

I. Family 901

Chapter 901: Xiao Xiyue Returns! Preparing to Propose Marriage!

Time flew swiftly, and in the blink of an eye, three months had passed.

During this period, Lu Changsheng had been at home, spending time with his wife, concubines, and children.

Out of the fifteen concubines he had recently taken, three had succeeded in becoming pregnant under his cultivation.

Although the efficiency of this process could not be considered fast, it certainly could not be called slow.

There was no need to rush such matters as if completing a task.

To be overly purposeful could lead to a loss of enjoyment.

Like reading a book or savoring tea, it required a slow appreciation, a gentle exploration, to fully comprehend and savor its charm and delights.

In these three months, the Beast Taming Xu Family, as mentioned by Xu Ruyin, had been quiet.

This was normal.

The Xu Family, such a large clan, was not foolish; they could see that Golden Dragon Ridge harbored intentions of using them as a pawn in their scheme.

Moreover, the Third Ancestor of the Xu Family had only set his sights on Bi Lake Mountain and Lu Changsheng.

There was no urgency for him to come knocking on their door seeking trouble.

Even if he was known for not minding his reputation and liked to bully those weaker than him, he would still look for an excuse to act, not doing so without cause.

On the other hand, the Jin Family had been suppressing the White Tiger Mountain's industries in secret during this time, leading the Mo Family and Ning Family to send messages to discuss strategies with Lu Changsheng.

In light of this situation, Lu Changsheng naturally expressed solidarity with them in their enmity against the Jin Family and condemned their actions.

But that was as far as it went—mere condemnation.

After all, the Jin Family was only suppressing their business and had not done anything like secretly destroying mine sites, medicine gardens, or committing robbery. What could they do against them?

That day, at the Lu Family Mansion.

Lu Changsheng was cradling his daughter, Lu Linghe, while chatting with his wives and concubines.

This daughter, although not yet a year old, had a physique unlike ordinary infants and was extremely lively, climbing all over Lu Changsheng like a little monkey.

Ling Zixiao's son, Lu Lingxiao, watched quietly as his sister crawled around.

His clear eyes, with pupils reflecting the bright sunshine, seemed to have a faint golden luster.

“Master...”

At that moment, the voice of Mount Sumeru rang in Lu Changsheng's mind, informing him that the Spirit Vein had been successfully nurtured.

“Ah, it's done.”

Lu Changsheng responded, his eyebrows raising slightly.

Two Spiritual Eye Springs, and in order to prevent accidents or sudden needs, he had chosen to keep one continuing within the Cave Heaven and had not cultivated a new Spirit Vein for Bi Lake Mountain.

He had merely used the Spiritual Spring acquired from the Wu Jing Mine Site to create a Spirit Vein in the Cave Heaven.

Upon hearing this news, he promptly picked up his crawling daughter and handed her over to his daughter Lu Wangshu to take care of her.

Lu Wangshu's personality was lively and cheerful, she could converse with anyone.

However, Lu Changsheng could feel that there was a subtle barrier between Lu Wangshu and most of her siblings.

It wasn't that she looked down on them.

It was just a pure lack of intimacy from the heart.

Many times, their happy conversations were somewhat out of politeness and courtesy.

People like Lu Quanzhen, although having a generally ordinary relationship with most siblings, were still very close to Lu Xianzhi, Lu Yun, Lu Yu, Lu Caizhen, and others.

Thus, Lu Changsheng still hoped his daughter would have a few siblings to whom she was very close.

"Sister..."

Lu Linghe, not shy at all, called out in her baby voice once she was in the arms of Lu Wangshu.

Her chubby little hands reached out for her sister's hair, eliciting a helpless expression from Lu Wangshu.

But with their father handing over the child and Auntie Ling Zixiao present, she did not make a fuss.

After all, she was very close to people like Lu Miaoge, Lu Miaoyun, and Qu Zhenzhen, akin to mother and child relationships, but she rarely interacted with Ling Zixiao.

Ling Zixiao had always preferred solitude and had only gradually become more sociable after becoming pregnant and having a child. Now, she often brought her child over to the Lu Family Mansion.

...

"Indeed, it's a First Grade top-grade Spirit Vein."

Lu Changsheng went to the Mount Sumeru Cave Heaven to inspect the newly created Spirit Vein.

Seeing that the result of the Spiritual Spring was as he had anticipated.

However, the mere creation of a First Grade top-grade Spirit Vein had already caused a slight change in the Cave Heaven, as if it had grown slightly larger.

"Mount Sumeru, with one more Spirit Vein, has there been any enhancement or aid to your growth?"

Lu Changsheng asked Mount Sumeru.

The entity could grow through the absorption of the world within itself, benefiting in turn.

He was curious about how much of a help it would be to Mount Sumeru to have one more First Grade top-grade Spirit Vein.

Immediately, Mount Sumeru conveyed that it had a limited effect on its growth and had not increased by much.

The main outcome was that the Cave Heaven had slightly expanded, enhancing its power a bit.

“It seems that to have the Cave Heaven truly nourish itself for a significant boost, it would have to be cultivated like an Immortal City.”

Lu Changsheng murmured to himself, thinking of Azure Phoenix Immortal City and Jiuxiao Immortal City.

If he could cultivate the Mount Sumeru Cave Heaven to that extent, he estimated that Mount Sumeru itself could suppress a Nascent Soul True Lord.

Yet such a precious and rare Spiritual Eye Spring only resulted in a small to medium-sized Spirit Vein.

To nurture something on the scale of an Immortal City’s large Third-Order Spirit Vein, he would either need to extract Spirit Vein Origins from the Great Immortal Sects or several Immortal Cities.

Otherwise, it would be difficult to cultivate to that level even with the good fortune of system lotteries.

“Mount Sumeru, take these Spirit Vein Origins.”

Lu Changsheng took out the Tri-footed Bronze Cauldron, containing the Spirit Vein Origin from White Tiger Mountain.

“Thank you, Master.”

Mount Sumeru, akin to a deity of the Cave Heaven, controlled it perfectly and did not require external Spirit Lands to cultivate Spirit Veins.

It was capable of extracting the Spirit Vein Origin and using it to nurture itself.

“With these Spirit Vein Origins, this Spirit Vein is sufficiently leveled up to Second Rank.”

“In that case, we can also cultivate some Spiritual Medicines and Spirit Plants in the Cave Heaven.”

Lu Changsheng stroked his chin, planning what to plant in the Cave Heaven.

It wasn't really for the purpose of cultivating Spiritual Medicines or Spirit Plants, he simply thought of embellishing the Cave Heaven.

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In the Cave Heaven, other than green grass, the pond formed by the Spiritual Spring, and the Changsheng Hall, there was nothing else, which truly made it a bit monotonous.

After checking the situation, he went back to the Lu Family Mansion.

Seeing his daughter Lu Wangshu looking helpless due to Lu Linghe's mischief, he couldn't help but burst into laughter.

After all, he rarely saw his daughter in such a helpless and disheartened manner.

Shortly after, Lu Changsheng picked up his daughter Lu Linghe, briefly inquired about Lu Wangshu's cultivation progress, and then let her go play on her own.

Seeing Lu Wangshu hastily flying toward Bi Shui Lake on her artifact, Lu Changsheng sighed softly, inevitably thinking of Xiao Xiyue.

The Core Formation Grand Ceremony of Chu Qingyi had ended, and Xiao Xiyue had gone with her to explore the Secret Realm in the Luoyun Mountain Range, which was already two years ago.

Over these two years, Xiao Xiyue had not returned even once.

She only wrote one or two letters, expressing her longing and that she was temporarily unable to leave.

Although for a cultivator, two years was a very short period of time,

For Lu Changsheng, regarding Lu Wangshu, who was only seventeen years old now, two years felt very long.

“I wonder what the situation in the Luoyun Mountain Range is now.”

Lu Changsheng looked up at the sky, took a deep breath, and then exhaled deeply.

He had been paying attention to the situation in the Luoyun Mountain Range.

But the place was under a blockade, and no information could be transmitted from there, leaving him clueless about the situation.

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Luoyun Mountain Range.

A base enveloped by a faint Formation.

“Master, are you alright?”

Chu Qingyi and Xiao Xiyue looked at their master with concern.

“Phew, I’m fine.”

Yun Wanshang, with her resplendent and pale face, gently raised her hand and spoke.

Then, looking toward her disciple Chu Qingyi, who had a high-cold demeanor and wore a snow-white sword robe, she said with slightly parted red lips, “Qingyi, now that the prohibitions in the Secret Realm have been broken, you’ll take charge here and lead the exploration.”

“I need to return to the Sect to heal.”

Yun Wanshang spoke like this.

