

## The Quest 611

### Chapter 611: Immortal Sky Formation Flow (2)

"This legacy is known as—"

Mr. Zhuang's expression was solemn as he articulated each word, "Immortal Sky Formation Flow!"

Mo Hua was startled, "Innate Formation Flow?"

Mr. Zhuang shook his head, "Not Innate..."

He took out a brush and wrote a character on paper, "It's Immortal Sky."

Immortal Sky...

Mo Hua was somewhat incredulous, "Immortal as in becoming an Immortal?"

Mr. Zhuang slightly nodded, "This legacy is highly confidential. Outsiders have only heard about it but have never seen its script, so they have always assumed that this set of inheritances was called 'Innate Formation Flow.' However, its real name is 'Immortal Sky Formation Flow'!"

"Immortal Sky Formation Flow, that's the Immortal Sky Formation Origin Flow."

"Since the creation of heaven and earth, when Immortals attained the Dao, they engraved Taoist meanings, resulting in the formations of the heavens. Hence, all formations in the world derive from the Dao and ultimately return to the Dao, all sharing a unified origin stream."

"The Innate Formation Flow represents the origin stream that encompasses all formations in the world."

"Master one, understand all, unite a myriad of formations into one."

"After learning the Immortal Sky Formation Flow, one will be able to comprehend the origin flow of the majority of the world's formations. When studying other formations thereafter, progress

would be greatly accelerated, and one might even surpass the barriers of Divine Sense to comprehend certain formations that are extremely difficult and require exceptional Divine Sense..."

Mo Hua's mouth fell open.

This wasn't just an inheritance; it was like a cheating device gifted by the Heavenly Dao.

"Of course," Mr. Zhuang continued, "the Innate Formation Flow is capable of interacting with creation, and its functions are exceedingly powerful, but it is also extremely difficult to learn, demanding high comprehension and an excellent Spiritual Root."

"Your fellow disciples can learn this legacy, but, you cannot."

"Is it because of my inferior Spiritual Root?" Mo Hua asked, puzzled.

"Yes, but not entirely," Mr. Zhuang replied, "An inferior Spiritual Root would, at most, make it difficult to excel in learning it, but it shouldn't be entirely prohibitive. However, you, you simply cannot learn it!"

Mo Hua was taken aback.

Mr. Zhuang's eyes held an obscure light as he warned, "Remember, you must never learn it!"

"This legacy is entangled with tremendous karma that you must not touch—at least not with your current level of Cultivation. Even if one day you reach the stages of Foundation Establishment and Golden Core, you still must not meddle with this karma!"

Not even with a Golden Core...

Mo Hua's eyes shone with determination as he nodded solemnly:

"Master, I have remembered!"

Mr. Zhuang inspected Mo Hua's eyes, ensuring that he truly took the words to heart and committed them to memory, before he finally relaxed slightly.

"There's another reason..." Mr. Zhuang continued, "You don't need to, or rather, you should not learn the Immortal Sky Formation Flow."

Now Mo Hua was genuinely confused.

Mr. Zhuang sighed:

"Immortal Sky Formation Origin Flow, unifying myriad formations into one, master one and understand all, able to comprehend the origin flow of all formations and methods in the world..."

"These words have also been passed down by the ancient ancestors of our Sect..."

Mo Hua's eyes brightened, understanding: "The ancient ancestors wouldn't lie!"

Mr. Zhuang's eyes gleamed with satisfaction as he nodded:

"This saying has been passed down through generations by our Sect's ancient ancestors, but whether it's true or false, and to what extent, is not clear."

"So far, it seems true that the Immortal Sky Formation Flow can enhance one's comprehension of formations, as the ancestors described."

"But what about later on? When one advances further and comprehends higher aspects, that remains unknown."

"Moreover, even if the Immortal Sky Formation Flow includes the origin stream of all formations under heaven, at the end of the day, it is still the 'Dao' summarized by someone else."

"It's just that this 'person' might possibly be an 'Immortal.'" Find your next read on

"Even whether they are an Immortal, and what kind of Immortal, is hard to say..."

Mr. Zhuang gazed expectantly at Mo Hua:

"Zisheng and Zixi wish to learn the Immortal Sky Formation Flow to comprehend formations because their Spiritual Roots are exceptional but their Divine Sense is lacking, so they must rely on such methods to study advanced formations."

"But you are different..."

"Your Divine Sense is stronger than anyone's."

"You can rely solely on your Divine Sense to learn, to practice, and to comprehend on your own. Though it may be harder, more fraught with hardship, and require more time and effort, what you gain will be uniquely yours, and your understanding will be deeper."

"Don't prejudge and learn the Immortal Sky Formation Flow impulsively."

"Don't rashly attempt to comprehend the origin streams of the myriad formations of this world without mastering the formations of the heavens."

"Otherwise, any comprehension of formations will be nothing but castles in the air, and what you believe to be the origin stream may not be the true origin stream at all."

"You have to learn your own formations, walk your own path..."

Walk your own path...

Struck by enlightenment, Mo Hua's eyes sparkled.

He said nothing but solemnly bowed to Mr. Zhuang.

Mr. Zhuang's eyes shone with gratification, filled with a touch of sentiment.

He had found himself a worthy disciple in this lifetime...

Despite a life of trials and an uncertain future, heaven had been kind to him...

Memories surfaced in his mind.

A tumult of emotions swirled.

Mr. Zhuang sighed, looking at Mo Hua as his thoughts gradually soothed.

...

The next day, Mr. Zhuang took Mo Hua and the other two disciples to the Formation Pavilion.

At that time, the Formation Pavilion was much less crowded.

The vast Formation Pavilion was quiet and solemn.

Between the carved beams and painted rafters lay countless books and charts of formations, showcasing rigor and ornate beauty.

Greeting Mo Hua and his fellow disciples were only the Chief Elder of the Five Elements Sect and Sect Leader Liao.

The Chief Elder looked slightly unwell.

It seemed the events of the previous day were still fresh in his mind.

He could even hear Mo Hua's questions in his dreams: "What else is there to compare?", "Anyone else?"...

The Chief Elder's eyelids twitched uncontrollably.

Chapter 612: Immortal Sky Formation Flow (3)

This junior formation master, despite appearing innocent, is actually a genuine formation monster!

He is like a "miniature" Mr. Zhuang.

Even more detestable than Mr. Zhuang.

The chief elder was in great distress.

The Five Elements Sect had lost, and today, its core inheritance was to be shared with others for learning.

Although the First-grade Thirteen Stripes Five Elements Spirit Formation is very difficult to learn.

But facing Mr. Zhuang, and Mo Hua, this inscrutable junior formation master, the chief elder felt uncertain, which showed in his pale face tinged with slight anxiety.

Meanwhile, Sect Leader Liao seemed unbothered, as if it were no big deal to him whether the Ultimate Formation of the Five Elements Sect would be learned by others or not.

As soon as everyone was present, the chief elder, with a stern face, reluctantly said to Mr. Zhuang,

"Please."

Mr. Zhuang nodded slightly with indifference.

The group proceeded along the stairwell up to the Formation Pavilion.

The Formation Pavilion of the Five Elements Sect had four floors.

The first floor was spacious with a great hall, desks, bookshelves, and it mainly housed First-grade Formation Methods for disciples to borrow, study, and ponder over Formation Books and Formation Diagrams, as well as for gatherings and discussions.

