

Yue Fu attributes to 商陵穆子
Shangling Muzi (周代 Zhou)

別鵠操
Bie Gu Cao

Grouped with shang mode
tuning: 1 2 4 5 6 1 2

37. Departing Snow Goose Melody

琴譜真傳 *Qinpu Zhenchuan* (1573)

Lyrics by 韓愈 Han Yu (8th c.)

slow and free

The musical score consists of four staves of music with lyrics written below them in both Chinese characters and English. The lyrics are arranged in three-line stanzas. The first stanza (measures 1-4) describes a male snowgoose arriving with a twig and preening itself. The second stanza (measures 5-8) discusses a nest they have made but have no child. The third stanza (measures 9-12) compares the snowgoose to the Jiang and Han rivers, noting their vastness and the small size of the snowgoose. The fourth stanza (measures 13-16) expresses a sense of loss or parting, mentioning no more meetings and the snowgoose flying away.

雄 鵠 衡 枝 蒿 莎 莎 莎 莎
Xiong2 gu3 xian2 zhi1 lai2, arrives carrying a twig ;
雌 鵠 啄 泥 歸 。
ci2 gu zhuo2 ni guil.
the female snowgoose preens / as he (with makeup) returns .

巢 成 不 生 子 , 大 義 當 乖 離 。
Chao2 cheng2 bu sheng2 zi3, da yi4 dang2 guai1 li2.
A nest they have made, but they have no child , from their great duty this then becomes a deviation .

江 漢 水 之 大 , 鵠 身 鳥 之 微 。
Jiang1 han4 shui3 zhi1 da, gu shen1 niao3 zhi1 wei.
The Jiang and Han Rivers are vast , the snowgoose bird size is insignificant .

更 無 相 逢 日 , 且 可 繞 樹 隨 飛 。
Geng wu xiang feng ri, qie3 ke rao shu sui2 fei.
Perhaps there will be no more meetings . yet they could go around a tree following each other in flight .