

# I Have A Cultivation World

## Chapter 11 - 11 Harvest\_1

[ 1,407 words ]

11 Chapter 11 Harvest\_1

Seeing the Large Formation beginning to operate again, Chen Mobai finally allowed himself to breathe a sigh of relief.

He wanted to sit down and rest for a bit, but the sight of two bodies inside the Water Mansion sapped him of any inclination to do so.

Whenever he closed his eyes, all he could see were their expressions, filled with unresolved resentment while meeting their ends.

Chen Mobai, however, had no experience dealing with corpses. He paced around the great hall, spotted the fish flopping around, and considered whether he should dispose of the bodies by throwing them into the water outside the large formation, leaving them to the mercies of the fish.

Nevertheless, after some careful contemplation, Chen Mobai shook his head.

Although he didn't know where this Eastern Wilderness was located, his obsession with crime investigation dramas since childhood led him to believe that the fish here wouldn't be fierce enough to completely devour and eliminate the bodies.

To avoid the corpses floating to the surface and attracting the attention of the cultivators in the Eastern Wilderness, Chen Mobai decided that the most prudent course of action would be to eradicate any evidence of the two within the Water Mansion.

But how to eliminate them?

Chen Mobai frowned and paced around the hall another time, considering whether to use fire. However, even if he had the ability to cast an Ignition Technique, or even if the temperature was high enough, the enclosed space made it impossible for him, an ordinary high school senior, to cremate the bodies.

In the end, he found himself standing in front of the elderly man's mutilated body, suppressing his bodily instincts. Just as he was about to turn around and leave, he suddenly caught sight of the stone door sealing off the side hall.

"Right, I could use the restrictions here."

Remembering how the bluish electric light had vaporized the coin he'd used for testing, Chen Mobai believed he had a workable solution.

Time was of the essence, so he acted immediately.

Mainly because Chen Mobai really couldn't stand being around the corpses any longer.

He employed his most proficient Propulsion Technique to lift one of the old man's arms, then thrust it towards the stone door of the central side hall.

With a "hiss"!

Indeed, without any spiritual power or defense, the bloody arm directly vaporized under the impact of the bluish electric light. The blood mist stained the earth tiles and left bloody marks on the stone door, triggering the restrictive power.

The sound of sizzling...

Next, the entire Water Mansion was steeped in the incessant flashing and fading of the electric light.

After going back and forth five times, the old man's body was finally dealt with.

Chen Mobai was astonished to find that the restrictive power on the stone door of the side hall seemed to have weakened a bit.

"It seems that the prohibitions in the side hall are not connected with the spirit veins of the entire Water Mansion. It would be much easier to break the prohibitions this way."

A remarkable Array Master would connect the several important buildings with the Spirit Vein Formation while arranging the defense of the Large Formation. In this way, as long as the Large Formation was not broken and the Spirit Veins were not dispersed, the restrictive power on the buildings would immediately recover even if they were worn out.

This Azure Water Array was not too bad, but clearly, the person who set up the formation simply bought the Array Plate and Array Flag and followed the previous layout.

After disposing of the old man's corpse, Chen Mobai noticed a bloody bag lying on the tile. Following the principle of caution, he used the Propulsion Technique to lift the bag and then poured out its contents.

A loud clatter ensued.

Apart from more than a dozen neatly cut pieces of gold, there were two books, three bottles of elixirs, a short sword, and a change of robes.

Chen Mobai's breathing became rapid when he saw the gold. Although the value of this metal was not as significant as it was in the previous civilization, it was still a material used in cultivation within the Immortal Sect. Whether it was gold powder used for writing and drawing symbols after special processing, or the essence of gold after refining, both were in high demand.

The estimated value of these dozen gold bars was about eight hundred Good Deed Points. If well exploited, it could yield nearly a thousand Good Deed Points.

Chen Mobai, who had never owned so much money, was a little overwhelmed.

He picked up the two books and took a quick look. One appeared to be the old man's cultivation technique, titled "Blackwater Cultivation". Chen Mobai set it aside, deeming this not the time to study it.

The title of the other book made him gasp.

"Detailed Explanation of Azure Aquatic Formation"

This was the instruction manual for the Water Mansion's defensive Large Formation. Chen Mobai initially thought the old man was lying about being the disciple of the master of the Water Mansion. Seeing this book, he realized it might be true.

However, the manual was rather thick, and when Chen Mobai checked his phone, he realized there was only an hour left until school started, so he didn't examine it further.

At this point, another question came to mind: could he take all these items with him when he returned to the city?

With this in mind, he moved on to deal with the body of the young man in the brown robe.

He now had some experience. He used the Propulsion Technique to flip the body, and sure enough, he found six hidden pockets within the young man's sleeve.

There was a bottle of elixir, two white stones, a foldable hand crossbow, and a manual for disciples of the Flying Needle Sect.

After opening the palm-sized needle box in the young man's hand and retrieving the flying needles scattered all around, Chen Mobai contentedly brought over the items from the old man's sack and piled them together.

Afterward, Chen Mobai processed the body using the stone door's restrictions just as he did with the old man's body. He used the set of spare robes from the old man as a cleaning cloth and wiped all the bloodstained areas within the Water Mansion.

He cleaned the blood stains on the tile in front of the side hall door from a distance using the Propulsion Technique, and he even collected the fish.

Once everything was tidy, Chen Mobai felt a sense of accomplishment, just like when he had cleaned his own home.

He sat in the middle of the great hall, in front of the loot he had painstakingly collected.

The old man's bag was bloody, and Chen Mobai, finding it ominous, didn't use it. He took off his own shirt, spread it on the tiles, and proceeded to place the items on it one by one.

The last items he touched were those two white stones. The gentle, pure spiritual energy flowed from the stones into his palm, flowed along his Energy Channels, making him shiver involuntarily. He almost let out a satisfied cry.

"Could this be...a Spirit Stone?"

If all the previous items simply excited Chen Mobai, then these two white stones had completely unsettled him.

These stones were just like the gold of the previous civilization on Earth in the Immortal Sect—worth a fortune.

However, due to the resource scarcity on Earth, all the Spirit Stone mines had been thoroughly explored and excavated. Save for during wars, none of the Spirit Stone mines was allowed to be exploited.

Even so, according to the latest financial report of the Immortal Sect, the Earth's Spirit Stone reserves were critically low.

If it weren't for a genius in the Immortal Sect who invented a Technique two thousand years ago, which revitalized depleted Spirit Stones by infusing them with Spiritual Energy, returning them to 80% of their original unused state, the Good Deed Point system of Immortal Sect might have collapsed due to the lack of sufficient Spirit Stones to exchange.

Even so, only during wars did the Immortal Sect allow cultivators to exchange Good Deed Points for Spirit Stones at the bank.

One lower-grade Spirit Stone was worth ten thousand Good Deed Points.

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## Chapter 12 - 12 Thoughts\_1

[ 1,325 words ]

12 Chapter 12 Thoughts\_1

Chen Mobai's parents work hard all year, but they only earn about 50,000 Good Deed Points in total.

Now, the two Spirit Stones in his possession were equivalent to half of their annual income.

No wonder he was a bit out of sorts.

After all, Chen Mobai had never actually held a Spirit Stone in his hands before. If it weren't for the detailed descriptions of Spirit Stones in textbooks and television shows, he would not have been able to recognize them.

It was at this point that Chen Mobai felt this Water Mansion might no longer be within the territory controlled by the Fairy Gate.

Suppressing his trembling hands, he placed the Spirit Stones on top of his clothes. He then took out his phone and snapped photos of the first thirty pages of the Detailed Explanation of the Azure Aquatic Formation.

Chen Mobai was worried that he might not be able to bring these items back when he returned to the city.

If he used his phone to take photos of the book, he would at least be able to study the knowledge at school.

He tied the corners of his clothes to form a bundle and held it close to his chest. He then opened the Turtle Treasure app on his phone and hit the “Return to Town” button.

After a flash of silvery light, Chen Mobai opened his eyes to find himself sitting on his bed.

He glanced at the clock on the wall. He still had half an hour before class started.

The weight in his hands induced an even greater feeling of excitement.

He had brought everything back!

After unwrapping his clothes and laying out the items one by one on the floor, Chen Mobai couldn't contain his excitement. He jumped onto his bed and did a somersault.

Luckily, the house was equipped with sound-proofing measures during construction. Otherwise, the noise would have surely woken his parents.

After venting his excitement, Chen Mobai opened his cupboard and hid the Spirit Stones, the hand crossbow, and the short sword – the items that could raise suspicions – deep inside.

He then brought out a backpack he hadn't used in a while and put the gold and the books inside.

The last item left was the needle box used by the brown-robed teenager.

Chen Mobai hesitated. This item was undoubtedly a real Magic Artifact. He just didn't know its Grade.

He didn't know how to use it, and the best course of action would be to sell it online.

However, on the Fairy Gate's online platform, second-hand Magic Artifacts required an authentication certificate.

