

## YANG MU 楊 牧

1940~2020



## Let the Wind Recite

1.

If I could write you a summer poem, when reeds spread vigorously, when sunshine swirls around your waist and

 surges toward your spread feet, when a new drum cracks in the heat; if I

> rocking gently in a skiff riding down to the twelfth notch

- could write you an autumn poem when sorrow crouches on the riverbed like a golden dragon, letting torrents and rapids rush and splash and swirl upward from wounded eyes; if I could write you
- a winter poem
  a final witness to ice and snow
  the shrunken lake
  the midnight caller
  who interrupts a hurried dream
- 20 takes you to a distant province gives you a lantern, and tells you to sit quietly and wait no tears allowed . . .

2. If they wouldn't allow you to mourn for spring or to knit if they said sit down quietly

25

and wait—

30 a thousand years later

after spring summer would still be

your name—

they'd bring you back, take away

35 your ring and clothes

cut your hair short

and abandon you

by the edge of the enduring lake—

40 then at last you'd belong to me

At last you'd belong to me I'd bathe you and give you a little wine a few mints

some new clothes
 Your hair would
 grow back the way it was
 before. Summer would still be
 your name

3.

60

50 Then I'd write you
 a spring poem, when everything
 begins again
 So young and shy

you'd see an image of maturity. I'd let you shed tears freely

<sup>55</sup> I'd design new clothes and make a candle for your wedding night

Then you'd let me write a spring poem on your breasts in the rhythm of a beating heart, the melody of blood: breast images and the birthmark metaphor I'd lay you on the warm surface of the lake

and let the wind recite

-Translated from the Chinese by Lawrence R. Smith and Michelle Yeh

1973/1998

## 讓風朗誦

1

假如我能為你寫一首 夏天的詩,當蘆葦 劇烈地繁殖,陽光 飛滿腰際,且向 兩腳分立處 橫流。一面新鼓 破裂的時候,假如我能

為你寫一首秋天的詩 在小船上擺盪 浸濕十二個刻度 當悲哀蜷伏河床 如黃龍,任憑山洪急湍 從受傷的眼神中飛升 流濺,假如我能為你

寫一首冬天的詩 好像終於也為冰雪 為縮小的湖做見證 見證有人午夜造訪 驚醒一床草草的夢 把你帶到遠遠的省份 給你一盞燈籠,要你 安靜地坐在那裏等候 且不許你流淚

 $\mathbf{2}$ 

假如他們不許你 為春天舉哀 不許編織 假如他們説 安靜坐下 等候 一千年後 過了春天

你的頭髮還會 長好,恢復從前的 模樣,夏依然是 你的名字

## 3

那時我便為你寫一首 春天的詩,當一切都已經 重新開始—— 那麼年輕,害羞 在水中看見自己終於成熟的 影子,我要讓你自由地流淚 設計新裝,製作你初夜的蠟燭

那時你便讓我寫一首 春天的詩,寫在胸口 心跳的節奏,血的韻律 乳的形象,痣的隱喻 我把你平放在溫暖的湖面 讓風朗誦