Although she said she was not seriously harmed, her current condition clearly wasn't suitable for continuing to oversee the exploration of the Secret Realm.

She needed to return to the Qingyun Sect to heal more rapidly and thus not affect her foundation.

Moreover, having her disciple Chu Qingyi in charge of the exploration here, she felt very reassured.

“Yes, Master.”

Chu Qingyi nodded in response, continuing with concern, “Master, shall I escort you back to the Sect?”

“There's no need, my condition isn't severe enough for that.”

Yun Wanshang's pale face maintained its majestic composure, as she authoritatively said, “Qingyi, should anyone else from our Sect come here, remember, the command is in your hands.”

This Secret Realm was first discovered by her, and she had even competed with the Luoxia Sect to claim ownership.

Now, after investing so much effort and even getting injured, she absolutely wouldn't allow any situation where others could reap what she had sown!

“Please rest assured, Master, Qingyi understands!”

Chu Qingyi raised her sharp eyebrows, her beautiful face expressing a frigid solemnity.

She had become a Core Formation Immortal, naturally not just some naive girl.

She understood that cultivation was a struggle within the Great Dao!

Even within the same Sect, there was constant competition.

This Secret Realm was very special and beneficial to both herself and her master.

Having spent so much time and effort, they naturally wouldn't allow others to walk away with their hard-earned benefits.

“Mm.”

Yun Wanshang nodded and then looked toward Xiao Xiyue, who was wearing a moon-white dress, “Xi Yue, continue exploring the Secret Realm with your senior sister.”

“If you can make some gains, it will assist you in your future Core Formation.”

Although Xiao Xiyue was only at the Fifth Layer of Foundation Establishment, with Core Formation still far away,

Such matters naturally needed early preparation.

After all, even though Xiao Xiyue was her disciple, requesting a Coagulation Crystal Elixir and Core Formation Spiritual Object from the Sect would be very difficult in the future.

She needed to rely on her own efforts and make significant contributions to the Sect to be convincing and make her request.

This, now, was an opportunity.

As long as Xiao Xiyue worked diligently in this Secret Realm along with them, once they reported their achievements to the Sect, it would be considered a significant merit.

“Master, let me escort you back.”

Upon hearing this, Xiao Xiyue suddenly lifted her head, biting her lips lightly.

She had been here for over two years now and was eager to avail this opportunity to return to Bi Lake Mountain to visit Lu Changsheng and her daughter, Lu Wangshu.

Yun Wanshang, noticing her disciple's reaction,

As a Nascent Soul Immortal, had a very sharp Spiritual Sense.

At this moment, she clearly sensed that her disciple's state of mind was somewhat disturbed, her eyes revealing a touch of tenderness.

Theoretically, this kind of emotional disturbance shouldn't occur in Xiao Xiyue, who practiced the "Supreme Forgetful Love Technique."

However, as her master, she naturally understood why her disciple felt this way.

"Sigh!"

Yun Wanshang silently sighed in her heart.

She regretted having Xiao Xiyue cultivate the Supreme Forgetful Love Technique

And regretted agreeing to Xiao Xiyue's decision back then.

But now, things had reached this point, and it wasn't good to say anything more.

She could only let nature take its course and hope that Xiao Xiyue would break through all on her own.

Although to her, it seemed extremely difficult for her disciple to overcome this, the likelihood appeared bleak.

“Alright.”

Yun Wanshang watched Xiao Xiyue for a moment and then nodded her approval.

“Thank you, Master.”

Upon hearing this, Xiao Xiyue immediately expressed her gratitude.

Chu Qingyi, somewhat surprised, looked at her younger sister.

As a Nascent Soul Immortal born with the clarity of Sword Heart, having even sharper Spiritual Sense than her master, Caiyun True Immortal, she, too, sensed her younger sister’s emotional fluctuation at this moment.

She didn’t understand why her younger sister, at this moment, requesting to escort the master back, would have such an emotional reaction.

But she did not ask further, merely nodding at Xiao Xiyue, “Since that’s the case, it’s hard on you, younger sister.”

“You’re too polite, elder sister.”

Xiao Xiyue responded softly.

Chapter 903: Xiao Xiyue Returns! Preparing to Propose Marriage!_3

Yun Wanshang did not say much, her hands white as jade gently lifted, a piece of cloth with a cloud pattern appeared, transforming into a cluster of colorful nebula clouds.

She and Xiao Xiyue gently rose to their feet and settled upon the colorful nebula clouds, becoming a streak of flowing light, flying into the Nine Heavens Gang Wind.

“Xi Yue, how are things between you and Lu Changsheng now?”

Yun Wanshang sat cross-legged on the Cloud Veil, closed her beautiful eyes, and quietly inquired.

Although she was aware of her disciple's affair with Lu Changsheng, she had not paid much attention to it.

On one hand, thinking about the matter between her disciple and Lu Changsheng, she felt troubled.

On the other hand, it was out of respect for her disciple, not wanting to meddle too much in matters of the heart.

But now, the situation her disciple was in made her, as a master, inevitably concerned and obliged to ask.

“Master...”

Xiao Xiyue, wearing a moon-white dress, with a cold and clear complexion like the moon, felt her heart tremble upon hearing her master's words, lightly biting her lip.

She knew her actions today disappointed her master.

But faced with her master's questions, she did not dare to conceal anything and revealed her feelings towards Lu Changsheng.

The issue about her daughter, Lu Wangshu, was still something she dared not mention truthfully.

...

A month later.

At Bi Lake Mountain, Changsheng Hall.

Lu Changsheng and Xiao Xiyue expressed their longing for each other.

Separated for many years, their longing flooded in like the tide, reversing into a river.

Afterward!

Afterward!

Afterward!

Lu Changsheng held Xiao Xiyue, whose body was as pale and beautiful as jade, as enchanting as the dawn, and as radiant as moonlight, and asked about her past two years.

“Caiyun True Immortal got injured?”

Lu Changsheng caressed Xiao Xiyue’s flat belly, which didn’t have an ounce of excess fat, raised his eyebrows slightly in surprise.

He hadn’t expected this secret realm to be so dangerous.

Even with two Nascent Soul Cultivators stationed there, it still resulted in Caiyun True Immortal, a Nascent Soul Immortal, getting injured and needing to return to the Sect for recuperation.

However, if not for Caiyun True Immortal returning to the Sect to recover, he and Xiao Xiyue might still not have known when they could see each other again.

But hearing that Xiao Xiyue would soon return to the Luoyun Mountain Range with her senior sister Chu Qingyi to explore the secret realm, he couldn’t help but worry.

“Xi Yue, isn’t this secret realm too dangerous?”

Lu Changsheng asked warmly.

He had never visited a secret realm or explored any ancient ruins or cave mansions.

In his mind, whether it was a predecessor's cave mansion or an ancient secret realm, they were synonymous with danger.

If it was possible, he preferred not to get involved.

Now, hearing that the secret realm had injured a Nascent Soul Immortal, he naturally was concerned about Xiao Xiyue's well-being.

"There were many prohibitions and demon beasts on the outer periphery of the secret realm, which is why Master was accidentally injured."

"Now that the preliminary exploration of the secret realm is complete, there should be no significant danger."

Xiao Xiyue explained.

However, since the secret realm was a crucial secret of the Sect, she could not share too much information with Lu Changsheng.

Even so, Lu Changsheng remained concerned about Xiao Xiyue's situation.

After a brief moment of tenderness, they got up from the bed.

Having been apart for more than two years, Lu Changsheng continued to express his longing for her through his actions, helping Xiao Xiyue dress and do her makeup.

The undergarment was as white as the moon, thin as cicada's wings, and light as clouds.

A simple and elegant braided long robe and moon-white flowing cloud skirt.

Though it was just a plain moon-white dress, on Xiao Xiyue it supported her exquisite figure with an ethereal grace, adding a cool and otherworldly aspect to her transcendent beauty.

Immediately after, Lu Changsheng had Xiao Xiyue sit in front of a bronze mirror to do her hair and brought out various perfumes, rouge, and eyebrow pencils to do her makeup.

As the saying goes, practice makes perfect. As a man with many wives, this basic skill was something he had mastered.

Moreover, Cultivators were naturally beautiful and fair-skinned, mostly requiring only minor touch-ups to highlight their features.

Having done all this and seeing Xiao Xiyue's gentle, sparkling eyes, Lu Changsheng's face was also filled with smiles.

The life Mr. Lu pursued was just that simple and unadorned.

"Let's go."

Lu Changsheng, handsome as jade, took Xiao Xiyue's hand to meet their daughter, Lu Wangshu.

But the next moment, he noticed that Xiao Xiyue had yet to put on her shoes and socks.

Her slender, fair feet were delicate and exquisite, shaped like lotus leaves, refined in every way, without a single flaw.

