

納蘭性德詞

# Eleven Tz'u by Nalan Hsinteh

Translated by John C. H. Wu

菩薩蠻  
驚颺掠地冬將半  
解鞍正值昏鴉亂  
冰合大河流  
茫茫一片愁  
燒痕空極望  
鼓角高城上  
明日近長安  
客心愁未闌

To the Tune of *P'u-sa man*

*A Gale is Blowing\**

菩薩蠻

驚颺掠地冬將半  
解鞍正值昏鴉亂  
冰合大河流  
茫茫一片愁

燒痕空極望  
鼓角高城上  
明日近長安  
客心愁未闌

A soul-shaking gale is sweeping through the earth  
in the depth of Winter.  
Alighting from my horse, I see the ravens flying  
pell-mell in the twilight.  
The ice has closed up the wide River.  
One bleared Immensity of Sorrow!

The scars of the scorched land crash the gates of  
my eyes.  
Drums and horns on the Great Wall resound in the  
air.  
Tomorrow I shall be nearing Changan,  
Bringing with me the sorrow-ridden heart of a  
wanderer.

*Professor John C. H. Wu translated many Chinese poems for  
T'ien Hsia Monthly 天下 which was first published in August 1935.  
This selection of tz'u poems is reprinted with his permission. The  
subtitles denoted by asterisks are added by Professor Wu.*

采桑子

而今才道當時錯

心緒淒迷

紅淚偷垂

滿眼春風百事非

情知此後來無計

強說歡期

一別如斯

落盡梨花月又西

采桑子

而今才道當時錯

心緒淒迷

紅淚偷垂

滿眼春風百事非

情知此後來無計

強說歡期

一別如斯

落盡梨花月又西

To the Tune of *Ts'ai-sang tzu*

*A Regret\**

Only now do I realize my former mistake.  
My thoughts are running in a hopeless maze.  
Red tears are dropping furtively from my eyes.  
The Spring mocks my wretchedness with all his splendours.

She knew at heart that there was no way for her to come back.  
But she forced herself to console me with hopes of happy reunion.  
She is lost to me for ever!  
The pear-blossoms have all fallen and the moon is waning once more!

夢好難留  
 詩殘莫續  
 贏得更深哭一場  
 遺容在  
 只靈颺一轉  
 未許端詳  
 重尋碧落茫茫  
 料短髮早來定有霜  
 便人間天上  
 塵緣未斷  
 春花秋月  
 觸緒還傷  
 欲結綢繆  
 翻驚搖落  
 兩處鴛鴦各自涼  
 真無奈  
 把聲聲簷雨  
 譜出回腸

## 沁園春

丁巳重陽前三日夢亡婦澹妝素服執手  
 哽咽語多不復能記但臨別有云銜恨願  
 爲天上月年年猶得向郎圓婦素未工詩  
 不知何以得此也覺後感賦長調

瞬息浮生  
 薄命如斯  
 低徊怎忘  
 記繡牀倚徧  
 並吹紅雨  
 雕闌曲處  
 同送斜陽

To the Tune of *Ch'in-yüan ch'un**After Seeing Her in a Dream\**

In the year 1667, three days before the Double Ninth Festival (the 9th day of the 9th lunar month), I saw my late wife in a dream, dressed in a simple style without making up. Choking with sobs she held my hands. Most of her words have now slipped my memory. However, I can still remember the lines she spoke at parting:

*Full of regret I wish I were the moon in the sky,  
 Still shining for you year after year in full splendour.*

I simply don't know how she could have composed them, for she had never been versed in poetry. When I woke up, I wrote the following slow song:—

Her floating life vanished like a bubble.  
 Cruel Fate nibbed the frail flower too soon!  
 I brood over her memory, and cannot forget  
 How times without number we leaned on the  
     embroidered bed  
 And blew at the showers of roses together,  
 And how at the bend of the carved balustrade  
 We watched the setting sun.

瞬忽浮生  
 薄命如斯  
 低徊怎忘  
 記繡牀倚徧  
 並吹紅雨  
 雕闌曲處  
 同送斜陽

丁巳重陽前三日夢亡婦澹妝素  
 服執手哽咽語多不復能記但臨別  
 有云銜恨願為天上月年年猶得向  
 郎圓婦素未工詩不知何以得此也  
 覺後感賦長調

## 沁園春

夢好難留  
 詩殘莫續  
 贏得更深哭一場  
 遺容在  
 只靈颺一轉  
 未許端詳

重尋碧落茫茫  
 料短髮早來定有霜  
 便人間天上  
 塵緣未斷  
 春花秋月  
 觸緒還傷  
 欲結綢繆  
 翻驚搖落  
 兩處鴛鴦各自涼  
 眞無奈  
 把聲聲簷雨  
 譜出回腸

The happy dream cannot be prolonged.  
 The unfinished poem will never be continued.  
 A bitter weeping at midnight is all my gain.  
 Her image is still vivid in my mind,  
 But her soul comes and goes like the wind,  
 Eluding the embrace of man!