About eighty percent of artifacts in the Immortal Cultivation world, especially the Magic Artifacts, were second-hand items.

To maintain order in the Magic Artifact market, the Fairy Gate issued certificates to cultivators who passed the Magic Artifact appraisal qualification exam. It was required that every Magic Artifact transaction was accompanied by an assessment certificate from a qualified Treasure Appraiser.

Every transaction required a fresh assessment to determine the wear and usage years of the Magic Artifact.

Of course, official requirements were one thing, and actual transactions were another.

Especially for the Rank-1 Magic Artifacts, some lower-grade items were not even worth the appraisal fees, so some unverified products still circulated on the market.

But if you wanted to sell a Magic Artifact at a good price, an appraisal was definitely necessary.

Especially for Magic Artifacts above Rank-2. Due to their high value, cultivators dared to purchase them only after a Treasure Appraiser had assessed them.

Consequently, the profession of a “Treasure Appraiser” was one of the most popular among the Hundred Arts of the Cultivation Immortal.

After purchasing three Green Arrow Talismans, Chen Mobai was practically penniless. He couldn't afford to hire a certified Treasure Appraiser, so he decided to hold onto the needle box for now. He would deal with it when he had the money, or try to figure out how to use it himself.

However, he still put the needle box in his backpack and took it to school.

It was, after all, the first real Magic Artifact that he had owned in his life.

With a backpack full of treasures on his back, Chen Mobai went downstairs, fed the fish, heated two corn pancakes for breakfast, and headed straight to school.

Today, it was the turn of the Formation teacher to give lessons.

The teacher's surname was Chan, a young intern teacher, reportedly still a student cultivator at the Cinnabarite Institute.

Although this teacher was the least experienced in the whole Fifth High School of Fairy Gate, Chen Mobai felt that her teaching was one of the best...well, almost.

If it weren't for the fact that the Principal, who was at the Foundation Establishment realm, also taught at the school, Chen Mobai wouldn't add “almost”.

Probably because she was not much older, her way of thinking was similar to that of the students. At least when she explained formations, her examples were vivid, and her explanation was clear.

Thanks to this, Chen Mobai was able to repair and reactivate the Azure Water Array, even though he wasn't usually interested in Formation classes.

Teacher Chan was attractive, had a nice figure, but she rarely smiled. She was serious when teaching, otherwise, she would be more popular.

But among cultivators, almost none were unattractive.

Centuries of cultivation had made their bodies more perfect. It was just that Spirit Root Aptitude, the endowment bestowed by heaven, relied solely on luck. But to groom oneself, it just took some years of Qi Cultivation.

Some cultivators even deliberately went to hospitals to alter their appearances to look hideous in order to prove their unwavering will to cultivate, so as to rid themselves of worldly distractions.

For example, Chen Mobai had a cousin. A breath-takingly handsome young man, he had once been filmed by accident while selling things on the street. Uploaded to the internet, he had become an overnight sensation.

But he was determined to cultivate. Facing countless film and television companies that came knocking, he directly went to the hospital to alter his appearance to an average and ordinary look.

Despite having average Spirit Root Aptitude, he was admitted into the Spiritual Pivot Institute among the hundred and twenty houses. Now, he was busy every day examining the ancient cultivators' relics in the mountains, conducting protective research.

The morning Formation class passed quickly while Chen Mobai focused on the Detailed Explanation of the Azure Aquatic Formation.

After class, he feigned being the last one out and sneaked into Teacher Chan's office.

Using the same excuse, he says his parents hired a private tutor to improve his college exam scores and that he had several homework assignments related to formation renovation and maintenance which he needed to complete independently. However, he was just too slow to comprehend it and had to consult his teacher.

However, unlike the old man Ding, Chan considered Chen Mobai's words and looked at the Grade of the Azure Water Formation he wrote on his draft paper, with slightly furrowed brows.

"Given your abilities, how dare your private tutor assign you homework on a Rank-2 formation?"

"It's just about the re-operation of the formation after it has been renovated or maintained. Actually, the private tutor has already taught me the entire formation," Chen Mobai forced an explanation.

"Oh..."

Chan gave him a quick glance and a smile that suggested more than what was said, but did not say anything more. She picked up her pen, prepared to answer all the questions on the draft paper, and display her prowess as a teacher.

But after reading through it, she realized that with her knowledge, she was somewhat at a loss about where to start.

“Um, the formation your private tutor taught you seems to contradict the mainstream teachings of Fairy Gate. Almost like two different systems.”

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## Chapter 13 - 13: Needle box\_1

[ 1,520 words ]

13 Chapter 13: Needle box\_1

“Ah, what’s the difference? Aren’t they the same?”

Chen Mobai’s knowledge of formations is only limited to what he learned in class. As for the Azure Water Formation, he just thought it was a slightly more advanced than what they usually discussed in class, with no essential differences.

How could this be two different systems?

“On Earth Star, resources for immortal cultivation have been nationalized, and all the Spirit Veins of the Thirty-Six Celestial Caverns and the Seventy-Two Blessed Lands have been consolidated by the Ancestor God of Divinity Transformation with supreme legal treasures.”

“So, on Earth Star now, nobody usually researches formations that require the insertion of Array Flags into the Spirit Veins. But this knowledge forms the foundation of formation studies, so we, as formation teachers, will explain it in high school classes.”

“But in fact, formations above Rank-2 that need to extract the power of the spiritual veins have become dust in history. The direction of formation studies, supported by the

Immortal Sect and guided by various Daoist Academies, is to utilize the power of natural phenomena and the forces of the sun, moon, and stars.”

After Chan’s explanation, Chen Mobai realized that the Azure Water Formation, which needs to be rooted on the water veins, is extremely rare in the entire Immortal Sect.

It’s not that the formation is difficult, but that it’s quite hard to get permission from the Immortal Sect’s National Natural Resources Department allowing the use of the power of the spiritual veins within the Immortal Sect’s territory for formation arrangement.

“Maybe the private tutor my mother hired has been part of the sea territory development, so he’s quite insistent on formations that require the setup of water veins.”

Chen Mobai tried to explain, Chan gave him a suspicious look, but didn’t delve deep into it.

“Give me your phone number.”

“Huh?”

Chen Mobai was caught off guard by Chan’s sudden request, a bit taken aback.

“I only know a little about formations myself. It’s only in recent years through teaching at your school that I have laid a foundation in this area. This Azure Water Formation is a bit beyond my abilities, so I need to go back and consult. There’s a senior professor specializing in formations who just arrived at the Cinnabarite Institute for an exchange visit. I can consult with him. Give me your phone number; we can add each other as contacts, and I’ll text you the answer as soon as I have it.”

Chen Mobai didn’t expect Chan to be so humble, considering she’s a teacher of formations, claiming only to know a little.

“Thanks a lot, Teacher Chan.”

After saying this, Chen Mobai immediately took out his phone and added Chan as a contact.

Just as he was about to leave, he felt a bit embarrassed and pulled out a scanned document of the thirty-page Detailed Explanation of Azure Aquatic Formation that he had saved on his phone. He sent it to Chan, saying it was reference material given to him by his private tutor.

“Yes, with this, I should be able to give you an answer in a couple of days. After all, the art of formations has a common source despite myriad changes.”

Chan's eyes lit up when she saw the document that Chen Mobai had sent over, and she immediately took out her paper and pen to start calculating and simulating the operation of the Azure Water Formation. It seemed that she was trying to infer the secrets of the formation with her own abilities.

Seeing her immersed in it, Chen Mobai didn't dare to disturb her and withdrew, closing the door for her.

Chen Mobai originally wanted to give Chan the original copy of Detailed Explanation of Azure Aquatic Formation for reference, but considering that the book might have come from outside the Immortal Sect and that it might provide evidence implicating him as a murderer, he decided it would be better to be cautious.

So, thinking twice about it, he decided that when he got home, he would scan the entire book onto his computer as a text document, eliminating any traces that might reveal its origin before sending it to Chan.

After leaving the office, Chen Mobai decided to go straight home.

With a Rank-2 intermediate-grade Spiritual Vein Treasure Land at his disposal, he looked down a little on the school's Rank-1 spiritual power cultivation room.

But on second thought, it's better not to attract attention.

The Fifth High School of the Immortal Sect is a national school, and the students who are enrolled here are all from ordinary families. Even talents like Song Zheng and Yan Bingxuan, who are in the late stage of Qi Cultivation, cherish the two hours of free time they get every afternoon.

There are some who don't use the school's cultivation room. Three students, who are already at the eighth layer of Qi Cultivation, find the Rank-1 spiritual power insufficient for them. Their parents have rented Rank-2 lower-grade private cultivation rooms for them outside the school. They leave school immediately after morning classes.

Thus, if Chen Mobai didn't use the school's cultivation room, it would certainly attract attention when people found out.

Qi Practitioners can't cultivate for more than eight hours a day without straining their meridians and Dantian, so Chen Mobai didn't intend to waste any time here.

Therefore, in the school's cultivation room, he started to flip through the Flying Needle Sect's disciple manual that the brown-robed teenager had dropped.

