

## The Quest 397

Chapter 397: Thick Earth Formation (1)

The Elder had already decided to rebuild the Spirit Field.

Mo Hua had also begun further planning of the Formation Diagram.

In a typical Formation, the Formation Patterns are drawn on the Formation media, and while they fit together, they are independent of each other, with little connection.

The Formation media is just a medium.

But now, in drawing the Thick Earth Formation, the land itself is being reconstructed by the Formation.

With the natural landscape as a guide, complemented by the carving of Formation Patterns, the overall scheme of the Formation will integrate with nature to become one.

Cultivators learn about Formations from the myriad things in the world,

And then they build those Formations into all things.

Mo Hua appeared thoughtful, inspired, he looked up at the sky again.

The Heavenly Dao Formation in the sky must also be based on this principle.

By borrowing the heavens to comprehend Formations, and then merging Formations with the heavens, the heavens and the Great Formation become one.

Now, as he constructed the Thick Earth Formation, he was also unifying the Formation with nature.

However, the Formation was merely first grade, and the Spirit Field was only a hundred acres.

A hundred acres of good land seemed vast, but when compared to the vast earth and the endless sky, it was insignificant.

But a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.

The Great Formation that reaches the heavens is also made up of individual Formation Patterns.

Mo Hua's gaze was resolute.

Bit by bit, he would comprehend, step by step, he would learn, grounded in reality, and one day, he would be able to glimpse the true essence of the Heavenly Dao Formation above the nine heavens.

He would also use his own power, with supreme Divine Sense, to merge Formations with the heavens and the earth, to construct a Great Formation that connects heaven and earth.

Bai Zisheng, who was nearby, saw Mo Hua looking at the sky, with an inexplicably determined look, and he couldn't help but look up at the blue sky too.

But he couldn't see anything...

Bai Zisheng stealthily asked Mo Hua, "What are you looking at?"

"Formation!"

"Where is there any Formation?"

"There is!"

"Really?"

"Yes," Mo Hua nodded, "Master said so."

And he had seen it too.

Bai Zisheng, half believing and half doubting, said, "Can you see it now?"

Mo Hua replied, "Not yet."

"If you can't see it, why do you keep looking..."

Bai Zisheng muttered, but a competitive spirit arose within him, and he also looked up, staring motionless at the sky.

Bai Zixi passed by, equally puzzled, "What are you two looking at?"

"Looking at the Formation!"

Mo Hua and the others said in unison.

Bai Zixi also looked up, saw nothing, but seeing Mo Hua and the others looked earnest, she too joined them in looking up.

The sky was vast, with clouds changing forms.

Below, the green Spirit Rice swayed with the wind, turning into rolling waves.

Mo Hua and the others stood on the ground, looking up at the sky.

They were tiny in form, but their aspirations soared high.

...

The rebuilding of the Spirit Field was proceeding methodically.

It took Mo Hua two days to design the Formation Diagram for the Spirit Field.

Bai Zisheng and Bai Zixi also helped.

The newly constructed Formation Diagram made the Spirit Field no longer as neatly arranged as blocks of tofu, but shaped more naturally, flowing with the terrain.

The ridges of the field intertwined to divide and yet connect the Spirit Field.

Near the ridges, the Formations to be carved were also marked out.

These Formations were primarily Cultivating Soil Formations, intended to aid the Thick Earth Formation, nourishing the soil and water, while also providing Spiritual Power to the Thick Earth Formation.

The ridges became Formation Patterns, the layout became the Formation Pivot, and as a whole, it was a complete, first grade Thick Earth Ultimate Formation with eleven patterns.

Bai Zisheng and Bai Zixi were both overwhelmingly amazed.

Mo Hua then took the Formation Diagram to Mr. Zhuang for review.

Mr. Zhuang nodded in approval.

Only then did Mo Hua find the Elder of East Mountain Village to discuss how to construct this Formation.

In Mo Hua's hands were two diagrams.

One was the Thick Earth Formation Diagram, the other was the current acreage diagram of the Spirit Field.

What the cultivators of East Mountain Village had to do was to alter the acreage diagram of the Spirit Field so that its layout matched that of the Thick Earth Formation Diagram.