The second floor was smaller and, though not luxurious, was more quaint, primarily storing Second-Grade Formation Diagrams and was generally not open to the public.

The third floor was even smaller, meant for the storage of Third Grade Formation Methods.

The settings were somewhat antique, even slightly shabby, yet the atmosphere was ancient and profound, commanding more reverence than the flashy but insubstantial great hall on the first floor.

Third Grade Formation Methods!

Mo Hua smacked his lips.

The heritage of the Five Elements Sect was indeed profound.

Now, he hadn't seen many Second-grade Formations, let alone Third-grade ones.

He was eager to look through the Third-grade Formation Diagrams to see what a Third-Grade Formation looked like.

How many Patterns there were, how the Formation Pivots circulated, how the Formation eyes were constructed, how to learn them, and what effects they produced... ǎNŌĤĚš

Alas, Mo Hua knew that the chief elder of the Five Elements Sect was as frugal as they come.

With his stingy nature, he would certainly be reluctant to let him browse the Third-Grade Formations within the Formation Pavilion.

And true to form, not only was he not allowed to browse, he wasn't even allowed to linger.

The chief elder led Mo Hua and a few others up the stairs, crowded with Formation Patterns, unlocking them with an elder's talisman, and went straight up, bypassing the second and third floors to the fourth.

First floor for First-grade, second floor for Second-grade, third floor for Third-grade.

Since the Five Elements Sect apparently had no Fourth-grade inheritance, the fourth floor must be housing the Sect's ultimate array, the set of five Ultimate Formations—the Five Elements Spirit Formation.

Mo Hua, following behind Mr. Zhuang, stealthily poked his head out, glancing left and right.

The fourth floor of the Five Elements Sect was even narrower.

The surrounding furnishings were simpler, with wooden beams and windows all around.

In the center was a Shrine.

Underneath the Shrine, there were five meditation cushions.

The walls and floor were marked with a Formation, but this Formation had its Patterns concealed, and its aura was profound and obscure, at least Second-grade, or possibly even Third-grade...

Mo Hua wouldn't even doubt if it were Fourth-grade.

Mo Hua began to regard the Five Elements Sect with a hint of reverence.

Although the current Five Elements Sect, once stripped of its glorious facade, was nothing but a hopeless mess.

But its ancestors had an extremely profound legacy.

This fourth floor of the Formation Pavilion, even if it only used ordinary wood as Formation media, the array set up still commanded respect and was not to be underestimated.

The chief elder also felt somewhat nostalgic, but after a moment, he composed himself and said to Mo Hua and the others,

"The Five Elements Spirit Formation is hidden within this Shrine."

"Sitting on these meditation cushions and Pondering the Shrine, if one has sufficient comprehension, the Formation Diagram of the Five Elements Spirit Formation will be revealed."

Pondering?

Mo Hua was momentarily stunned, then turned to look at the Shrine.

So this Shrine was a kind of alternative Contemplation Map?

By pondering it with enough understanding, one would be able to learn the Five Elements Spirit Formation?

It couldn't be that simple, could it...

Mo Hua sneaked a glance at the chief elder and, as expected, saw a hint of mockery and cunning flash through the depths of the elder's eyes. Continue your journey with

Not just a miser,

But an old fox as well...

Mo Hua mumbled to himself.

Chapter 613: Shrine (1)

"My Five Elements Sect always keeps its word, willing to accept a loss if the bet is lost."

The Chief Elder cast a wary glance at Mo Hua, then continued, "Several young friends, you may study here, the Five Elements Sect's highest inheritance—the Five Elements Spirit Formation."

"The Five Elements Spirit Formation, with its Thirteen Stripes, is a top-notch Ultimate Formation."

"The value of this Formation need not be overstated."

"However, there are some rules to learning this Formation that must be followed..."

"First, you may only study for five days, four hours each day. If you can learn it, the Five Elements Sect has no objections, but if not, please be aware of the consequences..."

"Second, during the study period, you must not damage any bricks or wood within this room, and none of the furnishings may be moved;"

"Third, you must show respect to the Shrine and not disgrace the ancestors of the Five Elements Sect;"

"Fourth, whether you master the Formation or not, no matter how much you learn, you must not divulge it to outsiders!"

"Fifth..."

The Chief Elder then rambled on, spouting a bunch of nonsense and laying out a litany of rules.

Mo Hua found it tedious, but for the sake of the Five Elements Spirit Formation, he endured.

After finishing, the Chief Elder cast another look at Mr. Zhuang, suggesting politely,

"The third floor is prepared with the exquisite Li Mountain Mist Tea, please, Gentleman, move there to rest and sample it."

This was clearly a dismissal.

No outsiders were allowed in front of the Shrine during the study of the Formation.

Mr. Zhuang nodded, his gaze sweeping across the faces of Mo Hua and the others as he instructed, "Study well." He then flicked his sleeve and went downstairs for tea.

The Chief Elder also followed Mr. Zhuang out.

As the Chief Elder left, he lit the Incense Burner and gave Mo Hua and the others a meaningful look, then locked the door before leaving.

In front of the quiet and solemn Shrine, only Mo Hua and the others remained.

They had only five days, with four hours a day, to comprehend the Thirteen Stripes Five Elements Spirit Formation of the Five Elements Sect.

They had to make the most of their time.

In front of the Shrine, there were five cushions.

"Sit on the cushions, ponder the Shrine, and comprehend the Formation,"

That was what the Chief Elder had said.

Moreover, he also specifically mentioned that the "sitting" on the cushions was "kneeling and sitting."

But kneeling was out of the question.

The ancestors of the Five Elements Sect meant nothing to Mo Hua, and he was not about to kneel before them.

Mo Hua thus sat cross-legged on top of a cushion.

Bai Zisheng and Bai Zixi exchanged a glance with Mo Hua and did the same, sitting cross-legged on their cushions.

Mo Hua sat in the middle, with Zixi on his left and Zisheng on his right.

The three of them began to concentrate and ponder the Shrine.

The Shrine was made of dark wood and gold lacquer, magnificent and yet simple and solemn.

It featured gilded relief sculptures depicting ancestral figures, Spirit Beasts drawing chariots, precious flowers and herbs, carved beams and painted rafters, various Magical Treasures...

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Mo Hua was dazzled by the sight but did not quite understand the purpose of these engravings...

Only the center of the Shrine seemed to house a Taoist Field.

In the center of the Taoist Field, a giant Array Plate was displayed.

Around it, Formation Masters gathered, their expressions deferential.

Above the field, an elder stood, solemn, pointing to the heavens as if imparting teachings and spreading the Great Dao.

The Shrine preached the Dao.

The Taoist Field Array Plate.

This was, on the whole Shrine, the place most closely connected to the Formation.

"Could it be that the Five Elements Spirit Formation is engraved on the Array Plate in the center of the Shrine?" Mo Hua guessed and then quieted his heart and Divine Sense, focusing on the Array Plate at the center.

Indeed, after a short while, the sound of a chanting bell seemed to arise.

In front of the Shrine, the smoke from the Incense Burner twirled, floating before Mo Hua, and then, strand by strand, enveloped the front of the Shrine, condensing into Patterns that manifested on the Array Plate.

Mo Hua's spirits lifted.

"Indeed it is so!"

