The lyrics are expanded from 王維 Wang Wei's famous four phrase poem (see mm. 4 to 14 below), which commemorated his seeing off a friend leaving from Wei Cheng, a town on the Wei river just north of the Tang capital, Chang An. The friend was going to or beyond Yang Guan, a former gate in the Great Wall just west of 敦煌 Dun Huang, marking the western end of the "civilized" part of China. This earliest short version of the melody is quite similar to the modern version. A related melody of this title but in eight sections first survives from 浙音譯字琴譜 Zheyin Shizi Qinpu (<1491).
陽關三疊
Yang Guan Sandie (1530), p. 5

79

動君更
Quan jun geng
(This) moves (us) again

盡
dun
to offer

盡
dun
one (more) cup

酒
jiu
wine.

盡
dun
of wine.

西出陽
Xi chu Yang
West toward Yang

關
Guan

關
Guan

無故人
wu ren
are no more old friends.

C:

長亭柳陰
Chang Ting liu yin
Chang Ting’s willow are hidden.

傷懷
shang huaai
Heart break,

傷懷
shang huaai
heart break,

送我
song wo
seeing off, seeing off my old friend.

ren
ren

送故人
song gu ren
Seeimg off an old friend.

手在此
shou ci
Hand in hand here at Chang Ting.

(手)
ren

對酌此
Dui zhuo ci
Mutually pour this

香醪
xiang lao
fragrant wine, (but the)

香醪有限
xiang lao you xian
fragrant wine is limited.

此恨無窮
Ci hen wu qiong
This is hated limitlessly.

(自)
ren

(手)
ren
Yang Guan Sandie (1530), p. 6

陽關三疊

無窮。傷懷。復傷。懷。
limitlessly. Heart break, again heart break.

長亭柳陰隱隱。情最深。
Chang Ting's willows are hidden. Feelings most deep.

情意最深。不忍分。
Affection most deep. (I can't endure the parting.

從今別後，兩地相思萬種，對誰人說？
From today's parting on, /two places / mutual thoughts of myriad types, to whom can one speak?

* The original tablature skipped pairing this note to a character and so has to put the final character on 正. Here the notes have been realigned.

Yangguan Sandie ends