

牡丹亭 湯顯祖撰 白先勇編腳本 李林德譯  
*Peony Pavilion*

Written by Tang Xianzu  
Scripted by Pai Hsien-yung  
Translated by Lindy Mark

标目

[蝶恋花]

忙处抛人闲处住

百计思量

没个为欢处

白日消磨肠断句

世间只有情难诉

玉茗堂前朝复暮

红烛迎人

俊得江山助

但是相思莫相负

牡丹亭上三生路

情不知所起

一往而深

生者可以死

死者可以生

梦中之情何必非真

第一出 训女

[满庭芳]

西属名儒 南安太守

Prologue

*Cast aside by contentious*

*Officialdom, I live in leisure.*

*Thinking of a hundred happier*

*ways,*

*To pass the time of day.*

*Day light spent on heart breaking verse;*

*For love is the hardest to put to words.*

*In the White Camellia Hall,*

*day after night,*

*By glowing red candle light,*

*Where hills and rivers inspire*

*my rhymes.*

*Do not break vows with longing hearts,*

*To meet on the thrice-born path of destiny,*

*Toward the pavilion of peonies.*

Where does love arise?

It wells up from the deep.

For love the living can die.

For love the dead can revive.

Let love in dreams be

Real or unreal.

Scene 1: Admonishing the Daughter

**Du Bao enters with entourage and sings:**

*Renown scholar of the West,*

几番廊庙江湖  
紫袍金带

功业未全无

自家南安太守杜宝  
表字子充  
乃唐朝杜甫之后

流落巴蜀 年遇五旬  
想二十岁登科  
三年出守  
清名惠政 播在人间

内有夫人甄氏  
乃魏朝甄皇后嫡派

单生小女 才貌端研  
唤名丽娘 未议婚配

自来淑女 无不知书

今日政有余闲  
不免请出夫人  
商议此事

请夫人出堂

[绕池游]  
甄妃洛浦

嫡派来西蜀  
封大郡南安杜母

夫人  
相公

春来闺阁闲多少

*Governor of southern Nan'an.  
Serving several tours of official posts;  
In purple robe of office,  
and golden belt of title,  
I served with some distinction.*

:

**He speaks:** I am Du Bao, governor of Nan'an.  
Also called Zichong,  
Descendant of the poet Du Fu,  
of the Tang dynasty .  
Settled in Sichuan, I am now past age 50.  
Achieving the imperial degree at 20,  
And appointed to office in 3 years.  
My reputation for wise governance  
is widely known.  
I have a wife, Madame Zhen,  
A direct descendant of Queen Zhen,  
of the Wei dynasty.  
Our only daughter, beautiful and talented,  
named Liniang, Lady Beauty,  
Is not yet betrothed.  
Virtuous women of all times,  
Are all well read.  
Today I am free from official duties,  
Let me summon my Madame  
To discuss this matter.

**Attendant toward back stage:**  
Madame, please come out.

**Lady Zhen enters, sings:**  
*A descendant of Queen Zhen,  
Goddess of the River Luo,  
Of noble lineage in Western Sichuan.  
I have received the title of  
Dame Du of Greater Nan'an.*

**Du Bao and Lady Zhen greet each other:**  
Madame.  
My lord.

**Du Bao:** How are things going in the

ladies' chambers this spring?

也长向花阴课女工

**Lady Zhen:** We attend to needlecraft  
in the shaded flower glade.

这女工一事  
想女儿精巧过人  
看来古今贤淑多晓诗书

**Du Bao:** Our daughter's needlecraft  
already surpasses others.  
But virtuous ladies of bygone ages  
have been well read.  
One day when she marries a scholar,  
Her speech and manners, Should match her status.  
What do you think, Madame?

他日嫁一书生  
不枉了谈吐相称  
夫人?

老爷 **Lady Zhen:**

My Lord.

不免唤女儿出来一同赏春  
来 唤小姐出堂

**Du Bao:** Let us call our daughter to enjoy  
the spring time together. (To attendants:)  
Come! Call for the young mistress.

是 请小姐出堂  
请小姐出堂

**Attendants:** Yes. Young mistress, please come out.  
**Maid Chunxiang:** Young mistress, please come out  
to the front hall.

[绕池游]

娇莺欲语  
眼见春如许  
寸草心怎报得春光一二  
爹娘万福

**Du Liniang enters, sings:**

*Hear nestling orioles about to sing,  
On seeing the arrival of spring.  
How can my heart, a mere weedling,  
repay the nurture of parental sunshine.*

**Speaks:** Father, mother, myriad respects.

罢了

**Du Bao, Lady Zhen:** All right.

今日春光明媚  
爹娘宽坐后堂  
女孩儿敢进三爵之觞  
少效千春之祝

**Du Liniang:** Today is bright and sunny.  
Father and mother are relaxing  
in the rear parlor.  
May your daughter offer you  
three cups of wine,  
To celebrate a thousand returns of spring time.

生受你了 **Du Bao and Lady Zhen:**We are pleased to accept.

[玉山頹]

且提壺 **Together they sing:** *Wine pot in hand we stroll,*  
 花間竹下長引着鳳凰雛 *Among flowers, under bamboos,*  
*leading a fledgling phoenix.*

兒啊 **Du Bao:** My child,  
 你和春香在綉房中 what do you and Spring Fragrance  
 作何生活 Do in the sewing chamber?

綉房中則是綉. **Chunxiang:** We do embroidery.

綉了之後呢 **Du Bao:** And after doing embroidery?

