

The Order 10441

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Chen Ping waved his hand, interrupting Ming Li's flattery and Liu Qianqian's praise.

His gaze fell on Chen Wanqing, his tone becoming more serious:

"Alright, enough of that. How's the teleportation array I asked you to arrange? Is it all set up? We need to get to the Holy Land of Light as soon as possible."

Chen Wanqing finally snapped out of her daze, quickly suppressing her shock and admiration, her expression turning serious.

She bit her lip, a hint of difficulty flashing across her face, and said softly, "I've contacted the guardian of the teleportation array in Cloud Immortal City, and he's agreed to let us use it. However..."

She paused, a hint of guilt in her voice, and lowered her head.

Chen Ping frowned slightly:

"But what? Is there some difficulty?"

Chen Wanqing took a deep breath, looked up at Chen Ping, her eyes filled with guilt and helplessness, and said softly, "Chen Ping, I'm sorry, I... I failed to complete the task you entrusted to me. Yunxian City is... not very stable now."

"After the Chen family was destroyed, several forces in the city became restless, all wanting to seize control of Yunxian City.

They originally promised me I could use the teleportation array, but now they disagree, even offering me immortal elixir."

She paused, then continued:

“Although I tried my best to gather the old forces of the Chen family and stabilize the situation in Yunxian City, those forces didn’t take me seriously at all. I was no match for them. I could only barely hold onto the remnants of our Chen family’s power; I couldn’t control the entire Yunxian City.”

Having finished speaking, Chen Wanqing’s eyes reddened slightly, and she lowered her head again, her heart filled with guilt.

She felt that she had let Chen Ping down.

She had failed to complete the task Chen Ping had entrusted to her, failed to protect the Chen family’s legacy, and failed to restore peace to Yunxian City.

Chen Ping looked at her quietly, without speaking.

He understood Chen Wanqing’s difficulties.

How easy was it for an orphan girl, after the destruction of her family, to single-handedly gather her former followers and control a city?

The forces in Yunxian City were deeply entrenched. When the Wu and Chen families were in power, these forces lay dormant.

But now that the Wu and Chen families were gone, and the Divine Temple was too far away to intervene, these dormant forces began to emerge.

Chen Wanqing’s cultivation was only at the eighth rank of the Upper Immortal Realm, and she didn’t have many remaining Chen family forces around her, so she was simply no match for those forces.

It was already remarkable that she had managed to hold on until now, to gather some of the Chen family’s former followers, and to protect the remaining power of the Chen family.

Anyone else would probably have given up long ago. She had two choices: either seek refuge with another power or flee Yunxian City incognito.

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After a moment, Chen Ping spoke slowly.

His tone was calm, without a trace of blame, but rather a hint of comfort: “Don’t blame yourself. You’ve done very well. Others might not have been able to do what you did.

The Chen family was destroyed, and you survived, you rallied your old followers, you persevered until now—that’s already incredibly difficult.”

“The situation in Yunxian City is far too complex. Those powers have powerful backers; it’s normal that you couldn’t handle them.”

Hearing Chen Ping’s words of comfort, Chen Wanqing’s eyes welled up even more.

She looked up at Chen Ping, her eyes filled with gratitude.

These past few days, she had endured so much pressure and so much injustice.

No one understood her, no one comforted her.

Now, Chen Ping’s words instantly dissipated most of the injustice and pressure in her heart.

Chen Ping turned around, his gaze fixed on the distance, towards Tianlong Valley.

After a moment of silence, he suddenly spoke, his tone firm: "I'm going to Heavenly Dragon Valley."

Ming Li and Liu Qianqian exchanged a glance, their faces showing no surprise.

They both knew Chen Ping's status in Heavenly Dragon Valley—the bloodline of the Dragon Emperor, with all dragons submitting to him.

Long Zhan, the patriarch of the Heavenly Dragon lineage, was utterly respectful and obedient to Chen Ping.

The entire Heavenly Dragon Valley followed Chen Ping's lead.

Ming Li scratched his head and asked:

"Mr. Chen, are you going to Heavenly Dragon Valley to... lead the dragon clan out of the mountains?"

Liu Qianqian also looked at Chen Ping thoughtfully.