She must now be threading her way to the azure  
 through the maze of space;  
 Her short hair must have caught some frost in the  
 dawning air.  
 Though she is in heaven and I on earth,  
 Our *Karma* ties have not altogether snapped!  
 Before the Spring flowers and the Autumn moon,  
 Our inner chords are touched and sadness fills our  
 hearts.  
 But the more we yearn to renew our union,  
 The more we shudder at our separateness!  
 A pair of love-birds have been torn apart,  
 To bleed in two different worlds from the same  
 wound!  
 Ah, what agony!  
 The dreary sound of the rain dripping from the  
 eaves  
 Is music to the coils of my sorrowing bowels!

## 太常引

晚來風起撼花鈴  
人在碧山亭  
愁裏不堪聽  
那更雜泉聲雨聲

無憑踪跡  
無聊心緒  
誰說與多情  
夢也不分明  
又何必摧教夢醒

To the Tune of *T'ai-ch'ang yin**The Tingling of the Flower Bells\**

## 太常引

晚來風起撼花鈴  
人在碧山亭  
愁裏不堪聽  
那更雜泉聲雨聲

無憑踪跡  
無聊心緒  
誰說與多情  
夢也不分明  
又何必摧教夢醒

With the eventide a wind has arisen, tingling the  
flower bells.

A man is musing in the bower among the blue hills,  
And his heart is tingled with unspeakable sorrow,  
As he listens to the bells together with the murmur-  
ing of the streams and the dripping of the  
rain.

Ah me! a rootless waif in the world!  
A heart wearied of life!  
To whom shall I express the affection of a full  
heart?

Even dreams are vague enough!  
What is the need to hasten the awakening?

采桑子

誰翻樂府淒涼曲

風也蕭蕭

雨也蕭蕭

瘦盡燈花又一宵

不知何事縈懷抱

醒也無聊

醉也無聊

夢也何曾到謝橋

采桑子

誰翻樂府淒涼曲

風也蕭蕭

雨也蕭蕭

瘦盡燈花又一宵

不知何事縈懷抱

醒也無聊

醉也無聊

夢也何曾到謝橋

To the Tune of *Ts'ai-sang tzu*

*Boredom\**

We can sing a different tune from the "Song of Desolation"?

The wind is sighing!

The rain is sighing!

The roseate flower of the candle is wearing itself out for another night!

I know not what is tangling up the skein of my thought.

Sober, I am bored!

Drunk, I am bored!

Even dreams refuse to carry me to the neighbourhood of my love!

共君此夜須沈醉  
 且由他蛾眉謠詠  
 古今同忌  
 身世悠悠何足問  
 冷笑置之而已  
 尋思起從頭翻悔  
 一日心期千劫在  
 後身緣恐結他生裏  
 然諾重  
 君須記

## 金縷曲

(贈梁汾)

德也狂生耳  
 偶然間縉塵京國  
 烏衣門第  
 有酒惟澆趙州土  
 誰會成生此意  
 不信道竟逢知己  
 青眼高歌俱未老  
 向尊前拭盡英雄淚  
 君不見  
 月如水

To the Tune of *Chin-lü ch'ü*

To Liang Fen

A Vow of Eternal Friendship\*

By nature a mad scholar,  
 By chance born in a rich family,  
 I have been stained by the dust of the court.

But my heart is with the heroes of Chao,  
 Wishing to sprinkle their tombs with all my wine!

How could I expect anyone to know this heart of mine?

And yet you, O my bosom friend, have seen through me!

You and I are both young,  
 And both take to song and wine.  
 Before the cups how many tears we have shed,  
 Sympathetic tears for the poor and down-trodden!  
 See how the moonlight liquefies in our eyes!

金縷曲

贈梁汾

德也狂生耳  
 偶然間緇塵京國  
 烏衣門第  
 有酒惟澆趙州土  
 誰會成生此意  
 不信道竟逢知己  
 青眼高歌俱未老  
 向尊前拭盡英雄淚  
 君不見  
 月如水

共君此夜須沈醉  
 且由他蛾眉謠詠  
 古今同忌  
 身世悠悠何足問  
 冷笑置之而已  
 尋思起從頭翻悔  
 一日心期千劫在  
 後身緣恐結他生裏  
 然諾重  
 君須記

Let us drink our fill tonight!  
 Let the garrulous women backbite!  
 Now as before, gossip is their sole delight!

Worry not over the vicissitudes of our floating life.  
 We shall leave them to Fate with a cold smile.  
 As to the past, I wish it could be blotted out  
 From the very beginning of my life!

The heart-throb of a single day ripples through all  
 the Cycles of Existence!  
 I am only afraid that the *Karma* ties of our next  
 life  
 Are already tangled up in our former incarnations.  
 But don't forget our vows  
 We've made today!