綉了之後么則是打眠 **Chunxiang:** After embroidery, we do “naps.”

甚么棉 **Du Bao:** What kind of naps?

睡眠 **Chunxiang:** Catnaps.

好哩 好哩 **Du Bao to Lady** Well, well, well....  
 你才說 **Zheng:** You just said that you  
 長向花陰課女工 Do needlecraft in the flower glade.  
 却縱容女孩兒閑眠 But you let the girl doze away.  
 是何家教 What kind of up-bringing is this?  
 兒啊 **to Liniang:** My child,  
 假如綉餘閑 If there is time after embroidery,  
 有架上圖書可以寓目 There are books on the shelf  
 to enlighten your eyes.  
 他日到了人家 Some day in your husband’s house,  
 知書知禮 父母光輝 Your learning and manners  
 will make your parents proud.  
 兒呵 兒呵 My child, my child....

多謝爹爹教導 **Du Liniang:** Father, thank you for your guidance.

孩兒且自回房 **Lady Zhen:** Return to your chambers now, child.

是 **Du Liniang:** Yes.

要個女先生讲解才好 **Lady Zhen:** Better engage a female tutor for her.

不能够

[前腔]

后堂公所  
请先生则是黉门腐儒

**Du Bao:** Impossible!**sings:**

*For an official's household,  
A tutor must be steeped  
in Confucian orthodoxy.*

女儿呵

怎念遍的孔子诗书  
但略识周公礼数

**Lady Zhen sings:** But a girl...

*Does she need Confucian classics?  
A bit from Duke Zhou's  
Book of Rites should suffice.*

[尾声]

你看俺治国齐家  
也则是数卷书

**Du Bao sings:** *Just you see how I rule the country,  
and govern my family,  
by these classic books.*

## 第二出 闺塾

## Scene 2: The Girl's School

[一江风]

小春香 **Chunxiang enters, sings:** *Little Spring Fragrance,  
一种在人奴上  
画阁里从娇养  
侍娘行  
弄粉调朱 贴翠拈花*

*Favored over other servants;  
Pampered in painted chambers,  
Attending the young lady,  
Mixing rouge, stirring powder,  
Fixing jade, arranging flowers,  
Always attending by the dressing table.  
Or help her set up the embroidery frame,  
Set up the embroidery frame.  
Or follow her in evening prayer.  
But this little slender one,  
must bear the Madame's cane.*

惯向妆台傍  
陪他理绣床  
陪他理绣床  
又随他烧夜香  
小苗条吃的是夫人杖

有请小姐上学

Please, Young Misstress, time for school.

[绕池游]

素妆才罢 **Liniang enters, sings:** *Donning plain attire just now,  
缓步书堂下  
对净几明窗潇洒*

*In measured steps, I enter the library,  
Where polished tables stand  
beside gleaming windows*

先生万福 **speaks to the teacher:** Master, myriad respects to you.

- 罢了  
 女学生  
 凡为女子 鸡初鸣  
 咸盥 漱 栉 笄  
 问安于父母  
 日出之后各供其事  
 如今女学生以读书为事  
 须要早起
- Chen Zuiliang:** No need to bow.  
 Young lady,  
 At cock's first crow a woman should rise,  
 Wash, rinse, pin up her hair,  
 Greet her parents, and  
 By sunrise, attend to her duties.  
 Now that studying is your duty,  
 You must rise early.
- 以后不敢了
- Liniang:** I won't be late again.
- 罢了
- Chen:** All right now.
- 先生今夜不睡了
- Chunxiang:** Master sir, we won't sleep tonight.
- 却是为何
- Chen:** Why not?
- 喏 喏 喏  
 等到三更时分  
 就请先生上书
- Chunxiang:** Nuo....nuo....nuo...  
 Please begin the class  
 By the 3<sup>rd</sup> watch of midnight.
- 太早了
- Chen:** That's too early.
- 早也不好 迟也不好  
 小姐 这倒难了
- Chunxiang:** No good early and no good late,  
 Miss, this is going to be difficult.
- 女学生  
 昨日上的 [毛诗]  
 可温习熟否
- Chen:** Young lady,  
 Yesterday's lesson from the Book of Songs  
 Have you reviewed it carefully?
- 温习了 则待讲解
- Liniang:** I have, and await your lecture.
- 先生 小姐说  
 已温习熟了则待讲解
- Chunxiang:** Master sir, the young mistress  
 says she has reviewed it and waits for your lecture.
- 春香你呢
- Chen:** And how about you, Spring Fragrance?
- 我啊 烂熟的了
- Chunxiang:** Me? I memorized it thoroughly.
- 你且背来
- Chen:** Let's hear you recite it by heart.

先生烂熟的了  
还要背啊

**Chunxiang:** Master, I memorized it.  
Do I still have to recite it?

自然要背  
烂熟的了还要背

**Chen:** Of course, you have to.  
Memorized thoroughly,  
and still have to recite it.  
Young Mistress, prompt me.

小姐提我一个字

关  
关

Guan.

关关 关关啊 关关 关关啊关关

**Chunxiang:** Guan....

Guan guan....

关关睢鸠

**Liniang:** Guan guan sings the osprey.

关关睢鸠  
在啊  
在 在什么介

**Chunxiang:** Guan guan sings the osprey.  
On the....  
Where? at what place?

在河之洲

**Chen:** On the river island.

关关睢鸠 在河之洲

**Chunxiang:** “Guan guan sings the osprey,  
On the river island.  
May dainty maidens,  
Be the noblemen’s quest.”  
Master, see I know it thoroughly.