Chen Ping nodded, a faint smile curving his lips. "That's right. This stagnant water in Yunxian City needs a true dragon to quell it. Since the Dragon Clan recognizes me as their Dragon Emperor, it's time for them to show themselves."

He paused, his tone calm yet carrying an undeniable air of dominance: "Let them know that this city has a master."

With that, Chen Ping didn't hesitate any longer. He transformed into a golden streak of light and sped off towards Tianlong Valley.

Ming Li and Liu Qianqian quickly followed.

The three figures disappeared once more into the sky above Yunxian City.

Chen Wanqing stood atop the city wall, watching the departing figures of Chen Ping and the other two, her eyes filled with unwavering determination.

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She secretly resolved to protect the old guard of the Chen family and to defend Yunxian City.

She would wait for Chen Ping's return and not betray his trust and expectations.

...

Tianlong Valley, located deep within the vast mountains.

Surrounded by mountains and ancient trees, this place is rich in spiritual energy, a truly auspicious land.

The valley is shrouded in mist and ethereal beauty, with cascading waterfalls, flowing springs, birdsong, and fragrant flowers—a veritable paradise on earth.

The Heavenly Dragon lineage has always carefully hidden itself here, propagating its offspring and accumulating power, fearing discovery by the Demon Dragon and the Divine Temple, which would lead to annihilation.

At this moment, inside the Dragon Palace.

Long Zhan sat in the main seat, handling the affairs of the Heavenly Dragon lineage.

Suddenly, Long Zhan's brow furrowed slightly, a hint of surprise flashing in his eyes, followed by an expression of excitement.

He sensed a familiar aura, an aura belonging to the Dragon Emperor's bloodline, rapidly approaching Heavenly Dragon Valley.

This aura, warm and powerful, carried the majesty of the Dragon Emperor, filling him with a strange sense of awe and excitement.

"It's His Majesty! His Majesty the Dragon Emperor has returned!"

Long Zhan was overwhelmed with excitement, unable to concentrate on clan affairs any longer.

He immediately rose and hurried out of the hall to greet him.

Just as he stepped out of the Heavenly Dragon Palace, Long Zhan saw three streaks of light rushing from the sky, instantly landing on the palace's plaza.

The light dissipated, revealing Chen Ping, Ming Li, and Liu Qianqian.

The moment he saw Chen Ping, Long Zhan's eyes filled with excitement and awe.

He quickly stepped forward, bent his knees, and bowed deeply, his tone extremely respectful:

"Your Majesty! You have returned! Your subordinate, Long Zhan, welcomes Your Majesty to Heavenly Dragon Valley!"

His voice trembled with barely concealed excitement.

Chen Ping nodded, his tone calm:

"Rise."

“Thank you, Your Majesty!”

Long Zhan responded respectfully, slowly rising to his feet, still bowing his head, not daring to show the slightest disrespect.

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He could sense that although Chen Ping’s aura was only at the third rank of the Upper Immortal Realm, it carried an innate Dragon Emperor’s majesty.

That majesty instilled in him a deep sense of awe. Even though his cultivation was higher than Chen Ping’s, he dared not show the slightest disrespect.

Chen Ping stepped into the Dragon Hall and took his seat in the guest section.

Ming Li and Liu Qianqian stood behind Chen Ping.

Although they had been to Heavenly Dragon Valley before, they still curiously surveyed their surroundings.

Inside the Dragon Hall, the entire structure was made of golden jade, with lifelike dragons carved on the pillars, and a huge luminous pearl hanging from the ceiling, emitting a soft glow.

The entire hall was majestic and sacred, filled with the aura of the dragon race.

Long Zhan followed Chen Ping cautiously to his side, bowing and asking, “Your Majesty, is there any important matter that brings you back to the valley? If Your Majesty has any orders, I will certainly do my utmost and will not refuse!”

He knew that Chen Ping’s visit must be for something important.

Chen Ping looked at him and went straight to the point: “Long Zhan, I need the Dragon Clan to help me with a matter.”

Long Zhan was taken aback, then a flicker of excitement flashed in his eyes, and he quickly said:

“Your Majesty, please speak! Let alone one matter, even ten or a hundred, I will certainly handle them! As long as Your Majesty is willing to lead us to revitalize the Dragon Clan, our Heavenly Dragon lineage is willing to obey Your Majesty’s any command, even at the cost of fire and water!”