## 菩薩蠻

新寒中酒敲窗雨  
 殘香細學秋情緒  
 才道莫傷神  
 青衫有淚痕

相思不似醉  
 悶擁孤衾睡  
 記得別伊時  
 桃花柳萬絲

## 菩薩蠻

新寒中酒敲窗雨  
 殘香細學秋情緒  
 才道莫傷神  
 青衫有淚痕

相思不似醉  
 悶擁孤衾睡  
 記得別伊時  
 桃花柳萬絲

To the Tune of *P'u-sa man**Yearnings of Love\**

The weather is getting cold.  
 The wine lies like poison on my heart.  
 On the window beats the rain.

The fading fragrance, like a little pupil,  
 Is simulating the feelings of Autumn.

"Cheer up, cheer up!" I said to my heart,  
 But tears have stolen into my blue gown.

Yearnings for my love keep me sober  
 In defiance of the wine.  
 I lie listlessly in my lonely bed.  
 I remember when I parted from her,  
 The peach-trees were flowering,  
 And the willows waving their tender locks.

采桑子

明月多情應笑我

笑我如今

孤負春心

獨自閒行獨自吟

近來怕說當年事

結徧蘭襟

月淺燈深

夢裏雲歸何處尋

采桑子

明月多情應笑我

笑我如今

孤負春心

獨自閒行獨自吟

近來怕說當年事

結徧蘭襟

月淺燈深

夢裏雲歸何處尋

To the Tune of *Ts'ai-sang tzu*

*The Moon is Mocking Me\**

The bright moon, full of love, ought to laugh at  
me,  
Laughing at my present plight.  
I failed miserably to respond to the heart of Spring,  
And now I am wandering all alone and whimpering  
to myself.

Of late, to shun the memories of the past,  
I have sought solace in friendships everywhere.  
But when the moon is pale and the lamp is burnt  
to its socket,  
In my dream I still try to trace the vanished cloud.

## 浣溪沙

誰道飄零不可憐  
 舊遊時節好花天  
 斷腸人去自經年  
 一片暈紅疑着雨  
 幾絲柔柳乍和煙  
 倩魂鎖盡夕陽前

## 浣溪沙

誰道飄零不可憐  
 舊遊時節好花天  
 斷腸人去自經年

一片暈紅疑着雨  
 幾絲柔柳乍和煙  
 倩魂銷盡夕陽前

To the Tune of *Huan hsi sha**A Waif\**

Who can gainsay the wretchedness of a waif?  
 The season of flowers has come again to remind  
 me of the happy hours.  
 The sweet tormentor of my heart has been gone  
 for a whole year!

A petal of haloed red seems diluted in the rain.  
 A few threads of tender willow leaves  
 Are just harmonizing with the smoke.  
 The soul of a lover is dissolved into the eventide.

蝶戀花

散花樓送客

又到綠楊曾折處  
不語垂鞭  
踏徧清秋路  
衰草連天無意緒  
雁聲遠向蕭關去

不恨天涯行役苦  
只恨西風吹夢成今古  
明日客程還幾許  
霑衣況是新寒雨

蝶戀花

(散花樓送客)

又到綠楊曾折處  
不語垂鞭  
踏徧清秋路  
衰草連天無意緒  
雁聲遠向蕭關去

不恨天涯行役苦  
只恨西風吹夢成今古  
明日客程還幾許  
霑衣況是新寒雨

To the Tune of Tieh lien hua

Seeing Guests off at San-hua lou

The Pathos of Autumn\*

I have again come to the place where I used to  
break the willow sprigs.  
Speechless, I let my whip droop,  
And walk all over the Autumn-swept roads.  
My heart is as desolate as the wilderness of withering  
grass.  
The cries of the wild swans faint away toward the  
Pass of Hsiao.

I do not complain of the hardships of a wanderer,  
I only complain of the West Wind,  
Whose breath transforms the dreams into past and  
present!  
Tomorrow, how many more miles shall I have to  
cover?  
My clothes are soaked in the cold rains of a new  
season.

憶江南  
宿雙林禪院有感

心灰盡  
有髮未全僧  
風雨消磨生死別  
似曾相識只孤檠  
情在不能醒

憶江南

宿雙林禪院有感

心灰盡

有髮未全僧

風雨消磨生死別

似曾相識只孤檠

情在不能醒

To the Tune of *I Chiang-nan*

*Thoughts After Spending the Night  
at Shuang Lin Temple*

*Nocturnal Thoughts in a Temple\**

The fire in my heart is turned to ashes.  
I feel like a monk;  
Only my head is still unshaven.

O poor heart!  
How the wind and rain have worn you out!  
How the partings from friends, dead and alive,  
Have torn you to pieces!

This orphan-like candlestick  
Appears like an old friend to me.

There remains one thing alone  
That keeps me from a complete Awakening:—  
Love still smoulders in the ashes of my heart!