窈窕淑女 君子好逑

先生可是烂熟的了么

一句都背不出  
还说烂熟的了回去重读

**Chen:** You can’t even recite one line,  
And still say you know it.  
Go home and study it again.

这样熟还要读  
读它什么介

**Chunxiang:** Study it again,  
What for?

女学生  
关关睢鸠  
睢鸠是个鸟  
关关鸟声也

**Chen:** Young lady,  
“Guan guan sings the osprey”  
Osprey is a kind of bird.  
“guan guan” is its call.

先生这鸟儿是怎样叫的 **Chunxiang:** Master, how does the bird call?

此鸟性喜幽静在河之洲

**Chen:** This bird likes peaceful places  
such as islands in the river.

我晓得了  
不是昨日是前日  
不对 不对  
不是今年是去年  
俺衙内关着个斑鸠儿  
被小姐这么一放  
它就得儿一飞  
飞到何知州衙内去了

胡说 此乃兴也  
兴个甚么介  
兴者起也  
起那等窈窕淑女  
是那幽闲女子  
有那等君子  
好好的来求他  
为何要好好的求他介  
多嘴哩  
先生  
依注解书 学生自会  
但把 [诗经] 大意  
敷衍一番  
听讲

[掉角儿]

论[六经]  
[诗经]最葩  
闺门内有许多风雅  
有指证 姜嫄产哇  
  
不嫉妒 后妃贤达  
  
有风有化 宜室宜家  
  
这经文有多少  
[诗]三百  
一言以蔽之  
没多些 只这无邪两字  
  
付与儿家

**Chunxiang:** Now I know....

No, not yesterday, the day before,  
No, No....  
Not this year, the year before...  
A birdie was caught in our office,  
But young mistress set it free.  
Drr.... it flew away,  
Flew to the river island office.

Nonsense. This is an opening figure.  
A figure of what?  
An opening figure of speech  
Alluding to dainty virgins,  
And ~~quiet~~ modest maidens.  
Then fine noblemen will  
Nicely beg for her hand.  
Why beg for her hand politely?  
You talk too much!  
Master, your pupil can  
follow the annotations.  
Please expound on the  
Significance of the "Songs".  
Listen then.

*Of the Six Classics,*  
*"Book of Songs" is the finest. ~~flower.~~*  
*Splendid tales from the ladys' chambers.*  
*For example, chaste Jiangwa gave birth*  
*from the "Divine toe print".*  
*Wise queens, fair-minded consorts,*  
*who harbor no jealousy.*  
*Well mannered and cultured,*  
*Fitting for wife and family.*  
*How many such texts in the book?*  
*Three hundred poems, all can be*  
*Summed up in one phrase:*  
*No more than just 2 words:*  
*"Pure and innocent".*  
*These words I give you.*

小姐 我要出恭了  
要对先生说的  
出恭还要对先生说啊  
先生 学生领出恭签  
你来得几时就要出恭

人家来了半日  
不许去  
急的紧  
去去就来  
晓得  
先生敢问师母尊年

目下平头六十  
学生待绣对鞋儿

与师母上寿  
请个样儿  
生受你了  
依 [孟子]上样儿  
做个不知足而为屨罢

小姐我们只管在此读书

原来后边有座大花园  
桃红柳绿 好耍子哩

春香 不攻书 花园去

待我取荆条来  
先生你取荆条做什么  
打你呀  
打我啊 哎

[前腔]

女娘行那里应文科判衙  
止不过识字儿书涂嫩鸦

待映月 耀蟾蜍眼花

Miss, I have to go.  
Ask the master for permission.  
Ask permission for that?  
Master, I need a “relief permit”.  
You’ve been here only a while,  
“relief permit” already?  
I’ve been here a long time.  
You can’t leave!  
I’ve got to go.  
Go then and come back quickly.  
I will.  
Master, may I inquire of the  
age of your respected Madame?  
She is just now exactly 60.  
Your pupil will embroider  
a pair of slippers,  
To celebrate her birthday.  
May I beg a pattern?  
We are honored to accept.  
Just follow after “Mencius”:  
“Make the shoe without  
knowing the foot”.  
Miss, we’re wasting our time  
here on books.  
There is a big garden in back,  
It has flowers and trees.  
What a fun place.  
Spring Fragrance, you don’t study  
but run off into the garden.  
Just let me get the thorn cane.  
Master, what is the thorn cane for?  
To cane you.  
Cane me? Well....

*Can - girls pass exams or take office?  
We need only to know some words,  
and scratch a few lines.  
When the moon shines bright,  
dazzling the moon toad’s eyes,*

待囊萤把虫蚁儿活支煞

比似你悬了梁

损头发 刺了股  
添疤痕 有甚光华

小姐 听一声声卖花  
把读书声差

春香  
你三番两次来引逗小姐

我真个要打了  
先生你真个要打么  
伸出手来  
你待打我这嫩娃娃  
桃李门墙  
险把负荆人諛煞  
我要辞馆不教了  
先生看他初犯  
容学生责认于她  
好你去责认于她  
死丫头  
唐突了先生 快跪下  
小姐  
跪下  
小姐

[前腔]

手不许把秋千索拿  
脚不许把花园路踏  
则问你几丝儿头发  
几条儿背花  
敢也怕些些  
夫人堂上那些家法

好了好了 不要打了  
下次可敢了  
下次是再也不敢的了  
饶你这一遭儿, 还不起来

*We catch fireflies and watch them  
squirm in a sack.  
You tie your hair to a roof beam  
to keep awake studying;  
But it only harms the scalp; Jabbing your hip,  
Just Adds scars. What glory is there  
in all of that?  
Miss, hear the flower vendor's song,  
breaking up the reading drone.*

Spring Fragrance,  
You've distracted the  
young mistress time and again.  
I am really going to beat you.  
Master, are you really?  
Stretch out your hand!  
*Just you try to strike this dainty doll.  
Fruit of your teaching or not.  
Almost scared this culprit to death.*  
I am going to resign.  
Master, forgive her first offense.  
Allow me to punish her.  
All right, you punish her.  
Wicked maid,  
For insulting the master, Kneel.  
Young mistress....  
Kneel!  
Young mistress.