In his view, Chen Ping’s visit this time must mean he had come to a realization and was willing to lead the Heavenly Dragon lineage to rise again and revitalize the Dragon Clan.

Chen Ping shook his head, his tone calm: “The matter of revitalizing the Dragon Clan can be discussed later. Right now, I need the Dragon Clan to go to Cloud Immortal City to help me control that city and stabilize the situation.”

Long Zhan was slightly taken aback, a look of confusion on his face: “Your Majesty, Cloud Immortal City is merely a mortal city, a melting pot of forces. With your strength, you could easily suppress all the forces in the city and control Cloud Immortal City yourself. Why would you need the Dragon Clan to intervene?”

Chen Ping said indifferently: “I’m too lazy to deal with those clowns one by one; it’s a waste of time.

Besides, I’ll be going to the Holy Domain of Light soon; I don’t have time to stay in Cloud Immortal City.

That city is a crucial hub connecting the various regions of the Fourteenth Heaven; its geographical location is extremely important. I need a strong person to oversee it and stabilize the situation.”

He paused, then looked up at Long Zhan, his gaze intense: “You are the best choice.”

Long Zhan slightly... He frowned slightly, a hint of worry in his voice: “But Your Majesty, my Dragon Clan has been hiding in Heavenly Dragon Valley. If we rashly reveal ourselves, we fear the Demon Dragons and the Temple will discover us, bringing annihilation upon our Heavenly Dragon Clan...”

Chen Ping looked at him, his tone calm yet carrying an undeniable authority: “Long Zhan, how many years has your Heavenly Dragon lineage been hiding in Heavenly Dragon Valley?”

Long Zhan was silent for a moment, a trace of desolation and helplessness appearing on his face. He said softly, "I can't remember."

"Can't remember?"

Chen Ping sighed softly, a touch of emotion in his voice, "You've been hiding here, afraid to go out, afraid to show yourselves, cautiously walking on thin ice, fearing discovery by the Demon Dragons, being hunted down by the Temple, fearing the extinction of the last bloodline of the Heavenly Dragon Clan.

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But have you ever considered how long you can hide like this?"

Long Zhan raised his head, looking at Chen Ping, a trace of confusion and helplessness flashing in his eyes.

Of course he had considered this question.

But he had no choice.

The Demon Dragon lineage is powerful, backed by the Demon Clan.

The Temple controls half of the Fourteen Heavens, teeming with powerful figures.

While the Heavenly Dragon lineage is a legitimate dragon race, its strength has been severely weakened by internal strife, making it no match for the Demon Dragons and the Temple.

If they hadn't gone into hiding, the Heavenly Dragon lineage would likely have been wiped out long ago.

Chen Ping continued, "The Demon Dragon lineage won't let you go just because you're hiding. They are sworn enemies of the legitimate dragon race, their feud spanning generations. Once they find your trail, they will definitely strike and exterminate you all."

“The Temple won’t forget you just because you’re not causing trouble. They’ve always wanted to control the entire Fourteen Heavens and eliminate all potential threats.

And your Heavenly Dragon clan is one of the biggest threats in their eyes. Once they find your trail, they will definitely send troops to encircle and annihilate you. At that time, even if you hide in Heavenly Dragon Valley, you won’t escape death.” He stood up, hands behind his back, gazing at the mountains beyond the hall: “The longer you hide, the more arrogant and unscrupulous they become. Rather than hiding here, eking out a miserable existence, living in constant fear, you should stand up and live with dignity.”

“Use the power of your Heavenly Dragon Clan to defend your dignity and protect your people. Let these Fourteen Heavens remember the majesty of the Dragon Clan once more. Let those who dare to bully the Dragon Clan pay a heavy price!”

Long Zhan trembled, a complex mix of emotions flashing in his eyes—excitement, worry, hesitation, and a deep-seated yearning.

He was excited because Chen Ping’s words resonated with him.

For so many years, he had longed to lead the Heavenly Dragon lineage out of Heavenly Dragon Valley and live with dignity in the world.

He was worried because the Dragon Clan’s strength was now greatly diminished. If they rashly intervened, they might be hunted down by the Demon Dragons and the Temple, bringing annihilation upon the Heavenly Dragon lineage.

