I. Text

I Beg of You, Zhong Zi

I beg of you, Zhong Zi,
Don’t cross into my hamlet.
Don’t break my planted willows,
Could I care so much for them?
It’s father and mother I dread.
Zhong, you’re embraceable…
But the talk of my father and mother is
Indeed something dreadful.

I beg of you, Zhong Zi,
Don’t climb over my wall.
Don’t break my planted mulberries.
Could I care so much for them?
It’s all my brothers I dread.

 перевод

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I beg of you, Zhong Zi,
Don’t climb over my wall.
Don’t break my planted mulberries.
Could I care so much for them?
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### Topic 3  The Book of Poetry: The Han Canonization

Host: Zong-qi Cai (Lingnan University of Hong Kong; University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)

### Episode 8  Romeo and Juliet-like Rendezvous

How to Read Chinese Poetry Podcast

Translation
Zhong, you’re embraceable…
But the talk of all my brothers is
Indeed something dreadful.

I beg of you, Zhong Zi,
Don’t leap into my garden.
Don’t break my planted hardwoods.
Could I care so much for them?

I dread others will talk too much,
Zhong, you’re embraceable…
But others’ talking too much is
Indeed something dreadful.

[Translated by Zong-qi Cai]
The poem read in Mandarin by Zhao Wenxuan

II. Episode Notes

1. Structural Feature
   • Incremental repetition: a progressive repetition of a core stanza, changing only some words in each repeat.

2. Zheng Xuan’s Allegorical Commentary
   • Duke Zhuang of Zheng 鄭莊公 (757-701 BCE)
   • Zhai Zhong 祭仲 (?-682 BCE), minister of Duke Zhuang of Zheng
   • “Cutting off a section from a poem to create a new meaning” (duanzhang quyi 斷章取義)

III. Textual Source