

## Bottleneck 121

### Chapter 121: Similar Flowers

Moreover, this is a semi-artifact personally crafted by disciples of Refining Equipment Peak, as arranged by the Grand Elder, which shows how satisfied he is with the Great Zhou Imperial Family.

Upon hearing that people can be sent to the Cultivation World with the Black Iron Command, Emperor Jing and others couldn't help but recall the previous teachings of Gaozong Ancestor and silently accepted the Black Iron Command without speaking.

They also felt that sending people to the Cultivation World now may be somewhat ominous and resonates with the teachings, so naturally, they wouldn't rashly let people enter to explore.

Chen Fengchen didn't care about this, and after exchanging pleasantries with the Great Zhou Imperial Family, he led the ten children into the mountain cave filled with thick fog, leaving Emperor Jing and Zhou Estate Master standing for a while.

Afterwards, the two looked at each other, and in their excitement, couldn't help but clap their hands. The future generations of the Zhou Family were taken into the Cultivation World, and it was not impossible for another Ancestor to emerge from the Zhou Family in the future.

In order to promote the development of the Zhou Family young members in the Cultivation World, it seems that their own efforts in territorial expansion cannot be stopped. It's obvious why Chen Fengchen has such a gentle attitude, and they are all too clear about it.

It's all about the fortune of the dynasty.

Afterwards, Emperor Jing and Zhou Estate Master went down the mountain together and went their separate ways, but their hearts were already warmed with excitement, as they didn't know when another Ancestor would emerge from the Zhou Family.

Xigu Pass.

A small town at the foot of the mountain.

The sky was somewhat gloomy, as if it was about to rain. At this moment, Liang Sheng's nerves, which had been tense for sixty-four years, finally relaxed, and he suddenly just wanted to eat a meal like an ordinary person.

He ordered a few dishes at the inn in the small town and drank some wine, feeling extremely happy in his heart. Today could be considered the complete end of the cause and effect with the Zhou Family. After all, the Zhou Family's Immortal Destiny was inseparable from his planning.

As for the Cultivation World, Chen Fengchen's behavior indicated that they hadn't noticed the Mortal World, so he could still be free for a long time.

How can the vicissitudes and changes of the world matter, only I am free and at ease with immortality!

At this moment, there was a commotion from outside the inn, but a large trading group from other places had arrived, and even the innkeeper himself went out to greet them, helping to tie up the horses and park the carts.

After that, a large group of people swarmed in, and naturally there was some noise. However, Liang Sheng didn't care about it and didn't even lift his head, focusing on eating his meal.

But at this moment, because the inn wasn't large, the hall was full of the trading group's people. Even with extra tables added and two more people squeezing in at each table, there were still two or three people who could not find seats.

The trading group owner was a middle-aged man in his thirties or forties. He let the subordinates who wanted to give up their seats, sit down, and then turned to look at Liang Sheng hesitating for a moment before walking over with his two confidants who hadn't sat down.

Young man, I'm sorry to bother you for a moment. Because we have so many people, could you please join us at the table? Don't worry, we will pay for your food and drinks later.

Liang Sheng looked up at the owners face and was stunned as his thoughts began to wander. How could there be someone so similar in the world?

The trading group owner, thinking Liang Sheng was unwilling, didnt say much and apologized. He saluted him for the inconvenience and left.

His two confidants seemed somewhat displeased but didnt think of a solution. When doing business, its best not to offend people, especially since the items they were carrying were too precious. Even if they were unhappy, they had to consider their boss and not cause him trouble.

But at this moment, Liang Sheng finally came to his senses. With a complex look in his eyes, he calmly said, We are all friends when we are traveling. You dont need to be so polite, just sit down.

To the owners surprise, Liang Sheng agreed to share the table, and he repeatedly expressed his thanks before sitting down with his two confidants.

At this moment, Liang Sheng watched their every move and saw the image of someone in his memory gradually overlap with them, and couldnt help but sigh.

Is this a similar flower, or is there reincarnation in this world?

## Chapter 122: Miracle

At the foot of Xigu Pass mountain, in a small town inn.

The atmosphere at Liang Shengs table at this moment was somewhat awkward. The food they had ordered for their trading group had not yet arrived. They had been traveling all day and were already starving. One close guard could not help but swallow his saliva as he looked at the food in front of him.

Seeing this, Liang Sheng couldnt help but laugh, Since this brother of mine said that he is willing to help me pay for the wine, if you dont mind that Ive already started eating, then lets eat together.

As he said this, Liang Sheng directly picked up the wine pot and filled the wine cups in front of everyone. The Trading Group Owner also immediately expressed his gratitude and then picked up his wine cup and drank it all in one go-

Refreshing.

He seemed like a free-spirited person too.

Since the Trading Group Owner had started drinking first, the two guards were no longer polite. As men, once the wine went down their throats, the atmosphere would instantly become livelier. At this moment, the Trading Group Owner also felt more talkative.

The owner of the trading group started with polite conversation, but somehow, he didn't stop talking. Even his close guard did not seem to think there was anything wrong at this moment.

He was the eldest son of a large family in the southwest, named Chu Chen. This time, he was transporting a large amount of goods to the north. Today, he arrived at the small town of Xigu Pass, and it was getting late. Moreover, a heavy rain was approaching, so he had decided to rest at Xigu Pass for the night.

However, when Chu Chen talked about his identity as the eldest son, the corner of his mouth couldn't help but show a bit of bitterness, and the wine in his cup seemed to taste a bit bitter as well.

After that, the food ordered by the trading group began to be served. The dishes were brought out one after another by the inn's waiters. Liang Sheng and Chu Chen continued to eat and drink together. For some reason, Chu Chen became more and more enthusiastic in his conversation. Had it not been for his last bit of reason, he might have even revealed the details of his family.

By the time they were full and satisfied, Liang Sheng put down his chopsticks and laughed, 'It's been quite an enlightening conversation with Brother Chu. Since we've been getting along so well, and Brother Chu is offering to pay for my food, I must show some token of gratitude as well.'

He reached into his sleeve and took out an exquisite talisman paper, then handed it to Chu Chen, I got this protective amulet from a high monk. I heard its been blessed and can help calm the mind. It seems that Brother Chu has been having trouble sleeping lately, so it might come in handy.

Chu Chen was about to refuse, as it was only a meal after all, but Liang Sheng had already slapped the talisman paper onto Chu Chens hand. Chu Chen did not pay for it but directly asked the innkeeper for a room and went upstairs to rest.

Before going upstairs, Liang Sheng still laughed and said to Chu Chen, Brother Chu, this talisman of mine is really useful, having been blessed. Youll definitely sleep soundly tonight.

Seeing this, Chu Chen accepted it, glanced at the talisman paper in his hand, didnt find anything special, and simply stuffed it into his sleeve, not paying much attention. Afterward, he even generously paid for Liang Shengs food and wine.

It was only after he sat down again that he was surprised to find something was off. He had unexpectedly talked so much with a stranger, which didnt seem like his usual character.

Was it because he had been under too much pressure lately? Did he want to find a stranger to pour out his feelings and relieve the stress that had been accumulating in his heart?

