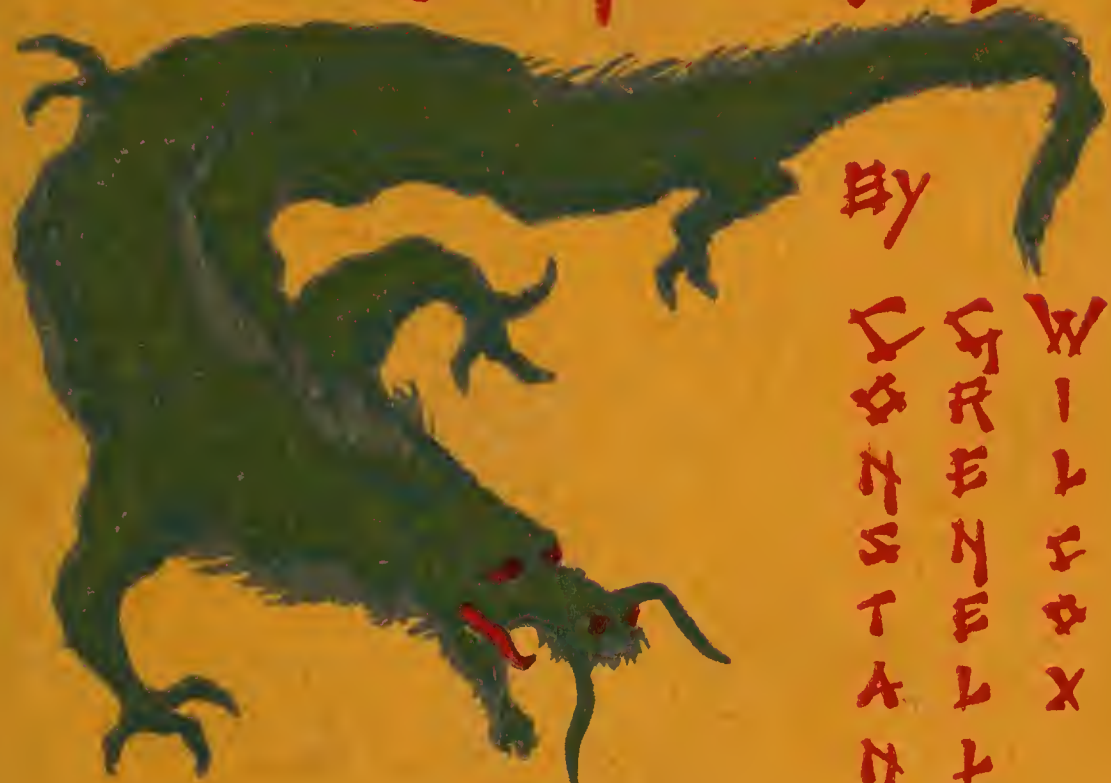


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# MAH-LONGS



By  
WILSON  
GREENE  
CONSTANCE

THE PLAY  
OF  
ONE HUNDRED  
INTELLIGENCES



BOSTON  
C. C. HIRSHARD & CO.

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✓  
MAH-JONGG

THE PLAY OF ONE HUNDRED INTELLIGENCES

*IN A PROLOGUE AND ONE ACT*

*By*

CONSTANCE GRENELLE WILCOX ✓

AUTHOR OF "TOLD IN A CHINESE GARDEN," "PAN PIPES," ETC.

✓  
*WITH MUSIC IN THE CHINESE MANNER*

*By*

HARVEY WORTHINGTON LOOMIS ✓



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C. C. BIRCHARD & COMPANY

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*AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED*

TO

**PROFESSOR JACK CRAWFORD**

WHO FIRST TAUGHT ME TO PLAY MAH-JONGG  
AND WHO WITH GREAT KINDNESS AND  
APPRECIATION DIRECTED THE FIRST  
PRODUCTION OF THIS PLAY

## NOTE

The play may be performed with music or without, according to preference; but *Mah-Jongg's* song on page 40 should be given. If the other music is omitted, the text of the music numbers should be chanted in monotone.