He then slipped the silk stockings and embroidered shoes onto these jade feet that he had often caressed and admired.

The two left Mount Sumeru Cave Heaven to find their daughter, Lu Wangshu.

"Daddy, Mommy."

Lu Wangshu, seeing her mother, who had been absent for over two years, did not express overwhelming joy and happiness, displaying a bit of a sulking temperament instead.

Faced with this situation, of course, Lu Changsheng and Xiao Xiyue together coddled their daughter.

Moreover, it seemed that Xiao Xiyue had anticipated her daughter's discontent and had even prepared a gift for her.

Lu Wangshu wasn't truly angry.

It was simply that Xiao Xiyue had said she would visit often, but then took so long to return.

Now, seeing her mother's face brimming with guilt and explanations, she immediately let go of her resentment.

Bi Shui Lake.

On a flat-bottomed boat.

Xiao Xiyue, dressed in a moon-white gown, sat and played the guqin like the Nine Heavens Bright Moon, full of immortal aura.

Lu Changsheng, in a green spiritual robe, held a bamboo flute to his lips, his demeanor relaxed and otherworldly.

The sound of the guqin and the melody of the flute rose and blended harmoniously, enchantingly beautiful, bringing to mind a scene under the moon and flowers, filled with endless love.

The lake breeze stirred ripples on the water's surface, where fish swam idly, and a Green Jade Luan Bird in the sky performed a graceful dance.

Ever since achieving Third Rank in Music Mastery, Lu Changsheng had finally realized the purpose of this Green Jade Luan Bird.

It was to accompany his own music, adding a touch of charm to it.

Beside him, sitting on her own fishing boat, Lu Wangshu held a fishing rod in one hand and propped her radiant face with the other, quietly watching her parents play in harmony.

It had to be said that their music truly touched the soul and was utterly captivating.

It was just that the loving manner in which her parents played together made her feel as if her teeth were dissolving in the sweetness.

They had clearly agreed to accompany her for a day of fun, so how had she ended up feeling like an outsider?

“Hmph!”

Seeing a large fish approaching from a distance, she channeled her spiritual power with a motion, and slapped a mechanism nearby.

“Boom! Splish splash!”

Instantly, a small cannon on the boat fired a fierce bolt of lightning, the explosion rippling giant waves across the calm water and charring the large fish.

“Daddy, Mommy, look, I’ve caught another king of fish!”

Lu Wangshu shot out the fishing line and scooped up the large fish, looking obedient and adorable as she spoke.

“Lu Wangshu, are you allergic to elegance or what? Don’t you realize you’re totally spoiling the atmosphere?”

Lu Changsheng looked at his daughter, somewhat speechless.

As a father, he couldn’t help but understand that this crafty creature was doing it on purpose.

“But I really did see a king of fish, and I didn’t want it to get away.”

Lu Wangshu said with an innocent look on her face.

“Alright, alright~”

Xiao Xiyue looked at her daughter with affection and asked if she wanted to join them and continue learning to play the guqin.

“Yes, yes!”

Lu Wangshu immediately replied with a smile, making a mischievous face at her father, prompting Lu Changsheng to shake his head and lightly chuckle.

...

Like this, Xiao Xiyue stayed for seven days at Bi Lake Mountain.

During these seven days, as if making up for lost time, she mostly spent her time doting on her daughter, Lu Wangshu, indulging her every whim.

“Xi Yue, since the True Immortal knows about us, and now that he happens to be in the Sect, what do you think of us going to see him? If he agrees, it would be easier for you to come back to Bi Lake Mountain in the future.”

That day, as Xiao Xiyue was about to leave, Lu Changsheng, holding her fair jade hand, spoke earnestly.

He had previously mentioned to Xiao Xiyue the idea of asking for her hand in marriage at the Qingyun Sect.

However, at the time, the Caiyun True Immortal was not present in the Sect.

Now that he knew the Caiyun True Immortal had returned to the Sect, Lu Changsheng planned to make a trip to the Qingyun Sect to formally propose marriage.

After all, he had once promised Xiao Xiyue.

And when he had first brought up the subject to Xiao Xiyue, he had seen a flicker of hope and longing in her eyes.

There was also the matter of his daughter, Lu Wangshu.

Although she had never brought up this issue,

he knew that she must be questioning the nature of his relationship with Xiao Xiyue in her heart.

So now, with the opportunity presenting itself, he intended to go straightforwardly to the Sect to propose!

Regardless of the outcome, at the very least, he needed to show the proper attitude and take responsibility!

Chapter 904: The Number One Sword Trial, Siblings of the Jinyang Sect!

“Changsheng...”

Xiao Xiyue’s heart shuddered violently upon hearing Lu Changsheng’s words.

Previously, while returning with her master Yun Wanshang, the two had a long conversation.

Yun Wanshang had inquired about how she intended to handle these feelings.

She was cultivating the Supreme Forgetful Love Technique, which required her to use her emotions to break through.

Yet if she became entangled in the maze of these feelings, it would go against the path she sought to follow, essentially amounting to abandoning the Great Dao.

Xiao Xiyue naturally understood these principles.

She had earnestly told her master that she was only cultivating and would surely be able to break through when the time came.

But in her heart, she knew she was just running away.

Once she reached the Ninth Level of Foundation Establishment, it would be extremely difficult to break through the Third Layer of the Supreme Forgetful Love Technique and make a push for Core Formation.

“Master is injured and is currently healing...”

Xiao Xiyue spoke softly, her head slightly lowered.

Although she longed to be with Lu Changsheng openly and legitimately before the world,

she had just assured her master that she was solely focused on cultivation.

Now, bringing Lu Changsheng to meet her and propose would surely disappoint her master.

Moreover, her master was the Enforcement Hall Master of the Qingyun Sect.

Besides the warmth she showed to her disciples, she was often as stern as frost and quite imposing.

It was possible that she might take a dislike to Lu Changsheng because of Xiao Xiyue, and blame him.

“Xi Yue.”

Lu Changsheng knew Xiao Xiyue very well.

He understood that her heart was still knotted over her cultivation issues.

He supported her slender shoulders and looked into her eyes, clear as the moon reflected in a lake, and said gently, “You seek the Dao, and I won’t stop you, nor blame you. I just don’t want you to be wronged.”

“I’ve said before, I will find a dual cultivation method before you reach Core Formation. If I can’t find it, then you may freely cut off this romantic entanglement and seek the Dao wholeheartedly to break through Core Formation.”

“However, by the time that comes, I will still come to Qingyun Sect with Wangshu to take you home.”

Lu Changsheng said, a serious look in his eyes.

So many years had passed, and whenever this matter was brought up, she would get lost and confused.

He understood this and tried to give her a sense of security to prevent her from overthinking.

After all, Xiao Xiyue’s cultivation technique was somewhat unorthodox.

If this continued, she might one day cultivate a Heart Demon.

“Changsheng...”

Xiao Xiyue was stunned and bit her lips, wanting to say something.

But Lu Changsheng placed a finger gently upon her moist lips and said, “Let’s go, I will accompany you to Qingyun Sect. If the True Immortal is in closed-door healing, then we’ll leave it be.

If not, we shall pay a visit.”

Lu Changsheng said with a smile.

In his view, the worst-case scenario for this marriage proposal trip was merely Caiyun True Immortal's unfavorable opinion of him.

But when he had encountered trouble in Qingyun Sect before, Caiyun True Immortal had been willing to help him out of a difficult situation. He didn't think she was a person to sweat the small stuff.

After all, as a Nascent Soul Immortal, she sat above the clouds, watching them roll and unfold without care—how could she be bothered by marriage matters?

“Mm.”

Xiao Xiyue blinked slowly out of her daze, her beautiful eyes showing tenderness and sweetness as she nodded gently.

She rarely saw Lu Changsheng act so dominantly.

She knew he did this to make her feel at ease, so she wouldn't feel wronged.

“I'll go get ready.”

“But for meeting the True Immortal, should I also prepare a gift?”

Lu Changsheng recalled his past visit to Qingyun Sect, where the True Immortal seemed to see through his cultivation level.

Thus, it was necessary this time to conceal that he had reached Foundation Establishment Seventh Layer and Quasi-Third Order Body Refinement.

Otherwise, if she noticed the astonishingly rapid increase in his cultivation level, it could invite unnecessary trouble.

“There's no need to prepare anything.”

Xiao Xiyue said with a faintly amused smile.

Subsequently, Lu Changsheng made quick preparations.

He used the Nine Treasures Ruyi Bone to seal his mana and cultivation level to the Foundation Establishment Fourth Layer, and his physical cultivation to the Second Order Initial Stage.

As for the gift, he chose several Spirit Talismans he had drawn himself.