Just as he was about to concentrate on the Formation Patterns, an ancient voice echoed in his ear:

"I shall impart unto you the Formation..."

This sensation was all too familiar.

Previously in South Yue City, when Mo Hua had stolen the Ancestral Master Picture from Zhang Quan, these ethereal, ancient voices incessantly murmured in his ear with phrases like, "I impart unto you the Great Dao," "Help you ascend to immortality," "Long life and enduring vision"...

Instinctively, Mo Hua felt a revulsion.

Another charlatan!

His gaze sharpened, Divine Sense stirred, he cleansed his mind, discarding the illusions.

A moment later, everything vanished like smoke.

Above the Incense Burner, the smoke wafted.

But now, it was just ordinary smoke, no longer forming Patterns, no extraordinary phenomenon.

The ancient voice in his ear also disappeared.

The Shrine remained as it was.

And the Array Plate, empty.

It seemed everything, due to Mo Hua's rejection, had dissipated into nothing...

When Mo Hua looked again, the Shrine was still just a Shrine.

No Formation, nothing left...

Mo Hua was stunned.

He pondered the Shrine for a long while, but still, no changes occurred.

Mo Hua muttered to himself:

"Could it be that I outsmarted myself..."

"Was that voice indeed trying to transmit a Formation to me?"

"In the Incense Burner, the smoke swirled, and what it condensed into was indeed the sophisticated Five Elements Formation Patterns..."

"Yet by seeing through the illusion, did I offend the ancestors of the Five Elements Sect, making them unwilling to teach me?"

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"It can't be..."

Mo Hua tried several more times, but it was all in vain.

It seemed as though the Shrine truly didn't wish to teach him the Formation anymore.

The smoke was just smoke, no longer condensing into Formation Patterns...

Mo Hua sighed helplessly.

Was he to blame for having too keen a Divine Sense, too steadfast a Taoist Heart, for being too sensitive to the shifts of Divine Thought?

Mo Hua turned to look at his Junior Brother and Junior Sister.

Bai Zisheng and Bai Zixi both sat cross-legged, their postures upright, their gazes intense, fixed on pondering the Array Plate in the center of the Shrine.

In their eyes, the light of Formation Patterns flickered, seemingly engrossed in comprehension.

#### Chapter 614: Shrine (2)

The two seemed to be studying the Five Elements Spirit Formation...

Mo Hua didn't want to bother them.

Mo Hua tilted his head to the right and glanced at Bai Zisheng.

Then he tilted his head to the left, staring at Bai Zixi for a while, and couldn't help but feel:

The little martial sister is really beautiful!

With her fair skin, delicate brows and eyes, her eyes were like the stars in the sky, serene and sparkling.

This was even after she had changed her appearance, hiding her true face.

If it were her original appearance, she would be even more beautiful...

Mo Hua watched for a while longer, then snapped back to reality:

"I almost forgot, the important thing is the Five Elements Spirit Formation..."

Mo Hua began to concentrate again, pondering the Shrine.

But no matter how he contemplated, the Shrine didn't show the slightest change.

Even when he tried to "play dumb" by sealing his Divine Sense and silently chanting, "Come and bewitch me, I won't see through you," it was useless.

The Shrine still ignored him.

Mo Hua sighed. He looked at the Shrine for a while longer and a doubt inevitably arose:

Is there any connection between this Shrine and the Contemplation Map?

Within a Contemplation Map, some Divine Thoughts reside.

These Divine Thoughts come in all varieties.

They contain both the understanding of the Great Dao, the perception of the Heavenly Dao, and also some cultivators' Divine Sense remnants after death, as well as the evil thoughts of ghosts, zombies, etc.

Till now, Mo Hua hadn't seen a proper Contemplation Map.

The ones he'd seen were all improper ones.

And those maps were all inhabited by dirty and unclean spirits.

So, could this Shrine be a proper "Contemplation Map"?

Mo Hua also remembered his master mentioned that the so-called Contemplation Map is just a general term. Not all objects of contemplation are "maps." Every grass and tree, every brick and tile, Spiritual Artifacts, Magical Treasures, all may contain the Great Dao, or house Divine Thoughts, or be parasitized by evil spirits.

"So does this mean, this Shrine is an alternative type of 'Contemplation Map'?"

"Only, while other Contemplation Maps are 'maps,' this one is a 'shrine'?"

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"Could it be that there is something residing within this Shrine?"

"Is it some kind of Divine Thought? Or is it the spell point of the Five Elements Spirit Formation?"

"Whatever it is, it's a good thing..."

Mo Hua's eyes brightened, followed by some disappointment.

"It's just a pity that it's too big to move..."

"And the Five Elements Sect certainly won't let me move it."

Mo Hua murmured to himself:

"If I could move the Shrine, everything would be solved. I could study it every day, contemplate day and night, and I would definitely learn the Five Elements Spirit Formation..."

Alas, that was just wishful thinking.

To move the Shrine of the Five Elements Sect's ancestors would indeed be going too far...

But the current problem is, how can I learn the Five Elements Spirit Formation...

Mo Hua was a bit troubled, staring blankly at the Shrine.

Inside the Incense Burner, the smoke gradually dissipated.

Time also passed little by little...

Unconsciously, the hour had arrived.

The incense in the burner was also slowly burning out.

It was only then that Mo Hua realized that four hours had passed, and he hadn't learned a single Formation Pattern...

It was like being in an exam, with time running out to hand in the paper, but he hadn't written a single word...

Mo Hua's heart trembled.

He then realized that this trial lasted five days, and if he hadn't learned it today, there were still four days left. Only then did he breathe a sigh of relief.

The incense had burned out.

All of the misty scent had dissipated.

Bai Zisheng and Bai Zixi came back to their senses, blinked, their eyes slightly bright, as they emerged from the state of contemplation.

They simultaneously glanced at Mo Hua and found that he looked like he had sat through a class and learned nothing, and then simply gave up, which startled them for a moment.

At that moment, the Chief Elder opened the door.

His gaze swept over the faces of the three Mo Hua, asked nothing, but simply said:

"The time for today has come. Come back tomorrow."

Mo Hua and the others respectfully bowed and followed Mr. Zhuang out.

Back in the room, Mo Hua said with some guilt:

"Master, I didn't learn anything..."

Mr. Zhuang was somewhat surprised and curious, and said with interest:

"What did you see?"

Mo Hua replied truthfully: "I saw the Formation Patterns on the Array Plate, and I heard an old man speaking. Then habitually, I brushed aside all distractions, and after that... I couldn't see anything..."

Apart from spending a little time sneakily watching the little martial sister, the rest of the time was spent contemplating the Contemplation Map and daydreaming...

"Why is that, master?" asked Mo Hua.

Mr. Zhuang pondered for a moment, then sighed: "Perhaps your Divine Sense is too strong..."

A Divine Sense too strong sees through the essence.

A Taoist Heart clear and undisturbed, immune to bewitchment.

But as a result, he couldn't see the illusion of the Shrine, nor could he see the inheritance of the Five Elements Sect.

Mo Hua muttered: "The Five Elements Sect is too outrageous, how could they use such a strange way to pass down the Ultimate Formation..."

Mr. Zhuang looked at Mo Hua in silence, thinking it wasn't the Five Elements Sect that was outrageous, but his Divine Sense.

In the Qi-refining Realm, to have Thirteen Stripes of Divine Sense.