It was only twelve pages thick.

A large portion of the manual detailed the origin of the Flying Needle Sect. The Sect's founder came from the Flying Sand Sect within the Ten Direction Palace. After he successfully established his foundation, he left his sect due to the hopelessness of Core Formation.

The last few pages were full of praises for the Sect's founder and how he established a 300-year foundation in the Eastern Wilderness and shook the eight directions with his might.

Then, there were the usual prohibitions found in all major sects—never betray the master, never do anything evil, etc.

None of these were of any use to Chen Mobai. Only the page about the sect's benefits gave him a rough idea of how spirit stones originated.

Membership to the Flying Needle Sect offered more than just responsibilities—it also offered a yearly distribution of spirit stones.

Early-stage Qi Practitioners can receive five spirit stones per year; mid-stage Practitioners receive ten; late-stage Practitioners receive twenty.

The brown-robed boy was a cultivator at the sixth level of Qi Cultivation, the peak of mid-stage Qi Cultivation. Ten spirit stones were barely enough for his cultivation. He must have conspired with the old man to open this Water Mansion to earn some extra money.

The boy probably didn't expect that he would be killed by the old man inside the Water Mansion before even getting a chance to show off his skills after leaving his sect.

The last page of the manual held the signatures of the brown-robed boy and the seal of the Flying Needle Sect.

The manual was printed and issued in the year 6478 of Yuan Era.

Yuan Era?

It must be the local calendar of Eastern Wilderness!

At this point, Chen Mobai had a vague understanding of the location of the Water Mansion.

In this place called Eastern Wilderness, there should be no shortage of spirit stones.

If he ever advanced his cultivation level, he would definitely need to leave the Water Mansion and explore the world above the seabed.

After finishing reading the Flying Needle Sect's disciple manual, Chen Mobai took out the needle box, lightly opened it, and attempted to refine it.

Twelve earthy-yellow flying needles were neatly lined up inside. He poured his spiritual power into them, and one by one, the flying needles rose. Eventually, after doing his utmost, ten of the flying needles bonded with his spiritual power and slowly levitated.

Could a Qi Practitioner of the sixth stage control all the flying needles?

That's what Chen Mobai thought. He had reached the fifth stage of Qi Cultivation and could control ten. If he fully refined them, it would be just right to use.

However, he had never controlled a magic artifact before and only managed to maintain control for three minutes before he ran out of most of his spiritual power and the ten needles fell uncontrollably.

"No wonder he shot them three by three when he was using them."

Recalling the brown-robed boy's spell casting, Chen Mobai realized how absurd he was. Even if a Qi Practitioner of the sixth stage could lift all twelve needles, but to be proficient and smooth, probably the minimum requirement would be the seventh stage or higher.

After recovering his spiritual power through meditation, he attempted again to control just three needles. Although he extended the time to a quarter of an hour, the earthy-yellow long needles that he managed to levitate were extremely stiff and uncontrollable.

Wouldn't it be nice if he had the suitable refining methodology?

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## **Chapter 14 - 14 Wu Wan\_1**

[ 1,427 words ]

14 Chapter 14 Wu Wan\_1

After fumbling with the needle box for a while, Chen Mobai finally reached the end of the two-hour duration.

He didn't wait for the Soul Stabilising Charm to ring, he directly opened the door and went out.

Outside the door, only the last batch of unlucky ones were left.

Chen Mobai didn't see any familiar classmates, saving him from the need to greet, he simply picked up his backpack and left the school.

He didn't rush home. Instead, he used his student card to take public transportation to a large, comprehensive raw material trading market in the eastern side of the city.

Chen Mobai's mother works in a talisman paper factory. When he was little, he was brought there and played for a few years, so he's quite familiar with the workflow of this small factory.

The boss is a Rank-2 Talisman Master, runs a talisman shop in the city, and in order to save costs, he started his own talisman paper accessories factory. The large talisman papers that Chen Mobai cuts were bought by his mother at an internal discount price.

The talisman paper factory, though not large, is complete with everything. It can produce brush, ink, paper, and inkstone. However, they have to purchase gold powder, a material rarely used in drawing talismans, from outside.

If Chen Mobai remembered correctly, the shop providing gold powder for the talisman paper accessories factory was located here.

Cultivators almost always have good memories. Chen Mobai asked three people and accurately located Wu's Gold Shop in the corner of the trading market.

"Hello, customer, what do you need?"

Upon entering, a young cultivator holding a book behind the counter immediately stood up and greeted with a smile.

"Does your shop buy gold?"

Chen Mobai went straight to the point. He had already checked the latest gold prices published on the Xiandoor's website before coming here. Even if he took a slight loss in selling it here, he was willing to accept it.

However, the young cultivator did not haggle over prices. After he took the gold, he put it on a professional magic artifact to measure the parameters, and then offered a purchase price of 843 Good Deed Points based on the market price.

“The quality of your gold is pretty good, and it looks like it’s been refined with spiritual power by a cultivator. Let’s just round it up to 850.”

Upon hearing this, Chen Mobai thought that the boss was reasonable and immediately nodded.

After transaction, seeing an additional 850 Good Deed Points in his account, Chen Mobai suppressed his inner joy, was about to leave, when he suddenly noticed the books on the counter of the young cultivator.

“Rank-2 Treasure Appraiser Examination Leaked Test Questions”

“Boss, are you also a treasure appraiser?”

Chen Mobai asked out of curiosity. As is well known, the qualification examinations of the Xiandoor are conducted in a Rank-1...Rank-2... sequence. Seeing that he was studying the contents of the Rank-2 treasure appraiser’s examination suggested that he must’ve passed the Rank-1’s.

“The exam questions were relatively simple two years ago, and I barely passed.”

The young cultivator said with a modest attitude, then handed over a business card.

“Wu Wan”

“Owner of Wu’s Gold Shop”

“Xiandoor Certified Rank-1 Treasure Appraiser”

After reading this, Chen Mobai became respectful.

The certificates for the art professions issued by Xiandoor are mostly granted after rigorous selection and examination by officials.

A Rank-1 Treasure Appraiser means that one has mastered most of the knowledge of appraising legal treasures and tools below Grade-2 and is allowed to register and get certified.

This young looking boss in front of him can issue certificates for all Rank-1 magic artifacts, and the results will be recognized by all trading markets.

“Master Wu, I happened to find a magic artifact from my ancestors during the time of pioneer wars when I was cleaning the old house during the winter vacation. Due to the long passage of time, nobody in the family showed any particular remembrance. Could you help appraise it?”

Chen Mobai took out the needle box from his backpack. Upon seeing this, Wu Wan, who had been smiling gently, immediately became serious. He first took a pair of disposable light gloves from his own showcase and put them on, then solemnly took over the box.

“Customer, do you want this magic artifact to be appraised preliminarily or thoroughly?”

Wu Wan’s words left Chen Mobai in a daze. Isn’t treasure appraisal supposed to be done in one go?

Knowing that he was a complete outsider, Wu Wan then explained it to him.

As it turns out, the appraisal of a magic artifact is divided into three levels.

The first level is to look. It determines the grade of the magic artifact, the materials, and the fabrication method.

The second level requires the use of professional equipment to measure the remaining service life of the artifact, and whether there are hidden defects.

As for the final, third level, it tests the appraiser’s ability the most. It needs to reverse engineer the sacrificial refining method of the artifacts. The idea is to create or infer a mantra that can perfectly exhibit the power of the artifact for the artifact that has been sent over for appraisal.

The charges for these three stages increase progressively.

“However, a typical artifact appraisal, especially that of a Rank-1 artifact, only requires the first level appraisal.”

After Wu Wan’s explanation, Chen Mobai finally understood the intricacies.

The price of Rank-1 magic artifacts is limited, but the market is the largest and the profit is meagre. Except for the true top-quality items, it basically only requires first-level appraisal. Moreover, many shops only require a certificate from a treasure appraiser, purely for sale, and they will not spend a lot of money on a more in-depth appraisal.

Chen Mobai asked for the price. Wu Wan was a new treasure appraiser with few achievements and not enough points, so his charges were on the lower side.

“This artifact of yours is a Rank-1 intermediate-grade, so I’ll just charge you 200 Good Deed Points.”

After handling it a bit, Wu Wan had a rough idea about the grade of the needle box and gave a price that left Chen Mobai rather heartbroken.

That was enough to buy six Green Arrow Talismans.

But thinking of his awkward control of the flying needles and the dangers in the Water Mansion located in the Eastern Wilderness, Chen Mobai gritted his teeth and agreed.

Having negotiated the price, Wu Wan placed the needle box on a workstation at the corner of the shop and began the appraisal using his professional knowledge.

He first checked the spiritual power intensity, confirming the grade.

“The refining method is a bit unconventional, but judging from the overall spiritual power fluctuations and the materials, this is definitely a Rank-1 intermediate-grade magic artifact.”

Wu Wan then took out a piece of A4-sized heavy paper, a standard Xiandoor certification paper, and filled in the results of his assessment in the respective fields of grade and materials.