*Your hands are not to touch the swing ropes.  
Your feet are not to tread the garden path.  
How many hairs on your head?  
As many welts will rise on your back.  
Now lets see if you have respect  
For Madame's household laws?*

All right, all right. that is enough.  
Would you dare again?  
Never again.  
I'll forgive you this time. Get up now.

女学生  
 你们功课完了方可回衙  
 我和公相闲话去  
 学生送先生  
 罢了  
 春香  
 方才说的花园在哪里  
 春香  
 喏 那不是大花园么  
 可有什么景致  
 有景啊有景  
 有亭台六七座  
 秋千一两架  
 绕的流觞曲水  
 面着太湖山石  
 奇花异草  
 委实秀丽得紧啊  
 原来有这等一个所在  
 小姐  
 老爷明日下乡劝农

明日我们同去游玩可好  
 且回衙去 是  
 好了 明日好去耍子了  
 花郎哪里 花郎哪里  
 来哉 来哉  
 种花无人赏  
 拿去换酒尝  
 好打 你花也不送  
 送了  
 水也不打  
 打了  
 有水夫在  
 XXXX  
 啥个事体  
 阿是给春香姐画眉  
 谁要你画  
 阿是梳头  
 扯淡 是小姐要游花园

Young lady scholar,  
 Do not go home until you finish the lesson.  
 I am going for a chat with my lord.  
 Your student will see you out.  
 That is not necessary.  
 Spring Fragrance,  
 Where is the garden you just spoke of?  
 Spring Fragrance?  
 There, it is right over there.  
 Are there any scenic views?  
 There certainly are.  
 Several pavilions,  
 One or two swing sets,  
 A flowing brook to float wine trays  
 winding pass the Taihu rock hill.  
 Exotic flowers and rare grasses.  
 It is really beautiful.  
 So, there is such a place.  
 Young mistress,  
 His Lordship is leaving for the country  
 tomorrow to promote farming..  
 How about an outing tomorrow?  
 Let's go home for now. Yes.  
 Goody! We are going out tomorrow.  
 Garden boy, where are you?  
 Coming, coming.  
 Tending flowers that no one sees,  
 Trading them for wine--so tasty.  
 You need a beating, not delivering flowers.  
 I did deliver them.  
 You didn't fetch water.  
 I did..  
 Besides, there is the water carrier.  
 You've got a job to do today.  
 What job?  
 Lining sister Spring Fragrance's brow?  
 Who needs you to do that.  
 How about combing your hair?  
 Nonsense! The young mistress  
 wants to visit the garden.

命你好好扫除花径  
 晓得  
 小姐来看花  
 花径要扫洒

She orders you to sweep the paths.  
 All right.  
 She wants to view the flowers.  
 I'll spray and sweep the garden path.

第三出 惊梦  
 [绕池游]

Scene 3: The Interrupted Dream

梦回莺啭  
 乱煞年光遍  
 人立小庭深院

*Summoned from dream, by orioles' trill.  
 Sparkling light of the new year,  
 Fills this "cloistered courtyard,"  
 where I stand.*

炷尽沉烟  
 抛残绣线  
 恁今春关情似去年

*Douse the heavy incense,  
 Toss --the silk floss ends.  
 Will this spring time be  
 the same as last year?*

晓来望断梅关  
 宿妆残  
 小姐  
 你侧着宜春髻子恰凭阑

Dawn hides the Plum Blossom Ridge.  
 My hair tangled by sleep.  
 Young mistress,  
 Your spring chignon aslant,  
 leaning against the balustrade.  
 "Can scissors cut, or comb untangle?  
 This endless weariness."  
 Oh, young mistress,  
 I've bid flowers and birds  
 to speed up springtime.  
 Spring Fragrance,  
 Have you told the gardener  
 to sweep the garden path?  
 I have done so.  
 Bring the mirror over here. Yes.

剪不断 理还乱  
 闷无端  
 啊 小姐  
 已吩咐催花莺燕惜  
 春看  
 春香  
 可曾吩咐花郎  
 扫除花径么  
 已吩咐过了  
 取镜台过来 晓得

She faces the mirror when  
 done with her coiffure;  
 She adds perfume before  
 donning her silken gown.  
 Miss, the mirror stand is here.  
 Put it down. Yes.  
 What a fine day.

云髻罢梳还对镜

罗衣欲换更添香

小姐 镜台在此  
 放下 是  
 好天气也

便是

So it is.