The ancestors of the Five Elements Sect probably had never anticipated this...

Mr. Zhuang then asked Bai Zisheng and Bai Zixi, "How about you two?"

Both nodded their heads.

Bai Zisheng said: "We've both learned. Sitting on the meditation cushion, pondering the Shrine, Formation Patterns would appear on the Array Plate at the center of the Shrine Taoist Field..."

"There was also an elder speaking about the key points of learning the Five Elements Spirit Formation..."

Mr. Zhuang said, "Draw it for me to see."

Bai Zisheng hesitated, "I didn't learn it all..."

"No matter," Mr. Zhuang said, "Draw as much as you can."

"Alright."

Bai Zisheng nodded, then took out paper and ink and started to draw the Five Elements Formation that he had learned from the Shrine.

Bai Zixi, with a graceful posture, held the brush and followed suit in drawing.

After finishing, they handed their drawings to Mr. Zhuang.

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Mr. Zhuang glanced at it and nodded, "Indeed, it's a first-rate, thirteen-stripe Five Elements Spirit Formation."

Mo Hua also leaned in to take a look.

The Formation that Bai Zisheng drew was an incomplete Fire-series Ultimate Formation, but it should be the Fire Spirit Formation within the Five Elements Spirit Formation series.

The Formation drawn by Bai Zixi was a Wood-series Ultimate Formation, with thirteen complete patterns, not one less, a complete Wood Spirit Formation.

Clearly, Bai Zixi's talent for Formations was quite a bit better than Bai Zisheng's.

A complete first-rate thirteen-stripe Wood Spirit Formation, ah...

Although she used the Immortal Sky Formation Flow, within four hours, she memorized it in its entirety.

Mo Hua couldn't help but praise, "Junior Sister, you are amazing!"

Bai Zixi nodded her head, accepting Mo Hua's compliment, her eyes sparkling.

Bai Zisheng curled his lips, not satisfied with Mo Hua's "sweet talk," but still expressed concern, "Junior Brother, if you can't see the Taoist Field Formation Diagram, doesn't that mean you can't learn the Five Elements Spirit Formation?"

The Five Elements Spirit Formation was actually just icing on the cake for him and Zixi.

They didn't rely on Formations.

But it was different for Mo Hua.

Mo Hua had to follow the path of Formations, had to continuously learn Formations, and had to constantly strengthen his Divine Sense.

The Five Elements Spirit Formation was crucial for Mo Hua.

Mo Hua sighed again.

He didn't have any good solutions.

If the Formation Diagrams never appeared within the Shrine Taoist Field, then there was indeed nothing he could do.

He couldn't just smash the Shrine...

Bai Zixi thought for a moment, her beautiful eyes lighting up, "Brother and I will teach you!"

Bai Zisheng was startled at first but then understood,

"Right, Zixi and I will go learn it, and after mastering it, we'll teach you."

Mo Hua was slightly shocked and then pondered for a moment, his eyes brightening up.

It seemed... not impossible.

To learn is to learn, no matter from where.

His Junior Brother and Sister teaching him Formations was rightfully so.

"But wouldn't that be considered imparting it to outsiders?"

According to the Chief Elder of the Five Elements Sect, one could only learn and practice by oneself.

Bai Zixi shook her head, "It's not considered imparting it to outsiders."

Mo Hua thought about it, nodded, feeling she was right. Since they were all from the same Sect and all qualified to learn Ultimate Formations, exchanging knowledge naturally didn't count as imparting to outsiders. ~~It's not~~

So Bai Zixi and Bai Zisheng began to teach Mo Hua the Wood Spirit Formation and Fire Spirit Formation.

Bai Zixi was calm.

Bai Zisheng, on the other hand, was full of excitement; it was rare for him to have the opportunity to teach Mo Hua Formations.

As they taught the Formation Patterns, they also conveyed the key points and insights they had heard from the Elder to Mo Hua.

Mo Hua concentrated on learning, noting down the patterns while listening to the explanations, raising questions whenever he had any.

By evening, Mo Hua had finally roughly mastered the patterns of both Wood Spirit Formation and Fire Spirit Formation.

However, even though Mo Hua could draw these patterns, they had no effect.

Like other Ultimate Formations, they seemed to lack some important elements, possessing only the form of the patterns but not the essence of the Formation Method.

This was within Mo Hua's expectations.

But what concerned him was another issue:

"Why are there only Wood Spirit Formation and Fire Spirit Formation?"

Where were the other three series of Five Elements Spirit Formations?

Bai Zisheng and Bai Zixi looked at each other and both shook their heads. Discover exclusive content at

"What I saw was only this Spirit Formation..."

"Do you have to learn one Formation at a time, and only after mastering one, can you learn the others?"

"If it's step by step, then why is the sequence different? There's Wood, there's Fire, how is this order determined?"

The three could not understand.

Mo Hua sighed, "We can only check again tomorrow..."

Bai Zisheng also said, "That's the only way."

Bai Zixi also frowned, her eyes showing confusion.

Mr. Zhuang watched the three of them, smiling slightly, without saying a word.

...

At this moment, in front of the solemn shrine on the fourth floor of the Formation Pavilion,

The Chief Elder lit three sticks of incense and placed them in the incense burner.

Incense smoke curled up gently.

After a while, one incense stick burned shorter than the other two.

The one on the left side burned the most, leaving the shortest length, but there was still a long piece left.

The incense on the right burned some, but not too much.

The incense stick in the middle remained untouched.

The Chief Elder was pleased in his heart and nodded,

"Not mastered, good..."

It was not just unmastered; it was completely unmastered!

The Chief Elder felt somewhat relieved and also a bit emotional.

There was talent, a solid foundation in Formation arts, and he had learned the correct things, but after all, he was too young. Studying too much leads to confusion, and his understanding was somewhat lacking...

He didn't grasp any part of the Ultimate Five Elements Formation.

It seemed his guess was correct.

His Junior Brothers and Sisters were indeed stronger than him.

But even if they were stronger and more talented, truly comprehending the Five Elements Spirit Formation was still far off...

Except for the middle one, the other two sticks of sandalwood incense in the burner were still far from being completely burned through...

The Chief Elder let out a sigh of relief.

He bowed to the shrine and devoutly said,

"...bless our Five Elements Sect, may the inheritance not be lost, and let the Way of Formations flourish!"

There was no response from within the shrine.

But the wooden carving of the Elder in the Taoist Field opened its eyes.

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On the second day, the Chief Elder opened the door and burned incense.

Above the shrine, the smoke wafted.

Mo Hua, just like the previous day, sat upright on the meditation cushion, his mind focused and serene, pondering the shrine.

Bai Zisheng and Bai Zixi quickly attained mental concentration and continued to visualize the Formation Patterns.

Mo Hua was still unable to visualize anything, just like the day before.

To him, the shrine was just a shrine.

Above the Taoist Field, Formation Masters gathered, all like wooden statues or clay figures, utterly lifeless.

Above the Array Plate, the air was thick with smoke, but not a single Formation Pattern was to be seen.

Mo Hua sighed, lay on the ground, and watched his Junior Brother and Junior Sister ponder the Shrine.

After half an hour, Bai Zisheng and Bai Zixi opened their eyes, exchanged a glance, then turned to look at Mo Hua.

Mo Hua's eyes shimmered with anticipation, "How did it go?"