“The needle box is carved out from a solid piece of magnet. If you want to know the exact type of magnet and its place of origin, a second-level appraisal is needed.”

Upon hearing this, Chen Mobai promptly shook his head. That wasn't necessary.

“The flying needles seem to be a mix of several metals that greatly react to magnetism. Even if you want a second-level appraisal for this, I wouldn't be able to help as it requires specialised equipment.”

“This magic artifact is quite ingenious, and does not demand much spiritual power.”

“The key to controlling and managing lies in this needle box. As long as you can adeptly control the magnetism, you can easily control the flying needles.”

Wu Wan, as a professional treasure appraiser, didn't infuse any spiritual power and only depended on his accumulated knowledge. He laid out the needle box's refining method and its usage tricks, fairly comprehensively.

When Chen Mobai thought about his time in the cultivation room at school, how he completely ignored this needle box, solely used it for storage, and kept forcefully pouring spiritual power into the flying needles, he couldn't help but feel embarrassed.

No wonder he was only able to control them for three minutes, running out of spiritual power, and that he'd attributed it to his low cultivation level.

He was using the wrong method all along. No wonder the effort did not equate the results.

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## Chapter 15 - 15 Fictional Trading\_1

[ 1,473 words ]

15 Chapter 15 Fictional Trading\_1

“Customer, if the information is correct, I must add the Professional Seal now.”

Inside the store, after Wu Wan handed over the hard paper certification card filled with the Magic Artifact owner’s information to Chen Mobai for confirmation, he solemnly opened a safe, took out a red seal, and without needing an ink pad, directly stamped it onto the certificate. A rank-1 oval-shaped Treasure Appraiser seal in deep red appeared on it.

The innermost part of the seal is Wu Wan’s regular script, the upper semicircle says Rank-1 Treasure Appraiser, and the lower semicircle is a series of arranged numerical symbols.

“This string of numerals is a randomly generated anti-counterfeiting code each time it’s stamped. Once I take a picture of this certificate and register it on the Xianmen network, anyone who inputs this numeric code will be able to see this certificate.”

After taking the needle box and certification, Chen Mobai first checks it with his mobile phone but finds that the page that pops up is completely blank, leaving him puzzled.

“I haven’t uploaded it yet?”

Wu Wan was amused and distressed, but he immediately logged into the electronic archives of the Treasure Appraisers in the Xianmen network with his own account and uploaded the certification of the needle box.

Chen Mobai tried again, and finally, the relevant page appeared.

“Master Wu, thank you for your hard work.”

After paying 200 Good Deed Points with satisfaction, Chen Mobai took the needle box.

“Little Chen, if you want to let go of this Magic Artifact, you can hang it in my shop, as a way to help me accumulate some points. If you agree, I can not only refund your Good Deed Points but also help you complete the Cultivation and use tactics of this Magic Artifact for free.”

While filling out the Magic Artifact owner information earlier, Wu Wan had already learned Chen Mobai’s name. Knowing that he was still a student, just eighteen years old and lacking social experience, a sudden idea sprang up in his mind.

In the Xianmen, because of tight resources, almost everyone worries about spiritual energy and materials after embarking on the cultivation path. Many of them resort to operating personal online stores on the Xianmen network to make money.

Although Wu Wan has obtained a Rank-1 certificate as a Treasure Appraiser and holds some respect among Qi Practitioners, he is still struggling for resources to achieve Foundation Establishment.

In addition to this hereditary shop, he also refines artifacts on normal days.

After all, being a Treasure Appraiser doesn’t bring in a significant fortune, and every cultivator who learns the art of treasure appraisal initially aspires to be an Artifact Refiner.

And the individual shops on the Xianmen network are all based on trading Good Deed Points accumulated through buying and selling. The more points, the more one can exchange for the official Secret Techniques, Elixirs, and Magic Artifacts.

As the Xianmen control the Earth Star and continue the order of the previous civilization, despite the Divinity Transformation ancestor suppressing the world, there have been several economic crises.

Mainly due to the scarcity of Spirit Stones, during wars, as soon as cultivators accumulated Good Deed Points in their accounts, they immediately went to the bank to exchange for Spirit Stones. Even if they couldn’t use them all, they would still save them for future generations.

As a result, no matter how many Spirit Stones were in reserve in the national bank, it couldn’t withstand the billions of cultivators rushing to exchange.

And so an economic crisis arose.

Although the Xianmen issued multiple regulations to prohibit the exchange of Spirit Stones, drive up exchange prices, and even come up with a secret technique that could recover exhausted Spirit Stones by infusing Spiritual Energy, the operation rules of

market economy could not be eliminated, even with the transcendent power of the Divinity Transformation ancestor.

However, over the centuries, the Xianmen, under its various palaces and departments, has gathered countless talents on the Earth Star, with many wise individuals.

A thousand years ago, someone proposed to open up the Xianmen national library's collection of 84,000 Taoist books and allow all cultivators to exchange with points. And these points must be acquired by spending Good Deed Points in the Xianmen market.

For instance, if Chen Mobai purchased three Green Arrow Talismans online and spent 105 Good Deed Points, he would gain an additional 105 points in his personal register.

The moment this policy was introduced, the previously stagnant market economy of the Xianmen exploded instantly. Within just ten years, ninety percent of the private Spirit Stone reserves recirculated back into the national bank, replaced by the Good Deed Points in each individual's account.

Offline transactions could also earn points, but both the buyer and seller had to pay tax to the Xianmen tax bureau.

For instance, if Chen Mobai wanted to exchange the 200 Good Deed Point appraisal fees he had given to Wu Wan into points, he would have to pay a 20% consumption tax to the Xianmen. In reality, this 20% tax is split between the buyer and the seller, with each paying 10%, but the person receiving the money certainly wouldn't be willing to do this, unless Chen Mobai gave Wu Wan another 20 Good Deed Points, would the latter agree to go to the tax bureau with him.

After all, only consumption could earn points, while receiving money did not earn points.

Therefore, on the Xianmen market, before the transaction, the seller would confirm whether the consumer requires points, if so, the tax would be included in the total price in advance.

For this reason, the Xianmen does not force taxation, it's completely voluntary.

But clearly, Chen Mobai wasn't that kind of person.

He had not reached the point of needing points.

"Master Wu, I don't understand what you mean by this. If this Magic Artifact is sold in your shop, how would that involve me?"

Chen Mobai was a bit puzzled. The consumer is the one who can earn points, even if this Magic Artifact is sold in Wu Wan's shop, it has nothing to do with him, right?

“I’m a Treasure Appraiser, it’s normal for me to make money based on my own skills. If you sell this Magic Artifact to me, and then I, with my professional knowledge, complete the Cultivation and use tactics of the needle box, the selling price will naturally double, am I right?”

After Wu Wan finished saying this with a smile, Chen Mobai felt a chill surging up his spine.

“Master Wu, this is fictitious trading, it’s illegal.”

In order to gather points, fictitious trading frequently occurs. Even though it requires paying tax to the Xianmen, it can result in double points from two transactions of a single Magic Artifact.

The official flagship store of the Xianmen network periodically offers Elixirs with enhanced Foundation Establishment success rates for auction, available for exchange with points.

Wu Wan has been planning for this for a long time, saving up over a considerable period.

However, such behavior is similar to tax evasion from the previous mechanical civilization of Earth Star. If caught, the Xianmen will impose penalties bringing cultivators to bankruptcy.

“Many people do this. In favor of economic circulation, the Xianmen usually turn a blind eye to these things. If there’s less tax revenue at the end of the year and higher-ups are dissatisfied, they will only target the wealthy individuals, you can rest assured.”

“If you agree, I can guarantee that this needle box can sell for more than 80,000 Good Dev Points.”

Seeing that Chen Mobai was hesitating, Wu Wan added substantial weightage. He appeared young, but was actually already 45 years old. If he didn’t attempt Foundation Establishment soon, his chances of success would keep dwindling.

Next month, the Xianmen flagship store will release a batch of Vein Protection Pills, Spirit Ascension Powder, and Solidifying Qi Liquids, all of which are Elixirs that can increase the chance of successful Foundation Establishment.

Wu Wan is short of 300,000 points, after which he could pick one thing from the batch.

If it were usual times, he naturally wouldn’t dare to fake transactions for points, but now with his foundation establishment right in front of him, and a tight budget, he wanted to try any opportunity that could bring him points.

What if he got lucky and successfully established his foundation!

“This Magic Artifact is a family heirloom. If I were to sell it, I would need to discuss it with my elders first.”

Chen Mobai, being a good student, declined indirectly.

Wu Wan didn't say more, just wore a lamenting face. Anyway, he just thought Chen Mobai was young and tried to coax him a bit if possible.

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

## Chapter 16 - 16: Blackwater Cultivation\_1

[ 1,453 words ]

16 Chapter 16: Blackwater Cultivation\_1

Oh, the wickedness of humanity.

After leaving Wu's Gold Shop, Chen Mobai sighed inwardly.