[步步娇]

袅晴丝吹来  
请小姐梳妆  
闲庭院  
摇漾春如线  
停半晌 整花钿  
没揣菱花 偷人半面

*Strands of sunlight breeze  
(Please dress now.)  
Into this quiet courtyard,  
Swaying threads of spring.  
Pausing awhile, I fix my hairpin.  
Contemplating the mirror,  
that stole my silhouette.  
Cloud like tresses trailing to one side.  
Pacing my chamber dare I step outside.*

迤逗的彩云偏  
我步香闺怎便把全身现

[醉扶归]

你道翠生生  
出落的裙衫儿茜  
艳晶晶花簪八宝璜  
可知  
我常一生儿爱好是天然  
恰三春好处无人见  
不提防沉鱼落雁鸟惊喧

*You say that new jade skirt  
and gown are prettiest;  
Sparkling eight jeweled hairpin most precious.  
You know that all my life  
I love to be beautiful:  
Like the early spring that no one sees,  
Like graceful fish diving deep,  
Landing swan, birds in flight.  
Shy like blushing flowers,  
hidden moon, and trembling blossoms.  
We are at the garden gate.  
Please go in, young mistress.  
Here we are inside the garden,  
Look at the gallery, its gilding faded.  
Miss, this is a gold fish pond.  
Around the pond side cottage, green is the moss.  
Stepping carefully on grass,  
Less mud stains new brocaded socks.  
Protecting flowers, trip cords tug on tiny golden bells.  
Spring Fragrance, if we didn't come here,  
How shall we know that springtime is like this.  
So it is.*

则怕的羞花闭月花愁颤

来此已是花园门首  
请小姐进去  
进得园来  
看画廊金粉半零星  
小姐 这是金鱼池  
池馆苍苔一片青  
踏草怕泥新绣袜

惜花疼煞小金铃  
春香, 不到园林  
怎知春色如许  
便是

[皂罗袍]

原来姹紫嫣红开遍

*Already, bright purple and  
passion pink bloom in profusion.*

似这般都付与断井颓垣

良辰美景奈何天  
便赏心乐事谁家院  
朝飞暮卷  
云霞翠轩  
雨丝风片 烟波画船

锦屏人忒看的这韶光贱

啊小姐 那是青山

[好姐姐]

遍青山  
这杜鹃花开的好盛哪  
啼红了杜鹃  
那是荼蘼架  
那荼蘼外烟丝醉软  
是花都开  
惟有那牡丹还早呢  
那牡丹虽好  
他春归怎占的先  
闲凝眄

啊小姐

你听那莺燕叫得好听  
呢生生燕语明如翦  
听啾啾莺声溜的圆

这园子委实观之不足  
提他怎么  
留些余兴  
明日再来耍子吧  
有理

[隔尾]

观之不足由他缙  
便赏遍了十二亭台  
是枉然  
倒不如兴尽回家闲过遣

Yet to crumbling well, faded walls,  
such splendor is abandoned.  
But in this glorious season,  
Where are sounds of joy in this garden?  
Mornings take wing, evenings unfold,  
Beyond green arbor, rosy clouds soar.  
In windy strands of rain, gilded  
pleasure boats nod in misty waves.  
Maidens shielded by brocaded screens,  
are blinded to such glorious scenes.

Look young mistress,  
there is a green hill!

All over the verdant hill,  
The azaleas are in full bloom.  
Cuckoo birds waken red azaleas.  
There is a trellis...  
Beyond trellis vines, silky mist softly lingers.  
All the flowers are blooming,  
but not yet the peonies.  
The peony is gorgeous,  
But blooms late when spring is gone.  
Softly my eyes rest....

Young mistress, listen to  
The orioles and swallows sing.  
Yes, the swallows' chirping cleaves the air,  
And orioles trill so clear.

There is yet more to see in this garden.  
Why mention it?  
Leave some attractions  
For tomorrow.  
Good idea.

Endless scenes to see, so let it be.  
Seeing twelve fairy dwellings  
is still in vain.  
Might as well go back home

小姐  
你身子乏了歇息片时  
我去看看老夫人再来  
去去就来

*to pass the time of day.*  
Young mistress,  
You are tired, rest for a while.  
I'll look in on Madame.  
Go now and come back.

瓶插映山紫  
炉添沉水香

“Fill the vase with mountain purple,  
Replenish the urn with heavy incense.”

蓦地游春转  
小试宜春面  
春呵春  
得和你两留连  
春去如何遣  
恁般天气  
好困人也

Back from a spring time outing,  
I try on spring ornaments.  
Spring, oh spring.  
How I long for you to stay.  
What shall I do when spring is gone.  
Such weather  
makes one drowsy.

[山坡羊]

没乱里春情难遣

*I know not why, thoughts  
of passion will not subside.  
Suddenly, despair fills my heart.  
Since I was born a natural beauty,  
To make a match of suitability,  
They search for godly alliance.  
But what good is marriage,  
If the youth of spring time is cast aside,  
Who will see my desire as I sleep?  
I beg to know, despite calls of modesty.  
Who will lay beside me as I dream?  
As the time of youth flows by,  
Languishing here,  
To whom can I confide.  
Anguishing here,  
To heaven I shall plead,  
For the rest of this sad life.*

蓦地里怀人幽怨  
则为俺生小婵娟  
拣名门  
一例一例里神仙眷  
甚良缘  
把青春抛的远  
俺的睡情谁见  
则索因循面腆  
想幽梦谁边  
和春光暗流转  
迁延  
这衷怀那处言  
淹煎  
泼残生  
除问天

啊 姐姐  
小生那一处不寻到  
你却在这里  
恰好在花园内  
折得垂柳半枝

Ah, lady  
I have looked for you all over,  
Here you are.  
Just now in the garden I plucked  
A willow branch.