He hesitated, unsure if Chen Ping could truly lead them out of crisis and rise again.

And that lingering desire was a yearning for freedom, a yearning for dignity, a yearning for the dragon race’s renewed glory.

“Your Majesty, do you mean... that we, the Heavenly Dragon lineage, should step out of Heavenly Dragon Valley, no longer hide, but appear in the open?”

Long Zhan asked, his voice trembling, his eyes filled with anticipation and uncertainty.

Chen Ping turned to look at him, enunciating each word clearly: "That's right. Take your people to Cloud Immortal City. From now on, you won't need to hide anymore, you won't need to fear any demonic dragons, you won't need to fear any temples."

"I, Chen Ping, will protect you. With me here, no one will dare lay a finger on you."

Long Zhan was stunned.

He looked at Chen Ping, at this unbelievably young Dragon Emperor, and an indescribable emotion welled up within him.

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The Heavenly Dragon lineage had always hidden in the shadows, cautiously treading on thin ice.

No one dared to stand up to protect them, no one dared to tell them that they no longer needed to hide. But now, this young Dragon Emperor told them with unwavering resolve:

There was no need to hide anymore.

He would protect them.

He would safeguard them.

At that moment, all their worries and hesitations vanished in Chen Ping's resolute gaze.

He knew this was the Heavenly Dragon lineage's only chance, their only chance to escape their hidden lives and rise again.

If they missed this opportunity, the Heavenly Dragon lineage would likely be forever confined to Heavenly Dragon Valley, eking out a mere existence, ultimately facing extinction.

Long Zhan took a deep breath, suppressing the turmoil in his heart. He bent his knees and bowed deeply again, his tone respectful yet firm, his voice trembling slightly:

“Your Majesty, your subordinate... is willing to follow Your Majesty, even unto death! From this day forward, the Tianlong lineage will follow Your Majesty’s lead without hesitation! If Your Majesty commands us to go east, we will never go west! If Your Majesty commands us to kill someone, we will show no mercy!”

Several dragon clan elders behind him also stepped forward and bowed: “We are willing to follow Your Majesty, even unto death!”

Chen Ping reached out and helped Long Zhan up, saying calmly, “No need for such formalities. Rise. Now go and gather the clansmen. We will depart for Yunxian City in one hour.”

“Your subordinate obeys!”

Long Zhan respectfully replied, turning and striding away, his face filled with excitement and determination.

He needed to gather his people as soon as possible and tell them the good news: they could finally leave Tianlong Valley and live openly and proudly in the world.

Chen Ping stood in the Dragon Palace, watching Long Zhan’s departing figure, a slight smile playing on his lips.

The Dragon Clan was the most powerful race in ancient times.

Now, with the help of the Tianlong lineage, his strength would be greatly enhanced.

He would have a greater chance of fighting against the Temple, seeking revenge, and protecting those he cared about.

He knew this was just the beginning.

Many more challenges awaited him.

The Temple wouldn't let this go easily, the Demon Dragon lineage would come knocking, and Chen Ping didn't know the attitudes of the Divine Hall and the Divine Palace towards him.

But he wouldn't be afraid, nor would he back down.

He would lead the Dragon Clan, lead his subordinates, step by step, clearing away all obstacles.

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Finally, standing at the pinnacle of the fourteenth heaven, he became a true powerhouse.

An hour later.

A deafening dragon roar echoed above Heavenly Dragon Valley, reverberating through the clouds and reverberating throughout the vast mountain range.

Dozens of colossal dragons soared into the sky, their massive bodies gleaming with golden scales that reflected the sunlight like countless golden stars, illuminating the entire heavens.

The dragons emanated a powerful dragon's might, vast and imposing, causing the surrounding mountains to tremble slightly.

Chen Ping stood atop the foremost dragon, hands clasped behind his back, his robes fluttering, his long hair moving in the wind.

His handsome face and calm expression exuded a faint dragon emperor's majesty, as if he controlled all things in heaven and earth.

Behind him, Dragon Zhan, Dragon Hao, and other powerful dragons stood atop dragons, following closely behind.

Further behind them were countless members of the dragon clan.

Most of them transformed into human form, clad in golden robes, soaring through the air, weapons in hand, their expressions resolute, their eyes filled with excitement and pride.