No wonder many cultivators preferred to pay a higher price at those well-known brand stores, at least they wouldn't try to push every customer towards illicit practices.

Within the Sect, fabricating trades in exchange for points was a common practice, but that was among familiar faces. It symbolized both parties having a hold on each other. Chen Mobai and Wu Wan had only made business once, and they didn't even have a shred of trust between them.

Chen Mobai was still young, and judging by his current rate of cultivation coupled with the Rank-2 spiritual land, the Water Mansion, he could definitely reach Qi Cultivation Perfection and attempt Foundation Establishment. He was in no position to take risks yet.

After this trade, Chen Mobai, who had initially planned to wander around a bit more, lost his mood.

After taking the public transport back home, he, now a rich man, decided to reward himself. He didn't trim any talisman paper, nor did he even make food, ordering a spicy hot pot instead.

While waiting for the delivery, after scanning the entire "Detailed Explanation of Azure Aquatic Formation" into a document and sending it to his teacher, Chen Mobai took out the "Blackwater Cultivation" and started reading.

This was a classic water attribute Qi Cultivation Technique with nine levels, allowing one to cultivate all the way to Qi Cultivation Perfection. It also recorded three complementary spells.

They were the Water Controlling Technique, Water Elemental Shield, and Cold Ice Technique respectively.

The three spells progressed sequentially, the "Water Controlling Technique" being the simplest, yet requiring a significant amount of time to master.

Once proficient in controlling water, one could harness refined spiritual water into a Water Elemental Shield to guard oneself, a spell that could replace defensive magical weapons. It was rather popular among low ranked cultivators.

Finally, the "Cold Ice Technique" was the hardest.

According to "Blackwater Cultivation", one must first condense their spiritual power into an Ice Breath, then incorporating the Water Controlling Technique to freeze the refined spiritual water, transforming it into any shape they desire, either for attack or defense.

This technique, though simplistic, had an effective system. Moreover, while learning the three spells, one could enhance their Qi Cultivation Realm.

"Not bad at all. If only my Water Spirit Root attribute wasn't as low as 23, I might be tempted to start learning it immediately."

The top medical institutions in the Cultivation World had conducted an experiment. If the attribute points of any Spirit Root exceeded 33, its efficiency of practicing Five Elements Cultivation would be lower than that of a single attribute Qi Cultivation Technique.

For someone like Chen Mobai with a talent almost equivalent to a False Spirit Root, practicing the Five Elements Cultivation proved to be the most suitable in terms of both, cultivation progress, and efficiency of refining Spirit Qi.

For Chen Mobai, aside from being a reference, the significant value of "Blackwater Cultivation" was its recorded three spells.

Even though knowledge in the Cultivation World was shared, it all required points to exchange.

Also, before exchanging any spell from the Cultivation World, one must swear that the spell could only be learned individually and not taught to others.

The only place where one could legally teach spells was in schools.

The Propulsion Technique, Cleaning Technique, and Qi Nourishing Technique that Chen Mobai knew, were all taught in school. However, since students were taught from a young age that cultivation was superior, they only cared for spells that facilitated day-to-day life.

After all, their planet Earth was peaceful. While instances of minor theft and tax evasion were common, major crimes such as murder and causing harm were rarely heard of.

Only when a war was imminent, cultivators would start practicing battle spells.

In times of peace, students in school cared only for Qi Cultivation, enhancing their realms, eagerly anticipating to reach Qi Cultivation Perfection, and attempt Foundation Establishment.

Just as Chen Mobai was making a comparison between the Water Elemental Shield and the Flowing Water Cover gifted by Old Ding, the doorbell rang.

The delivery was here.

Chen Mobai went into the kitchen, poured the spicy hot pot into a bowl at home, and was about to scoop some Spirit Rice to eat when he suddenly noticed a fish in the sink. It had already been gutted yet still seemed somewhat familiar.

Huh, isn't that the fish he brought back from the Water Mansion? He was in a rush in the morning. After dealing with the spoils, he casually threw it into the sink.

He had initially planned to come back in the evening and not waste it, intending to make a bowl of boiled fish. But after earning a fortune from selling gold, Chen Mobai entirely forgot about it.

It must have been dealt with by his mother when she left.

While thinking thus, Chen Mobai looked at the fish meat in the transparent tub, tinged with a light shade of pink. With a few swift chops, he sliced the fish into chunks. He then started the stove and poured his spicy hot pot soup into the pot, used it as soup base and started dropping in the sliced fish.

After the hard work, the moment the tender and spicy fish meat entered his mouth, Chen Moyai's eyes squinted contentedly.

After finishing his meal, he didn't waste any time and teleported directly to the Water Mansion.

First, he went around the Water Mansion to ensure nothing had changed from the time before he left. Feeling relieved, he sat down under the Array Flag on a meditation mat he brought, and began to refine the rich spiritual energy of the Rank-2 water vein....

The next day.

During class, Chen Mobai looked at his phone screen with a strange expression.

He had a habit of recording each time he cultivated on his phone and then importing it into a software called "Auxiliary Cultivation". He would compare it with previous cultivation videos to find differences, correct mistakes, and continue to improve.

For half a year now, the "Auxiliary Cultivation" software hadn't shown any pop-up messages. This implied that both his cultivation time and posture were the most suitable, with no room for improvement.

But this morning, a pop-up appeared unexpectedly.

[User's spiritual power cultivated last night shows 2 more points in water attribute than usual, please confirm the cause.]

The Auxiliary Cultivation software only highlighted the difference; it wouldn't analyze the cause. The users were supposed to find out the reason themselves and give feedback.

Chen Mobai thought back to his cultivation session yesterday. Everything was the same as his previous sessions in the Water Mansion, even the spot where he sat on his mat was the same.

Unable to figure out the reason, his only choice was to run more experiments.

That day, Chen Mobai once again started a recording and cultivated in the Water Mansion all night, and his Five Elements Cultivation made further progress.

[User's spiritual power cultivated last night shows 2 fewer points in water attribute than the day before, please confirm the cause.]

Another pop-up appeared.

Chen Mobai was sure that something must have been different with him the day before yesterday. The "Auxiliary Cultivation" software was developed by the Repairing Heaven

Institute, one of the four great Daoist Academies, and after hundreds of years of adjustment, it was fully reliable.

The software couldn't be wrong, so what exactly happened to him?

Chen Mobai sank into deep thought, starting to recall all his experiences from the day before yesterday.

He'd attended classes, asked teachers questions, tried out the needle box in the Cultivation Room, sold gold...

Thinking about Wu's Gold Shop, Chen Mobai frowned slightly. But he was sure that he didn't have any physical contact with Wu Wan; they'd just had a conversation and made a deal.

His memory rewound further – ordering a takeaway, slicing fish, eating, returning to the Water Mansion to cultivate, then coming back for classes!

All these details of his routine clearly emerged in Chen Mobai's mind. He thought about what was different that day and what could have affected the adaptive spiritual power produced by his Five Elements Cultivation. The most likely reason seemed to be a variation in his spiritual root attribute points.

Takeout!?

Chen Mobai thought about the food he had consumed. It could potentially affect one's spiritual root, but it shouldn't. He had secretly ordered in a few times before as well, and the Auxiliary Cultivation never flashed any pop-ups.

Could it be...there was something wrong with that fish?

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

## **Chapter 17 - 17: Returning Primordial Spirit Water\_1**

[ 1,486 words ]

17 Chapter 17: Returning Primordial Spirit Water\_1

After class.

Chen Mobai didn't fall behind a step. Relying on his faster Propulsion Technique, after solidifying his realm, he snatched a spot in the first batch to use the Cultivation Room.

He wanted to go to the Water Mansion quickly today to verify the reason behind the strange ripple that occurred during his normally smooth cultivation – if it was genuinely due to the fish.

In the two hours inside the Cultivation Room, he didn't waste time, carefully reading the email Chan Si sent him.

After receiving the full content of Detailed Explanation of Azure Aquatic Formation, this Formation teacher did not disappoint him. After he understood and integrated what he had learned himself, he created a very detailed Formation decomposition material, starting from the five basic Formations of this Rank-2 Formation – Gathering Souls, Concealment, Detail, Water Control...

Chen Mobai, who had personally practiced the Azure Water Formation, found it very easy to comprehend.

By comparing his own exploration and practice with the Array Flag in these two days against the detailed explanations in the teaching materials, he quickly gained a basic understanding of this Rank-2 Formation.

Two hours passed quickly.

The alarm sounded, arousing the engrossed Chen Mobai from his studies.

“Teacher Chan is a very engaging speaker.”

Chen Mobai murmured to himself, recalling Chan Si's usually dull lectures in the classroom, and wholly unaware of his disinterest in topics discussed in class.

People are always like this. Even Cultivators, if interested in something, they will work relentlessly to understand it thoroughly.

Getting up and leaving the Cultivation Room, Chen Mobai stretched lazily and looked around, then suddenly froze in his tracks.