Thus prepared, Lu Changsheng informed Ling Zixiao, then he and Xiao Xiyue left Bihu Lake Mountain and set off for the Qingyun Sect.

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In Yue Country, Jinyang Sect.

The Jinyang Sect was hosting its quinquennial sword trial tournament.

The competition had reached the final stage and was bustling with activity.

All disciples, many Sect elders, and Supreme Elders had emerged from their seclusions to watch the battles.

After all, this tournament was not merely a contest among the disciples of Jinyang Sect.

It also pertained to the dispute over Qingming Secret Realm entry spots and resources allocation among the several Great Immortal Sects of Yue Country.

Should their disciples excel and prevail over the other Sects in the grand competition, they would not only gain honor but also secure more spots and resource distribution in the Qingming Secret Realm.

Thus, the Sect took this great sword trial very seriously!

“Lu Qingshan of Tianyuan Peak, Gu Yunyang of Jinyun Peak!”

At this moment, the elder hosting the event announced loudly while holding the Jade Scroll.

As soon as the announcement was made, it set off a wave of expectation among the crowd.

“Here they come, here they come!”

“Finally, we’re going to see an incredibly intense showdown!”

“Lu Qingshan with his Sword Dao breaks all spells, while Gu Yunyang practices Magical Dual Cultivation, having perfected the Golden Lustrous Body — it’s the perfect matchup!”

“However, based on their previous performances, I think Lu Qingshan will win.”

“Indeed, in all previous contests, Lu Qingshan has been overwhelmingly dominant, defeating his enemies with a single sword strike, it’s breathtaking!”

“I think elder brother Gu is more formidable. His Cultivation Level has reached the Peak of Qi Refining. If it wasn’t for the Qingming Secret Realm, he’d have broken through to Foundation Establishment long ago. Lu Qingshan stands no chance against him.”

“That’s right, while Lu Qingshan is strong, elder brother Gu has yet to fully display the power of his Golden Lustrous Body!”

“In my opinion, Lu Qingshan is more impressive. Five years ago, at the Seventh Level of Energy Refinement, he placed thirtieth in the sword trial tournament. Now at the Ninth Level, having comprehended the First Realm of Sword Dao, Sword Qi Like a Rainbow, he is unparalleled in his rank and will surely break through the Golden Lustrous Body!”

Chapter 905: The First Sword Trial, Siblings of the Jinyang Sect!_2

Spectators’ seats were abuzz with discussions.

Clearly, Lu Qingshan's performance in this swordplay tournament had gained the recognition of many.

After all, among these disciples, Lu Qingshan was not only young and handsome.

During the last tournament, he made his way up by defeating stronger opponents despite being underdog, and ultimately lost due to his insufficient cultivation level, which left many feeling regretful and remembering his name, looking forward to his performance in this tournament.

As expected, this year, Lu Qingshan did not disappoint and rose powerfully.

In every match, he won victories with overwhelming dominance, inducing admiration and envy!

Accompanied by the waves of enthusiastic discussions, Lu Qingshan and Gu Yunyang had already stepped onto the stage.

"Junior Brother Lu, you are quite impressive."

Gu Yunyang wore a proud expression and looked down with a strong intent to fight in his eyes.

As a top-tier talent of the Jinyang Sect, although he was extremely arrogant, he did not underestimate others.

He knew that the opponent's strength would not be much weaker than his own.

"Senior Brother Gu."

Lu Qingshan greeted calmly and indifferently with a clasped-hands bow.

He then looked toward the distant spectator seats, where his sister Lu Qingzhu was cheering for him, and immediately his face broke into a smile and he gestured with his hand.

When Gu Yunyang saw this scene, his face darkened slightly, thinking that the opponent did not take him seriously.

“The match begins.”

As the two prepared themselves, the elder presiding over the match in the sky announced.

“Golden Lustrous Body!”

Gu Yunyang roared on the stage.

Instantly, his magical robe transformed into soft armor, his muscles bulged, his body expanded in size, and a golden lustrous glaze glowed from his skin, giving off a staggering aura.

“Golden Lustrous Body, I can’t believe Senior Brother Gu is going all out from the start!”

“Haven’t you seen Lu Qingshan’s swordsmanship? If he underestimates him, he could be defeated in an instant!”

“Senior Brother Gu’s Golden Lustrous Body, judging by its appearance, has probably reached nearly the Second Rank, right?”

“Indeed, it seems that Gu Yunyang is half a step away from breaking through to the Second Rank with his Golden Lustrous Body. Once he achieves Foundation Establishment, he’ll break through both at the same time.”

“Tsk tsk tsk, this young man really is cautious. That soft armor must be the Sun-Burning Robe, right?”

The disciples watching the match exclaimed in surprise and engaged in animated discussions.

Even some of the elders watched the stage attentively and commented out loud.

“Cloud-Piercing Stab, Sun-Burning Slash!”

Gu Yunyang did not underestimate his opponent and took the initiative, attacking with full force.

His body shone brightly, his aura like a rainbow, as he charged at Lu Qingshan, his palm emanating a vigorous and grand sun energy, which transformed into a long blade.

If one looked closely, they could see a sharp spike on the blazing long blade.

The spike was no more than an inch long, but it seemed to shoot out glowing sparks, filled with a sharp essence.

“Early Sun!”

Lu Qingshan’s magical sword sang softly, and immediately a Sharp Sword Qi shot out.

“Puff puff puff—”

The fierce Sword Qi shot out instantly, as cunning as an antelope hanging its horns, as fluid as a spider spinning silk, and it shredded the fierce and wild Sun Blade to nothing in an instant.

Then, the Sword Qi seemed to concentrate into an invisible drill, buzzing and whirring, stirring up a tempest of Sword Qi, clashing violently with the spike.

“What!?”

“He blocked it just like that?”

The spectating disciples saw how Lu Qingshan so casually parried Gu Yunyang’s attack and were stunned and amazed.

Most of them, even if they went all out, were not sure they could withstand such a formidable assault.

Yet Lu Qingshan had easily defused such an attack.

“This is... Sword Energy Formation!”

“Lu Qingshan, with only Qi Refining Cultivation, has already grasped Sword Qi Like a Rainbow, which is quite astonishing in itself, and yet he’s also mastered Sword Energy Formation!”

“A genius, a true genius of the Sword Dao!”

“No, this is a once-in-an-era genius of the Sword Dao!”

“Sister Tianyuan has been away for a long time, yet she has been able to teach such a disciple!”

The elders of Jinyang Sect on the high platform seats displayed shock as they focused earnestly on Lu Qingshan’s Sword stroke on the platform, appreciating its profound mysteries.

The Sword Dao is divided into five levels: Sword Qi Like a Rainbow, Sword Energy Formation, Sword Energy Thunder Sound, Sword into Silk, and Sword Light Division.

Although these do not correspond to the Cultivation Realms of Qi Refinement, Foundation Establishment, and Core Formation,

anyone who can comprehend the corresponding level of Sword Dao is considered an outstanding Sword Cultivator.

For someone in the Qi Refinement Realm to understand such a level of Sword Dao as Sword Energy Formation, that is enough to be called a prodigy!

Their Jinyang Sect was not a purely Sword Dao sect but still had a legacy of swordsmanship.

Now, seeing such an exceptional swordsmanship prodigy, they were pleasantly surprised!

After all, the saying that “Sword Cultivators are invincible among peers” is not a joke,

but proven by Sword Cultivators achieving fame through combat.

“Hmm!?”

Gu Yunyang on the stage also looked shocked.

He had not expected that his fierce assault could be so effortlessly neutralized by Lu Qingshan.

This made him look a bit uncomfortable and feel humiliated.

After all, before the tournament, he was everyone’s favored contender for the championship.

And Lu Qingshan was just a newly-rising dark horse.

But now, he, the championship contender, was outperformed by this upstart dark horse.

“Great Brilliance King Palm! Heavenly Fire Seal!”

He erupted like a golden war deity, his body’s pores emanating flames, which formed a radiant Sun that charged straight at Lu Qingshan.

Since the other was a Sword Cultivator, he had a chance if he could get close.

“Morning Sun!”

Lu Qingshan’s expression remained calm and indomitable, as his golden magical sword swung down decisively.

“Swoosh swoosh swoosh—”

In an instant, Sword Qi surged like Spirit Snakes, trapping and entwining Gu Yunyang, causing the flames around him to roar and bellow wildly.

“Hisss, is this Junior Brother Lu’s real strength!?”

“Sword Cultivators, this is the allure of Sword Cultivators!”

“Tsk tsk tsk, Sword Energy Formation, Invisible Sword Qi. This young man’s Sword Dao talent is truly amazing; Gu Yunyang is entirely unable to find an opening against him.”

