenly Longevity Technique Mastered!\_1

Before she knew it, more than a month had passed.

With Hong Lian present, Lu Miaoyun’s guidance on her children’s cultivation became much simpler.

However, even with Hong Lian, not all of her children started cultivating top-tier Cultivation Techniques.

Most were still cultivating Exquisite Level Cultivation Techniques, and even Advanced Level ones.

For the majority, unless one had an exceptional talent and a perfect affinity, forcibly cultivating Peripheral Sect Level or even Orthodox Level top-tier Cultivation Techniques would yield minimal progress, despite succeeding in the initial stages, due to its inefficiency and unworthiness.

During this time, Lu Changsheng had no particular arrangements for Xu Ruyin.

...

He simply let her serve like a maid, carrying tea and water, massaging and bathing, and occasionally teasing her to add some joy to the mundane days.

Since the auction at Red Leaf Valley Market was approaching.

On this day, Lu Changsheng, accompanied by his wife Lu Miaohuan and Qu Zhenzhen, his children Lu Ping'an, Lu Xianzhi, Lu Quanzhen, Lu Qingsong, Lu Wangshu, and others, arrived at Red Leaf Valley Market to attend the auction.

Because of the fame of Lu Changsheng and Lu Miaoge, coupled with nearly half a year's build-up by the marketplace, Red Leaf Valley Market had attracted a great number of cultivators, making it much livelier.

"You guys go have a look around on your own,"

Lu Changsheng said to Lu Ping'an and his siblings as he held onto his daughter Lu Wangshu.

Bi Lake Mountain had been in a semi-closed state for over three years, and the children had not left during that time.

Now that they rarely went out, he naturally let them roam freely.

Furthermore, with no movement from Xiahou Wuwo in over three years, Lu Changsheng also planned to lift the semi-closed state of the mountain, allowing some of his children to go out.

After all, if Xiahou Wuwo did not appear, he couldn't keep his children confined to the Family forever.

Many of the Family's businesses gradually needed the children to start managing them.

Moreover, in the past few years, through the collection of Talisman Making materials, he had nurtured over a dozen rare Third Rank Spirit Talismans by using the Talisman Nurturing Method.

When the time came, he could implant Life-saving Talismans into some of his children who were going out.

"Yes, Father!"

"Thank you, Father!"

The siblings replied to Lu Changsheng.

Lu Xianzhi and Lu Ruyi, who had lived in Red Leaf Valley Marketplace for a while in the early years, introduced the marketplace to their older brother, younger brother, and sisters.

Lu Changsheng strolled through the market with his wives, checking on the businesses owned by his family.

At that moment, walking through the marketplace, he encountered countless cultivators who showed him respect, admiration, envy, and infatuation.

Many young girls and female cultivators' eyes seemed to glisten with water as they glanced at Lu Changsheng.

If he were willing at that moment, he could probably just signal, and many female cultivators would eagerly offer to become his concubines.

This was not because his charm had increased.

He had always contained the charm that emanated from him at all times.

But as his fame and status grew, so did his charm rise to a whole new level.

Lu Changsheng arrived at Peace Talisman Hall.

Under Gao He's management and Lu Changsheng's reputation, Peace Talisman Hall had become the number one Spirit Talisman shop in Red Leaf Valley Market.

"Old Gao, you've worked hard these years. If you're thinking of retiring, you can come to Bi Lake Mountain,"

Lu Changsheng said as he saw his old friend Gao He.

The two knew each other for more than two decades. Gao He, now in his sixties, looked quite elderly with grey hair and numerous wrinkles.

His once full face was now thinner, but the traces of his former robustness remained visible.

"Thank you for the kind offer, boss,"

Gao He replied respectfully, looking at the eternally youthful, outstanding man in a blue robe before him.

He rarely saw Lu Changsheng these years.

But with every meeting, as he himself grew older and saw the forever young Lu Changsheng, he couldn't help but be filled with emotion.

Who could have imagined that the son-in-law of the Lu Family, with whom he once bragged and discussed the Talisman Path, would now become a patriarch of a territory?

After briefly discussing the shop's situation, Lu Changsheng left with his wives and concubines.

Upon seeing Lu Miaoge, Lu Changsheng asked, “Sister Miaoge, how is the collection of materials for your Water of Virtue Container and the Taichi Talisman going?”