He didn't know why, but it seemed like a stroke of good luck.

To his left, coming out of another Cultivation Room, was Yan Bingxuan.

She seemed even colder after not seeing her for several days. She had probably started formally cultivating the Frost Condensation Technique, which began transforming her Spiritual Root into ice.

To the right of Chen Mobai's Cultivation Room, another genius from his class, Song Zheng appeared.

He probably didn't get a slot for the first batch of Rank-2 Cultivation Rooms today, so he settled for a Rank-1 one for now.

“...”

Chen Mobai was not in the same social circle as the two of them and didn't know how to greet them.

After an awkward silence, it was Song Zheng who opened his mouth first.

“Yan Bingxuan, I still think your choice is a mistake. With your talent, if you are committed to improving your realm and learning this semester, you should at least participate in the entrance exam for the Great Dao Academy. You might even pass, stepping into the gateway of dragons.”

But Song Zheng completely ignored Chen Mobai and spoke to Yan Bingxuan with a calm face.

“Summer insects cannot be talked into understanding ice!”

With this, the increasingly cold ‘beauty’, Yan, said something that made Song Zheng furrow his brows and nearly lose his temper.

“I have received Master Ding's inheritance and also have a method of transforming my Spiritual Root physique into a Triple Yang Body. But I believe that my limit is not the Pure Yang Academy. Only the Four Great Daoist Academies are the places I should go.”

Song Zheng's words made Chen Mobai silent.

This guy is way too confident.

If he could get into one of the Ten Great Academies, the Pure Yang Academy, his mom could casually visit neighbours and brag about this for a lifetime.

But to Song Zheng, with a confidence that was almost shining, Yan, the super beautiful lady, said another proverb.

“A frog at the bottom of a well!”

Song Zheng's anger was now barely in control.

Upon checking the time, Chen Mobai was about to leave without greeting the two people who ignored him, but he suddenly found himself stuck between them.

"Goodness, I bet those two will sort it out at the sports field."

However, before Chen Mobai had a chance to leave, he was caught by Lu Hongsheng, his desk mate. A circle of classmates gathered around them, watching Song Zheng with clenched fists proposing a Spell exchange with Yan Bingxuan.

Fighting and brawling is, of course, not allowed in the school.

But the exchange and learning of Spells are encouraged.

Between the top students, this is often an excuse to prove who is the strongest.

"I have something to do today, so I'll leave first. Inform me about the outcome of their duel later."

Although Chen Mobai was quite interested in witnessing the exchange between the two top students of his class—one at the later stage of Qi cultivation—he considered his schedule for the night and decided not to waste precious time on spectating.

Lu Hongsheng's attention was entirely on the two top students and he responded nonchalantly. By the time Lu realized, Chen Mobai had already disappeared.

"This kid has been kind of weird lately."

"Yeah, after training, he's always the first one to take off."

"Could he be dating someone?"

As the two beauties across the table were speaking, Lu shivered, realizing that it made sense.

"Hurry up, our beautiful Yan have agreed."

However, before they could delve further, Yan Bingxuan had already sneered and turned towards the sports field.

Magical duels, in order to avoid damaging the venue, must be held in areas designated and protected by the school.

The sports field was one of them.

After running out of the school, Chen Mobai promptly put this minor matter out of his mind.

On his way home, he noticed a pharmacy and walked in.

The pharmacy was not large, but it was well-stocked. Oddly enough, no one was behind the counter.

Chen Mobai had no choice but to walk around and find what he wanted to buy himself.

“Hello, is anyone here?”

However, after searching around, he didn’t find the spiritual power test paper that he could use to measure spiritual power properties. So Chen Mobai shouted towards the back door.

“Coming!”

A crisp response echoed, the back door was opened, and a girl in white clothes, with her hair tied up and wearing a white hat and mask, walked out. Although only half of her face was visible, her pitch-black, bright eyes, full of charm and vitality, were captivating.

Chen Mobai had never seen such pure and clear eyes before. Just like her clothes, she was flawless and pure.

“Hello there, customer, what do you need?”

“Where is the spiritual power test paper? I can’t find it.”

“Please wait a moment, these are kept inside the cabinet. I will get it for you.”

The girl in white had quite elegant features, and her skin was pale as snow. The mask she wore only served to enhance her beauty. Chen Mobai couldn’t help but look at her a couple more times while talking.

After they finished speaking, the girl in white turned around and walked to the cabinet near the entrance. Her figure was graceful. However, the faint smell of medicinal herbs emanating from her body caused Chen Mobai to frown and cover his nose with his fingers.

He had suffered from a serious illness in his childhood and had taken medicine for several years. Therefore, he wasn’t fond of the smell of herbs.

“How many do you need?”

The girl in white came over with an opened box of spiritual power test paper. At that moment, she noticed Chen Mobai's action of blocking his nose with his finger. Her bright-black eyes flashed with astonishment.

"Five would be sufficient, thank you."

Chen Mobai, with his other hand, took out five papers from the box the girl was holding, then quickly walked to the entrance to make his payment via scanning a code.

"Sorry, I was in the back preparing the 'Returning Primordial Spirit Water'. Due to my inadequate skills, there is a strong smell of medicine on me."

As the girl's words reached him from behind, Chen Mobai turned back to see her. She was standing still, not following him, and her eyes were filled with regret.

"Oh, are you an alchemist?"

According to the rules of the Immortal Gate, only those who have passed the professional examination for alchemists are allowed to concoct medicinal substances.

There are diverse methods for concocting elixirs, but on Earth, the most popular is the Water Method Alchemy.

Alchemy using fire often vaporizes some of the medicinal herb's spiritual energy, resulting in wastage. In contrast, Water Method Alchemy focuses on refinement, ensuring higher utility and mild properties of the resulting potion. Most of these concoctions are quick-acting and virtually free of side effects when ingested or injected.

"Returning Primordial Spirit Water" is a Rank-1 medicinal fluid that can be consumed orally. It is capable of restoring the spiritual power of a cultivator in the Qi Cultivating Realm.

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

## **Chapter 18 - 18 Azure Dragon Carp\_1**

[ 1,357 words ]

18 Chapter 18 Azure Dragon Carp\_1

“My teacher is an alchemist, but because of my age, I don’t have a certificate yet,” said the girl in white.

Not every cultivator could apply for and take the Hundred Arts of Cultivation Immortal Certificate exam. To screen and reduce their workload each year, the Immortal Sect stipulated certain restrictions such as age and specialty.

For example, a high school student like Chen Mobai would not meet the first requirement due to his age.

And the white-robed girl had the same issue.

The only drawback of Water Method Alchemy is its time consumption. A single alchemist would have difficulty keeping an eye on the process from start to finish.

Thus, though the Immortal Sect dictates that only an Alchemist is allowed to make medicines, apprentices and the like do assist in handling some of the simpler auxiliary medicinal materials. This is considered customary within this profession.

Chen Mobai speculated that the girl in white standing before him was likely an apprentice pharmacist in training.

He pondered the Spiritual Water preparation method recorded in Blackwater Cultivation, but did not know how to begin asking about it without any pretense.

“Excuse me.”

Eventually, Chen Mobai uttered two words and turned to leave the pharmacy.

“What a strange person.”

Qing Nu felt that Chen Mo Bai had questions to ask, but she was unsure why he chose to remain silent in the end.

Watching the young man disappear around the corner, she shook her head and returned to the back room to extract medicinal materials.

...

Water Mansion.

Chen Mobai nervously pulled out the black Array Flag. The giant dome of light above his head started to reverberate slightly.

He immediately followed the Qi circulation method explained in the teaching material, injecting his spiritual power into the Array Flag. Then his other hand fashioned a couple of simple gestures.

Splash!

In no time, the flawless giant light dome concaved a two-meter-diameter opening towards the direction pointed by the black flag.

Barely containing his excitement, Chen Mobai resecured the flag and walked over to the entrance he had opened in the formation.

He extended his hand which slightly trembled as it overstepped the boundary of the light dome, and touched the water outside.

Chilled to just the right degree, and smooth as silk.

After playing with water and confirming that there were no dangers outside, Chen Mobai began to stick half his body out.

Having never cultivated a water-avoiding spell, he could only rely on his deep breathing to manage.

Still, he managed to catch a glimpse of the scenery outside the Water Mansion.

It was an immense lake, the shore of which was nowhere in sight. A certain type of seaweed radiating blue luminescence grew at the bottom of the lake, making it especially conspicuous under the dim environment.

Blue carps were seen frolicking among the seaweed.

Chen Mobai confirmed that they were the same type of fish he had eaten before.

Raising the needle box in his hand, he let his Five Elements Cultivation flow and spiritual power pour in. A golden ray shot forth.

Though his manipulation of the magic artifact was admittedly still stiff, his linear aim, by using his spiritual power without reservation, successfully punctured the blue carp that didn't have the time to escape.

Seeing his successful catch, Chen Mobai raised his other hand. Two glass beads, accompanied by the spiritual power from his Five Elements Cultivation, were shot out like twin rainbows and ensnared the falling dead blue carp.