“This level of Sword Dao talent is indeed stunning!”

The disciples and elders, watching Lu Qingshan once again easily dissolve Gu Yunyang’s onslaught, could not help but comment with awe.

Chapter 906: The First Sword Trial, Siblings of the Jinyang Sect!_3

“Damn it!”

Gu Yunyang’s face was unsightly, his golden hand continuously striking out in a violent bombardment, attempting to make a move on Lu Qingshan.

But a series of Sword Qi collided with him, leaving him helpless and extremely frustrated, as if venting his rage in a furious explosion.

From his Storage Bag, he produced a small golden-red seal, formed a Gesture Incantation with both hands, causing a light curtain to form around him, his momentum rising, as he continued to press forward against the Sword Qi towards Lu Qingshan.

“Take my sword.”

Lu Qingshan watched the scene, his expression calmly stating.

At that moment, his entire demeanor was formidable, bursting forth with an aura that seemed to tear the firmament apart, as the Magical Sword in his hand suddenly erupted with a fierce golden radiance.

At this moment, everyone could feel from Lu Qingshan a spirit of fearlessness, a Sword Dao that swallowed the stars, believing firmly that he could overcome anything.

Merely this momentum and vigorous spirit made countless people palpitate and surrender.

“This!”

On the high platform, several elders widened their eyes, suddenly standing up from their seats, their expressions shocked.

“Boom!”

The golden brilliance burst forth, transforming into a blazing sun-like sword wheel that charged towards Gu Yunyang.

This dazzling sword wheel, as if filled with a flow of colorful light, struck Gu Yunyang’s surrounding light curtain.

The top-grade light curtain formed by the Magic Artifact shattered instantly, like tofu.

Yet immediately, Gu Yunyang’s Golden Lustrous Body formed a layer of armor.

But even this armor shattered in an instant.

“No!”

His eyes filled with a horrified color, as if Lu Qingshan’s sword was about to strike him down directly.

But the next moment, he saw the sword light vanish, and he was unharmed, save for his armor growing dim.

“You’ve yielded.”

Lu Qingshan, clad in a gold and white Magical Robe, holding the Magical Sword, stood calmly and indifferently on the platform.

Silence!

Dead silence!

The entire arena was utterly quiet.

Everyone stared wide-eyed at Lu Qingshan, whose vigor was buoyant, his Sword Qi stern, his posture erect.

No one had anticipated that in this final duel, Lu Qingshan would win so effortlessly.

Although Gu Yunyang didn't suffer as miserably as he had in many previous duels,

It was precisely his use of all means, yet ultimately unscathed defeat, that highlighted the astounding strength of Lu Qingshan.

Boom!

The next moment, the entire arena erupted in a frenzy.

"He's incredibly strong!"

"How could it be, Brother Gu was defeated just like that..."

"Brother Gu had absolutely no chance to fight back against Lu Qingshan!"

"Is he really just an Energy Refining Cultivator?"

"Ah, Junior Brother Lu is so handsome, I really like him!"

"A young man as robust as Junior Brother Lu will surely like a woman with a broad heart like me!"

“That sword just now, I felt a force like thunder and lightning, could it be the legendary Sword Energy Thunder Sound!?”

“How is that possible, Sword Energy Thunder Sound is the third realm of Sword Dao, usually only Nascent Soul Immortals can comprehend it!”

The crowd around the arena voiced out, all with expressions of disbelief, exclaiming in astonishment.

“Good, good, good! I didn’t expect our Jinyang Sect to produce such a Sword Dao prodigy!”

“Indeed, with this child, our Jinyang Sect will surely claim victory in this Five Sects Competition!”

“Not only has he grasped Sword Qi Like a Rainbow, Sword Energy Formation, but he seems to have also touched a bit of Sword Energy Thunder Sound, tsk tsk tsk, this kid is a natural-born Sword Dao genius!”

On the high platform, the Jinyang Sect Leader and the elders all wore gratified smiles.

It can be said that as long as this child does not die young, not to mention definitely achieving Core Formation,

But at the very least, Jinyang Sect will have a top-tier Sword Cultivator unmatched in his realm!

“Sect Leader Brother, Sister Tianyuan has been away from the Sect for a long time, such a genius might as well join my Jinyun Peak.”

“I’ll take him as a disciple, guide his cultivation, and he definitely won’t waste his talent.”

At this moment, an authoritative-looking elder beside him looked towards the Jinyang Sect Leader and spoke up.

“Brother Jinyun, Gu Yunyang is already your disciple, do you still want to take Lu Qingshan as your disciple?”

“Sect Leader Brother, although I’m not solely focused on Sword Dao, I also studied it extensively in my early years, why not let Lu Qingshan come to my Qiuyang Peak, and I can provide some guidance occasionally.”

Another elder immediately voiced upon hearing this.

A disciple like Lu Qingshan was destined to rise and shine brilliantly in the future.

Even if he couldn’t be taken as a disciple, they were willing to have a period of mentor-disciple affection and karma.

“This child is Sister Tianyuan’s disciple, her direct disciple at that, such actions are not in accordance with the Sect’s rules and etiquette.”

“However, when Sister Tianyuan returns, I will have a good talk with her.”

The Jinyang Sect Leader raised his hand and spoke.

In this moment, even he believed that Tianyuan True Immortal, as Lu Qingshan’s master, was somewhat hindering the disciple.

After all, they all knew that Tianyuan True Immortal often went out seeking opportunities, only occasionally returning to the Sect.

Under such circumstances, it was entirely unfavorable for the cultivation of Lu Qingshan.

“Lu Qingshan wins!”

At that moment, the elder referee announced the result of the duel.

Even he, at this very moment, looked at Lu Qingshan with an extraordinary expression.

“Damn it...”

Gu Yunyang, watching Lu Qingshan who was sheathing his sword and about to step down from the arena, shouted loudly, “Lu Qingshan, wait until I break through to Foundation Establishment, and I shall fight you again, and I certainly won’t lose to you!”

Several elders from the Jinyang Sect, upon seeing this, nodded slightly.

Gu Yunyang was also a top-tier talent of the Jinyang Sect.

Naturally, they did not want him to lose his fighting spirit because of a single duel.

“Enemies defeated by me are never regarded as my equals. I give you time to catch up until you can’t even see me.”

Lu Qingshan paused in his steps and spoke calmly.

“Hisss!”

Everyone was shocked.

No one expected Lu Qingshan to be so arrogant!

No, this was confidence!

Absolute confidence in himself, an invincibility!

Perhaps it was precisely because of this that he could achieve such accomplishments in the Sword Dao!

At this moment, he fully exemplified the pride and backbone of a Sword Cultivator!

“He’s too strong, who knows how amazing he will be once he breaks through to Foundation Establishment!”

“With Lu Qingshan here, in the Five Sects’ sword trial three years later, probably no one will be his match!”

Many disciples from the Jinyang Sect exclaimed.

“Man, this feels really good.”

Lu Qingshan stepped down from the arena, came over to the spectator stands, and seeing the way people looked at him, his mouth curved slightly upwards.

“Lu Qingshan, congratulations on winning this sword trial. You may choose three rewards.”

At this moment, the Jinyang Sect Leader stepped forward, and with a gesture, a large scroll listing the rankings and rewards appeared.

“Foundation Establishment Elixir, Tianxin Sound Bamboo Sword, Rainbow Feather Garment.”

Lu Qingshan immediately named the three rewards he had set his sights on.

“Hmm?”

The Jinyang Sect Leader frowned slightly upon hearing this.

He could understand the choice of the Tianxin Sound Bamboo Sword, but the Foundation Establishment Elixir and the Rainbow Feather Garment puzzled him.

“Lu Qingshan, you have now won the first place in the sword trial, and as long as you complete the assessment trial, you can be promoted to a True Disciple, at which point you can directly apply for the Foundation Establishment Elixir. Additionally, the Rainbow Feather Garment is a spiritual garment for women, and it does not suit you,” said the Jinyang Sect Leader.

For an ordinary disciple, he wouldn’t have mentioned it.

But Lu Qingshan's case made him feel compelled to give some advice.

"Sect Leader, I understand."

Lu Qingshan responded respectfully.

"Good, remember, the sect's Foundation Establishment Elixirs cannot be leaked outside, at most be traded with inner disciples."

Seeing this, the Jinyang Sect Leader said no more and handed over all three rewards to Lu Qingshan with a wave of his hand.

"Thank you, Sect Leader!"

Lu Qingshan accepted the gifts and bowed in thanks.

Then, he quickly went to the Tianyuan Peak spectator seats, looked at his sister Lu Qingzhu, whose face was full of excitement, and proudly smiled, "How about it, Little Zhu, isn't your brother amazing?"

