

Venerable Master Hsü yün

Composed by Venerable Master Hua

(illustration in Chinese section)

Magic Orchids Emit Fragrance at Kao Ting Monastery #91

The Master left Chicken Foot Mountain and went to *Kao Ting* (lofty Censor) Monastery, outside of the Western gate of *Ch'u Hsiung* prefecture. He was not there very long before the fragrance of orchids permeated the entire monastery. The managing monk congratulated the Master, saying, "This magic orchid fragrance which marks your arrival is a very rare occurrence. The prefectural records indicate that there are magic orchids on the mountain, but they are invisible. They are said to emit their fragrance when a true cultivator arrives. And so this orchid fragrance comes in response to the Venerable Master's virtue." The Master was treated with utmost deference.

The Gatha says:

The fragrance of the magic orchids came not at all by chance.

A genuine person must have descended upon us.

The Venerable Master's awesome virtue was able to evoke this response.

Treated deferentially, he was beseeched to stay.