姐姐 你既淹通诗书  
何不作诗一首  
以赏此柳枝乎  
那生素味平生因何到此

姐姐  
咱一片闲情爱煞你哩

## [山桃红]

则为你如花美眷  
似水流年  
是答儿闲寻遍  
在幽闺自怜  
姐姐  
和你那答儿讲话去  
哪里去 喏  
转过这芍药栏前  
紧靠着湖山石边  
和你把领扣松 衣带宽

袖梢儿搵着牙儿苦也  
则待你忍耐温存一晌眠  
是那处曾相见  
相看俨然  
早难道好处相逢无一言

## [画眉序]

好景艳阳天  
万紫千红尽开遍  
满雕栏宝砌  
云簇霞鲜  
督春工珍护芳菲  
免被那晓风吹颤  
使佳人才子少系念  
梦儿中也十分欢忭

## [滴溜子]

湖山畔 湖山畔  
云缠雨绵  
雕栏外 雕栏外

Lady, you are versed in poetry.  
Why not compose an ode,  
In praise of this willow branch.  
I have never met that man;  
why is he here?  
Lady,  
My heart is filled with love for you.

*For your beauty that flowers  
with the flowing river of time.  
I sought you everywhere,  
but you languish in your chamber.*  
Lady,  
Let's talk over there.  
Where? Well....  
*Around this peony lattice,  
Tight by the pond side hill;  
Undo our collar button,  
and loosen our sash.  
Bite the ends of your sleeve,  
And bear with this tender sleep.  
Have we met somewhere before?  
Gazing at each other,  
As we come together, wordless,  
in this wonderful place.*

*Shining sky over glorious scene,  
Myriad purple and red in bloom.  
Like jewels set in latticed railing.  
Colored clouds surrounding all.  
To oversee the guarding of flowers,  
Less they are scattered, by morning breezes.  
Let beauty and gallant  
Rejoice in their dream.*

*The pond side hill, pond side hill,  
Veiled by clouds and misty rain.  
Beyond latticed railing, latticed railing*

红翻翠骈  
惹下蜂愁蝶恋  
三生石上缘 非因梦幻  
一枕华胥 两下遽然

## [山桃红]

这一霎天留人便  
草藉花眠  
则把云鬟点 红松翠偏

见了你紧相偎 慢厮连  
恨不得肉儿般  
和你团成片也  
逗的个日下胭脂雨上鲜  
妙

我欲去还留恋  
相看俨然  
早难道好处相逢无一言

姐姐  
你身子乏了 将息片时  
小生去也  
正是  
行来春色三分雨  
秀 在  
妙啊  
睡去巫山一片云

夫婿坐黄堂  
娇娃立绣窗  
怪她裙衩上  
花鸟绣双双  
我儿醒醒 我儿醒来  
啊秀 为娘在此  
原来是母亲  
母亲万福  
罢了我儿方才说什么秀啊  
孩儿说刺绣才罢  
我儿为何昼眠在此

*Red and green gowns turn in pairs,  
Rousing restless bees and courting butterflies.  
Destiny of the 'thrice born stone,'  
is not only a dream; but a  
Dream of fairyland, taking  
both by joyous surprise.*

*This brief moment is made in heaven,  
Pillowed on grass, bedded among flowers.  
Red petals dot billowing hair,  
Jade hairpin loose to one side.  
Holding you tight, ever so tenderly;  
Flesh to flesh,  
to mold into one.  
Such sun rouged blush, damp with rain.  
Splendid!  
I must leave but long to stay.  
Gazing at each other, wordless  
As we come together,  
in this wonderful place.*

*Lady,  
You are tired. Rest a while.  
I will go now.  
It is:  
"She makes love like gentle rain...  
Sir.... I am here.  
Wonderful!  
She slumbers under clouds of  
Witch's Mountain."*

*"My husband presides in court;  
My fair daughter stands by the window.  
Embroidered on her skirt,  
Flowers and birds in pairs."  
Wake up, my child.  
Ah, Siu..... Your mother is here.  
It is you, mother.  
Ten thousand blessings to you, mother.  
Never mind. What did you say just now?...  
I was just talking about embroidery silk.  
Why are you dozing in broad daylight here?*

告母亲知晓  
孩儿适才往花园中  
游园回来不觉身子困倦  
稍睡片时  
不知母亲到来有失远迎

望母亲恕罪  
罢了 我儿为何  
不到学堂中去看书  
先生不在且自消停

儿啦花园冷清  
少去闲游  
紧依母亲慈训  
罢了 女孩儿长成了  
自有许多情态  
且自由她 我去了  
正是 婉转随儿女  
孩儿送母亲  
罢了 辛勤做老娘  
娘啊 你叫孩儿看书  
不知哪一种书  
才消得俺的闷怀哟

[棉搭絮  
雨香云片  
才到梦儿边  
无奈高堂  
唤醒纱窗睡不便

泼新鲜俺的冷汗粘煎  
闪的俺心悠步蹇  
意软鬟偏  
不争多费  
尽神情  
坐起谁恹则待去眠

[尾声]  
困春心游赏倦

Let me tell you, mother.  
I was just walking in the garden  
And came back feeling tired.  
I slept for a while and.  
Didn't know mother had come and  
Failed to greet you.  
Please forgive me, mother.  
That is all right. Why don't you  
Go and read in the school room?  
The professor is absent,  
so the lessons have stopped for a while.  
My child, the garden is deserted,  
Don't go wandering around.  
I'll obey your kind admonition.  
All right. The girl is growing up  
She is bound to have odd feelings.  
Let her be. I am going now.  
Let it be said: "Gently I yield to the daughter...."  
Your child is seeing you off.  
Never mind. "Difficult is being a mother."  
Oh mother. You tell me to read.  
But what kind of books  
Can relieve my despair.