Thinking about this, he couldnt help but let out a bitter smile. The eldest son of the southwest family-

At this moment, Liang Sheng had already returned to his room in the inn and sighed incessantly. He didnt expect that there would be such similar people in the world. Could it be that there really was reincarnation? Or was it just a similar flower in the world?

Liang Sheng had no answer at this moment, but his memory began to surge, and a name emerged in his heart

Zhang Rongjun

This name was really too old. Chu Chen was almost exactly like a young Zhang Rongjun, even down to the habit of sticking out his little finger while holding chopsticks when eating.

That's why he was so stunned when he first saw Chu Chen. He had originally planned to leave Xigu Pass today. Although the heavy rain was approaching, how could it come close to him?

However, Chu Chen's appearance stirred up his emotions, so he decided to stay for one more night. Although things had changed, it might just be a similar flower. Regardless, this could be considered a reunion of old friends.

Moreover, under his mental guidance, Chu Chen spoke so much that he seemed to be in some trouble. Since Liang Sheng had encountered it, he might as well resolve it as a way to fulfill cause and effect.

After all, he didn't have many friends, and Zhang Rongjun was one of them.

On the other side, Chu Chen was also puzzled at the moment. The young man had no luggage and appeared to be staying at the inn already.

But it was only after the meal that he asked the innkeeper for a room, which didn't seem right. If they were traveling far, how could they not have any luggage?

But if they weren't traveling far, why wouldn't they go home instead of staying at the inn?

The small town was not very big, and Chu Chen's trading groups spending on food, drink, and provisions was a considerable fortune to the innkeeper. From the moment they entered, the innkeeper's smile had not stopped.

So with Chu Chen's years of experience traveling in the south and dealing with people, as well as the innkeeper's desire to please his big customer, it was easy for him to draw out information.

The innkeeper actually didn't know this Liang Sheng at all, and he had also just arrived today. In this case, there might be some problems with him as well.

Although he seemed fine during dinner, the goods this time were somewhat special, so Chu Chen had to be cautious.

Tonight, have the brothers be on alert. I have a bad feeling. I'm afraid something might happen. As long as we reach the capital safely this time, I won't let the brothers down.

Yes, Young Master.

After that, Chu Chen returned to his room and looked at the gloomy sky, sighing heavily.

There would be a heavy downpour tonight, it seemed.

Night.

Liang Sheng was not asleep at the moment. It was pouring rain outside, and he was quietly standing and looking out the window into the vast darkness of the night, listening to the sound of the rain hitting the roof. But the rain seemed to be blocked by an invisible force and could not enter the room..

## Chapter 123: Miracle

In the inn's courtyard, the guards of Chu Chen's trading convoy were patrolling outside the inn to prevent any issues with the goods that were already wrapped in oilcloth in the horse carriages.

At this moment, a startling thunderclap resounded, and the heavens and earth suddenly brightened.

Liang Sheng's eyes seemed to penetrate the vast night, watching a group of people in raincoats galloping towards them from the distance.

Their purpose was clear, heading straight for the small town inn, and among the trading convoy, the guards were still patrolling and switching shifts, not daring to be careless, but the rain was getting heavier and heavier.

The torrential rain had arrived, and it was a night for murder.

Chu Chen was originally in a deep sleep, not knowing what nightmares he had, suddenly his eyes snapped open, gasping for air.

After waking up, he thought of the talisman paper given by Liang Sheng and the others words, shaking his head involuntarily.

How could he sleep peacefully tonight?

He suddenly had a bad premonition in his heart. With no sleepiness at this moment, he got up, felt for the oil lamp, lit it, and walked outside holding it.

His trusted guards, who were already keeping watch outside the door, immediately became vigilant. Upon seeing that it was the young master coming out, they breathed a sigh of relief but were also a bit puzzled.

Come, accompany me to have a look.

Yes, young master.

No one in the trading convoys guards was slacking, and they were taking turns to rest. At this moment, the patrolling guards saw someone approaching and immediately became alert, raising their long knives.

Whos there?

When they saw that it was Chu Chen and the others, they immediately relaxed and quickly saluted.

Young master.

Everythings alright?



No problem. The goods have been tightly wrapped in oilcloth, and there hasn't been any movement tonight. There shouldn't be any accidents.

That's good.

Chu Chen couldn't help but breathe a sigh of relief upon hearing this. Unless he were dead, there couldn't be any issues with these goods. They were gifts he was sending to a high-ranking person in the capital, and he couldn't afford any mistakes.

At this moment, another clap of thunder resounded, followed by a burst of silver light. Chu Chen, who was about to turn around and return to his room, suddenly caught a glimpse of a dark shadow from the corner of his eye.

Who's there?

In an instant, Chu Chen became vigilant, holding up the oil lamp and turning towards the corner where the shadow had appeared, trying to see what was going on.

Young master, don't move. Little Li, you go over and have a look, and be careful.

Chu Chen's trusted guard stopped him and turned to order the patrolling guard to go and have a look. Little Li immediately headed over.

As soon as he approached the corner, a silver light shot up, and without any reaction, the guard's body was separated from his head, which fell to the ground, and blood mixed with the rainwater, staining the earth.

What a swift knife!

Enemy attack!

Chu Chens trusted guard immediately shouted out a frantic warning. In an instant, the patrolling guards of the trading convoy were in a frenzy. Those who were originally taking turns to rest had already been sleeping in their clothes. At this moment, they grabbed their weapons and sprang up.

Inside the inn, the innkeeper and his helpers were trembling in fear in the backyard. The guards shout had also awakened them.

However, they didnt dare to come out now, fearing that they might see something they shouldnt and get into big trouble.

At this moment, their joy from having a big customer during the day had completely vanished, and the innkeeper was only praying to the gods to protect him from any major problems.

Meanwhile, as Chu Chens side shouted a warning, the people hiding in the darkness simply stopped hiding and walked straight out.

They were dressed in raincoats and their faces were covered with black cloths, revealing no features, but Chu Chen couldnt help but let out a bitter smile.

Gao Guard, I didnt expect you to come as well.

The man leading the group on the opposite side suddenly straightened his body, then loosened it again. He didnt bother to conceal his identity any longer, pulling down his face cloth directly.

Young master, I am just following orders, please dont blame me.

Heh, I wont blame you. You, a guard of my Chu Family, assassinating me, I should not blame you  
Hahaha!

At this moment, Chu Chen suddenly burst into laughter, laughing so hard that he bent over and even shed tears. Then his laughter suddenly stopped.

Are you a guard of my Chu Family, or a lackey of that despicable person!?

Gao Guard could only remain silent. However, he raised the knife in his hand and charged at Chu Chen.

At his back, the others sprang into action, charging straight towards Chu Chens guards with murderous intent.

In the next moment, Gao Guards knife slashed directly towards Chu Chen, only to be blocked by his guard. However, the corner of Gao Guards mouth curled up in a wicked grin.

Chu Chens closest guard sensed something was amiss, but it was already too late. Unstoppable force traveled down the long knife, striking every part of his body instantly.

