

都說世上只有這棵樹才會結出這樣的梨子，因為梨子不願在別處結果。

我想到祝雞翁。他養了上千只雞，還給每一只都取了名字。只要叫上名字，雞就會應聲而來。有跟我一樣的應試者落了榜，我就會想到他。

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They say this is the only tree in the world that has these pears, for these pears have no desire to propagate elsewhere.

I thought of The Old Man Who Called His Chickens. He had hundreds of chickens, each with its own name. He could call its name and the chicken would come. I thought of him when all the candidates, including me, failed the exam.

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在東都，做聰明人很累。

在拾翠殿有吟詩的，在望雲亭有喝酒的。

他們只談論梅花，卻從不留意柳樹的新芽。

明明有梅子、甜瓜、梨子、葡萄，他們卻還是最愛荔枝，  
因為荔枝來自遠方。

這裏的繁花讓人迷亂。  
還是與竹子為伴吧。

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In the Eastern Capital it is tiring being clever.

Chanting poems in the Hall of Gathering Kingfisher Feathers,  
drinking in the Pavilion for Gazing at Clouds.

They only talk about plum blossoms and never notice the new  
shoots of a willow.

There are plums and melons and pears and grapes, but they  
love lychees, for lychees come from far away.

The flowers here make everyone crazy.  
Better to be with bamboo.

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我身邊的人都立場鮮明，意見從不統一。

我都想不起誰說過什麼了。

我想到嵇康。世人常說他聰慧卻不明智。就在臨刑前，他寫下了〈幽憤詩〉。

都說站在大門口總有可能被屋頂上掉下的瓦片砸到。

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On either side of me, people take strong positions and never agree.

I have a hard time remembering what anyone says.

I thought of the poet Hsi K'ang, who was often told that he was talented but unwise. Just before he was executed, he wrote the poem "Now I Am Ashamed."

They say that at the entrance to a house one can always be hit by a falling roof tile.

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這幾天，我還沒喝醉就開始傷心。醉了，也沒別的地方可去。

我用力拉了拉袍子，但還是遮不住小腿。

我沒錢買馬，但至少一雙腳還能走。

皇宮裏有駝蹄羹，還有柑橘。

我想到王獻之。曾有一群盜賊潛入他的家，他請盜賊們不要拿走他的舊青氈。

都說神仙吃的是雲子飯，其實就是雲母粉。

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