This involved many issues.

Which Spirit Fields to keep untouched, which ones to change.

While the Spirit Fields may shift, the total acreage for each household must remain the same, and so on...

The Elder consulted with others, made proper arrangements, and then instructed each Spirit Farmer to take care of their own part before carrying out a unified inspection.

Besides that, they had to purchase Spiritual Ink.

Spiritual Ink required Spirit Stones.

The Spirit Farmers of East Mountain Village each contributed a bit of Spirit Stones, pooling enough together.

About ten robust Spirit Farmers, carrying the Spirit Stones, made a trip to Shangtai City, bought the Spiritual Ink, and then delivered it back to the village.

Mo Hua went along on this trip too.

One reason was that the Spiritual Ink was of the utmost importance, draining nearly half of East Mountain Village's resources, and thus there could be no mistakes,

The second reason was that the quality of Spiritual Ink varied widely, with prices ranging accordingly.

The Spirit Farmers didn't understand Formations and could not distinguish between good and bad, so they were easily deceived into buying low-quality Spiritual Ink.

The third reason was the Sun Family.

The Sun Family would not let things rest.

And just as Mo Hua had anticipated, on this trip, he indeed ran into cultivators from the Sun Family.

More than a dozen Spirit Farmers had left East Mountain Village and had barely stepped out of Thousand Families Town when they were shadowed by several sneaky Sun Family cultivators.

They wore the clothes of Spirit Farmers, thinking their disguise was good.

But they couldn't possibly fool Mo Hua.

With his eleven-pattern Divine Sense, comparable to Foundation Establishment,

These men attempting to tail Mo Hua was like trying to steal while carrying a lantern; Mo Hua would find it hard not to notice them.

Mo Hua didn't bother to take action; he simply led the group down a few detours and shook off those Sun Family cultivators.

On the return trip, the Sun Family sent even more cultivators to block the way,

But Mo Hua led the group down a secluded mountain path, and they returned to the village safe and sound.

This left the accompanying Spirit Farmers astonished.

Ding Dachuan even stealthily asked:

"Little gentleman, could you possibly know fortune-telling..."

The whereabouts of the Sun Family cultivators, he knew everything like the back of his hand.

Mo Hua couldn't help but laugh and cry:

"I just have a slightly stronger Divine Sense, that's why I discovered them in advance."

Ding Dachuan nodded, but clearly didn't believe him.

The little gentleman is but in the Qi-refining Realm, so even if his Divine Sense is strong, how strong could it be.

He felt that the reason of knowing fortune-telling seemed more reliable...

After that, they began formally constructing the Formation.

While the Formation was being built, some Spirit Farmers patrolled nearby to prevent the Sun Family cultivators from causing trouble.

Among the most active was Bai Zisheng.

Originally, Mo Hua wanted him to help with Drawing the Formation.

He indeed did help.

But not long after he started drawing, upon hearing that people were needed to patrol to guard against the Sun Family in case they caused trouble, he looked at Mo Hua with eager eyes:

"I want to go fight... no, patrol!"

Mo Hua disagreed, "Drawing the Formation is the real business."

Bai Zisheng then sighed.

Being the senior brother, if it were anything else, he wouldn't ask his junior brother Mo Hua, and would make decisions by himself.

But now, as they were Drawing the Formation, even though he was the senior brother, he still had to listen to Mo Hua.

Bai Zisheng continued Drawing the Formation, but his expression was listless, heaving sighs without spirit.

Seeing this, Mo Hua, feeling somewhat helpless, said:

"Go patrol then. The Spirit Farmers of East Mountain Village may not be a match for the Sun Family cultivators."

Bai Zisheng's eyes lit up, "Really?"

"Really."

Bai Zisheng felt a bit apologetic and hesitated:

"You don't need me to help you Draw the Formation anymore?"

Mo Hua gave him a look, "Alright then, how about you stay and Draw the Formation?"

Bai Zisheng immediately sprang up, "Never mind, I don't draw as well as you. You paint the Formation; I'll patrol and make sure those Sun Family villains don't disturb you!"

Having said this, his expression was one of excitement as he ran off proud and vigorous.