"Awesome, really awesome! Bro, you're the best!"

Lu Qingzhu nodded repeatedly, her eyes filled with admiration.

Although she had participated in the sword trial, she hadn't even made it past the top hundred and was eliminated early.

Now, seeing her brother winning first place, she was naturally filled with admiration.

"Hehe, here, Little Zhu, this is a gift your brother got for you."

Lu Qingshan handed over the Foundation Establishment Elixir and Rainbow Feather Garment, belonging to the three awards, to his sister.

Having the Seed of Law, he believed breaking through Foundation Establishment didn't require the help of a Foundation Establishment Elixir.

Naturally, this Foundation Establishment Elixir was prepared for his sister Lu Qingzhu.

Moreover, in his view, since his sister Lu Qingzhu lacked in talent, a single Foundation Establishment Elixir might not ensure her breakthrough in Foundation Establishment.

When he was promoted to a True Disciple later, the Foundation Establishment Elixirs he applied for could still be used by Lu Qingzhu.

“Brother.”

Lu Qingzhu looked at the two rewards, her beautiful eyes brimming with emotion.

“Hehe, what are we being so formal for, Little Zhu, come on, let's go home.”

Lu Qingshan said with a casual and indulgent smile, affectionately ruffled her hair, and led Lu Qingzhu back towards Tianyuan Peak.

The Jinyang Sect Leader and several elders saw this scene and nodded slightly.

They had heard that Tianyuan Peak had taken in two disciples years ago who were siblings.

The sister, compared to Lu Qingshan, was quite ordinary, nothing spectacular, and lacked brilliance.

Chapter 907: Yun Wanshang: Let Me Give You My Blessing?

The boundless clear sky, a pure azure expanse.

A sapphire spirit boat soared through the air.

Standing on the boat were a young man and woman.

The man appeared to be in his twenties, draped in luxurious sky-blue robes, a tall and elegant figure like a graceful tree swaying in the breeze.

His stunning, ethereal face was calm and indifferent, his lips adorned with a faint smile that felt as warming as a spring breeze, evoking a sense of goodwill in those who saw him.

The woman also seemed to be in her twenties, her beauty fresh and sublime, beyond the mundane world, clad in a moon-white flowing cloud dress, resembling the bright moon above, clear and luminous.

Her gorgeous features were gentle and soft, her cool eyes gazing distantly at the Qingyun Sect shrouded in mist and bathed in the light of dawn, her ample chest rising and falling slightly as if preoccupied with thoughts, unlike the man's relaxed and comfortable demeanor.

"Xi Yue, relax your heart."

Lu Changsheng, while looking ahead at the Qingyun Sect, was also somewhat tense inside, not as calm as he appeared on the surface.

After all, making a marriage proposal was an experience he'd also gone through only once in his life.

It had been to the previous generation of the Lu Family Ancestor, not directly to Lu Yuanding, his prospective father-in-law.

Now, to propose marriage to a Nascent Soul Immortal, to say there was no pressure would be impossible.

"Hmm."

Xiao Xiyue nodded her lovely head gently, her lunar eyes filled with ripples like droplets of water.

Before long, the spirit boat landed in front of the gate of the Qingyun Sect.

“Greetings to Uncle Master Xiao!”

“Greetings to Uncle Master Xi Yue!”

Upon seeing Xiao Xiyue, the disciples at the gate immediately bowed in respect.

Someone like Zhao Qingqing might not be recognized by many disciples.

But Xiao Xiyue had an enormous reputation within the Qingyun Sect.

Not only had her master and senior sister become Nascent Soul Immortals, but she was also a core disciple of the Qingyun Sect.

“Hmm.”

Xiao Xiyue’s face remained cool and exceptional, like a bright moon in a frosty night, dignified and noble, bringing Lu Changsheng into the Qingyun Sect and flying towards Caiyun Peak.

Although the two did not show excessive affection, they did not seem unfamiliar either.

This caused many along the way who greeted Xiao Xiyue to look surprised and puzzled.

It was unexpected that the famous Fairy Xi Yue would be so close to a man.

Especially those who knew Lu Changsheng and had heard of his big name were even more suspicious and bewildered when they saw this scene.

“Isn’t he Master of Bihu Mountain, Lu Changsheng? How can he be so intimate with Junior Sister Xi Yue?”

“Could it be that his relationship with Senior Sister Xiao isn’t ordinary?”

“No, no, that’s impossible, Junior Sister Xiao is a high and mighty Moon Palace Fairy, how could she have anything to do with this Lu Changsheng!”

“I heard that Lu Changsheng had known Junior Sister Xiao from a long time ago; perhaps they’re just friends.”

“I heard that not long ago, Lu Changsheng took more than ten maidens as concubines; how could Junior Sister Xi Yue associate with such a man!”

“This Mountain Lord Lu does indeed appear as handsome and elegant as the rumors say, and he’s also a Second-order Top-level Talisman Master, and a Second-order Alchemist…”

“What business does this Lu Changsheng have at Qingyun Sect?”

As they watched the two fly towards Caiyun Peak, many people were buzzing with discussion.

Xiao Xiyue’s reputation in Qingyun Sect was immense, but Lu Changsheng’s name had also grown considerably over the years.

Particularly not long ago, the achievement of defeating the Great Elder of the Jinlong Ridge Jin Family alongside Lu Miaoge had astonished many Qingyun Sect disciples.

After all, such combat capabilities, even within the Qingyun Sect, set one apart as an influential figure.

“Xi Yue seems to be quite admired within the sect.”

Lu Changsheng, although he had not heard the comments of others, noticed many eyes looking towards him and could decipher their expressions and gazes.

As for such stares, Mr. Lu was naturally quite familiar.

He thought to himself that if he were truly to become Dao companions with Xiao Xiyue and hold a grand ceremony, the Qingyun Sect would likely experience countless heartbreaks.

Worse still, there might be Qingyun Sect disciples who held a grudge against him and sought trouble, much like Meng Yibai in the past.

“Tsk tsk tsk, indeed, winning the favor of a fairy is no easy task.”

Lu Changsheng mused to himself with a sense of wonder.

Xiao Xiyue gave Lu Changsheng a white glance and pointed to the imposing mountain peak ahead, shrouded in spiritual energy and with waterfalls cascading down: “Changsheng, that’s Caiyun Peak.”

“Good.”

Lu Changsheng nodded his head, his face showing a serious and earnest demeanor.

He also felt a surge of curiosity, keen to see Xiao Xiyue’s master, the prestigious Caiyun True Immortal.

After all, her big name was as thunderous to his ears.

Not only was she the master of the Enforcement Hall, but she had also trained Chu Qingyi to become a Nascent Soul Immortal.

In the past, she was the one who annihilated the Xiahou clan from Blackwater Pool.

Recently, she had defeated a Core Formation True Immortal of the Luoxia Sect in the Luoyun Mountain Range, her combat power being extraordinary.

Xiao Xiyue took out her identity jade, opened the formation, and entered Caiyun Peak with Lu Changsheng.

Then they made their way to the magnificent and majestic palace at the peak of the mountain.

“Master.”

Xiao Xiyue spoke with a respectful bow.

If her master was not in secluded meditation, she would be able to sense her and respond.

Seeing this, Lu Changsheng also bowed respectfully alongside Xiao Xiyue.

Not to mention that the Caiyun True Immortal was Xiao Xiyue's master and elder, just her status as a Nascent Soul Immortal demanded his utmost respect.

...

At this very moment, within the palace.

"Sun Moon Samsara Technique, hearts resonating, thoughts merging..."

Yun Wanshang sat cross-legged, quietly observing the jade slip in her hand.

Although she had been injured in the Luoyun Mountain Range Secret Realm, she had still gained quite a lot.

Her greatest acquisition was the technique jade slip in her hand.

This cultivation technique was profound and mysterious, classified as an auxiliary one, with cultivation of it aiding cultivators in breaking through Foundation Establishment, Core Formation, Nascent Soul formation, and Divinity Transformation.

The only issue was, it was a Dual Cultivation Technique.

You needed to engage in male-female dual cultivation, the union of yin and yang, for the third layer to be breached, aiding in the breakthrough to the Nascent Soul stage.

"Whew!"

Yun Wanshang gazed at it for a long time, her hand lightly touching her forehead as she set the cultivation technique down.

Chapter 908: Yun Wanshang: Shall I Make It Happen for You?_2

Even through her discerning eyes, she had to admit that this cultivation technique was profound, far surpassing most of the techniques she had encountered.

If one could find a dual cultivation Dao companion with aligned ambitions, it was estimated the chances of a breakthrough could increase by twenty to thirty percent.

To break through from Core Formation to Nascent Soul, one faced two major tribulations!