Fragrant rain clouds of love  
scarcely touched my dream.  
But maternal call  
Rouse me as I slumber  
by the sunlit screen.  
Cold sweat breaks in surprise,  
Heart weak, steps stumble.  
Mind distraught, hair askew.  
My will spent,  
strength exhausted.  
Who delights in rising;  
Just let me sleep again.

*Drowsy with spring fever,  
weary from roaming,*

也不索香熏绣被眠

春呵

有心情那梦儿还去不远

*I sleep without censing  
my bedding.*

*O Spring,*

*Would that dream of my heart  
be gone yet not far.*

第四出 言怀

[真珠帘]

河东旧族 柳氏名门最

论星宿

连张带鬼

几叶到寒儒

受雨打风吹

漫说书中能富贵

颜如玉和黄金哪里

贫薄把人灰

且养就这浩然之气

Scene 4: Aspirations

*Of all old families of East River,  
The house of Liu leads.*

*By the stars of Zhang and Gui,*

*Our land is an auspicious place.*

*But several generations led  
to this poor scholar,*

*To bear the wind storm of times.*

*Who said that riches are in books,*

*Where are the faces of jade,  
or shining gold?*

*Poverty makes ashen faces.*

*But I am born with an air  
of confidence.*

小生姓柳 名梦梅

表字春卿

乃唐朝柳州司马

柳宗元之后

自小孤单 生事微渺

虽已三场应试得手

怎奈时运不佳

穷困不堪

只得依赖园公郭驼

*My family name is Liu, named  
Mengmei, Plum Blossom Dreamer,*

*Also called Dear Spring;*

*Descendant of Liu Songyuan,*

*minister of Liu province,*

*In the Tang dynasty.*

*Orphaned in youth, my living  
has been quite precarious.*

*Although I've succeeded in three examinations,*

*Luck has not been with me*

*and I live in awful poverty.*

*I'm forced to rely on a  
master gardener, Hunchback Guo,*

*To make a living planting flowers and fruits.*

*Everyday I daydream.*

*Suddenly the other night, I had a dream.*

*I dreamt of a great garden.*

*Under a flowering plum tree,*

栽种花果度日

每日情思昏昏

忽然前夜 偶得一梦

梦一大花园

梅树之下立着一个美人

她说柳生啊柳生  
俺与你姻缘之分  
发迹之期

这梦来的蹊跷  
因此我改名梦梅

以寄梦中之情怀也

[九回肠]

虽则俺改名换字  
俏魂儿未卜先知  
定佳期盼煞蟾宫桂

柳梦梅不卖查梨

还则怕嫦娥妒色花颓气

等的俺梅子酸心柳皱眉

浑如醉

想我柳梦梅  
在广州学里  
也是个数一数二的才子  
于今却藏身于荒圃之中  
寄口于园公 思之惶愧

思前想后  
惟有早早打点打点  
往临安应试便了  
园公哪里 园公哪里  
来哉 相公  
不番道不番道  
我有祖传功夫拉笃  
相公读书辛苦哉  
园公  
正欲与你商量一事  
啥个事体  
我读书已过二十岁

stood a beautiful lady.  
She said, "Master Liu,  
You and I are destined to be married.  
Then you will meet with success and  
Prosperity.

This dream is rather curious.  
So I changed my name to Mengmei,  
'Plum Blossom Dreamer,'  
In remembrance of that dream.

*Though I changed my name,  
The charming spirit seems to foresee.  
She sets the happy date, as the courtier  
to the "moon toad palace" waits.  
Plum Blossom Dreamer, unlike the  
pear vendor, boasts not of his talents;  
And unlike the envious Change E,  
the fairy that shames the flowers.  
Plum Blossom's heart waits,  
as sour pain knits willow brow,  
in drunken oblivion.*

I, Liu Mengmei,  
is considered a top talent  
Among Guangzhou circles.  
Yet I dally in horticulture.  
Dependent on an old gardener,  
How embarrassing.  
Thinking things over,  
It's best that I pack up and  
go to Lin'an to sit for another examination.  
Master gardener, master gardener!  
Coming, young master.  
Don't worry, don't worry.  
I have inherited family gongfu.  
You are studying hard, young master.  
Master Gardener,  
I want to discuss something with you.  
What?  
I've been studying for over 20 years.

一点也不错  
 并无发迹之期  
 这也没有办法  
 死守在岭南  
 也不是个办法  
 那么你准备怎样  
 不如  
 及早赴临安应试如何  
 好格 好格  
 考试乃读书人本份

我这就帮你整理衣裳去  
 多谢园公 多谢园公  
 不番道 不番道  
 正是  
 天生我才必有用  
 定叫梦中之情成真  
 [急三枪]  
 那时节走马在章台内

丝儿翠 笼定个百花魁  
 相公快点  
 哦 来了

第五出 寻梦  
 [懒画眉]  
 最撩人春色是今年  
 少甚么低就高来粉画垣  
 原来春心无处不飞悬  
 是睡荼蘼抓住裙衩线  
 恰便是  
 花似人心向好处牵

一径行来  
 但觉思情辗转  
 园内风物依然  
 趁此悄地无人

Correct.  
 But there is no sign of success.  
 But there's nothing to be done.  
 Sticking it out here in Lingnan  
 is no solution.  
 What do you intend to do?  
 I'd rather go earlier to  
 Lin'an to prepare for the exams.  
 Good idea, good idea.  
 Taking examinations should be  
 part of a scholar's life.  
 I'll go now to pack your clothes.  
 Many thanks, Master Gardener.  
 No trouble at all.  
 As the saying goes:  
 "Heaven-made talent has utility,  
 To make dreams into reality."