Mo Hua smiled to himself.

Thereafter, Bai Zisheng patrolled around the Spirit Fields to see if any Sun Family cultivators came to make trouble.

One evening, indeed, a few Sun Family cultivators sneaked over to scout around.



Without a second word, Bai Zisheng, his movement technique swift as the wind, directly charged at them.

These cultivators were no match for Bai Zisheng; he took care of them quickly and efficiently, leaving them bruised and swollen, scurrying away with their tails between their legs.

Remembering Mo Hua's admonition—he could fight, but he should not strike fatally to avoid escalating the situation—

So Bai Zisheng simply made his point and spared their lives.

The Sun Family cultivators who had been beaten black and blue by Bai Zisheng fled back to the Sun Family and met with Family Head Sun Yi.

Sun Yi then asked, "Did you find out anything?"

But without waiting for his subordinates to answer, seeing their injuries, he had his answer.

It was clear that they had found out nothing and had been given a thrashing.

Sun Yi could only helplessly wave his hand and say:

"Go recover from your injuries."

The Sun Family cultivators withdrew, and Sun Ze walked in, saying to Sun Yi:

"Father, could it be that they really found our Sun Family's ancestral Formation?"

Sun Yi looked solemn, "It's not impossible... That kid is not simple, and there's been such a big commotion at the Spirit Fields. I guess they really discovered something..."

"What should we do? Should we take action now?" Sun Ze asked, "Our Sun Family's inheritance can't fall into outsiders' hands."

Sun Yi did not respond.

Sun Ze said, "Father, you can't still be waiting, can you?"

Sun Yi frowned, "I'm not sure what they are doing right now."

"Could it be that the kid learned the Old Ancestor's Formation and wants to redraw it?" Sun Ze speculated.

Sun Yi looked coldly at Sun Ze, "What nonsense are you talking?"

Sun Ze was puzzled, "Isn't it..."

Sun Yi scoffed, "You have no idea just how profound our Old Ancestor of Sun Family's Formation is..."

"The Formation he left behind, is it something so easily learned?"

"Forget about that kid, who's barely in his teens. Even if he's been studying Formations for ten full years,"

"Even if he keeps studying for another few decades, the level of his Formation skills couldn't possibly match one-tenth of the Old Ancestor of Sun Family's."

Sun Ze said in shock:

"Was our Old Ancestor really that incredible?"

Sun Yi looked down disdainfully at his son:

"You fail to apply yourself, having barely skimmed the surface of Formation knowledge. You have no clue about the depth of skill involved."

"Even among First Grade Formation Masters, the discrepancy can be huge, let alone a Second Grade Formation Master."

"Whether it's Divine Sense, understanding of Formations, or Formation accomplishment, the differences are as vast as heaven and earth."

Sun Ze couldn't help but nod.

He had originally thought that the Formation inheritance of the Sun Family had declined, and his ancestors couldn't be that great.

Yet he had overestimated others and underestimated the Old Ancestor of the Sun Family.

"But what is that kid doing right now, and what kind of Formation is he Drawing?"

Sun Yi thought for a moment, then shook his head:

"I don't know. Let's wait until they're finished."

Sun Ze was a bit anxious, "Are we really going to let this go unchecked?"

"You don't understand."

"Don't understand what?"

Sun Yi's gaze sharpened, and he said faintly:

"No matter what they're doing, in the end, it will only benefit our Sun Family."

Sun Ze paused, deep in thought.

Sun Yi continued, "These people are after all foreign cultivators. No matter how much they do, they will eventually leave."

"Once they're gone, these Spirit Farmers will still be at our mercy."

"Whatever benefits they give to the Spirit Farmers will remain in their hands and will ultimately fall into our Sun Family's possession."

"This Thousand Families Town is our Sun Family's Thousand Families Town, and everything in it is ours!"

"Moreover, the Formation in the Spirit Fields, ultimately, enriches the land."

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Sun Yi let out a cold laugh, "We just have to be patient. In the end, not only can we retrieve the ancestral Formation, but we can also rely on these fertile Spirit Fields to ensure that our Sun Family's descendants are provided for and carefree..."