

Mulberry on the Lowland

Translated by Arthur Waley



The mulberry on the lowland, how graceful!
Its leaves, how tender!
Now that I have seen my lord, *junzi*
Ah, what delight!

The mulberry on the lowland, how graceful!
Its leaves, how glossy!
Now that I have seen my lord, *junzi*
What joy indeed!

The mulberry on the lowland, how graceful,
Its leaves, how fresh!
Now I have seen my lord, *junzi*
His high fame holds fast.

Love that is felt in the heart,
Why should it not be told in words?
To the core of my heart I treasure him,
Could not ever cease to love him.

1 mulberry: a tree valued in China because its leaves are the food of silkworms, the moth larvae that produce the fiber from which silk cloth is made.



Figure of sitting woman. Imperial Museum, Beijing. Robert Harding Picture Library, London.

HUMANITIES CONNECTION This figure of a woman was found in 1964 in a cotton field near the tomb of the first emperor of China. Rulers often had a variety of figures buried with them to help them in their afterlife. This piece would have represented an attendant or servant.