“The materials for the Water of Virtue Container have been gathered; the Taichi Talisman is still missing two components,”

Lu Miaoge responded softly.

However, she would still need an Artifact Refiner to craft her Life-bound Spiritual Artifact.

“After the auction is over, I will craft it for you,”

Lu Changsheng said.

Because of the Cultivation Technique inheritance from the system, he had mastered crafting the Life-bound Spiritual Artifact related to the Water of Virtue Technique.

He could help Lu Miaoge craft the embryo of the Spiritual Artifact.

“Okay~”

Lu Miaoge, somewhat astonished, still chose to trust Lu Changsheng and nodded in agreement.

...

Five days later, the auction officially began.

Lu Yuanzhong, Bai Yunyang, Elder Ancestor of the Xu Family, and many powerful families from the surrounding area, along with a good number of Foundation Establishment Loose Cultivators, came to Red Leaf Valley Market to join the auction.

Because the auction had been hyped up for so long, several major families brought out many valuable items.

Lu Changsheng also took out some Second Rank Talismans as finale items.

“Greetings to Lu Mountain Lord! Madam Lu!”

“Daoist Zhao, Daoist Lin, Daoist Li, Daoist Xiao...”

Lu Changsheng, with his wife and holding his daughter Lu Wangshu, greeted and made small talk with the Foundation Establishment Ancestors from other family powers.

During this time, he spotted Xu Renguang.

The man’s expression carried a trace of worry.

Through casual conversation, Lu Changsheng learned that Xu Renguang was troubled because his granddaughter Xu Ruyin had run away from home, which gave Lu Changsheng a peculiar feeling.

After all, his granddaughter Xu Ruyin was currently acting as a maid in his own home.

“Thank you all, esteemed seniors and friends, for joining us. I’m Lu Quanzhen (Bai Yujun), honored to host the auction today... I wish everyone can obtain what they wish for...”

After the audience nearly filled the venue, a man and a woman stepped onto the stage of the auction.

The man was about twenty years old, wearing an elegant blue brocaded robe, with refined and handsome features, and long, deep eyes.

Chapter 750: The Auction Begins, Heavenly Longevity Technique Mastered!\_2

The girl was around eighteen or nineteen years old, clad in a white, gorgeous dress, with a slender figure and a sweet, pretty face.

Now the Lu Family of Blue Lake Mountain was nearly leading the four great families, which was why the auction was hosted by people dispatched by Lu Changsheng.



Hence, Lu Changsheng picked among his children and had his son Lu Quanzhen oversee it.

As for Bai Yujun, she was a daughter of the Bai Family from Hundred Birds Lake.

Lu Changsheng felt it somewhat improper for his family to have full control over the entire process.

By having the Bai Family arrange for someone to appear, it would just so happen to make a paired set with one male and one female.

...

“Husband, this young lady looks quite a match for Quanzhen.”

Qu Zhenzhen, standing nearby, saw her son with the Bai family girl on stage, and excitement flashed across her face.

She had always been urging her son, Lu Quanzhen, to marry.

But her son avoided her every day, which led her to try matchmaking whenever she saw him near any girl.

“Hehe.”

Lu Changsheng did not wish to get involved in this topic.

Because if he responded to Qu Zhenzhen even briefly, she would surely act coquettishly and have him go and work on Lu Quanzhen’s mindset.

Caught between being both a husband and a father, he found himself in a difficult position.

“Mom, brother really doesn’t want to get married. If you say something, he will just avoid you even more, and it’s still early.”

Lu Caizhen put an arm around her mother's and spoke in defense of her brother.

After all, Lu Quanzhen was somewhat stern on normal days, but he was extremely caring towards his younger brothers and sisters.

"What do you mean it's early? Your Yun brother is a year younger than Quanzhen, and he already has three children!"

"And you're not young anymore either, you can't be like your brother."

Qu Zhenzhen said somewhat grievously.

Hearing this, Lu Caizhen's head shrank, and she immediately went quiet, fearing the fire might be drawn to herself.

Sisters Lu Miaoge and Lu Miaohuan nearby both smiled at this scene.

Watching Lu Quanzhen hosting the auction on stage brought Lu Miaohuan to think of her eldest son, Lu Qingshan.