Then he was sent flying, and just before losing consciousness, he had time to shout out, Post-Natal Eighth Level! When did you make the breakthrough!?

Upon hearing this, Chu Chen felt a chill. Gao Guard had actually reached the Post-Natal Eighth Level? Gao Guard didnt spare a glance for the guard he had sent flying; he only looked at Chu Chen and spoke softly:

Young Master, dont blame me. The lady ordered me to break through the Post-Natal Eighth Level, and I had to obey. Young Master, dont worry. My knife is fast; you wont feel any pain.

In the next moment, the blade shone like silver, sharp and bright. He wasnt lying; this strike was swift. However, Chu Chen managed to dodge the blow.

What?

Gao Guard couldnt help but look incredulous. He then surveyed Chu Chen and exclaimed with surprise, Post-Natal Seventh Level?! Young Master, youve hidden it well!

But Chu Chen couldn't help but give a bitter smile. Even though he had concealed his true power, he still couldn't escape that woman's assassination. What could he do?

He then saw Gao Guard go all out without holding back. Chu Chen couldn't dodge this time, so he instinctively closed his eyes, awaiting death.

In the end, he couldn't escape after all.

Immediately afterward, the long knife shattered, Gao Guard's body trembled violently, and he was sent flying involuntarily, falling to the ground.

How is this possible?

Chu Chen, who didn't experience the excruciating pain he was expecting, opened his eyes in confusion. At this moment, he saw a faint light surrounding him, and he was bewildered.

Then it was as if he remembered something. He reached into his sleeve and pulled out a piece of talisman paper, which was glowing faintly.

So, it's this!

At this point, he recalled Liang Sheng's words that he would have a good dream. He suddenly realized—could it be that he had encountered someone extraordinary?

However, the noises on the battlefield soon brought him back to reality. Gao Guard was still lying motionless on the ground. Chu Chen didn't know why, but he felt a surge of anger within him, which made him pick up a knife from a dead guard and begin to walk towards Gao Guard, step by step.

Surprisingly, the men on both sides who had been locked in battle all along came to an unspoken agreement to stop fighting. They all turned to look at Chu Chen, who seemed to emit faint light, and even under heavy rain, not a single drop touched him.

A miracle!

Some of the masked men, terrified, began to kneel down. In the next moment, all the masked men followed suit and knelt.

Because Chu Chen had beheaded Gao Guard with one strike!

The Post-Natal Eighth-Level master had died so simply!

At this moment, Chu Chen continued to wield the knife, advancing without stopping. In the next moment, he raised his hand and swung down, and another head soared through the air.

Finally, some masked men reacted, but the Post-Natal Seventh-Level Chu Chen, radiating a faint light, wasn't about to let them escape.

In the end, all the masked men were killed. Admiration-filled gazes from the guards focused on Chu Chen. Chu Chen did not look at them but walked towards the trusted guard whom Gao Guard had sent flying earlier.

At this moment, the guards' eyes were wide open in anger, but he had already stopped breathing. Chu Chen gently closed the guards' eyes with his hand, then stood up and fell into silence for a short while.

Clean up everything so that the innkeeper isn't frightened. Burn the bodies of our fallen brothers to ashes; we need to bring them home.

Yes, Young Master.

At this moment, the guards treated Chu Chen with reverence as if he was a deity. Chu Chen's faint light finally faded, and he wanted to look for Liang Sheng, but in the end, he stopped in front of his room door.

After contemplating for a long time, he gritted his teeth, deciding to knock. But the moment his hand touched the door, it swung open on its own, revealing an empty room.

However, there was a jade bottle and a note left on the table.

Long-ago acquaintances parting by chance, with our cause and effect now severed. Dont try to figure out who I am; treat it as a passing encounter with a stranger

An old acquaintance?

Chu Chen was puzzled by the first few lines written in the note, as he couldnt remember ever meeting this enigmatic person before.

Yet as he continued reading the note, he could no longer concern himself with such thoughts, as the note explained what was inside the jade bottle.

Barrier Breaking Pill!

The pill that could give someone a chance to break through to the Innate Realm while at the Post-Natal Ninth Level. Upon failure, it would still grant the user Half-step Innate status, and consuming one more would guarantee a breakthrough to the Innate Realm.

Chu Chen opened the jade bottle and saw ten Barrier Breaking Pills inside. He didnt doubt that they could be poisonous, as there was no reason for that mysterious person to deceive him.

Amidst his shock, he found it hard to suppress the urge to cry out in delight. For many years, he had coveted this yet today, he had finally achieved his long-awaited desire.

You wretched woman, go to hell!

Chapter 124: Increased Lifespan

Jinzhou City.

At this moment, a young man was leisurely walking on the official's road. It was none other than Liang Sheng, who had left Xigu Pass.

Meeting Chu Chen at Xigu Pass was completely beyond Liang Sheng's expectations. After he saw Chu Chen pick up the knife and kill everyone, he left the inn.

Chu Chen's decisiveness in killing was remarkable, leaving no hidden dangers. With the Barrier Breaking Pill Liang Sheng had given him, there should be no danger for him.

After all, how many people in the world could endure and hide their cultivation level like him, with this temperament, this endurance, and the decisive heart at the critical moment?

This temperament was somewhat different from Brother Rong's after all. It seemed that even if there was really a cycle of reincarnation in this world, the vicissitudes of the sea, and the ever-changing world, it was just a similar flower.

After leaving the inn at Xigu Pass, for some reason, he had a faint idea of wanting to go and see Jinzhou City.

He didn't know why, perhaps it was because the encounter with Chu Chen had triggered his memories, or it was an intuition from somewhere. In the end, he decided to go back to Jinzhou City after more than three hundred years.

The official's road in Jinzhou city was much wider than before. After all, the territory of the Great Zhou Dynasty had expanded with the conquests, and the official's road in each state of the Great Zhou had been rebuilt, becoming wider and flatter.

First, he went to the forest outside the city, but Jinshan Temple was no longer there. Only ruins remained, but they barely showed the prosperity of the old days.

It was unknown if it was because Jinshan Temple had been involved in a rebellion, which rendered it a taboo, so such a large place had remained an empty space without any new temples and Taoist temples for several hundred years. It was quite strange.

Liang Sheng walked around the ruins and thought of the Unmoving Mountain Ming King Seal he encountered back then. He felt that he was really fortunate.

After that, he went down the mountain and walked all the way to the Liang Family Cemetery outside the city. However, it had long since turned into a village, with no trace of the desolation of a graveyard. As for the graveyard of Zhang Rongjun and others not far away, it had also disappeared, becoming the farmland of the village.

Liang Sheng just smiled and then entered the city. The city had long changed since, with the Three Major Martial Families of Jinzhou City all buried in dust. Now, the government was in power, how could the great families still dare to be bold?

Liang Sheng strolled around the city aimlessly, and found a small high-rise building in the center with few people. He looked up and couldn't help but smile.

Yichun Building.

Even with the change of dynasties and the passage of time, the demand for such establishments persisted. Human nature remained the same, and life went on without interruption, day after day.