Bai Zixi said, "It's the same as yesterday. What I saw was still the Wood Spirit Formation Diagram. Even after learning it, what emerges in the Taoist Field is still only the Wood Spirit Formation; there are no other Five Elements Formation Diagrams."

Bai Zisheng nodded and added, "I only saw the Fire Spirit Formation as well, but I didn't learn it completely yesterday. Today I finally mastered it..."

Mo Hua furrowed his brow.

The Five Elements Spirit Formation comprised five Ultimate Formations of metal, wood, water, fire, and earth.

Now that they had the Wood and Fire Spirit Formations, where were the others hidden?

Mo Hua scanned the entire fourth floor of the Formation Pavilion once more, his gaze finally resting on the meditation cushions on the ground.

Five meditation cushions... Five Elements Spirit Formation...

Bai Zixi also noticed and asked, "Could it be related to the meditation cushions?"

Mo Hua nodded thoughtfully,

"That stingy old man... the Chief Elder, warned us before coming in, saying we must not damage anything in this room, not a brick nor a piece of wood, and we must not move any object..."

"Not move any object..."

"Could he have been referring to these meditation cushions?"

"There is certainly something strange about these meditation cushions..."

Mo Hua peered at the cushions again, his eyes beginning to brighten, "Learning different Formations because of... sitting on different meditation cushions..."

"Sitting on different meditation cushions reveals different Five Elements Spirit Formations..."

"Five meditation cushions, perfectly corresponding to five Formations!"

Bai Zisheng and Bai Zixi's eyes also lit up, "Let's give it a try!"

Bai Zixi took a seat on the cushion furthest to the left, and Bai Zisheng sat on the one furthest to the right.

Both continued to settle their minds and observed the Shrine, visualizing the Formation Diagrams.

Two hours later, Bai Zisheng was still visualizing.

Bai Zixi finished visualizing and emerged from her state of mental concentration, turning to Mo Hua and saying,

"It's the Gold Spirit Formation."

Mo Hua instantly understood.

It seemed his guess was correct. The Five Elements Spirit Formation corresponded to five meditation cushions. One had to sit on different cushions to visualize the various Five Elements Spirit Formations.

Still, Mo Hua was somewhat surprised.

"Junior Sister, have you mastered the Gold Spirit Formation?"

To have learned it after just two hours of visualization?

Bai Zixi nodded, "One stream leads to another; mastering one teaches you about many."

Mo Hua suddenly realized.

This must be what Master referred to as the supreme heritage of Formations—the Immortal Sky Formation Origin Flow.

With the help of the Immortal Sky Formation Flow, one could comprehend some very profound Formations.

And with Junior Sister's Flawless Constitution combined with the Supreme Immortal Sky Formation Flow, the effect was even more pronounced, mutually enhancing.

That's why she was able to learn the Five Elements Spirit Formation quickly.

Bai Zixi then said to Mo Hua, "Make way, please."

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Mo Hua was startled.

Bai Zixi pointed to the cushion he was sitting on.

Only then did Mo Hua realize that one cushion corresponded to one Formation, and the only one left that they had not learned from was the one he was seated on.

Mo Hua stood up and stepped aside.

Bai Zixi walked in front of Mo Hua and sat down lightly and elegantly.

As Junior Sister sat quite close, Mo Hua could even smell a faint fragrance, a fresh and exquisite scent lingering in the nose and twining around the heart.

Mo Hua's face blushed slightly, suddenly feeling somewhat at a loss.

Bai Zixi looked at him with puzzled eyes, "What's wrong, are you uncomfortable?"

Mo Hua shook his head and made up an excuse, saying earnestly,

"I'm just embarrassed that I can't learn the Formation..."

Bai Zixi was silent for a moment, hesitated for a long time, and then made up her mind, slowly reaching out and patting Mo Hua's shoulder with the composure of an elder sister:

"Don't worry, I'll learn it for you!"

Mo Hua felt warmth in his heart and smiled brightly, "Thank you, Senior Sister."

Bai Zixi, looking at Mo Hua's clear, beaming smile, felt strange emotions welling up within her, and couldn't help but compose herself with a solemn expression:

"I'm about to learn the Formation. Don't disturb me."

"Yeah, yeah."

Mo Hua nodded repeatedly, then sat cross-legged behind Bai Zixi, sitting upright and keeping watch for his Junior Sister.

Bai Zixi knew Mo Hua was watching her, which made her a bit unsettled.

In a trance, she felt as if Mo Hua's gaze was like the winter sun, shining upon her, clear and warm, comforting, yet also discomfiting for someone unused to such warmth.

She closed her eyes, taking quite some time to calm her mood, and then opened them, her eyes calm as still water, focusing her mind to ponder the Shrine and grasp the last of the Five Elements Spirit Formation—Water Spirit Formation.

Mo Hua just silently sat there, watching his focused Junior Sister without feeling bored.

The shrine was tranquil, and time quietly slipped away...

Four hours later, the incense burned out once again.

With no more sound in the shrine, the Chief Elder opened the door again and simply stated,

"The hour has come."

The three from the Formation Pavilion returned to their guest rooms, flopped down at the table, and gathered together to discuss and summarize:

"I've mastered the Earth Spirit Formation!"

"I've mastered the Gold Spirit Formation. I've learned more than half of the Water Spirit Formation. I remember the Formation Diagram, but I'm still somewhat puzzled by the essence of the Formation..."

Mo Hua nodded.

Earth Spirit Formation, Gold Spirit Formation, Water Spirit Formation...

Chapter 617: Zafu (2)

With the addition of the previously learned Wood Spirit Formation and Fire Spirit Formation,

The Five Elements Spirit Formation was nearly complete.

"But... can it be this simple?"

Mo Hua furrowed his brow.

A Second Grade Thirteen Stripes Ultimate Formation couldn't possibly be mastered so easily...

"Shall we try out its effects?" Bai Zisheng suggested.

Mo Hua thought for a moment and nodded.

Formation Study emphasizes the application of what is learned.

If drawing a formation yields actual use, it means one has truly grasped the essence of the formation.

If the formation is useless or fails, then it means they haven't truly learned the Five Elements Spirit Formation.

The Five Elements Spirit Formation can strengthen the properties of the Five Elements, amplify Spiritual Power of the Five Elements, and thereby enhance the power of Five Elements type Spiritual Artifacts, machinery, Taoist Skills, and spells.

Bai Zixi took out a spirit sword blank.

This was a blank spirit sword, freshly forged with no formations on it, which she used to practice Artifact Refining—just for fun.

On the sword blank, Bai Zixi drew a Gold Spirit Formation, then, using Spiritual Power, she activated the formation before executing swordsmanship.

Golden sword light condensed at the tip of the sword, slashing towards the ground.

When the sword light met the ground, the formation was damaged, bricks shattered, and a sword mark carved into the ground with remnants of radiant gold Spiritual Power lingering.

"How is it?" Mo Hua asked.

Bai Zixi shook her head, "It has enhanced a bit, but only slightly."

Mo Hua was somewhat disappointed.

"Try something else," Bai Zixi said.

Mo Hua nodded.

After that, besides the Gold Spirit Formation, they tried the Wood Spirit Formation, Fire Spirit Formation, Water Spirit Formation, and Earth Spirit Formation—all of them. 火灵阵 水灵阵

Those who knew the corresponding Five Elements Spell used it for testing.

