

诗经四首英译

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一、桃夭

The Peach Tree is Ripe and Radiant

桃之夭夭，灼灼其华。
之子于归，宜其室家。

The peach tree is ripe and radiant,
With blossoms red and flamboyant.
The girl is going to be a bride;
A happy house awaits her guide.

桃之夭夭，有蕢其实。
之子于归，宜其家室。

The peach tree is ripe and radiant,
With leaves green and exuberant.
The girl is going to be a bride;
An orderly house awaits her guide.

桃之夭夭，其叶蓁蓁。
之子于归，宜其家人。

The peach tree is ripe and radiant,
With fruits sweet and abundant.
The girl is going to be a bride;
A prosperous house awaits her guide.

二、標有梅

The Plums Fall

標有梅，其实七兮。
求我庶士，迨其吉兮。

The plums fall off the tree,
With seven tenths to pluck;
Fellows, if you love me,
Perhaps you have the luck.

標有梅，其实三兮。
求我庶士，迨其今兮。

The plums fall off the tree,
With three tenths on the bough;
Fellows, if you love me,
Why not court me right now?

標有梅，顷筐塈之。
求我庶士，迨其谓之。

The plums fall off the tree,
With a basket to stay;
Fellows, if you love me,
Don't hesitate to say.

三、伐檀

Cut Sandal Trees

坎坎伐檀兮，寘之河之干兮。
河水清且涟猗。
不稼不穡，胡取禾三百廛兮？
不狩不猎，胡瞻尔庭有县貍兮？
彼君子兮，不素餐兮！

We cut sandal trees, chop, chop, chop;
They fall riverside, flop, flop, flop;
The river's clear, and ripples cheer.
How can those who neither sow nor reap
Have three hundred sheaves of crop to keep?
How can those who neither hunt nor chase
Have badgers hanged in their place?
Oh, my lord. You eat to your fill
Without working to pay the bill!

坎坎伐辐兮，寘之河之侧兮。
河水清且直猗。
不稼不穡，胡取禾三百亿兮？
不狩不猎，胡瞻尔庭有县特兮？
彼君子兮，不素食兮！

We cut wheel-spokes, chop, chop, chop;
The trees fall ashore, flop, flop, flop;
The river's clear, and its waves cheer.
How can those who neither sow nor reap
Have three hundred stacks of crop to keep?
How can those who neither hunt nor chase
Have large games hanged in their place?
Oh, my lord. You eat to your desire,
But not a day of work you require!

坎坎伐轮兮，寘之河之漘兮。
河水清且沦猗。
不稼不穡，胡取禾三百困兮？
不狩不猎，胡瞻尔庭有县鹑兮？
彼君子兮，不素飧兮！

We cut wood wheels, chop, chop, chop;
The trees fall aground, flop, flop, flop;
The river's clear, and ringlets cheer.
How can those who neither sow nor reap
Have three hundred piles of crop to keep?
How can those who neither hunt nor chase
Have quails hanged in their place?
Oh, my lord. The world is unfair,
You, the idle, eat the lion's share!

四、蒹葭

The reeds

蒹葭苍苍，白露为霜。
所谓伊人，在水一方。
溯洄从之，道阻且长。
溯游从之，宛在水中央。

Lush, lush the reeds do grow;
Frosty, frosty the white dews go.
That girl I have in mind,
Beyond waters I find.
I search her upstreams;
Rough and long the road seems.
I search her downstreams;
Right in the middle of waters she seems.

蒹葭萋萋，白露未晞。
所谓伊人，在水之湄。
溯洄从之，道阻且跻。
溯游从之，宛在水中坻。

Lush, lush the reeds abound;
Still wet the white dews are found.
That girl I have in mind,
On the river shore I find.
I search her upstreams;
Rough and steep the road seems.
I search her downstreams;
Right on the shoal in the waters she seems.

蒹葭采采，白露未已。
所谓伊人，在水之涘。
溯洄从之，道阻且右。
溯游从之，宛在水中沚。

The reeds are lush and tall;
The white dews cease not to fall.
That girl I have in mind,
On the riverside I find.
I search her upstreams;
Rough and tortuous the road seems.
I search her downstreams;
Right on the islet in the waters she seems.

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