At the moment, it was daytime, and there were naturally fewer people here. He walked forward casually and reached the place where he vaguely remembered the Shengde Building was, but a new mansion had been built there.

He didn't care, but when he walked to his old mansion, he found that the mansion was still there, but the interior layout had completely changed.

He couldn't help but stand still amidst his thoughts. The doorman of the mansion, noticing his distinguished demeanor, hesitated for a moment and then came out, Sir, are you here to see our master?



Liang Sheng shook his head and then smiled, saying that it was nothing, he was just tired and wanted to rest for a bit. He then turned and left.

This wasn't his mansion after all.

He wandered aimlessly through the entire Jinzhou city, and Zhang Rongji's family and teahouse had long become a thing of the past.

Several hundred years had changed everything. Who would have thought that just a few hundred years ago, Jinzhou city was dominated by noble families, and martial arts were used to suppress the city?

As he walked around, he had a lot of emotions in his heart, but he still couldn't find the faint reason for coming here.

Liang Sheng wasn't in a hurry. At this moment, he was a lone wanderer in the world. Time, for him, was just a number. Lots of people and things were just sudden memories of a certain moment.

At this time, he casually found a tavern, and during his meal, he had already got a general idea of the current situation in Jinzhou City. Indeed, taverns were always the best place to gather information.

Unconsciously, the sun was setting in the west, and it was getting late. In front of Yichun Building, there was a constant stream of carriages and horses, far from quiet during the day.

As Liang Sheng walked in front of Yichun Building, the madame's eyes lit up, and she approached him immediately, her plump body pressing against Liang Sheng as if boneless.

Ladies, don't come out to greet your guests?

Upon hearing this, Liang Sheng seemed to be transported back four hundred years, so he skillfully took out some Silver Notes and stuffed them directly into the madame's cleavage.

Then, like a flock of birds, the ladies gathered around.

Liang Sheng couldn't help but laugh, grabbed the two prettiest girls, and walked into Yichun Building.

He suddenly had an epiphany that the innocence of youth was never changed by the passage of time. So he had come here to find peace of mind after all.

The next day, early in the morning, Liang Sheng found an agency and bought a mansion right across from his former home. Naturally, the agency would handle the matter of hiring servants for him.

The doorman across the street was bewildered that the new owner was the gentleman who had been standing in front of their door pondering the day before. He couldn't help but curse the rich man in his heart, thinking that he had come to look at the mansion originally.

As he continued cursing, he couldn't help feeling envious. He would never be able to afford the price of even the hut for this mansion in his lifetime, since this was the most expensive area in Jinzhou City.

From then on, life became extremely quiet and peaceful. Liang Sheng had never been so at ease before. After tensing his nerves for hundreds of years, he eventually returned to his starting point.

Suddenly, Liang Sheng seemed to have some insights but they were elusive and unreachable. In the end, he simply didn't think about it anymore. In the face of time, everything would eventually take its course..

## Chapter 125: Increased Lifespan

But that night, the long-stagnant Health Cultivation Method broke through again, completely beyond Liang Sheng's expectations. Even though his realm hadn't broken through, his progress had advanced another level.

It was truly an inexplicable surprise.

Could this be the so-called sudden enlightenment of good fortune?

Name: Liang Sheng

Age: 427

Talent: Innocent Foolishness (Top grade)

Techniques: Upper Pure Immortal Scripture (Eighth Layer), Twenty Life-Nurturing Techniques (Eighteenth Layer), Nail-Head Seven Arrows Technique (Curse)

Realm: Qi Cultivation Eighth Level (95%)

Lifespan: 16406

Afterward, Liang Sheng's days were peaceful once more, cultivating, talisman drawing, refining pills, and practicing curse imprinting techniques. As for refining weapons, he no longer had any refining materials.

However, Liang Sheng did not force the issue. While out playing, he came across a wood carving shop and had a flash of inspiration.

Although he couldn't refine weapons, he could practice the skills used in refining weapons, carving and sculpting, which would not be a waste of time.

He then bought many tree roots of various shapes. Hearing that he intended to use them for carving, the shopkeeper couldn't help but remind him that these tree roots were too oddly shaped for carving. However, Liang Sheng paid no attention to the warning, and the shopkeeper didn't press the matter, as he had already given his advice, and the customer couldn't blame him later on.

In the following days, Liang Sheng began carving wood in his spare time from cultivation. At first, his carving was fast and steady, as it was straightforward for someone at the Qi Cultivation Eighth Level. However, after some time, his progress seemed to stall. One day, he had a sudden idea and started carving without using any spiritual power, as if he were an ordinary person with no cultivation.

At that time, Liang Sheng couldn't even carve out a rough shape in one day, but he couldn't help but laugh out loud, as if he had found the right path.

He then destroyed all the wood carvings he had made previously and started over with a serious and focused effort to carve new ones.

Under the carving knife, sixty years passed in the blink of an eye, and the once youthful man had become a white-haired old man.

Twenty-six years ago, Emperor Danzong abdicated, and Shenzong took the throne. Unchanged was the strength of the Great Zhou, and the people couldn't help but sigh that the Great Zhou Dynasty was destined to continue. Every generation of Zhou rulers was not only talented and resourceful but also knew when to retire, so there was no such thing as an old and incompetent ruler. Thus, the people of Great Zhou deeply acknowledged the Zhou Imperial Family's legitimacy and took pride in being citizens of the empire.

Liang Sheng had reached the Qi Cultivation Ninth Level 28 years into Emperor Danzong's reign. Because his Qi Refining Pills were running out, Liang Sheng spent two years and a significant amount of money and energy hiring people to cultivate spiritual grass in the uninhabited wilderness. He also purchased more spiritual grass to restore his supply of Qi Refining Pills gradually.

Thanks to his 100% success rate in refining Qi pills, he was able to squander these pills at his discretion. As for the other pill formulas left by the Hua Tian Sect manager, some of the herbs were not suitable for the mortal world, so only a few more formulas could be practiced.

After sixty years, Liang Sheng finally reached the Qi Cultivation Ninth Level.

Name: Liang Sheng

Age: 487

Talent: Innocent Foolishness (Top grade)

Techniques: Upper Pure Immortal Scripture (Ninth Layer), Twenty Life-Nurturing Techniques (Eighteenth Layer), Nail-Head Seven Arrows Technique (Curse)

Realm: Qi Cultivation Ninth Level (73%)

Lifespan: 16346

As for the spirit stones in his storage bag, Liang Sheng had consumed most of them. If not for his determination to use mid-grade spirit stones for cultivation, his progress would not have been so rapid.

Nonetheless, his progress was worth celebrating. As long as he didn't lose his mind, he could safely remain in the mortal world until the heavens crumbled and the earth fell apart.

Although being at the Qi Cultivation Ninth Level was still considered exceptional in the immortal cultivation market, why take risks in the Cultivation World when one can cultivate in the mortal world?

It was unknown whether he could reach Foundation Establishment before his 500th birthday, as people from his past life's Blue Star Hua Xia were inexplicably fond of whole numbers.

Today, Liang Sheng was in a good mood, so he went to the forest at the foot of the original Jinshan Temple ruins and began carving wood. The children playing by the river saw this and curiously squatted beside him, exclaiming in awe.