After retrieving the food and the flying needle, Chen Mobai again drew out the black flag and resealed the Azure Water Formation's entrance.

He inspected the blue carp in his hand. There was a dark blue line that seemed like a tendon along its back, and two long barbels were present beside its mouth. It felt chilling and cold, as if holding an ice cube.

“This carp bears some resemblance to the Azure Dragon Carp, a second-grade protected species in the Immortal Sect.”

Chen Mobai murmured to himself. The bloodline of the Azure Dragon Carp originated from a Water Jiao in the deep sea. It was caught with great effort when the Immortal Sect opened up the sea territory.

It was said that a cultivator could absorb a trace of Water Jiao Qi from the flesh and blood of the Azure Dragon Carp when cooked in a specific way, thus randomly enhancing the potency of their Water Spirit Root by 1-5 points.

However, the only Azure Dragon Carps raised in the Immortal Sect were kept at Kunpeng Daoist Institute, they were considered forbidden delicacies by a Nascent Soul elder. Twenty years ago, this elder added wild Azure Dragon Carps to the Sect’s latest Spirit Beast Protection List, banning cultivators from killing it for food.

Chen Mobai hesitated for a moment, but eventually, couldn’t resist the temptation and took out the short sword he had gotten from the old man.

The rules of the Immortal Sect dictate that wild Azure Dragon Carps are protected spirit beasts, while the ones that are bred can be eaten.

Although these blue carps have some similarities to the Azure Dragon Carps, they also have differences. They didn’t have any spiritual energy, and since they were raised outside the Water Mansion, they could be classified as farmed fish.

Scaling, gutting, and filleting the fish, Chen Mobai’s movements were fluid and practiced.

This short sword was not a magic artifact, but it was exceptionally sharp. He had tried cutting gold with it and found it as easy as cutting tofu, so using it to fillet the fish felt a bit overkill.

This time he planned to eat it chilled, having brought ice cubes and seasoning from home.

However, the flesh of the carp was already cold, so he could skip the part about chilling it.

Chen Mobai even took out a can of soda. If he had a wine glass, the occasion would be even more complete.

Too bad it was just him eating alone.

A slight regret accompanied the icy and tender fish melting in his mouth; mixed with the vintage vinegar ordered from Wangwu Cave, the indescribable sour and refreshing taste exploded on his palate.

As the fish went down, a chill spread throughout his body, causing Chen Mobai to shiver, before being replaced with a sense of hearty satisfaction. It felt like taking a refreshing cold shower on a scorching hot day; comfortable and invigorating.

After finishing his meal, Chen Mobai let out a burp, and the first thought that came to him was: the previous fish was wasted when he had boiled it.

Of course, he has not forgotten about the main task at hand.

After tidying up using the Cleaning Technique, he sat on the cushion and began Grand Circulation of his Five Elements Cultivation.

The adaptable spiritual power cultivated was intercepted by Chen Mo Bai before it could return to the Dantian, and infused into the freshly bought Spiritual Power Test Paper.

This was a simple tool to measure one's Spirit Root, but it was only usable for cultivators who practice Five Elements Cultivation.

Since everyone in the Immortal Sect was a cultivator and virtually every child started to learn Qi Refining and Immortality Cultivating Technique at the enlightenment stage, the Imperial Medical Academy invented this Spiritual Power Test Paper for a simpler and quicker way to measure Spirit Roots.

As soon as Chen Mobai's spiritual power was absorbed by the paper, it was swiftly dyed five different colors. Subsequently, a string of figures appeared on the paper corresponding to the proportion of the Five Elements' brilliance.

[Gold 23, Wood 27, Water 25, Fire 17, Earth 10]

As expected, his Water Spirit Root increased by 2 points.

Chen Mobai confirmed it, the next step was to conduct more tests.

Fighting the building excitement within him, he rose once more and activated the Azure Water Formation.

Whiz! Whiz! Whiz!

Series of golden rays lit up outside the Water Mansion, several blue carps that were playfully nibbling at seaweeds unexpectedly became Chen Mobai's next meals.

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Tip: You can use left, right keyboard keys to browse between chapters.

## Chapter 19 - 19 Agency\_1

[ 1,299 words ]

19 Chapter 19 Agency\_1

Inside the classroom.

Chen Mobai sat near the window, his face full of gloom.

He nearly believed that he was about to change his fate. Consuming several tens of the blue carps which could increase the Water Spirit Root Attribute by 2 points each, he thought he could become a Heavenly Spiritual Root of the water attribute.

However, he forgot one thing: His “Auxiliary Cultivation” software detected fluctuations in his self-adaptive spiritual power after one day and returned to normal the next day.

The reality is rather harsh.

The power embodied in the blue carps could only last for a day.

That day he had eight in one go, which boosted his Water Attribute Spiritual Root to 39 points. The feeling of cultivation was something Chen Mobai had never experienced before.

The efficiency of absorbing spiritual energy was nearly twice as much as before. Apart from the enhancement of the Spirit Root Attribute, practicing on the Rank-2 water vein also contributed. The combination of these two factors almost led Chen Mobai to switch to the Blackwater Cultivation Technique.

Luckily, he has always been cautious in his actions, so he waited for a day.

And on the second day of his distrust, he used the Spiritual Power Test Paper again, only to find that his Water Spirit Root Attribute Points had fallen again.

Doubting the outcome, he returned to the Water Mansion that night and took five blue carps to make sashimi.

His Water Spirit Root Attribute Points soared once more and dropped again after a night of cultivation.

However, there was also good news: perhaps because Chen Mobai had eaten too much, the power of the blue carps did subtly strengthen his Spirit Root Attribute points.

After five days of gorging, nearly forty blue carps consumed, Chen Mobai's Water Attribute Spirit Root Points fluctuated like a stock market graph, eventually stabilizing at 30 points and no longer increasing.

Of course, they no longer fell either.

All in all, Chen Mobai's Water Attribute Spirit Root Points showed a permanent increase of 7 points.

[Name: Chen Mobai]

[Age: 18]

[Realm: Qi Cultivation Level Five]

[Spiritual Roots: Metal 23, Wood 27, Water 30, Fire 17, Earth 10]

[Cultivation Technique: Five Elements Cultivation]

[Skills: Propulsion Technique, Cleaning Technique, Spiritual Force Shield, Qi Nourishing Technique, Water Controlling Technique]

After opening the personal panel app on his phone, Chen Mobai hesitated for a moment and eventually changed his Water Attribute Spirit Root points back to 23 from 30 manually.

He had a feeling that it would be better not to let anyone else know about the Water Mansion matter.

Though there are no shortage of cultivation techniques and medicines that can improve the Spirit Roots in the Daoist Academy, there are very few that can instantly enhance Water Spirit Root Attributes. It is almost as effective as 20-30% of the Azure Dragon Carp from the Kunpeng Daoist Institute.

For each Azure Dragon Carp consumed, a cultivator's Spiritual Root Attribute can be permanently improved. The Kunpeng Daoist Institute had once used this to cultivate a water method alchemy genius with profound comprehension from an ordinary Water

Spirit Root of 33 points to a Heavenly Spiritual Root of 80 points. This was widely promoted in the academy, and Chen Mobai had seen it on TV news every day when he was a child.

The blue carp from the Water Mansion may not be comparable to the Azure Dragon Carp, but the accumulated effects managed to increase Chen Mobai's Water Spirit Root attribute by 7 points permanently. This is sure to make waves if it gets out.

This is because the Nascent Soul cultivator who regarded the Azure Dragon Carp as a precious resource has not been able to provide it for the past twenty years.

However, Chen Mobai is not fretting over this matter at the moment. He opened his "Auxiliary Cultivating" software and looked at the five halos above his avatar in the top right corner, falling into thought.

This happened last night when the "Agent" button on the Turtle Treasure software suddenly became active, and out of curiosity, he clicked on it.

Then, his "Auxiliary Cultivation" app changed.

He had five rings around his avatar.

Due to the scarcity of resources on the land, the inevitable wars of expansion occur every thousand years. To protect their homeland, there are thirty-six Tianshang satellites orbiting in the sky, forming a super-large formation.

In addition to these purposes, the thirty-six Tianshang satellites supply all network and communication needs for the Daoist Academy. Each satellite also has a super-brain, but most of their calculation power is used to draw in Cosmic Spiritual Qi, supplying it to thousands of households for the cultivation of three million cultivators.

Therefore, to avoid the waste of calculation power, the privileges of each Rank Cultivator on each app are different.

For example, Chen Mobai, being at the Qi Cultivation Level Five, could only use the most basic functions of every app on his phone.

Take the Auxiliary Cultivating app, for instance.

If Chen Mobai reached the Foundation Establishment stage, he would not only be able to use the "Auxiliary Cultivating" app to analyze recordings, but he could also apply to watch the Five Elements Cultivation instruction videos of Gold Core cultivators from the database. He could correct his own cultivation errors and understand the correct methods and various tips and tricks of Five Elements Cultivation.