But there were some they didn't know.

For example, Wood Spirit Formation and Earth Spirit Formation.

Although Bai Zisheng and Bai Zixi had good Spiritual Roots, limited by their attributes, they didn't know the related spells, and in these cases, Mo Hua promptly learned two Five Elements Spells, "Quicksand Skill" and "Wood Poison Art."

He possessed the Small Five Elements Spiritual Root and could learn all Five Elements Spells.

However, since he learned them on the spot, his usage wasn't proficient, the power was lesser, useless in real combat, but sufficient for testing the formation.

All three tried, and in the end, they were quite disappointed.

The Five Elements Spirit Formation seemed to be effective, but its utility was negligible.

Mo Hua sighed lightly.

Though disappointed, this was within expectations.

The reason why an Ultimate Formation is considered ultimate lies not only in its complex patterns and high Divine Sense requirements but also in certain changes to the nature of Spiritual Power or special formation inheritances.

Only by grasping certain principles can one comprehend an Ultimate Formation.

The Reversed Spirit Formation requires Calculation.

The Thick Earth Formation needs perception of the Earth Dao Meaning.

The Spiritual Pivot Formation requires a profound understanding of the central structure of Spiritual Power, transforming spirit into threads, to intricately and minutely control Spiritual Power.

So, what does the Five Elements Spirit Formation require?

How to discern the essence of Spiritual Power in the Five Elements Spirit Formation and truly master this Ultimate Formation?

All three were confused and puzzled.

At 1 a.m.

Mo Hua lay in bed, his Divine Sense submerged in the Sea of Consciousness.

The Taoist Stele appeared before Mo Hua.

On the Taoist Stele, Mo Hua practiced the Five Elements Spirit Formation over and over again.

Mo Hua's Divine Sense was Thirteen Stripes.

The Five Elements Spirit Formation was also a Thirteen Stripes threshold.

Furthermore, although the Five Elements Spirit Formation was an Ultimate Formation, its origin lay in the Five Elements. Having drawn the Large Five Elements Formation, Mo Hua had a profound understanding of the Five Elements Formation structure, so learning it wasn't too difficult.

After practicing more than a dozen times, Mo Hua could draw the Five Elements Spirit Formation.

But that was all he could do.

He simply drew the pattern, cleared the Formation Pivot, and constructed the Formation eye.

He had drawn the frame without grasping the essence.

He couldn't truly be said to have mastered it.

The Five Elements Spirit Formation surely had deeper secrets.

"Where is this secret hidden?"

Mo Hua folded his arms under his head, lying on the ground in the white expanse of his Sea of Consciousness, and began pondering over the people and events of the Five Elements Sect from the beginning...

The Chief Elder staunchly adhering to the tradition, the detached Sect Leader Liao, a bunch of Elders with no presence, hard to distinguish who was who, along with the disciples for whom Formation Study had fallen into decline...

Formation as the basis for establishing the Sect, grand construction in Earth and Wood...

Second Grade Five Elements Mountain Guarding Formation...

Thinking this way, Mo Hua's train of thought began to wander.

He always felt there was some indescribable disharmony within the Five Elements Sect.

But as to where exactly the disconnect lay, he still couldn't see through it...

Mo Hua shook his head, refocusing his attention on the Five Elements Spirit Formation.

The Five Elements Spirit Formation was the most important matter.

According to his master's words, mastering the Five Elements Spirit Formation was crucial to establish a foundation for oneself before proceeding to the Foundation Establishment.

The Five Elements Spirit Formation was kept in the Formation Pavilion.

In the Formation Pavilion, there was a Shrine.

In front of the Shrine, there were five cushions.

The Chief Elder's intention was not to let himself, along with his older martial brother and sisters or even his master's lineage, learn the Five Elements Spirit Formation.

He didn't want the Five Elements Spirit Formation to be disseminated outside.

Thinking the reverse...

It implied that within this Shrine, indeed, there lies the inheritance of the Five Elements Spirit Formation.

If the Chief Elder did not obstruct it, it's really possible that someone could learn it and leave with the knowledge.

Mo Hua then considered from the perspective of his Sect's ancestors:

If I were the venerable ancestor of the Five Elements Sect...

The first order of business wouldn't be worrying about the inheritance being learned by others, but to find a way to allow my disciples to truly comprehend the inheritance of the Five Elements Sect.

If I can't learn it, the Sect will eventually perish.

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As long as I master it well, even if others learn just a little, it does no significant harm.

So, saying that...

The Shrine must be the handiwork of the ancestors of the Five Elements Sect.

The inheritance of the Five Elements Sect is sealed within the Shrine.

The younger disciples of the Five Elements Sect, by pondering the Shrine, could comprehend the Five Elements Spirit Formation.

If that's the case, then this inheritance encompasses not just the Patterns of the Five Elements Spirit Formation but also the true mystery that lies within.

Chapter 618: Meditation Cushion (3)

This mystery might be a kind of Taoist Meaning, perhaps a type of Divine Sense spell method, or perhaps an insight into the rules of a Formation Method.

The Formation Diagram of the Five Elements Spirit Formation is merely the frame.

This mystery is the essence of the heritage.

And this mystery must lie within the Shrine.

Otherwise, no one in the Five Elements Sect would be able to learn the Five Elements Spirit Formation!

—Although now, no one in the Five Elements Sect can learn it anymore...

Mo Hua pondered again and nodded his head.

It must be so!

It wasn't that he was arrogant.

In terms of studying and comprehending an Ultimate Formation of the first grade, there were probably few others whose experience was as rich as his, nor were there many first-grade Formation Masters whose Divine Sense was stronger than his.

Now even he could not learn it.

Let alone the younger disciples of the Five Elements Sect.

Therefore, within the Shrine, there must still be something hidden...

...

On the third day. Discover exclusive tales on

The Chief Elder, as always, burned incense, offered worship, and then closed the door.

Bai Zisheng and Bai Zixi took turns sitting on the meditation cushions, pondering the Shrine Taoist Field.

It was to consolidate the Formation Patterns they had learned before, to check for leaks and fill in gaps, and also to see if they had missed any details.

Mo Hua, as always, neither meditated nor engaged in contemplation.

Because he couldn't contemplate anything.

It seemed that the Shrine didn't want to show him anything.

Mo Hua was doing something else.

He was examining the layout, formations, and the specific construction and purpose of the Shrine on the fourth floor of the Formation Pavilion.

While examining, Mo Hua thought to himself:

If he were the founding ancestor of the Five Elements Sect, how would he arrange the formations, how would he construct the Shrine, and how would he design the form of inheritance in such a way as to allow his disciples to learn the true teachings of the Five Elements Sect?

And at the same time, prevent disciples from other Sects with ill intentions—like himself—from stealing these teachings?

The first would be the formations.

Defensive, sound-isolating, and consciousness-obstructing formations would certainly be indispensable.

Mo Hua looked around at his surroundings.

There were some extremely abstruse, profound, and powerful sensations of formation energy around, which should be the measures laid down by the ancestral founders of the Five Elements Sect.

Mo Hua's experience was limited, but he blindly guessed that these formations were at least of the Third Grade.

Third Grade formations were beyond Mo Hua's comprehension.

Mo Hua could only choose to ignore them for now.

Next, the Shrine.