Over the years, he had accumulated countless wood carvings, which were piled up in his mansion. Under such circumstances, he'd taken to leaving the carvings at the Jinshan Temple ruins, where the presence of people was rare, and no one would discover them.

Since he didn't have any refining materials, he hadn't actually crafted any magical weapons, so he didn't know how much his weapon refining skills had improved. But his hands were now countless times steadier than before.

At this moment, Liang Sheng looked like an ordinary mortal, carving without any spiritual power and carefully wielding the knife. Dust and debris flew about as the children watched transfixed.

After Liang Sheng finished carving, he gently blew on the wood, revealing a lifelike little rabbit. The children's eyes lit up instantly.

"This is for you."

The children were overjoyed, thanking him profusely and playing with the rabbit wood carving, gradually moving further away from Liang Sheng.

Liang Sheng watched them, his mouth involuntarily lifting into a smile, and then he looked up at the Jinshan Temple ruins with a profound gaze.

Are there such gifted talents among them?

Zhou Qianming was a descendant of the Zhou Royal Family from the capital. Tired of the dull palace life, he decided to travel south, refusing the hospitality of officials in Jinzhou City and going on his way accompanied only by his guards and scribe.

When he arrived at this forest today, he felt an unexpected surge of excitement, a feeling he had never experienced before.

A great fortune omen!

This feeling was unprecedented!

The guards on the side didn't understand why Zhou Qianming was so excited, as the nearby scenery was relatively ordinary. However, seeing the prince's first-ever excitement on this journey made them happy as well..

Chapter 126: Increased Lifespan

The young master of the family was highly esteemed in the Great Zhou royal family – at the age of seventeen, he had already reached the Postnatal Sixth Realm, which greatly pleased his lordship.

Even the Heavenly Son praised their young master as the Zhou Family's Qilin Child, publicly announcing before the court that if he could reach the Postnatal Sevenfold Realm before the age of twenty, he would personally bestow the title of Champion Marquis and grant the Emperor's Sword upon him.

The Emperor's Sword was a symbol of the esteemed General in charge of war on the battlefield, like General Zhou Bilian who was the first to receive it; the title of Champion Marquis reflected the Heavenly Son's expectations of him.

Since the age of eight, Zhou Qianming's martial arts cultivation had progressed rapidly, but he had been stuck in the Postnatal Sevenfold Realm for three years.

It is indeed difficult to break through the high-level martial arts.

At this time, Zhou Qianming couldn't help but go towards where his joy lay, regardless of the guards beside him. Soon, he saw the object in front of him with his mouth wide open in amazement.

Laid out like a mountain, there were exquisitely carved wood sculptures, so lifelike they seemed to breathe.

He couldn't help but pick up one of the wood carvings, his hand moving skillfully over its surface, unconsciously stepping into the role of the master carver. It seemed as if he could feel his own carving knife, cutting with perfect precision and ease.

He gradually became enthralled with his experience, and without realizing it, the internal energy within his body began to circulate around his Qi, causing fluctuations in his aura.

Though initially astonished, the guards immediately sensed the change in their young master's Qi and raised their vigilance, standing guard around him with an unspoken understanding of their duty.

A moment of revelation!

In this instant, Zhou Qianming was immersed in the experience of carving, unaware of the tumultuous energy within his body; his mind focused only on the dancing dust beneath his knife.

Zhou Qianming stood motionless, not realizing that it had become sunset. It was as though he saw the carving knife in his hand suddenly stop, and at that precise moment, the torrent of energy inside him finally burst forth and flooded out, like a mighty river breaking through a dam.

The guards, feeling the change in Zhou Qianming's aura, were overjoyed. Zhou Qianming himself couldn't help but feel a sense of inexpressible delight, never having expected that the breakthrough he had been seeking would come so effortlessly.

Today surely was an omen of great fortune!

Zhou Qianming couldn't contain his excitement, his eyes brimming with happiness as he looked at the countless wood carvings before him in the ruins of Jinshan Temple.

"Zhang Da, go down the mountain and tell County Leader Wu of Jinzhou City to bring people here. I want to take these wood carvings back to the capital. Go quickly!"

Seeing Zhou Qianming raise his voice after the guards hesitated out of concern for his safety, Zhang Da finally obeyed.

"Yes, Your Highness!"

In the County Government Office of Jinzhou City, Prefect Wu was feeling regret over the young master's departure when the guards suddenly returned, causing him to worry if something had happened.

"Prefect Wu, the Son of the Crown Prince has a request..."



“Don’t worry, I’ll bring people there right away!”

As the sun set over the western mountains, Prefect Wu brought people to the ruins of Jinshan Temple. Seeing the wood carvings piled like a small mountain, he was somewhat puzzled.

“Prefect Wu, thank you for your trouble.”

Upon hearing this, Prefect Wu immediately put aside his doubts, “Be careful, everyone, if you damage any of these wood carvings, you’ll have to answer to me!”

With the County Government Office’s cooperation, the wood carvings were loaded up and sent down from the forest before daylight. However, Zhou Qianming didn’t leave immediately.

He wished to meet the person who made the wood carvings, although it was a luxury. Some carvings had already rotted, indicating that the creator was long gone.

Still, he waited for three more days before reluctantly departing. Upon leaving with the wood carvings for the capital, however, he was bursting with excitement.

Undoubtedly, His Majesty would be astounded by the miraculous wood carvings; he just didn’t know how many people, like himself, would have a moment of revelation.

Over the past few days, he had found that no one else seemed to have felt the same connection to the carvings, including his personal guards.

Could it be that only those with the Zhou Family Bloodline Ability could experience this?!

Chapter 127: Qi Cultivation Tenth Layer!?

Jinzhou City.

At this moment, Liang Sheng “died” again, a death that is extremely low-key, attracting no one’s notice.

By this time, Liang Sheng had returned to his youthful appearance. He now stands in front of his own tombstone, feeling exceptionally tranquil.

Initially, he came to Jinzhou City by following a subtle intuition. After living there for sixty years, he felt it was a satisfying experience.

Even until now he still doesn’t know why he had that intuition to return to Jinzhou City, but during the sixty years in Jinzhou City, his cultivation speed was indeed slightly faster than it was in other places before.

Maybe it’s because of his different mindset? Or perhaps the geomancy pattern of Jinzhou City is more in line with his destiny?

Liang Sheng didn’t know for sure, but since it was a good thing, he naturally didn’t pursue it further, believing that time would eventually present the answer.

Ever since Zhou Qianming returned to the royal capital, Shenzong fulfilled his promise by bestowing the Emperor’s Sword and conferring the title of the Champion Marquis. This position does not conflict with the hereditary princely rank, causing a sensation nationwide.

But a twenty-year-old martial arts prodigy indeed deserved such glory, filling the citizens with jubilation.

Because it signifies the prosperous fortunes of Great Zhou. With such a powerful country, how could the people of Great Zhou not be happy?

However, the people of Great Zhou didn’t know that Liang Sheng’s wood carvings indeed had some magical properties for the Zhou family bloodline.