Vocal parts will be found on pages 72-75.

Suggestions for costuming, etc., on page 63.

Acknowledgment is made to Mr. Joseph Park Babcock, who first introduced this fascinating Chinese tile game to the outside world in the form of Mah-Jongg. The word Mah-Jongg is a trade-mark and designates the game imported and sold by Parker Brothers Inc. and by the Mah-Jongg Sales Company of America, by whose courtesy we are permitted to use the title of this play.



## THE GAME

The game of MAH-JONGG is played with *Tiles* instead of cards. There are three suits: *Dots*, *Bamboos* and *Characters*, nine in each suit. The *Honors* are the *Four Winds*; *Red*, *Green* and *Invisible Dragons*, and the *Seasons*, which count separately.

The *Wall* is the square built of *Tiles* by the players.

To *Pung* is to collect three of a kind.

To *Chow* is to make a sequence of three.

The game is played by drawing *Tiles* from the *Wall*, discarding those not wanted; *Punging* or *Chowing* from the other players, the object being to secure a complete hand with as large scoring combinations as possible. The completion of the hand is known as *Mah-Jongg*.

A *Loose Tile* is one taken from the end of the *Wall* when a *Season* is drawn. Each player is named for a *Wind*. Each player's own *Wind* is called his *Favoring Wind*, and *Tiles* of that denomination count double.

*Buried Treasure*, *Four upon Four*, *Earthly Peace*, *Major Three*, *The Hand from Heaven*, *The Hand from Earth*, *The Thirteen Orphans*, *The Lucky Thirteen*, *The Nine Gates*, *The Seven Twins*, etc., are called *Limit Hands*.

*Moon from the Bottom of the Sea*: the last *Tile* drawn from the *Wall*, if a winning one.

*Plum Blossom from the Roof*: the same with a *Loose Tile*.

To *Kong* is to collect four of a kind.

The foregoing brief outline is in no sense a full elucidation of the game of MAH-JONGG, which has too many intricacies to be fully described here. But it will serve to shed some light on the characters and action of the play for those who are not familiar with the game.

# MAH-JONGG

## THE PLAY OF ONE HUNDRED INTELLIGENCES

SCENE: A Chinese Garden Representing a Mah-Jongg Table.

TIME: A Summer Afternoon.

### CHARACTERS

Prologue.

The Four Mah-Jongg Mandarins.

Mah-Jongg  
The Princess Four-Flowers } The Players.

The First Season.  
The Second Season.  
The Third Season.  
The Fourth Season.  
The East Wind.  
The West Wind.  
The North Wind.  
The South Wind.  
The Red Dragon.  
The Green Dragon.  
One Character.  
One Dot.  
Two Bamboo.  
The Bird One Bamboo. } The Tiles of the Mah-Jongg Set.

Other Dots; Characters; Bamboos, etc.

## MAH-JONGG

**T**HE SCENE is a garden. In the center is a flower-ringed pool from which rises a jet of water sparkling in the sunlight. At the back is a woodland through which a little path wanders down into the close-clipped sward of the garden. At one side is a green-covered arbor leading off, which is entwined with a flowering vine, and one pink full-blown blossom of large size hangs tantalizingly over its entrance. At right is a stone bench under a tall cedar.

### THE PROLOGUE <sup>1</sup>

[There is a sound of a Chinese gong and Prologue walks out ceremoniously through the arbor. He is an imposing Mandarin with round, scarlet hat and richly embroidered robes. He carries an ornate Mah-Jongg box. Behind Prologue walk the Four Mah-Jongg Mandarins, also in rich robes, their hands tucked in their sleeves. They wear tight black silk caps with jeweled buttons. They stand in a row behind Prologue as he speaks, and bow when he bows. Behind them are three Coolies with peaked hats. One carries a small round table; the others carry two stools each. If the Mah-Jongg set is one with four drawers containing the Tiles, Prologue may give to each Mandarin one drawer which he holds showing the audience the Tiles, Prologue keeping the box.]