Mo Hua stared at the Shrine for a long time, combining his musings from the day before, and gradually began to understand some issues:

The Shrine built by the Five Elements Sect might not necessarily worship ancestors.

A family's Shrine worships ancestors, revering the bloodline.

A Sect venerates the transmission of teachings, so what it should worship is the heritage itself.

Therefore, within this Shrine, although there are the names of ancestors and the Formation Master Wooden Carving,

The core is the Taoist Field.

The implication of the Taoist Field is the transmission of teachings.

Its purpose is to allow all disciples of the Five Elements Sect, when facing the Shrine, to feel as if they are present in the Taoist Field, hearing the teachings of the ancestors, listening to the true explanations of formations, and understanding the mysteries of the Great Dao.

But how to listen?

Mo Hua looked again at his Junior Brother and Junior Sister.

They just sat upright on the meditation cushions, looking at the Shrine, contemplating the Formation Diagrams that emerged within the Taoist Field.

The meditation cushions...

Mo Hua then examined the meditation cushions further.

This meditation cushion was just an ordinary one.

Although the material was special and Mo Hua could not understand it, its interior had no formations, and Divine Sense scanning revealed no anomalies, meaning the meditation cushion itself was not key.

"But when contemplating, one must indeed sit on the meditation cushion..."

Mo Hua then recalled what the Chief Elder said:

"All furnishings must not be moved..."

Mo Hua's heart shivered.

Not to be moved implies that the meditation cushions shouldn't change position, which in other words, suggests that the most critical aspect of the meditation cushion lies in its position...

His master once said that all things in the world have a surface and an inside, both emptiness and solidity.

The appearance of the meditation cushion is solid; the reality is empty;

The emptiness of position is solid.

It's not by sitting on the meditation cushion that one can contemplate the Shrine and comprehend the Ultimate Formation.

It is by sitting in the position of the meditation cushion that one can see the essence of the Shrine.

The Five Elements position...

These five positions are used to learn the Formation Patterns of the Five Elements Spirit Formation.

Could it be that there are other positions?

By sitting at these positions and contemplating the Shrine, could one see the true mystery of the Shrine and comprehend the real Taoist Meaning hidden within the Formation Patterns of the Five Elements Spirit Formation?

Inspired, Mo Hua began to take out pen and paper to mark out all the positional layouts on the fourth floor of the Formation Pavilion.

That included the Shrine and the five meditation cushions corresponding to the Five Elements of metal, wood, water, fire, and earth.

Mo Hua looked at the diagram, his gaze sharpening.

The meditation cushions correspond to the Five Elements.

Each meditation cushion corresponds to a set of the Five Elements Spirit Formation.

These Five Elements Spirit Formations seem to share a special formation relationship with the Shrine.

This relationship, imbued with formation principle, seems like something that can be derived from Divine Sense Calculation...

Chapter 619: Astral Projection (1)

But this kind of Calculation, involving the Ultimate Formation, is not particularly difficult, but very time-consuming.

By the time four hours had passed, Mo Hua still hadn't figured out any clues.

The three of them left the Shrine and returned to the guest rooms at the Five Elements Sect.

Mo Hua sat down for a simple meditation, resting for a moment, waiting for his Divine Sense to replenish before continuing to calculate the relationship between the Five Elements Spirit Formation and the Shrine.

On the Formation Diagram of the Shrine, Mo Hua drew five separate Five Elements Spirit Formations according to their positions.

Then, based on the results of the Calculations, he continued to sketch between the Formations.

Line after line, crisscrossing, connecting, interweaving...

Although Bai Zisheng and Bai Zixi were versed in the Immortal Sky Formation Flow, they lacked the skills of Calculation and could only watch as Mo Hua calculated and sketched on his own.

Mr. Zhuang was also silently watching, offering no hints or conversation.

Clearly, he wanted to let Mo Hua independently rely on his own abilities to solve the puzzle, break the enigma, and comprehend the Formation.

Because he knew that he couldn't help Mo Hua for the rest of his life.

Even, he might not be able to help him for much longer...

Mo Hua worked tirelessly, calculating the Formation, and at night his Divine Sense plunged into the Sea of Consciousness, continuing the calculations on the Taoist Stele.

Within the Taoist Stele, Divine Sense could be traced back.

The efficiency of the Calculation was thus higher.

Finally, by the next morning, Mo Hua had calculated the relational map of formations in the Five Elements Formation Diagram of the Shrine.

In the structural diagram of the Shrine, with the Shrine as the core and the Five Elements Spirit Formations as its wings, the Formation Patterns were precise, spiritual power trajectories intricately woven, forming a complex and profound Spirit Path map.

These spiritual power trajectories had a total of six convergence points.

Five of which were the locations of those five meditation cushions, and one more was a hidden position.

This position, on the fourth floor of the Formation Pavilion, was hidden with no meditation cushion nor any other markers.

Even Mo Hua suspected that this location might not even be known to the Chief Elder of the Five Elements Sect...

Because calculating it was too complex.

Moreover, it had to be extremely accurate; not even the slightest error was permissible.

The Method of Divine Sense Calculation for calculating the pathways in the Ultimate Formation might not have been anything special to the Five Elements Sect of the past. 然而那时候

But times have changed, and for the current Five Elements Sect, it might really be as incomprehensible as a "heavenly script."

Mo Hua let out a sigh of relief.

Regardless, having calculated this position, he had taken one step closer to the essence of the Five Elements Spirit Formation...

...

On the fourth day.

After the Chief Elder had finished burning incense and left, the apparently meditating Mo Hua immediately stood up, took out the calculated Shrine's Five Elements Diagram, and then, following the calculated Spirit Path, looked for the correct position.

Bai Zisheng and Bai Zixi were also helping to search.

The entire floor of the fourth level of the Formation Pavilion was covered in a single, complete stone tile.

The stone tile was smooth, without patterns or any reference points, so determining the position took some time.

After a cup of tea had passed, Mo Hua dropped a dot of ink on a spot that looked very ordinary.

This dot of ink was the convergence point of the Five Elements Spirit Path.

It was also the sixth "meditation cushion" for Ponder the Shrine.

Mo Hua sighed, "The forebears of the Five Elements Sect really were quite cunning."

Bai Zisheng and Bai Zixi glanced at Mo Hua and said nothing, but they both muttered in their minds:

"Cunning as they were, they weren't as crafty as you..."

All the forebears' elaborate tricks and deeply hidden secrets were still unearthed by you...

"Try pondering."

Urged Bai Zixi.

There wasn't much time left, it was already the fourth day, and the deadline of five days was approaching. They couldn't afford to waste a single moment.

"Mm."

Mo Hua nodded, then sat cross-legged, positioned at the convergence point of the Five Elements, "sitting" on the sixth imaginary meditation cushion to Ponder the Shrine.

This time, what he saw was no longer the Taoist Field.

It was a gate.

The gate of the Shrine!

The gate was profound and simple, with five types of complex Patterns engraved on it.

These Patterns were very familiar to Mo Hua, precisely the Thirteen Stripes of the first-grade Five Elements Spirit Formation's Patterns.

But... the gate was closed tight...

Mo Hua sighed.

He finally understood how the Five Elements Spirit Formation of the Five Elements Sect got lost.

This gate was designed to block both villains and the virtuous.

It guarded against outsiders and insiders alike...

The Patterns on it were clear, obviously a Mystery Formation.

The pathway of the Formation had been tampered with, as if "encrypted."

