《試忠妻》

Testing His Loyal Wife

張:張 巡

Zhang: Zhang Xun

夫:夫 人

Lady: Lady Zhang

夫:被圍經數月 心內似油煎

Lady: We've been under siege for months, my anxiety mounts.

妾身劉氏 配夫張巡

I am Liu, my husband is Zhang Xun,

身投軍旅之中 奉命鎮守睢陽

who is a military officer guarding Suiyang.

可惜被困數月 難以突圍

We have been under siege for several months, but we can't break through.

老爺今早出城應戰 不知勝敗如何

M'lord went to the battlefield this morning. I haven't heard any news yet.

好教人放心不下

I am so worried!

正是心懷家國事 度日也如年

During times of war, a day passes like a year.

張:這一陣 殺得我 心忙意亂 心忙意亂

Zhang: We have been defeated so many times I don't know what to do.

連場殺敗 難以周旋

We cannot recover from rounds of defeats.

人疲馬敝難於取勝

Both men and horses are tired, there is no chance to win.

肝腸寸斷 孤軍應戰

Fighting with one squad, I am devastated.

嘆危城今被困 怎可回天

There is no way to break through the siege.

風乍起 透甲寒 滿目瘡痍 心如絮亂

A cold wind pierces through my armour. What devastation! I can hardly think.

寧爲玉碎 不作瓦全

I'd rather give up this life than to lead a shameful existence.

但不知我夫人 可願從夫尋短見

But I don't know if my wife is willing to follow me.

待我回營試探 可是個節義嬋娟

Let me go back to the camp to test whether she is a woman of loyalty and integrity.

夫:老爺回來了

Lady: M'lord, you are back.

張:回來了

Zhang: I'm back.

夫:老爺請坐

Lady: Let's sit down, m'lord.

張:夫人請坐

Zhang: Yes, let's sit down, my lady.

夫: 坐

Lady: Please.

張:坐

Zhang: Please.

夫:坐

Lady: Please.

張:坐

Zhang: Please.

夫:老爺呀 今早出戰 勝敗如何

Lady: M'lord, how was the battle this morning?

張:不提也罷

Zhang: Nothing good to tell you.

夫:老爺呀 勝敗乃兵家常事 何須介懷

Lady: M'lord, victory today, defeat tomorrow – that's the way of war. Don't take it to heart.

改日再圖良謀便是

You will map out a better stratagem tomorrow.

張:夫人講甚麼 再圖良謀

Zhang: My lady, there will be no stratagem.

這睢陽城嘛 也到了 生死存亡之時了

The moment of life and death is upon Suiyang City.

夫:怎麼講 也到了 生死存亡之時嗎 Lady: So, the moment of life and death is upon us already?

只見老爺愁滿臉

I can see deep sadness written all over m'lord's face.

難道生離死別 就在目前

Has the time come, then?

問句老爺 有何主見

M'lord, what are you going to do?

張: 爲夫有不明之事 要請教妝前

Zhang: I would like to seek your wise opinion.

夫:夫妻上頭 何言請教兩字

Lady: I am your wife, please don't say that -

但講不妨

just tell me.

張:夫人呀 常言道

Zhang: My lady. People say,

上有天地君親師

"Guarding over us are Heaven, Earth, the Monarch, the family, and the teacher.

下有仁義禮智信

Underpinning us are Benevolence, Virtue, Propriety, Wisdom and Honour."

這天地君親師 人人皆曉得

Everybody knows the former.

惟是這仁義禮智信 不知夫人可曉得

But do you know about the latter?

夫:老爺呀

Lady: M'lord.

若問仁義禮智信 乃是仁以德爲本

Benevolence springs from moral character.

義以氣爲先 禮以誠爲首

Virtue is guided by courage. As for propriety, sincerity comes first.

智以謀爲略 信以實爲要

Wisdom needs strategy. Honour hinges on action.

張:領教了

Zhang: Thanks.

夫人 爲夫緊守睢陽以存誠信

I will guard Suiyang for the sake of honour and commitment.

累夫人受苦受難 不知可有埋怨

But that means you would suffer, would you blame me?