#### PROLOGUE

[Speaks.]

Most honorable spectators! I come a Prologue unworthy to stand in your shadows. The game which we, your slaves, most humbly beseech you to behold with your

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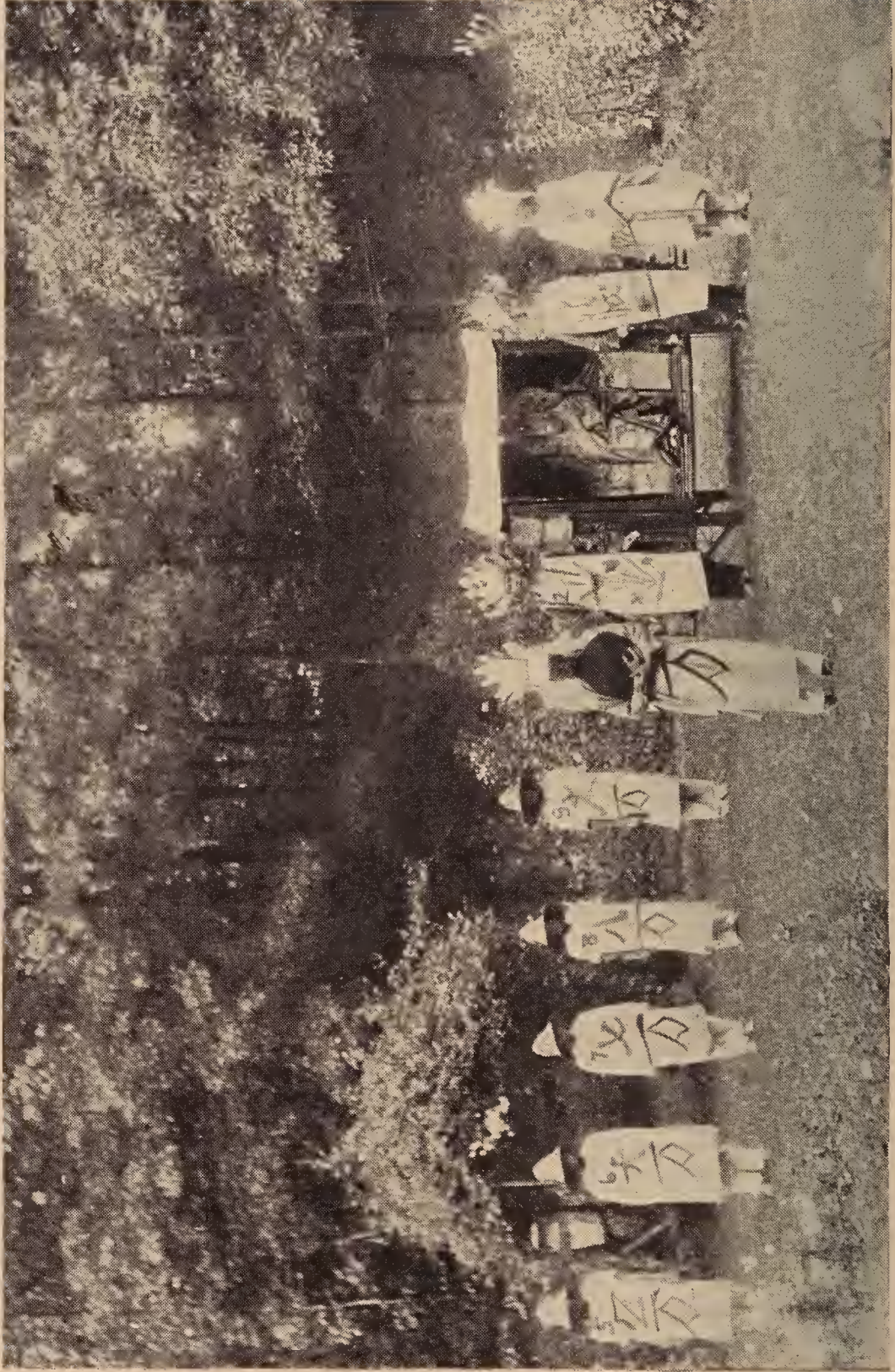
<sup>1</sup> Written by Professor Jack Crawford.