One needed proper Calculation to solve the Formation and open the gate.

How could an average Formation Master possibly do that?

Maybe the Five Elements Spirit Formation wasn't even meant to be learned by first-grade Formation Masters?

The ancestors of the Five Elements Sect must have had some quirks in their thinking...

They wrapped their own legacy tightly, like a zongzi, completely secure.

Mo Hua was somewhat speechless.

But it was clearly not the time to be critical.

He immediately spread out the paper, took out the ink and brush, and seriously, stroke by stroke, copied the entire Five Elements Mystery Formation from the gate into a Diagram.

After the copying was done, almost four hours had passed.

Mo Hua then wiped away the ink mark he had made.

Sure enough, it wasn't long before the Chief Elder arrived.

"Time is up, please leave now."

The Chief Elder's tone was polite, but within his gaze was a hint of a mocking smile.

Mo Hua and the others could only go back.

Mo Hua could calculate and solve the Five Elements Mystery Formation on the Shrine gate on his own, but it would take some time.

But before that, he still went to consult Mr. Zhuang.

Mo Hua showed the copied Formation Diagram to Mr. Zhuang.

Mr. Zhuang appeared surprised, but not shocked.

Mo Hua had his guess confirmed:

"My teacher must have encountered this Mystery Formation before, perhaps even solved it himself and entered the Shrine."

Chapter 620: Out-of-Body (2)

But the master certainly wouldn't give any pointers to himself.

Mo Hua then asked something else:

"Master, were these methods laid down by the ancestors of the Five Elements Sect?"

Mr. Zhuang was somewhat emotional, "Suppose so..."

"Why go to such lengths?"

Mr. Zhuang said with interest, "To guard against thieves."

"Guard against thieves?" Mo Hua was taken aback before saying, "To guard against me..."

Mr. Zhuang smiled faintly, "Yes, you count as well."

"But... even to guard against thieves, isn't this too troublesome, isn't it making a mountain out of a molehill?"

Mr. Zhuang shook his head, "No, what they are guarding against is the disciples of our Sect from generations past, not making a mountain out of a molehill! Our... the cultivators of this Sect, from ancient times to the present, all have exceptional spiritual roots and are brilliant talents..."

Mr. Zhuang looked at Mo Hua and paused for a moment.

Mo Hua had quite a bit of self-awareness, "Master, apart from me... all have exceptional spiritual roots and are brilliant talents..."

Mr. Zhuang was silent for a moment before saying tactfully:

"Your spiritual root is a bit inferior, but in formations, you are still... a brilliant talent..."

"Mhm, mhm," Mo Hua nodded, "Master, please continue."

Mr. Zhuang recalled where he had stopped and then continued:

"The ancestors of the Five Elements Sect, if they didn't set the threshold high enough, didn't make the puzzles hard enough, it would be too easy to see through..."

"It's actually reasonable that they use it to guard against us..."

"However, as a result, the later generations of the Five Elements Sect suffer."

"Once the Sect declines, if the later generation of disciples are not outstanding, hardly any of them can unravel the mystery barriers and learn the inheritance."

"These formations could only be lost..."

At this point, Mr. Zhuang looked at Mo Hua and said earnestly:

"In the Cultivation World, Sects and Noble Clans that rely on formations as their foundation, they all hide their inheritances very deeply."

"The way the Five Elements Sect hides formations is quite unique."

"It seems simple but is yet obscure."

"Although obscure, all of them conform to the principles of formations."

"You should pay more attention and learn more. After breaking through, you will be enlightened by analogy. When you encounter similar formation inheritances in the future, with the reference of the Five Elements Sect, you can decipher and comprehend them on your own." **ŘáNö\$ĚS**

Mr. Zhuang's tone became slightly solemn, "In the Cultivation World for tens of thousands of years, Noble Clans have risen and fallen, Sects have fluctuated..."

"Some powers may seem insignificant, but their ancestors' inheritances should not be underestimated."

"These inheritances are often hidden in inconspicuous things."

"Tao Cultivation values opportunity. For some people, opportunity comes from luck."

"And for others, opportunity comes from insight..."

"Luck is innate and unpredictable, but insight is acquired and can be learned, observed, and pondered upon..."

"The Great Dao favors the persistent. In the future, you must be more observant..."

Mr. Zhuang's gaze, implicit and restrained, was filled with profound emotion.

"Mhm!" Mo Hua nodded solemnly.

He understood that his master was teaching him a method through the inheritance of the Five Elements Sect.

Giving a man a fish is not as good as teaching a man to fish.

The master hoped that he could find his own opportunities in the future through his own horizons, knowledge, and insight, to seek out formations, to explore the Great Dao...

Mo Hua looked at the frail Mr. Zhuang, feeling a mix of melancholy and complexity.

...

That night, Mo Hua still went on calculating Formation Patterns and deciphering the Five Elements Mystery Formation without rest.

Thanks to the Taoist Stele, Mo Hua's calculations were getting faster and faster...

And at this moment, in the Formation Pavilion,

The Chief Elder once again lit three sticks of incense before the Shrine.

One stick of incense burned one-third, another a quarter, the one in the middle didn't catch fire, remaining motionless.

The Chief Elder felt reassured but also somewhat surprised.

Reassured because the inheritance of the Five Elements Sect had been preserved!

Only one day, four hours left.

They could never comprehend the Sect Protecting Ultimate Formation of the Five Elements Sect—the Five Elements Spirit Formation!

The surprise was that the Junior Formation Master had indeed not gleaned even the slightest hint of the Five Elements Spirit Formation's methods from the Shrine...

The Chief Elder sneered scornfully.

Youth may be impressive, but greatness does not always follow.

For all the brilliance in his youth, what else is there to talk about when one's potential is exhausted?

"That Junior Formation Master, I guess I overestimated him..."

The Chief Elder turned and left.

He didn't notice that the wooden elder in the Shrine Taoist Field also smirked enigmatically...

...

The Mystery Formation on the great doors, although complex, shared the same principle with the Five Elements convergence Formation Patterns before the Shrine; one was converging, the other was diverging.

Mo Hua, familiar with the path, spent the night deriving the Spirit path of the formation.

On the fifth day, the last day allocated by the Five Elements Sect to comprehend the Five Elements Spirit Formation, Mo Hua entered the fourth floor of the Formation Pavilion somewhat nervously, along with his Junior Brother and Sister as always.

The Chief Elder lit incense and closed the door before going to the third floor to drink tea with Mr. Zhuang.

It was quiet in front of the Shrine.

Mo Hua reconfirmed the direction, and then started to Ponder the Shrine.

Bai Zisheng and Bai Zixi were guarding on his left and right.

The instant Mo Hua Pondered the Shrine, the door drenched in Formation Patterns reappeared.

Mo Hua, with his Divine Sense, activated the formation according to the Spirit path diagram he had derived the day before, bit by bit restoring the Formation Patterns to their original state, redistributing the converging Spirit paths back to their rightful positions.

Before long, the elaborate Formation Diagrams on the Shrine door became clear and understandable.

These were distinctly five sets of Five Elements Formation Diagrams.

In the center of the Formation Diagrams, there was a Tai Chi-shaped lock.

Mo Hua's Divine Thought stirred, and the Tai Chi slowly rotated, the Shrine door turned accordingly, the Five Elements circulated, forming a vortex.