标目

[蝶恋花]
忙处抛人闲处住

—and

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

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

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?

My Lord.

Let us call our daughter to enjoy the spring time together. (To attendants:)

Come! Call for the young mistress.

Yes. Young mistress, please come out.

Young mistress, please come out to the front hall.

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.

Father, mother, myriad respects.

All right.

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.

We are pleased to accept.
Together they sing: *Wine pot in hand we stroll,*
*Among flowers, under bamboos,*
*leading a fledgling phoenix.*

**Du Bao:** My child,
what do you and Spring Fragrance
Do in the sewing chamber?

**Chunxiang:** We do embroidery.

**Du Bao:** And after doing embroidery?

**Chunxiang:** After embroidery, we do “naps.”

**Du Bao:** What kind of naps?

**Chunxiang:** Catnaps.

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**Zheng:** You just said that you
Do needlecraft in the flower glade.
But you let the girl doze away.
What kind of up-bringing is this?

**Du Bao to Liniang:** My child,
If there is time after embroidery,
There are books on the shelf
to enlighten your eyes.
Some day in your husband’s house,
Your learning and manners
will make your parents proud.
My child, my child….

**Du Liniang:** Father, thank you for your guidance.

**Lady Zhen:** Return to your chambers now, child.

**Du Liniang:** Yes.

**Lady Zhen:** Better engage a female tutor for her.
Du Bao: Impossible!

sings:

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

Lady Zhen sings: But a girl….

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

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

Scene 2: The Girl’s School

Chunxiang enters, sings: Little Spring Fragrance,
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.

Please, Young Misstress, time for school.

Liniang enters, sings: Donning plain attire just now,
In measured steps, I enter the library,
Where polished tables stand
beside gleaming windows

Master, myriad respects to you.
罢了

Chen Zuiliang: No need to bow.

女学生

Young lady,

凡为女子 鸡初鸣

At cock’s first crow a woman should rise,

咸盥 漱 梳 笄

Wash, rinse, pin up her hair,

问安于父母

Greet her parents, and

日出之后各供其事

By sunrise, attend to her duties.

如今女学生以读书为事

Now that studying is your duty,

须要早起

You must rise early.

以后不敢了

Linliang: 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 唠 唆

Chunxiang: Nuo….nuo…nuo…

等到三更时分

Please begin the class

就请先生上书

By the 3rd watch of midnight.

太早了

Chen: That’s too early.

早也不好 迟也不好

Chunxiang: No good early and no good late,

小姐 这倒难了

Miss, this is going to be difficult.

女学生

Chen: Young lady,

昨日上的 [毛诗]

Yesterday’s lesson from the Book of Songs

可温习熟否

Have you reviewed it carefully?

温习了 则待讲解

Linliang: I have, and await your lecture.

先生 小姐说

Chunxiang: Master sir, the young mistress

已温习熟了则待讲解

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
自然要背
烂熟的了还要背
小姐提我一个字

Chunxiang: Master, I memorized it. Do I still have to recite it?
Chen: Of course, you have to. Memorized thoroughly, and still have to recite it.

小姐提我一个字
关

Chunxiang: Guan…
关关
在啊
在 在什么介

Guang guan
guan guan....
Chen: On the river island.

Chunxiang: “Guan guan sings the osprey,
On the river island.
May dainty maidens,
Be the noblemen’s quest.”

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

Chunxiang: Study it again, What for?

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

Chunxiang: Master, how does the bird call?

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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

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.

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
多嘴俚
先生
依注解书 学生自会
但把 [诗经] 大意
敷演一番
听讲

[掉角儿]
论[六经]
论[诗经] 最葩
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

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
做个不知足而为屦罢

小姐我们只管在此读书
原来是大花园
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]
女郎行那里应文科判衙
不止不过识字儿，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.

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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 let's 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.

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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]
梦回莺啭
乱煞年光遍
人立小庭深院

Scene 3: The Interrupted Dream
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.”

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

“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.

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

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.
便是

[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
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
艳晶晶花簪八宝瑱
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
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

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.

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.

Already, bright purple and
passion pink bloom in profusion.

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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

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小姐
你身子乏了歇息片时
我去看看老夫人再来
去去就来

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

瓶插映山紫
炉添沉水香

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

[山坡羊]
没乱里春情难遣
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
除闷天

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

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.
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.

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
那生素昧平生因何到此

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
袖梢儿捲着牙儿苫也
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
春工珍护芳菲
免被那晓风吹频
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

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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

儿儿花园冷清
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
无奈离堂
唤醒纱窗睡不便

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

[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.

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May/June 2004
lmark@csuhayward.edu
也不索香薰绣被眠

I sleep without censing my bedding.

O Spring,

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

第四出 言怀
Scene 4: Aspirations

河东旧族 柳氏名门最
Of all old families of East River, The house of Liu leads.

论星宿
By the stars of Zhang and Gui, Our land is an auspicious place.

连张带鬼
But several generations led to this poor scholar,

几叶到寒儒
To bear the wind storm of times.

受雨打风吹
Who said that riches are in books, Where are the faces of jade, or shining gold?

谩说书中能富贵
Poverty makes ashen faces.

颜如玉和黄金哪里
But I am born with an air of confidence.

小生姓柳 名梦梅
My family name is Liu, named Mengmei, Plum Blossom Dreamer,

表字春卿
Also called Dear Spring;

乃唐朝柳州司马
Descendant of Liu Songyuan, minister of Liu province,

柳宗元之后
In the Tang dynasty.

自小孤单 生事微渺
Orphaned in youth, my living has been quite precarious.

虽已三场应试得手
Although I’ve succeeded in three examinations,

怎奈时运不佳
Luck has not been with me

穷困不堪
and I live in awful poverty.

只得依赖园公郭驼
I’m forced to rely on a master gardener, Hunchback Guo,

栽种花果度日
To make a living planting flowers and fruits.

每日情思昏昏
Everyday I daydream.

忽然前夜 偶得一梦
Suddenly the other night, I had a dream.

梦一大花园
I dreamt of a great garden.

梅树之下立着一个美人
Under a flowering plum tree,

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她

她说柳生啊柳生

因此我改名梦梅

以寄梦中之情怀也

[九回肠]

想起柳生

在读书

也是个数一数二的才子

寄口于园公 思之惶愧

思前想后

这梦来的蹊跷

春风里

俏魂儿未卜先知

定佳期盼煞蟾宫桂

柳梦梅不卖查梨

还则怕嫌妒色花颓气

等的俺梦梅子酸心柳皱眉

浑如醉

想我柳梦梅

在广州学里

也是个数一数二的才子

寄口于园公 思之惶愧

思前想后

我读书已过二十岁

不番道不番道

我有祖传功夫拉笃

相公读书辛苦哉

园公

正想与你商量一事

啥个事体

我

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!

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]
是家少俊来近远

话到其间腼腆
他捏这眼
亲烦也来
咱噷这口
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

我想那书生些光景
好不动人春意也
[豆叶黄]
他兴心儿紧咽咽
呜着咱香肩

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.
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,