Perhaps it’s their sensitivity towards seeking fortune and avoiding evil that allowed them to better comprehend the essence of the wood carving, somehow leading to several breakthroughs in their cultivation in just over a month thereafter.

Though the proportion isn't high considering the total number of the royal family, it still brought considerable joy to the Great Zhou Imperial Family.

Meanwhile, people discovered that the most recent among the myriad wood carvings was from just a few months prior.

What this meant, many people understood clearly. Hence, Emperor Shendi of Great Zhou issued a special decree, ordering an investigation in Jinzhou City to locate the carving master.

In the face of such a situation, Liang Sheng had no choice but to fake his death again. Since the identity of the carver had been seen by quite a few people, and this was after all the Great Zhou Royal Family with whom he already had a karmic connection, why would he want to get involved again?

Still, Liang Sheng had no intention of leaving Jinzhou City because there were still spiritual plants planted in the rarely frequented area outside the city, which he couldn't give up.

In addition, he had been cultivating at a faster speed in Jinzhou City these years. He might not know the reason, but he certainly wouldn't leave without reason.

Furthermore, who would have guessed the craftsmen who seemed so old before would now look like a vibrant young man?

Consequently, Liang Sheng's life became peaceful once again. The grand-scale search in Jinzhou City had nothing to do with him. Over the following years, Jinzhou City officials never stopped searching.

This was a mission given by the emperor himself. Even if it seemed hopeless, who would give up? After all, if successful, they could shoot to fame.

But how could they possibly find this mysterious carver? So, all they could do was leave behind the legend of a hidden master, which made the Great Zhou royal family wish they could have met him earlier.

However, all of this was now irrelevant to Liang Sheng. He still lived leisurely, cultivating, drawing talismans, refining pills, and practicing the curse imprinting technique.

Finally, in Shenzong's forty-ninth year, Liang Sheng, who was already over 500 years old, was exhilarated and hurriedly ran into the deep mountain forest.

Because he felt that the breakthrough was going to happen today, he was being so cautious. After all, causing a stir within the city might have drawn unnecessary trouble. Although he wasn't afraid, why flaunt it?

Although he regretted not breaking through at the age of 500, he was still excited right now. How things would be after foundation establishment, he would know it today.

Liang Sheng sat cross-legged in the deep mountain forest this time. After calming his excited mood, he took out the last mid-grade spiritual stone from the storage bag.

In the past few years, he had almost exhausted his spiritual stones, leaving only one mid-grade spiritual stone for this moment.

The next moment, a powerful spiritual energy inside the stone was injected into his body along his meridians. The Upper Pure Immortal Scripture revolved at a rapid rate, and when it reached its maximum speed, it felt like a tense thread suddenly broke.

In an instant, a tremendous force was born within his body. The spiritual power circulated within his body was more than twice as powerful as before. However, when Liang Sheng opened his eyes, his face was extremely pale.

He indeed had a breakthrough!

But he hadn't established the foundation yet, he was still in the Qi Condensation stage.

Qi Cultivation Tenth Layer!

Name: Liang Sheng

Age: 510

Talent: Innocent Foolishness (Top grade)

Techniques: Upper Pure Immortal Scripture (10th Layer), Twenty Life-Nurturing Techniques (18th Layer), Nail-Head Seven Arrows Technique (Curse)

Realm: Qi Cultivation Tenth Layer

Lifespan: 16323

At this stage, Qi Cultivation Tenth Layer made no progress, just as when he broke through the innate limit. Liang Sheng composed himself, feeling a bit helpless.

He remembered the news that Zhou Hua and others had previously ventured into the Cultivation World market to gather information, even loose cultivators who had reached Qi Cultivation Ninth Layer pledged to serve the sect.

All because they wanted a Foundation Establishment Pill.

Some loose cultivators did possess the recipe for the Foundation Establishment Pill, but after spending countless hours just to barely reach the Qi Cultivation Ninth Layer, those without resources, how much time would they have left to refine the Foundation Establishment Pill?

Throughout the ages, countless Qi Cultivation Ninth Layer loose cultivators have failed at this stage. Moreover, even if they had the Foundation Establishment Pill, they only had a chance to break through to the Foundation Establishment stage.

Even sect disciples who took the Foundation Establishment Pill might fail to achieve a breakthrough, and then fall into decline, like the market manager of the Hua Tian Sect's market once was..

## Chapter 128: Qi Cultivation Tenth Layer?!

At this moment, Liang Sheng's face was gloomy. His plan to practice cultivation in the secular world was completely disrupted. If he couldn't break through to the Foundation Establishment stage, his method of protecting the dao would become a paradox.

After all, who could guarantee that there would be no accidents in the secular world? Even for those in the Qi Refining Realm, if they did not withdraw in time in the face of a powerful natural disaster, they might face the risk of death.

Only real strength could ensure a long life.

Liang Sheng was cautious, but he was also extremely resolute when necessary!

It seemed that he would have to go to the Cultivation World.

Although his current Qi Cultivation Tenth Layer strength was not an opponent for a cultivator in the Foundation Establishment stage, the Cultivation Market usually only had one Foundation Establishment Stage Cultivator present. With his Attribute Panel Concealment, they wouldn't be able to see his true cultivation level, so his safety was guaranteed.

Even if something went wrong, as long as he didn't directly confront the Foundation Establishment Expert, the Nail-Head Seven Arrows Technique would show them what a ruthless person was.

Liang Sheng considered all the possibilities in his heart and took out the Black Iron Command he had snatched from the Nine Provinces Tripod, his expression indescribable.

He didn't expect that he would inevitably have to go to the Cultivation Realm after all, and he also needed a corresponding Dao Protection for his long lifespan.

Even with the Qi Cultivation Tenth Layer, he might not have any chance of winning against a Foundation Establishment stage cultivator. The result could be deduced from his own breakthrough strength.

Foundation Establishment and Qi Training, although only one step apart, were as different as heaven and earth.

He should really go to the Cultivation Market!

However, before leaving, he still needed to settle some cause and effect. After all, he had his own bottom line. Going to the Cultivation World, he didn't know when he would return.

Capital.

Grand Temple.

Shenzong was about to abdicate, and in the past few years, his visits to the Grand Temple became more frequent. From time to time, he spent a whole night in front of the ancestors' memorial tablets, recounting his journey and inner struggles along the way.

But that day, he pushed open the main gate of the Grand Temple, and his face changed dramatically. That night, the Imperial Army mobilized, and the Great Zhou Royal Clan's innate experts gathered in the Imperial Palace, but in the end, they found nothing.

As for the Grand Temple, the few half artifacts inside made the innate experts speechless and unable to describe the shock in their hearts.

What's more, there were dozens of bottles of Barrier Breaking Pills around, which made Shenzong wonder about the purpose of this person.

The commotion in the palace that night sparked various speculations.

However, the capital remained extremely calm afterward. Shenzong carefully recorded the incident as an imperial secret.

It was a pity that even until Shenzong abdicated, the Great Zhou Royal Family never found any clues, and this could only become a mystery.

Southwest.