This procession was vast and imposing, its momentum soaring to the heavens. Golden light illuminated the entire sky, and the roar of dragons shook the heavens and earth.

They sped towards Cloud Immortal City.

No more hiding.

No more cowering.

They would walk out of Heavenly Dragon Valley with their heads held high, they would make the Fourteen Heavens remember the majesty of the Dragon Clan, they would let everyone know.

The Dragon Clan has returned!

...

Cloud Immortal City.

The city's inhabitants were busy with their own affairs. Some were setting up stalls on the streets, some were managing their businesses in shops, and some were walking on the streets; the entire city was bustling with activity.

But suddenly, the sky darkened.

The sunlight was blocked, and a powerful pressure, like a towering mountain, weighed heavily on the entire city. The people of the city instantly felt short of breath, a nameless fear welling up within them.

They all looked up at the sky.

Suddenly, everyone's eyes widened, their faces filled with terror and shock, their mouths agape, unable to utter a single word for a long time.

In the sky, dozens of enormous dragons circled and soared, their golden scales reflecting a dazzling light through the gaps in the clouds, so bright it was blinding.

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The dragons roared deafeningly, their overwhelming power causing the entire city to tremble slightly, and the houses on the ground to shake gently.

"Dragons...dragons?! Dragons!"

Someone screamed, their legs buckling as they knelt on the ground, trembling uncontrollably, their eyes filled with terror.

Dragons were the most powerful race in ancient times.

Legend has it that dragons are incredibly powerful, capable of overturning rivers and seas, summoning wind and rain, and ordinary cultivators are no match for them.

Now, with so many dragons appearing above Yunxian City, the fear in their hearts is unimaginable.

Many more people trembled with fear, hiding in their homes, locking their doors, afraid to go out for fear of being harmed by the dragons.

They didn't know why these dragons had appeared above Yunxian City, whether they were there to protect it or to destroy it.

Those who had been eager to seize control of Yunxian City were completely dumbfounded by this scene.

They stood there, speechless, their faces filled with terror and disbelief.

They never imagined that so many dragons would appear above Yunxian City.

What was going on?

Just as everyone was filled with terror and at a loss...

A golden figure descended from the sky, landing steadily on the city walls of Yunxian City like a shooting star.

The figure, clad in a flowing white robe, possessed a handsome face and a calm expression.

It was Chen Ping.

Chen Ping stood with his hands behind his back, his gaze sweeping across the entire city.

His voice, though not loud, carried an innate authority that clearly reached everyone's ears, as if whispering in their ear, or proclaiming something:

"From this day forward, Cloud Immortal City is under the control of the Heavenly Dragon Clan."

“Anyone who disagrees may step forward.”

After his words, the city fell into a deathly silence.

No one dared to utter a sound.

No one dared to move.

Everyone trembled with fear, heads bowed, not daring to look up at Chen Ping atop the city walls, nor at the giant dragon in the sky.

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They knew Chen Ping’s words were not a joke. Anyone who dared to disobey would surely be slain by the dragon and Chen Ping himself, dying without a burial place.

Those who had originally sought control of Yunxian City fell silent, wishing they could bury themselves.

Their hearts were filled with fear and regret—regret for their arrogance, for their ambition to seize control of Yunxian City, and for offending Chen Ping.

Now, the Dragon Clan had arrived, Chen Ping had arrived.

Their strength was no match for the dragons.

If Chen Ping wanted to kill them, it would be as easy as turning his hand.

Chen Wanqing stood atop the city wall, watching this scene unfold, utterly shocked.

She knew Chen Ping was strong.

But she never imagined he could mobilize the entire Dragon Clan, commanding dozens of dragons to serve him.

Looking at the dragons circling in the sky, at the trembling people in the city, and at the powerful figures, she felt a surge of pride and admiration.

She knew that from this moment on, Yunxian City could finally return to peace.

The former members of the Chen family could finally stop being oppressed.

And she could finally protect the Chen family's legacy.

Ming Li sidled up to Chen Wanqing, chuckling smugly, "Miss Chen, what do you think? Isn't Mr. Chen amazing?"

I told you, Mr. Chen is omnipotent. There's nothing he can't do.