The Nascent Soul's Heavenly Tribulation and the Demonic Tribulation!

And this Sun Moon Samsara Technique allowed male and female cultivators, upon reaching a certain stage, to enter a marvelous state that transcended the physical body—a union of spirit and divine essence.

This related to the concept of the Soul Path Dreams.

It even pertained to the rumored Samsara Mood.

In such a marvelous state, the two could experience a new life, greatly aiding their understanding of the heart's condition and the Great Dao!

If one could achieve mental and spiritual perfection through this method, then facing one of the dual Nascent Soul tribulations—the Demonic Tribulation—would pose no obstacle.

“If only I had obtained this technique in my earlier years...”

Yun Wanshang thought of her own Tongyu Phoenix Marrow Body and felt a surge of frustration!

Her physique had hardly any enhancing effects in the early stages.

Only after breaking through to Core Formation would it generate a strand of Spirit-nurturing Energy.

For a Nascent Soul Cultivator, this was an invaluable treasure!

Through male and female dual cultivation, one could continually refine the True Elixir, increasing the chances of nurturing the Nascent Soul.

It could be said that such a selfless physique made countless Core Formation cultivators flock to her.

If she wanted, she could immediately choose any genius or exceptional cultivator to be her Dao companion.

By leveraging her Tongyu Phoenix Marrow Body and this Sun Moon Samsara Technique, if she could just find a suitable Dao companion, it would be like adding a fifty percent chance to nurture her Nascent Soul.

But fate was cruel; her Spirit Phoenix Marrow Body had been broken by a little Qi Refinement cultivator and entered his body.

Even more ironic was that this little cultivator had formed a bond with her disciple!

“This Lu Changsheng must possess some kind of top-tier physique—if only he and Xi Yue were not involved... he would have been a fine candidate...”

Yun Wanshang murmured to herself, as a potential Dao companion came to mind.

But she immediately shook her head, discarding the thought.

Although the man likely possessed a top-tier physique and a talent beyond her expectations, with a promising future in Core Formation,

just thinking about his boorish behavior, and his ties with her disciple Xiao Xiyue, she felt agitated.

“Hmm!?”

At that moment, Yun Wanshang heard Xiao Xiyue’s voice outside the palace.

She wanted to open the palace doors to ask Xiao Xiyue what was the matter, but she immediately sensed another presence outside the hall, besides Xiao Xiyue.

The other person, in a green robe with an ethereal handsomeness, stood shoulder to shoulder with Xiao Xiyue, clasping hands in a salute.

Although Lu Changsheng's appearance and aura had slightly changed over the years, she recognized him at a glance.

"Why has he come?"

Yun Wanshang furrowed her brows; her regal and slightly pale, stunning face instantly chilled.

She knew that her disciple Xiao Xiyue had gone to Bi Lake Mountain to meet with Lu Changsheng.

But why was Xiao Xiyue bringing Lu Changsheng to Caiyun Peak to see her now?

And seeing how naturally close the two stood together, she felt an inexplicable irritation rise within her.

"Xi Yue, what is the matter?"

Yun Wanshang stood up, her eyebrows like finely drawn artwork, yet exuding an indescribable coldness. The entire room was like an ancient ice mountain—nobly cold, chilling to the bone.

“Master...”

Xiao Xiyue, feeling the vibrations from within the hall and hearing her master’s voice, trembled slightly.

As a disciple, she knew her master very well.

She could tell from the tone of her voice that her master was in a bad mood.

Otherwise, her master would not speak in such a tone, or keep the palace doors shut.

She knew she had disappointed her master with her actions.

“Hmm? Is this person Xi Yue’s master, Caiyun True Immortal?”

Lu Changsheng, hearing the woman’s voice, detected a degree of cold indifference.

From the situation, he immediately knew proposing to Xiao Xiyue could be difficult; the master seemed displeased with him.

Shouldn't a mother-in-law look more favorably upon a son-in-law as time passed?

However, Lu Changsheng also roughly understood the reasons.

Xiao Xiyue's cultivation was likely to suffer if she entangled herself in romantic affairs.

Her master could turn a blind eye if it was just about cultivation.

But bringing him to meet the master showed that Xiao Xiyue had serious intentions, which could ruin her future prospects. Naturally, her master would be angry.

But no matter what, Lu Changsheng believed he needed to show the responsibility a man should bear at this moment.

And according to the circumstances, was the mother-in-law—at this point, should she be called a mother-in-law or still be addressed as master?

Regardless, he needed to show responsibility and accountability in her presence, not letting Xiao Xiyue bear her anger.

“Youngster Lu Changsheng greets the True Immortal.”

“I'm deeply aligned with Xi Yue. Therefore, I've come to meet you and humbly ask for your blessing!”

Lu Changsheng bowed deeply toward the imposing hall, speaking his request.

“Blessing?”

The cold and authoritative voice from the hall rose, making Lu Changsheng feel weighed down.

As if a great mountain pressed upon him, even the air around him seemed to solidify.

Lu Changsheng had once felt a taste of the Core Formation’s pressure from Nangong Mili.

But that pressure paled in comparison to the intensity emanating from this Caiyun True Immortal.

“Master.”

Xiao Xiyue hastily called out to her master, her voice filled with concern, fearing that her master would take action against Lu Changsheng.

“Xi Yue, you’ve truly disappointed your teacher.”

Yun Wanshang, seeing the affectionate comportment of the two lovers, felt even more agitation, contemplating whether to cut down Lu Changsheng with a single stroke.

He not only caused her to be mentally disturbed but also led her disciple down this troubled path.

Xiao Xiyue's Dao Heart was firm, and her future in Core Formation was promising!

But now, because of a man, she had fallen deep, which regretfully made her master disappointed and resentful.

Chapter 909: Yun Wanshang: Shall I Make It Happen for You?_3

“Master... Lu Changsheng and I are merely cultivating, and only by leaving no regrets can we... sever emotional entanglements and wholeheartedly pursue the Dao,” Xiao Xiyue said to her own master.

“Xi Yue.”

Lu Changsheng knew Xiao Xiyue was making excuses, likely having used this same rhetoric to explain to her master before.

Probably for that reason, when he brought up the matter of marriage, Xiao Xiyue was somewhat hesitant.

He immediately stood tall under the pressure and, with a cupped fist, said, “Real person...”

But before he could finish his words, a female voice rang out from within the palace, “Are you trying to explain and take responsibility for her to gain favor?”

“Xi Yue is inexperienced, do you still want to deceive me? If you truly like Xi Yue, you should know that once her cultivation falls into emotional obstacles, the great Dao is hopeless!”

Yun Wanshang said coldly.

Although she was annoyed by Xiao Xiyue’s affairs and despaired of her being iron unfit for steel, she also felt inexplicably irritable towards Lu Changsheng.

“The lad understands, but Xi Yue and I truly love each other, I only hope real person would bless us.”

“I will not obstruct or blame Xi Yue if she seeks the Dao someday, I will only find ways to support and fulfill her.”

Lu Changsheng took a deep breath and said aloud, bearing the pressure.

Before this, he had envisioned several scenarios, never expecting it would turn out this way.

At this moment, he felt like a poor scholar who unintentionally encountered a distinguished young lady and now faced the beating of love birds when coming to ask for her hand.

After a moment of silence in the great hall, the female voice continued, “You can deceive Xi Yue with these words, but do you think you can deceive me?”

“Xi Yue is inexperienced and naive, blinded by affection, unable to see your true face. If you truly wish to help Xi Yue achieve Dao, why would you do this?”

Yun Wanshang continued.

Thinking about this, she recalled how, due to the Red Phoenix Karma Fire, she had spent a night with Lu Changsheng, who had then looked at her pitifully and helplessly like a married man.

At the time, she actually believed he was some sort of decent married man.

Only to find out later he already had multiple wives and was the father of dozens of children.

Utterly shameless!

At the thought, Yun Wanshang’s heart surged with anger, almost wishing to cleave him with a sword.

She had genuinely been pure then, her spirit-nurturing energy had even benefited him, and yet he had the nerve to seem aggrieved?

Not only her, but now her disciple Xiao Xiyue was deceived by this vile thief!

Outside the great hall, Lu Changsheng’s mouth twitched, uncertain how to respond to this.

As the other had said, in his early years with Xiao Xiyue, he harbored ulterior motives, not wanting Xiao Xiyue to leave.

But isn't that human nature?

Facing such a fairy, who could merely focus on cultivation!

“Xi Yue, this man just looks decent but how can mere sweet words and a honeyed mouth trap you in emotional jeopardy?”

Yun Wanshang continued to speak out.

Lu Changsheng: “???”

Could we just talk properly, why is there personal attack?

“Master...”