At this moment, Chu Chen had already achieved the Innate Realm after taking the Barrier Breaking Pills. The malicious woman who had almost killed him once was now buried alive in a cesspool by him.

That day, in his study, he saw another bottle of Barrier Breaking Pills and an additional sword.

When the sword was unsheathed, even Chu Chen, as an innate expert, was frightened.

Xigu Pass.

Outside the cave shrouded in thick fog, Liang Sheng hesitated for a short while before finally setting his face and walking into the fog with his Black Iron Command and backpack.

Everything around was silent, with only the dim light from the Black Iron Command flickering, indicating the direction forward. Liang Sheng naturally didn't expose his Storage Bag, and he was still carrying a backpack on the surface as a disguise.

Before entering the fog, Liang Sheng seemed hesitant, but once he stepped inside, he strode forward fearlessly.

When the fog thinned, Liang Sheng took a deep breath, put the Black Iron Command into his Storage Bag, gently clenched his fist, and then stepped forward.

The view suddenly opened up before him. Outside the thick fog was an old, crumbling village, but the spiritual energy was abundant. At this moment, the spiritual power within Liang Sheng seemed to be cheering and jumping with joy.



He remembered what Zhou Yun and others had said before and knew that this was the normal periphery of the market in the Cultivation World. After all, the Cultivation World was not only for cultivators but also ordinary people.

He just didn't know which sect the current Foundation Establishment Stage Cultivator stationed in the market belonged to. At this time, the villagers noticed Liang Sheng, but they didn't dare to look up and take a closer look.

They were just the workers in the market, hoping for an Immortal Destiny to become cultivators one day. The Nine Levels of the Postnatal Realm Martial Artists could be seen everywhere, and the innate experts were not unusual. However, Liang Sheng didn't pay attention to them and walked straight through the village.

The bluestone street in front of him was spotless, and even the air seemed to be fresher. There were people shouting and selling things on both sides of the street. Most people were carrying backpacks and didn't seem to possess the so-called leisure of cultivators.

Not every cultivator had a Storage Bag. Apart from a few lucky ones, at least cultivators with the Qi-Training Seventh Realm cultivation level had the possibility of possessing a Storage Bag.

This was a market overseen by the Three Sects and Six Orders. These Loose Cultivators struggled every day for cultivation resources. The suffering of the Loose Cultivators was hard to share. Only Foundation Establishment success would provide the only way to get rid of this predicament.

At this moment, Liang Sheng had already concealed his cultivation level and was only at the Qi Cultivation Third Layer, which made him the least noticeable among the cultivators in the market.

At this time, a Qi Refining Fifth Layer Cultivator with a naive face hadn't noticed Liang Sheng at first. But after seeing Liang Sheng's actions, he thought for a moment, and then approached Liang Sheng.

Liang Sheng forcefully suppressed his urge to avoid him. He needed to blend into the market first, and as for the danger, as long as he didn't directly confront the Foundation Establishment Expert, the other cultivators in this market were nothing but small fries.

“Daoist Friend, have you just left your family and are trying to make it on your own?”

Liang Sheng was astonished upon hearing this, and his expression made the naive Loose Cultivator’s eyes flash with satisfaction, thinking that he had guessed correctly.

“Daoist Friend, don’t be surprised. I’m not bragging, but i am familiar with almost every Loose Cultivator in this market, and you are a stranger.

Moreover, your actions just now were exactly the same as mine back then..”

Chapter 129: Qi Cultivation Tenth Layer!?

“You too...?”

Liang Sheng was already over 500 years old, and naturally went along with the flow. With a face full of regret, the honest middle-aged cultivator said, “Yes, back then, the family’s cultivation resources were insufficient, and my luck was shallow. Naturally, I was abandoned by the family and had to come to the market to make a living on my own.”

As he said this, he seemed to fall into reminiscence, but quickly returned to normal. “I don’t know how to address my fellow Daoist. My name is Chen Mo. If my friends in the market don’t mind, they call me Honest Chen.”

“I am merely Zhou Sheng, and I have met Daoist Chen.”

“Brother Zhou is truly straightforward. Let’s go, I’ll take you to register at the market. When I first arrived, I didn’t understand either. I was in a daze for three days and was not allowed to set up a stall. It turns out that only after registering do you become a member of the market built by the Three Sects and Six Factions.”

Liang Sheng hesitated slightly upon hearing this, then followed Chen Mo forward. He was not afraid of the other party’s motives as murderous acts would usually take place in secluded areas, and open fighting was expressly forbidden in the market.

Fortunately, Chen Mo did not deceive him and took Liang Sheng to a three-story building, which was already one of the best buildings Liang Sheng had seen in the market.

Next to it were nine similar three-story buildings, Chen Mo introduced: "Those are the shops of the Three Sects and Six Schools. If you have good items, you can exchange them for spirit stones or equivalent resources there."

At this moment, Chen Mo was extremely enthusiastic, and his honest face made people trust him a little more. Liang Sheng still had his guard up, but naturally expressed his gratitude on the surface.

He pretended to be a newcomer who had just left his family and asked with an honest face, "Can anything be exchanged?"

"Of course, as long as it's of equal value, anything can be exchanged. However, the shops of the Three Sects and Six Schools usually offer a lower price-to-quality ratio than the nearby Loose Cultivators' stalls, but they are safer in comparison."

Upon saying this, Chen Mo did not say more, but Liang Sheng naturally understood his meaning. Although he might get a higher return from the Loose Cultivators, it would also be more dangerous.

"What about the Foundation Establishment Pill?"

Chen Mo was startled by the question and then patted Liang Sheng's shoulder as if he was reminiscing about the past. Liang Sheng endured the urge to dodge and let the other party pat his shoulder.

"Brother Zhou, don't think too much. We should be down-to-earth. Look at me, I've been in the market for over 60 years and only reached the Qi Cultivation Fivefold Level. I don't know if I'll have the chance to reach the Qi Cultivation Ninth Level in this lifetime?"

Every level in the realm of cultivation is harder than the previous one. Only the proud sons of the heavens with great fortune may not have to care about the bottleneck during the Qi Condensation stage."

After that, he felt as if his words had dampened the younger generation's spirits. He quickly took Liang Sheng to register inside the building. As soon as Liang Sheng entered, his nerves immediately tensed up.

On the third floor, there was a faint sense of pressure. If no accident, this should be the Foundation Establishment Expert stationed in the market by the Three Sects and Six Schools.

He restrained his thoughts, not daring to look around, and followed Chen Mo to the counter. Step by step, he registered his information. He only needed one jade tag, input his spiritual energy, and the registration would be successful.

The cultivator attending to them on the first floor was neither enthusiastic nor perfunctory, simply going through the motions. Once this was done, he threw out a jade slip.

"These are the rules of the market. You should read them thoroughly. Don't break the rules in the market. Registration fees – three low-grade spirit stones.

As for the cave mansions in the market, you can choose them, but you'll have to pay with spirit stones. Which cave mansion do you need?"

Liang Sheng was stunned. Registration required spirit stones?

Thinking about it, Liang Sheng couldn't help but smile bitterly. His spirit stones had long been exhausted. Had he known this, he would have saved some for the market.