The privileges of the Daoist Academy's apps are represented by intuitive halos.

For instance, Qi Cultivation is Rank-1, so there would be one halo around the avatar.

Which brings us to the problem.

These five halos should represent Rank-5 privileges!

What realm does Rank-5 correspond to?

Chen Mobai calculated in his heart and took a deep breath of cold air.

Bloody hell, he's reached the realm of a Divinity Transformation Supreme Master.

There are only two such Supreme Masters in the entire Daoist Academy.

Couldn't this turtle shell agent be a bit more discreet? Rank-3 at Gold Core would have been fine. Why would it go straight to Rank-5, the maximum?

Just as Chen Mobai was feeling confused and scared, a few cultivators were also worried about the data that suddenly sent to them in one of the office rooms in the Repairing Heaven Institute.

"Could it be...one of the Supreme Masters has awakened? Manifesting in avatars and enjoying the game?"

The appearance of a Rank-5 user all of a sudden excited Stone, the creator of the Auxiliary Cultivation app. At the same time, though, he felt a little scared.

Both Supreme Masters had been in retreat for more than three hundred years without any movement, but his app was only developed two hundred years ago.

Although it had a five-tiered privilege system, it had only been perfected up to the third tier.

In fact, because Stone himself is only at the Golden Core Realm, any stages above that — the Nascent Soul cultivators are also only a dozen in the entire Daoist Academy. Moreover, since they spend decades in retreat, the only aid that could be provided in their cultivation from "Auxiliary Cultivating" would be the Divinity Transformation Supreme Masters' cultivation videos and advice.

As long as none of the Divinity Transformation Supreme Masters upload their own content, the highest realm that the "Auxiliary Cultivating" software can assist with is the Golden Core.

So, when the first Rank-5 user appeared, Stone was both excited and scared.

“Check the location from the back-end, and then we’ll go on site to confirm who it is. It may be a hacker who has cracked the privileges of your software.”

The boss of the investor was very calm, his words soothing the worried cultivators planning to curry favor with the Supreme Masters.

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[ 1,300 words ]

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As a result of this search, Mr. Shi immediately furrowed his brows.

“It’s showing that it’s not within the boundaries of the Immortal Sect?”

When he reported this to his boss, his usually composed boss was taken aback, almost believing that this employee was playing a joke on him.

“Our authority over the satellite only allows us to track the realms of the Immortal Sect. If we can’t locate the address, it must mean it’s outside of the Immortal Sect.”

After Mr. Shi finished speaking, his boss nodded lightly.

“Alright, I got it. Stay alert to this account, inform me immediately if there’s any other information.”

Until they could be entirely sure that it was the Divinity Transformation Ancestor, they dared not alarm the Nascent Soul cultivator in seclusion, so they had to proceed in this way.

Upon hearing this, everyone nodded in agreement.

...

Chen Mobai was still worried that his location would be tracked by the operators of the “Auxiliary Cultivation” app, which could result in being questioned by the cultivators in charge of sect law enforcement.

After two days passed without anyone approaching him, he finally relaxed.

One evening.

Chen Mobai entered the Water Mansion again, feeling the pure spiritual energy around him and couldn't help but nod satisfiedly.

Thanks to this Rank-2 treasure land, plus his unwavering diligence, his cultivation realm had steadily improved.

Based on his current progress, in about two months, he should be able to attempt to break through to the sixth level of Qi Cultivation.

But he felt that this progress was still not enough for him.

In his class, there were already two Qi Cultivation seventh level students, Song Zheng and Yan Bingxuan. In the entire grade, there were twelve at this level, who were all guaranteed spots in the two renowned academies in the local area.

Compared to them, Chen Mobai, a fifth-level Qi cultivator, was of no consequence.

Not to mention, there were three eighth-level Qi cultivator prodigies who had a chance of entering the Four Great Daoist Academies.

And when considering the entirety of Red Sandstone City, there were countless geniuses in both private and public schools.

The Heavenly Spiritual Root owner of the top high school of Immortal Sect needn't even be mentioned, who was selected into the Nature Studies Academy as soon as he enlisted. There was also two geniuses with Different Spiritual Roots who received admittance letters from the Nature Studies Academy.

Rumor has it that there are ninth-level Qi Cultivator students in other high schools, but many people are hiding their achievements, waiting to astound everyone during college entrance exams and be selected into the Four Great Daoist Academies.

“It would be great if my spiritual root was a bit better.”

Chen Mobai sighed. Although the motto of the Immortal Sect is “Man is Superior to Heaven”, only those individuals with extraordinary comprehension and astonishing luck can transform their spiritual roots into Heavenly Spiritual Roots and then make rapid progress. Such people are few and far between.

While sighing, he picked up his chopsticks and put a chilled fish slice from the side into his mouth.

The icy, refreshing taste was immensely satisfying.

He took out the last piece of Spiritual Power Test Paper, measured his spirit root attribute, and unsurprisingly found that his Water Spirit Root had increased by 2 points, although temporarily.

This was the last cyan carp he had caught around the Water Mansion.

Because he had overfished in the past, no cyan carps dared enter this mile radius around him. This last one was one he had caught yesterday.

Chen Mobai didn't feel a bit sorry. After all, these cyan carps were tasty, and they increased his spiritual root attribute.

Without wasting the effectiveness of the fish meat, he decided to start practicing the Five Elements Cultivation during the time his spiritual root was enhanced.

Ultimately, he did not switch to Blackwater Cultivation. Besides not reaching 33 points for his Water Attribute Spiritual Root, the Blackwater Cultivation didn't have any follow-ups.

Although the Five Elements Cultivation is very common, the spiritual power it cultivates is balanced and harmonious, making it easier for him to switch to any other cultivation technique. Moreover, if one isn't bothered by the weak combat ability, they can use points to exchange for the Foundation Establishment, Gold Core chapters of Five Elements Cultivation in the national library of the Immortal Sect.

Historically, the person who cultivated the Five Elements Cultivation to the highest realm is a Nascent Soul-level cultivator named Qing Ping from the Repairing Heaven Institute.

However, after Qing Ping advanced to the Nascent Soul stage with Five Elements Cultivation, he immediately switched to another cultivation technique.

That's because, at his level, he couldn't defeat anyone else.

Chen Mobai thought of the rumors about Qing Ping enjoying being harsh on weak ones. Before starting to cultivate, he impulsively took out his phone, opened the Auxiliary Cultivation app, and typed in "Five Elements Cultivation" in the search bar at the top.

After typing in "Five Elements Cultivation," he remembered that he couldn't receive any signal in the Water Mansion.

He mocked himself and was about to put down the phone and start cultivating seriously.

Suddenly, a loading circle appeared on the screen, then, with a swipe, the circle turned into a turtle shell, and eventually filled the entire screen. As if a signal was obtained, over ten thousand pages of search results swiftly appeared.

“What...”

Chen Mobai felt a dry mouth as he saw the title at the top of the search results on the first page:

[Guaranteed teaching, all insights to breakthrough to the Nascent Soul stage with Five Elements Cultivation]

[Author: Qing Ping]

With trembling fingers, he clicked on the screen. At this point, Chen Mobai didn't bother to investigate why he suddenly got a signal within the Water Mansion.

With a swipe, the internet speed was incredibly fast.

Chen Mobai entered a webpage akin to a video website, with the title being the same as he saw outside.

It was a video series!

There were a total of twenty-eight videos, all meticulously labeled with subtitles.

[Five Elements Cultivation Qi Cultivation First Level]

[Five Elements Cultivation Qi Cultivation Second Level]

[Five Elements Cultivation Qi Cultivation Third Level]

...

Up till the last one: [Five Elements Cultivation Nascent Soul First Level]

Chen Mobai couldn't wait to scroll to the [Five Elements Cultivation Qi Cultivation Fifth Level] page and click open.

“Hello students, this is your teacher Qing Ping, today we will continue to explain the fifth level of Five Elements Cultivation.”

“Please turn your Five Elements Cultivation textbook to page twenty-six, before we start this lesson, I would like to discuss yesterday's homework.”

“Although this basic Qi cultivation techniques seems simple, the knowledge it encompasses is incredibly vast. It’s even apt to say it’s the top Qi cultivation technique in the Immortal Sect and is the foundation of the sect. This is why the Immortal Sect mandates that all beginner cultivators must start with Five Elements Cultivation.”

“Even cultivators with Heavenly Spiritual Roots have to cultivate the Five Elements Cultivation to the seventh level before they can switch to their motif cultivation. So what’s the reason for this? In this lesson, Teacher Qing Ping will explain to you in detail.”

...

Chen Mobai couldn’t help but speed up the video twice the normal speed, as Qing Ping was too long-winded.

However, after watching the 45-minute teaching video, Chen Mobai was enlightened and listened again at normal speed to Qing Ping’s explanation about Five Elements Cultivation.

Then, he couldn’t wait to sit cross-legged on the cushion.

Chen Mobai felt that he could now cultivate to the sixth level of Qi Cultivation within a month.

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