Compared to her somewhat more honest younger son, Lu Qingsong, she favored the normally mischievous Lu Qingshan more.

After all, her son might be naughty, but he brought joy to their daily lives, often cheerfully brightening up his mother's mood.

Moreover, she hadn't seen this son for nearly five years.

"Hm, Huanhuan, what's wrong?"

Lu Changsheng, with his keen perception, noticed that his wife, Lu Miaohuan, suddenly seemed a bit downcast.

"It's nothing."

Lu Miaohuan came back to her senses and spoke softly.

Even though she longed to visit her son at the Jinyang Sect in Yue Country, she knew the current family circumstances prevented Lu Changsheng and Lu Miaoge from leaving.

Lu Changsheng held her delicate and fair hand without uttering a word.

Knowing that Lu Miaohuan missed her son Lu Qingshan.

Over the years, Lu Miaohuan often found herself thinking of this son.

“The first item for auction, ‘War Beast Puppet,’ crafted by our Blue Lake Mountain Lu Family, is a First Grade top-quality item, capable of offense and defense, with excellent speed, and inscribed with several techniques....”

At this moment, Lu Quanzhen had started to introduce the first item up for auction.

This was a puppet crafted by the Blue Lake Mountain Puppet Workshop.

However, it couldn’t yet be mass-produced, so it was being used for promotional purposes, to build a reputation.

“Quanzhen is doing quite well, his management of his first auction is orderly and composed.”

Lu Miaoge voiced her praise.

“Quanzhen indeed handles this aspect very well, I was planning to have Xianzhi take charge, but in such occasions, his personality makes him too rigid and prone to stage fright.”

Lu Changsheng, reclining on a soft chair, nodded in agreement.

Qu Zhenzhen, as a mother, beamed with happiness when she heard her son being praised.

Besides not listening to her teachings, in other aspects, her son indeed gave her peace of mind, which made her proud.

Especially the way he treated his younger brothers and sisters regularly reminded her of her own elder brother, Qu Changge.

Time passed bit by bit; the auction was divided into three sessions and lasted three days before concluding, and the scale was anything but small.

But the Red Leaf Valley Market was, after all, just an auction held by a few Foundation Establishment families, so the grade of the auction items was limited.

Lu Changsheng didn't think it was appropriate to offer too rare items.

For example, the treasure map he prepared for auction. After some deliberation, he decided against auctioning it.

Otherwise, he only needed to produce a single Foundation Establishment Elixir and start advertising the treasure maps, and the auction might have been ten times busier.

After the auction ended, Lu Changsheng and the other three families had already negotiated to open some beneficial regulations for the Market, trying their best to retain some of the traffic.

Also, after the auction, Lu Changsheng and the ancestral figures of other families, as well as Loose Cultivators at the Foundation Establishment level, held a trade meeting.

Even though he didn't find what he wanted, he managed to gather the two materials needed for Lu Miaoge to refine her Life-bound Spiritual Artifact, the Taichi Talisman.

“Father-in-law, how is the situation with the Foundation Establishment at home progressing?”

Upon seeing Lu Yuanding, Lu Changsheng asked about the Foundation Establishment at Qingzhu Mountain.

“The family recently spent a significant sum to purchase a ‘Earth Fire Essence.’

“Mu Ping has a fire spiritual root and switched to practicing the Green Wood Solar Flame Technique, so this Earth Fire Essence suits him well.”

“Moreover, Miao Feng, due to past events, is also considering making concessions, planning to go out and try his luck on his own.”

Lu Yuanding said with a slight sigh.

He too was quite troubled about the Foundation Establishment for these two individuals.

Lu Miao Feng had a Fourth Grade Spiritual Root and had already attempted Foundation Establishment once, making his odds of breaking through considerably higher.

But due to his previous Foundation Establishment failure, Lu Miao Feng might encounter a Heart Demon, feel excessive pressure, fear another failure, and disappoint the family expectations.

Compared to Lu Miao Feng, Lu Muping was only forty years old and even younger.

“Mm.”

Lu Changsheng nodded, without interjecting further.

Since the chances of both individuals breaking through to Foundation Establishment were closely matched, Qingzhu Mountain was more concerned about the situation than he was.