However, without consuming spirit stones, how could he possibly progress so quickly in the secular world? If he hadn't reached the Qi Cultivation Tenth Layer and failed to make a breakthrough to the Foundation Establishment stage, why would he be in the market?

Seeing his look, the other party naturally noticed, and couldn't help but suppress his anger, "Don't you have any spirit stones?"

Chen Mo was also taken aback at this moment, just what kind of cultivator did this person's family not care about? Not a single spirit stone was given to him when he left to fend for himself?

However, in the next moment, Liang Sheng opened his backpack and took out more than a dozen Vajra Talismans, Heart Clearing Talismans, and Body Purification Talismans...

Zhou Yun had previously mentioned the market price, which, when added together, should be exchangeable for some spirit stones, roughly equivalent to four low-grade spirit stones.

"Sir, can these be used instead of spirit stones?"

Both the manager and Chen Mo had strange expressions on their faces, staring at Liang Sheng, who felt a little uneasy. Had he done something wrong?

"It's more than enough, but are you sure you want to use these to pay for the registration fees?"

Chen Mo whispered discreetly in Liang Sheng's ear, and he couldn't help but feel taken aback upon hearing it.

It turned out that the prices in the Cultivation World could rise, too? The value of his talismans had more than doubled since Zhou Yun's time, worth almost ten low-grade spirit stones?

Who could have predicted this!?

Chapter 130: Befriending, Attack and Defense Talisman

Cultivation World, Market.

After learning about the rising prices, Liang Sheng naturally could not continue doing business at a loss. First, he borrowed three low-grade spirit stones from Chen Mo and gave them to the registration clerk at the administration office, and then he went out to prepare to exchange spirit stones with talismans.

With talismans at hand, Chen Mo naturally couldn't decline the loan. As for choosing a cave mansion, that would require many spirit stones, and Liang Sheng still had to think about it.

However, he needed to gather some spirit stones first. Chen Mo followed Liang Sheng out, still somewhat bewildered.

He thought of Liang Sheng opening his backpack earlier to reveal the vermilion brush, cinnabar, and blank talisman paper, hesitated for a moment, and finally could not help but ask:

"So, Daoist Friend Zhou is actually a talisman maker?"

Liang Sheng didn't refute upon hearing this. Chen Mo saw this and was silent for a short while before patting Liang Sheng's shoulder and said, "Brother Zhou, don't do this in the future. After all, wealth should not be flaunted."

Then, without caring about Liang Sheng's reaction, he picked a random sect shop and went in with Liang Sheng, his heart feeling complicated.

He initially thought that the other was also a loose cultivator and a mere fledgling who had just left his family. But he never expected that he would be such a low-profile tycoon.

After all, which talisman maker isn't nourished by a host of resources? The taste in Chen Mo's heart at this moment was indescribable.

But he was also puzzled. Why would the family allow such a treasure of a disciple to leave and fend for himself?

Could it be...

He didn't continue thinking about it. Accompanying Liang Sheng in quickly exchanging ten spirit stones, he was taken aback when Liang Sheng handed him four spirit stones.

"I must thank Brother Zhou for enlightening me this time, or else I might have lost out. I hope Brother Zhou will not refuse. Perhaps I will need your help again in the future."

Hearing Liang Sheng saying this, Chen Mo hesitated for a moment before accepting the spirit stones from Liang Sheng. "This friend, Brother Zhou, I have made."

The relationship between the two seemed to have grown closer. Liang Sheng then took the opportunity to start asking about how the cave mansions worked.

"These cave mansions are actually houses in the market. However, every cave mansion has an appropriate array, like the Gathering Spirit Array, Isolation Array...

Of course, due to the different effects of the arrays, prices can vary. For example, a cave mansion with a common Gathering Spirit Array only requires twenty low-grade spirit stones a year..."

Chen Mo explained the situation with the cave mansions. It seemed that he himself had rented the cheapest mansion, which only needed twenty low-grade spirit stones a year.

Liang Sheng had the Attribute Panel Concealing Property within himself, so keeping his secret wasn't a problem. But upon hearing about the Gathering Spirit Array, he couldn't help but feel eager to try it out.

After explaining the cave mansion situation, Chen Mo prepared to take Liang Sheng to the administration office to rent a cave mansion which allowed for installment payments.

After all, loose cultivators are poor.

But at this moment, Liang Sheng turned back towards the shop. Chen Mo couldn't help but feel puzzled. "Brother Zhou, you're going in the wrong direction."

"No, I have some more talismans that I can exchange for some spirit stones."

Upon hearing this, Chen Mo was completely stunned. Immediately after, when Liang Sheng emerged from the shop, he already had a total of thirty-six low-grade spirit stones in his hand, including those from the previous exchange.

Seeing this, Chen Mo sighed softly, "Brother Zhou, don't ever do this so easily in front of others in the future. After all, wealth should not be flaunted."

This was the second time Chen Mo advised him. Liang Sheng laughed and said nothing, although these spirit stones seemed plentiful, they were insignificant to a Foundation Establishment Stage Cultivator.

In that case, Liang Sheng naturally wouldn't hesitate to exchange them for spirit stones. After all, should he have to scrimp and sleep rough outside in the slums?

Moreover, this would also be a test for Chen Mo. If he had ideas he shouldn't have, they would probably not need to establish a deeper friendship.

Fortunately, Chen Mo's eyes just flashed surprised and then he brought Liang Sheng to rent a mansion for twenty low-grade spirit stones. The cave mansion was not far from Chen Mo's own residence.

After a day's busy work, he input his own spiritual energy to recognize the master and moved into the cave mansion with a spare jade slip.

The spare jade slip was prepared for when one would want someone else to be able to enter their cave mansion directly. Liang Sheng found it strange that people would be willing to let others in.

However, Liang Sheng soon stopped caring. As the saying goes, "Hiding in plain sight." At this moment, befriending Chen Mo allowed him to better integrate into the market.

Just after finishing the mansion paperwork, Liang Sheng entered another shop. When he came out, his spirit stones were almost depleted, but he had acquired a wolf hair brush, top-quality vermilion ink, and talisman paper.

He could finally refine some better talismans.



Chen Mo didn't find it strange, after all, Liang Sheng was a talisman maker, and his previous equipment seemed somewhat crude. It was understandable to change to better equipment.

However, he still felt envious at that moment. After all, talisman makers also needed talent. Some people had a success rate of less than five percent, while others could reach ten percent.

With Liang Sheng in his current situation, at least he seemed to have a ten percent rate of success. Wouldn't that mean he could exchange talismans at a low price in the future?

From then on, Liang Sheng officially settled in the market. With the experienced Chen Mo around, he quickly got a grasp on the market.

There was an unwritten rule among the market, not to leave it without special circumstances or tasks. After all, there were no shortage of people who died outside the market every year, but there were almost no dangers in the market itself.

Using the name of the Three Sects and Six Orders was enough to deter small-time rogues from causing trouble. However, according to Chen Mo, in the past hundred years, there had been some friction between the Upper Pure Sect and Hua Tian Sect..