CHAPTER SIX

● 山歌・卷六

“On Objects in four lines” 詠物四句

(141) 風

情哥郎好像狂風吹到阿奴前，

揭袂牽裙弗避介點嫌，¹

姐道我郎呀，你道無影無蹤箇事務 看弗見捉弗着也防備別人聽得子，²

我只是關緊子房門弗聽你纏。³

The Wind

My lover approaches me like a storm,

Tearing at my jacket and pulling at my skirt, without a care as to whether I mind.

She says to him: You think that anything with neither shadow nor footprint cannot be seen or caught. But you should still be careful that others do not hear you. Otherwise, I will shut my bedroom door firmly and will not let you near me.

¹ Jiēdiǎn 介點: according to Zhang “anything”, “any point” (任何一點; Ōki 586. 那麼一點 in MQWYCD).

² Wúyǐngwúzōng 無影無蹤 “vanish without a trace”, that is “things which have neither shadow nor footprint” ("words and actions that do not correspond to truth and feelings” 語不近情, 事不著實曰無影無蹤, according to Tufeng lu 土風錄, j.11, in Ōki 586). He thinks their adultery will never be exposed (看弗見,捉弗着).

³ Chán 缠 here means "to be together".
(141A) 又 (風)
結識私情好像風，
只為你南北東西再來裏慣撮空¹
姐道郎呀，你儂九十日春光弗曾着子奴一日箇肉，⁵
我只愛你來無形迹去無蹤。

Also [The Wind]
My new secret lover is like the wind.
You go to the south, north, east and west, and here you always tell me lies.
She says to him: You have not touched my body throughout the ninety days of spring.
But I love your style, leaving no trace of your arrival and no footprint when you go.

(141B) —— (風)
結識私情好像風，
嬌滴滴箇鮮花喫你採子紅，⁶
姐道郎呀，我只道你飄揚心性吹得過，
弗匡你一場雲雨便成空，⁷
亦可。

A variation [The Wind]
My new secret lover is like the wind.
A lovely fresh flower, you have picked its redness.
She says to him: "I thought that, with your inconstant mind, you would be gone with the wind."
But I never thought you would disappear like clouds and rain after only one single rendezvous."
This song is good too.

¹ Lái lí 來裏: “Here” (在這裡), or expressing the progressive aspect (正在) (Shi, 4:109). Interpreting cuōkōng 撮空 as “to seize in vain, to capture in vain”, T.’s alternative translation would be: “he does not allow himself to be caught whether he comes from the South, North, East or the West”. This expression also includes a pun on the wind, as it literally means “to grasp emptiness”. (“弄虛作假”, in MQWYCD).
² Nóng 倖 Second-person personal pronoun.
³ Xiānhuā 鮮花 means “fresh flower” but here alludes to the girl’s virginity. The second line implies that the girl lost her virginity when they met, as cǎizi hóng 採子紅 alludes to the woman’s bleeding after her first sexual encounter. Cf. Zhang’s comment in Ōki 588.
⁴ Yíchäng yúnyǔ 一場雲雨, sexual intercourse.