夫:老爺守信 妾身豈有埋怨

Lady: How can I if m'lord does it out of honour and commitment?

張:夫人呀 爲夫再來問你

Zhang: My lady, then tell me,

忠孝節義 比如何謂忠 何謂節 what is loyalty? What is chastity?

夫: 忠於君者乃是忠

Lady: Being loyal to one's monarch is loyalty.

從一而終乃是節 罷老爺

To follow one's husband to the end is chastity, m'lord.

張:好個從一而終 夫人呀

Zhang: Well said, my lady.

今日乃是爲夫盡忠 夫人盡節之時了

Now it's time for me to fulfil my loyal duty, and you, your chastity.

怎知道被困睢陽 難於應戰

Who knows we could be under siegein Suiyang and could not break through?

藍八回朝取救 卻未有兵源

Lan Ba went back to the capital for backup, but he failed.

外無救援內無糧 破城難免

With no backup or provision, the city will fall sooner or later.

爲丈夫寧爲玉碎 不作瓦全

I'd rather give up this life than to lead a shameful existence.

俺待要一死存忠 不知夫人如何決斷

I will die for my honour. What does my lady think?

夫:老爺呀 婦道人家 有三從四德 可知道

Lady: M'lord, do you know women's "Three Obediences and Four Virtues"?

張:倒知一二 Zhang: A little.

夫:老爺呀 既知三從四德

Lady: M'lord, then listen:

有道是在家從父

They are: Be obedient to one's father as a girl;

出嫁從夫

Be obedient to one's husband as a wife."

事到如今 老爺盡忠爲妻盡節

Isn't it perfect that you die for honour and I for chastity?

豈不是兩全其美

Wouldn't that be perfect?

張:這個 夫人呀

Zhang: But then, my lady...

爲夫盡忠 夫人盡節 雖說兩全其美

It may be perfect that I die for honour and you for chastity,

可是爲丈夫嘛 下手艱難 罷夫人

But as your husband, I can't bring myself to kill you.

夫:罷了我的老爺 我的好夫君

Lady: But then, m'lord, My dear husband -

人家說道

People say a couple is like birds in the woods,

夫妻同林鳥 有難各飛翔

flying off in different directions when disaster strikes.

如今你我做個 忠節之人 一同殉國

Now that we both sacrifice for our country,

上不負國家 下不負先靈

we would not fail the country nor our forebears.

雖不同生 也能同死

Dying with you on the same day,

夫妻之間 還有甚麼可怨

I have no complaint.

惟是臨終之前 爲妻有一椿心事

I only have one last thing to plead,

還望老爺你成全才好

and hope m'lord would fulfil it for me.

張:夫人有話但講不妨

Zhang: Do tell me, my lady.

夫:老爺呀 既是城中無糧

Lady: Since there is no provision left in the city,

何不老爺殺卻妾身 烹為糧食

why don't you kill me and feed me to the soldiers?

好待飽餐戰飯 人人奮勇爭先

They can fight better with a full stomach.

若真是兵敗城破 那時老爺你

You can commit suicide when the city really falls,

你才殉國也不遲罷老爺

how so, m'lord?

張:怎麼講 將你烹爲糧食嗎

Zhang: What? Cook you as food?

不可 真不可

No! Absolutely not!

夫人殉國精忠節烈 豈可令你死不全屍

I'm touched by your loyalty and courage, how can I allow them to chop you up?

夫:老爺呀 事到如今 禍在燃眉

Lady: M'lord, the time has come.

你莫再爲難 還是動手也罷

Don't hesitate anymore. Raise your sword.

張:夫人呀

Zhang: My lady.

爲夫把你來斬 可有埋怨

Will you blame me for killing you?

夫:並無埋怨

Lady: No, not a bit.

張:好個並無埋怨 夫人果然貞節

Zhang: What gracious words! My lady is too good.

受爲丈夫一個全禮

Let me salute you, my beloved wife!

夫人 夫人

My lady! My lady!

你先行一步 候夫到九泉

You go first. Wait for me in the nether world.

完

The End.

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