Xiao Xiyue's head drooped slightly, at this moment unsure of what to say.

For decades, she had never seen her master so angry.

Knowing she had thoroughly disappointed her master, she dared not defend herself too much.

“Now that things have come to this, I will say no more. Take this cultivation technique and go cultivate.”

“Xi Yue, if you do not achieve Core Formation within fifty years, I will personally slay him!”

Yun Wanshang knew that given the circumstances, her own interference would be futile.

Since it had come to this, she decided to put some pressure on them.

Amid her words, a jade slip whooshed from within the hall, appearing before Xiao Xiyue.

Lu Changsheng: “???”

Why should I be slain if Xiao Xiyue fails to achieve Core Formation within fifty years?

Isn't this too tyrannical?

Hey, but fifty years feel quite long though.

With his circumstances, achieving Core Formation within fifty years was more than feasible.

Once I achieve Core Formation and condense a high-quality gold core, it might not even be clear who could slay whom!

Immediately, Lu Changsheng cupped his hands and said aloud, “Please rest assured, real person. If Xi Yue fails to achieve Core Formation within fifty years, there is no need for the real person to take action. I, Lu Changsheng, will personally come to Caiyun Peak to admit guilt and accept whatever punishment the real person decrees!”

Fifty years later, he would stand here and see if she could slay him.

However, he felt they could find a solution to Xiao Xiyue’s cultivation issues within the fifty years.

“Changsheng.”

Hearing this, Xiao Xiyue’s face froze, suddenly looking at Lu Changsheng.

Although fifty years was a long time, providing ample time to cultivate to Foundation Establishment Peak, the breakthrough to Core Formation was not that simple.

Even if she cultivated the Supreme Forgetful Love Technique, she needed to make various preparations for Core Formation.

Like many Foundation Establishment Peak cultivators, they spent their whole lives at the Foundation level because they dared not attempt the breakthrough, the chances being far too low.

Furthermore, she herself lacked the confidence to overcome this emotional hurdle.

Chapter 910: The Tremor of the Sun Moon Samsara Technique and the Tongyu Phoenix Marrow Body!

Inside the palace, Yun Wanshang heard Lu Changsheng's reply and was somewhat astonished.

She knew very well the situation of her disciple, Xiao Xiyue.

Setting a fifty-year time limit was merely a hope that Xiao Xiyue could leverage these feelings to overcome the emotional barrier.

As for Lu Changsheng, she didn't have any expectations at all.

But Lu Changsheng's actions had caught her off guard.

If Xiao Xiyue couldn't make a breakthrough in Core Formation within fifty years, he had offered to come and confess his guilt.

Had it not been for his swine-like behavior, she would have been quite satisfied with this sense of responsibility.

After all, as a Nascent Soul Immortal, with sharp spiritual sense, she could tell that Lu Changsheng was truly sincere with his words, and they were not a sham.

“Is he truly so deeply in love with Xi Yue, or does he have some hidden confidence?”

Yun Wanshang’s face was stunningly beautiful, her eyes like water, noble and frosty, she glanced subconsciously at Lu Changsheng’s cultivation level situation.

“Hmm!? Still at the Foundation Establishment Mid-Stage? No advancement in body refinement either?”

Caiyun True Immortal’s eyebrows furrowed.

Over ten years ago, Lu Changsheng had already reached the Foundation Establishment Mid-Stage cultivation level.

Furthermore, he practiced Magical Dual Cultivation, ranking even higher than Xiao Xiyue.

Now more than ten years had passed, and he hadn’t advanced at all?

“Could it be that after establishing a family, he became engrossed in the pleasures of the flesh?”

Yun Wanshang immediately speculated that Lu Changsheng, after establishing a stable life with his family, had become lax in his cultivation, indulging in pleasures and neglecting his duties.

After all, she was aware of many such incidents.

Many Loose Cultivators, after breaking through to Foundation Establishment, would feel content with life and abandon their path halfway, losing themselves in enjoyment.

Suddenly, she felt a surge of frustration, like the helpless anger of finding iron but being unable to forge steel!

She believed that Lu Changsheng, who clearly had fortuitous opportunities and a top-tier physique, did not know how to cherish them, indulging in pleasures and wasting his potential.

Although she believed she had no ties or relations with Lu Changsheng, and that it was none of her concern,

for some reason, she felt irritated.

“Even if we have no ties, you have received my Spirit-nurturing Energy!”

“You can be useless, but I, Yun Wanshang, will absolutely not allow someone who received my Spirit-nurturing Energy to be someone who only knows how to indulge in pleasures and waste their life.”

Yun Wanshang’s delicate, jade-like hands clenched tightly, her eyes flashing with an indescribable chill.

She then coldly addressed Lu Changsheng, who was outside the grand hall, “If your cultivation progresses too slowly and hampers Xi Yue, I will still eliminate you!”

“???”

Outside the grand hall, Lu Changsheng was startled and somewhat bewildered.

Hadn’t Xi Yue said her master was quite reasonable?

Why so domineering!

If Xiao Xiyue couldn’t break through Core Formation in fifty years, she would eliminate him.

If his own cultivation was slow and he hindered Xiao Xiyue, she would also eliminate him?

Indeed, the disciple of a Nascent Soul Immortal was not so easily married.

Luckily, he had backups and was not worried at all.

Facing the invisible pressure, he stood tall, bowed, and said, “Please rest assured, True Immortal, I will definitely not hamper Xi Yue, and we will both strive for Core Formation within fifty years!”

“But, I also have a request, if Xi Yue and I both successfully break through to Core Formation, I hope you will give us your blessings.”

Lu Changsheng spoke with neither humility nor arrogance.

Although he was confident that after Core Formation, he would not fear Caiyun True Immortal, and she couldn't stop him,

she was, after all, Xiao Xiyue's master, an elder, and still deserved his respect.

Moreover, there was an old saying, “A love without the blessings of elders is ultimately imperfect.”

For the sake of Xiao Xiyue, he also hoped to receive the recognition, approval, and blessings of this Caiyun True Immortal.

“Hmm!?”

Yun Wanshang's beautiful eyes were piercing, her brows slightly furrowed, wondering where Lu Changsheng got the confidence to boldly claim that he and Xiao Xiyue could both challenge Core Formation within fifty years.

Although his cultivation used to be faster than Xiao Xiyue in his early years,

once Xiao Xiyue overcame the emotional trial of the Supreme Forgetful Love Technique, she could quickly obtain Core Formation Spiritual Objects and Coagulation Crystal Elixir through Qingyun Sect.

As a Clan Cultivator, he would definitely not be able to get the Coagulation Crystal Elixir!

At most, he would spend a great price to collect one or two Core Formation Spiritual Objects.

This is why the cultivation path of Loose Cultivators is difficult!

Everything can only be relied upon oneself.

During the Qi-Training stage, scurrying about for a Foundation Establishment Elixir, Foundation Establishment Spirit Objects.

During Foundation Establishment stage, scurrying about for a Coagulation Crystal Elixir, Core Formation Spiritual Objects!

Many Loose Cultivators might busy themselves their entire lives and end up with nothing, or even worse, with their lives and souls scattered, bones buried in the wilderness.

However, since Lu Changsheng said so, she no longer said anything more and coldly replied with a clear, indifferent voice, “If you can achieve Core Formation within fifty years, I will no longer meddle in the matter between you and Xi Yue.”

“And if Xi Yue is willing, I may even personally conduct the Dao Companion ceremony for you both!”

“But if you fail, don’t blame me for being heartless!”

Yun Wanshang’s gorgeous face was expressionless, her voice clear and moving as it carried the authority unique to those above.

Xiao Xiyue wants to break through the Third Layer of Supreme Forgetfulness. She must overcome the emotional obstacles.

Once she overcomes the emotional obstacles, even if she doesn’t forget Lu Changsheng, she would be able to view this relationship calmly.

At that time, it’s highly likely the two would not be able to continue their romance.

If they indeed rekindle their past relationship, but both have broken through to Core Formation, she as a master wouldn’t interfere anymore.

After all, at this stage in cultivation, one does not need others to meddle in their path.

“Thank you, True Immortal!”

Upon hearing this, Lu Changsheng immediately bowed in thanks towards the grand hall.

He thought to himself that although she was somewhat overbearing, she was still a reasonable person.

There was no response from within the grand hall.

“Changsheng.”

Xiao Xiyue looked at the quiet grand hall, turned her beautiful head towards Lu Changsheng, and felt a wave of emotion in her heart.

She believed that Lu Changsheng had the potential to break through to Core Formation within fifty years, but she was not certain about herself.

“Rest assured, I have everything under control,” said Lu Changsheng as he held Xiao Xiyue’s fair hand, his expression gentle and voice soft.