*Some day I shall ride through  
 streets in triumph;  
 The silken cord of matrimony, will  
 capture the champion of flowers.  
 Young master, hurry up.  
 Coming!*

#### Scene 5: Search for the Dream

*Never before has Springtime  
 so disturbed the heart.  
 Over painted garden walls,  
 some low, some high,  
 Springtime longings swirl and fly.  
 Reclining vines catch my skirt hem,  
 As if flowers know my heart, and  
 Lead me to that wonderful place.*

Walking along here, turning  
 Thoughts of love in my mind.  
 The garden looks the same.  
 While no one is here, let me

正好寻梦也

[忒忒令]

那一答可是湖山石边  
这一答似牡丹亭畔  
嵌雕阑芍药芽儿浅

一丝丝垂杨线  
一丢丢榆荚钱  
线儿春甚金钱吊转

昨日梦里  
那书生将柳枝来赠奴  
要奴题咏  
强奴欢会之时  
好不话长也

[嘉庆子]

是谁家少俊来近远

敢迤逗这香闺去沁园

话到其间腼腆  
他捏这眼  
奈烦也天  
咱嗽这口  
待酬言

[尹令]

咱不是前生爱眷

又素乏平生半面

则道来生出现  
乍便今生梦见  
生就个书生  
恰恰生生抱咱去眠

我想那书生这些光景  
好不动人春意也

[豆叶黄]

他兴心儿紧咽咽  
鸣着咱香肩

look for my dream.

*Over there, was it by that pond side rock?  
Over here, was it by this peony pavilion?  
Pale green sprouts of peonies,  
set against latticed railing.  
Strands of weeping willow;  
Clusters of elm seed money,  
Like golden coins twirling  
on strands of spring.*

In the dream yesterday,  
That young scholar gave me  
A branch of willow to compose a poem.  
When he insisted on courting,  
He had so much to say.

*Who is the handsome youth,  
coming from near or afar?  
Who dares to loiter around  
this boudoir, and into the garden.  
Then speaking tenderly,  
He tilts his eyes toward me  
ever so patiently.  
And I pursed my lips,  
About to respond.*

*I am not his lover, destined  
from a former life,  
Not even a glimpse of him,  
had I even seen before.  
Would that he appear in the next life,  
He that appeared in dream in this life.  
A young scholar, alive,  
Carrying me off to bed*

Remembering that young man,  
Rouses my desire.

*Passionately he held me tight,  
Lips against my fragrant shoulder.*

俺可也慢拈拈  
做意儿周旋

俺可也慢拈拈  
做意儿周旋

等闲间

把一个照人儿昏善

这般形现 那般软绵

恁一片撒花心的红影儿  
吊将来半天

恁一片撒花心的红影儿  
吊将来半天

敢是咱梦魂儿厮缠

寻来寻去 都不见了

那牡丹亭 芍药栏

怎生这般凄凉冷落

杳无人迹

好伤感人也

[玉交枝]

似这等荒凉地面

没多半亭台靠边

敢是咱眯 色眼难寻见

明放着白日青天

猛教人抓不到魂梦前

霎时间有如活现

打方旋再得俄延

哦

是这答儿压黄金钏匾

秀才 秀才

呀 无人之处

忽见大梅树一株

看梅子磊磊可爱人也

我丽娘死后得葬于此

幸矣

[江儿水]

偶然间心似繖

在梅树边

似这等花花草草由人恋

*Slowly I turn and move  
in answer.*

*Slowly I turn and move  
in answer.*

*In a moment's time,*

*A lucid mind, is dazed and dazzled.*

*Such a phantom apparition,*

*Such soft, tender, solicitation.*

*But then, crimson shadows of flowers,*

*Shower from the sky.*

*Crimson shadows of flowers,*

*Shower from the sky.*

*Or was it but my dreaming soul in turmoil.*

*I searched all over, everything has  
disappeared.*

*That peony pavilion, herb peony railing,*

*Everything is so desolate.*

*Not a sign of people.*

*It is so sad.*

*This place is ever so desolate;*

*No pavilions on either side.*

*Are my eyes dazed that I cannot see,*

*In broad daylight, under a blue sky.*

*Can I recapture what appeared in dream,*

*Just then so real and alive.*

*Pacing four corners, I linger.*

*Yes, This is the place, where*

*My golden bangle was bent.*

*Scholar, where are you?*

*Ah, in this lonely spot,*

*I see a tall flowering plum tree,*

*With lovely clusters of plums.*

*If I, Liniang, can be buried here after I die,*

*How fortunate I would be.*

*Strangely my heart is drawn*

*To the side of this plum tree.*

*Flowers, grasses, bid me stay.*

生生死死随人愿  
便酸酸楚楚无人怨  
待打併香魂一片  
阴雨梅天  
啊呀人儿啦  
守的个梅根相见

*Living or dying, let me be.  
Sad or troubled, none to reproach.  
Only to mingle with another soul,  
In plum blossom raining day.  
Alas, to meet that dream one,  
I wait by the base of this tree,*

中场休息