Now that the Heavenly Dragon Clan is here, those clowns won't dare to be arrogant anymore, they won't dare to bully your Chen family."

Chen Wanqing snapped out of her reverie, nodding vigorously, her eyes filled with gratitude and admiration. She whispered, "Amazing, so amazing. Thank you, Ming Li, and thank you Chen Ping too. Without you, I really don't know what I would have done." "..."

Chen Ping turned to Chen Wanqing, his tone calm: "Yunxian City is in your hands. With the Dragon Clan here, no one dares to touch you, no one dares to bully the old guard of the Chen family, and no one dares to stir up trouble in the city.

You must manage Yunxian City well, protect this city, and wait for my return."

Chen Wanqing looked at Chen Ping, her eyes slightly red, and nodded firmly: “Chen Ping, don’t worry, I will definitely protect Yunxian City, manage its affairs well, and wait for your return. You must take care of yourself, and you must come back safely.”

Chen Ping nodded, saying nothing more. He turned to look at Long Zhan.

Long Zhan quickly stepped forward and bowed respectfully, “Your Majesty, what are your orders?”

“Long Zhan, while I’m away, I entrust Yunxian City to you.”

Chen Ping’s tone was stern. “If anyone dares to invade, show no mercy. Kill them immediately to prevent future troubles. You must protect Yunxian City and Miss Chen.”

“Your subordinate obeys!”

Long Zhan bowed again, his voice firm, “Your Majesty, rest assured, your subordinate will swear to protect Yunxian City to the death and will never betray Your Majesty’s trust and expectations.

As long as I am here, as long as the Dragon Clan is here, no one will dare to invade Yunxian City, no one will dare to harm Miss Chen and the people of the city!”

Chen Ping hummed in acknowledgment.

He turned around, his gaze fixed on the distance, towards the direction of the Holy Domain of Light.

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On the city walls of Yunxian City, Chen Ping stood with his hands behind his back, his gaze sweeping over the trembling civilians, over the silent members of powerful factions, and finally settling on the dozens of colossal dragons circling in the sky.

The dragons radiated immense power and dazzling golden light.

With the Heavenly Dragon Clan in charge, this city was safe.

Chen Ping's gaze fell on Chen Wanqing.

Chen Wanqing stood to the side, her eyes slightly red, her lips gently pursed, as if she wanted to say something but didn't know how to begin.

Chen Ping looked at her, his tone softening: "The teleportation array should be fine now."

Chen Wanqing was slightly taken aback, then realized.

Indeed.

Previously, those powerful factions, relying on their powerful backers, had sealed off the teleportation array, preventing Chen Ping from using it.

But now, dozens of giant dragons hovered above Cloud Immortal City, their dragon might causing the entire city to tremble. Those powerful figures were probably too terrified to even leave their homes; how could they dare to obstruct them?

"I'll go contact the guardian of the teleportation array right away," Chen Wanqing said hurriedly.

Chen Ping waved his hand: "No need. I'll go myself."

He paused, then looked at Ming Li and Liu Qianqian: "You two, come with me."

Ming Li immediately nodded, his face beaming with excitement: "Alright! Mr. Chen, shall we go to the Holy Domain of Light? I've heard it's a gathering place for righteous cultivators, teeming with powerful figures. It'll be a perfect opportunity to see for ourselves!"

Liu Qianqian also nodded slightly, a hint of anticipation in her eyes.

Chen Wanqing bit her lip, finally unable to hold back any longer: "Chen Ping, I... I want to go with you too."

Chen Ping looked at her.

Chen Wanqing lowered her head, her voice low, "Staying here... I can't be of much help. Yunxian City is already safe with the Dragon Clan guarding it. I want to go with you to the Holy Land of Light; perhaps... perhaps I can help you."

Chen Ping looked at her quietly, without speaking.

After a moment, he shook his head.

"No."

Chen Wanqing raised her head, a hint of disappointment in her eyes.

Chen Ping's tone was calm, yet undeniably authoritative: "Yunxian City needs someone to oversee it. Although those forces are temporarily intimidated by the Dragon Clan, there's no guarantee they won't secretly cause trouble.

You are the eldest daughter of the Chen family, most familiar with Yunxian City, and most qualified to control it. Staying here is more useful than going with me to the Holy Domain of Light."