benign indulgence is known from Ho San to Kwang Ho as Mah-Jongg. Three thousand countless years ago the Bird of One Hundred Intelligences brought from heaven the blessed rules and laid them at the feet of the imperial Tsao Tchu. Tsao Tchu, mindful of the favor thus bestowed upon him, taught the heavenly game to all his six hundred wives. From the Wednesday afternoons of the six hundred wives of Tsao Tchu the game spread from the walls of Ho San to the shores of Kwang Ho. Not satisfied with the labors of three thousand countless years, the Bird of One Hundred Intelligences took flight to the West that all of your honorable selves — may your ancestors increase! — might share in its heavenly complications. Listen, most honorable audience, and you shall be taught, in this garden of the Princess Four-Flowers, how to play at this celestial pastime. Imagine that you behold four walls and two rolling dice — but at this point, with your indulgent permission readily granted, I shall retire that you may be no longer kept in suspense. The game is about to begin!

*[Prologue concludes with a deep bow. The Coolies place the table and stools down stage at left and go out. Prologue, with much ceremony, puts the Mah-Jongg box on the table and opens it. The Four Mandarins, after bowing to the audience, then to each other, seat themselves at the table and begin a game of Mah-Jongg which continues in silence and with great solemnity throughout the Play. If the Play be given out of doors at night, a candle on the table lights the Mandarin's game. Care should be taken that the Mandarins do not distract attention from the progress of the Play.]*

*When the Mandarins have begun their game, Prologue bows and makes an impressive exit as a gong sounds for the beginning of the Play.]*





Arthur French, New York

“Behold the Princess Four-Flowers!”

## THE PLAY

[*At the sound of the gong a chanting is heard off stage.*]

### VOICES

[*Off stage.*]

Music No. 1 (*a*)

Behold the Garden that is surrounded by the Wall, marked with Characters, strengthened with Bamboo and built in Circles!

Behold the Princess Four-Flowers, exquisite as the Plum Blossom on the Roof, and remote as the Moon from the Bottom of the Sea!

[*The chanting grows louder as a procession comes through the arbor into the garden. This procession consists of the palanquin of the Princess Four-Flowers borne by her Four Seasons and guarded by attendant Characters.*]

*The palanquin is like a shrine, being made of scarlet lacquer with a scarlet and gold embroidered canopy supported by gilded poles.*

*The little Princess Four-Flowers, in a gown stiff with embroidery, sits on a scarlet cushion backed by a huge gold lotus leaf, her hands crossed on her breast, and we see that she is bound by chains that stretch from her arms to the poles of the canopy. She is very beautiful, and her sad little face is framed by an elaborate headdress of Four Flowers surmounted by a great round silver Moon.*

*The Four Seasons are tall god-like beings, attired in long robes and elaborate high gilt headdresses from which hang flowers and tassels. The First Season is in green, the Second Season in yellow, the Third Season in scarlet, the Fourth Season in white; but there is a similarity in their appearance.*

*The Characters are squat little creatures with shiny brown heads and wizened, mask-like faces. They are swathed in yellowish white draperies; and suspended like an amulet from a string around the neck of each is a large black Chinese character. The Characters should be eight in number led by the principal, One Character.*

*The procession comes through the arbor slowly, chanting. The Seasons solemnly put down the palanquin by the side of the pool, and, still chanting, take up their positions, two on each side of the palanquin, their arms in hierarchical attitudes. The little Characters squat in a row before them, touching their heads to the ground in rhythm as before a shrine, One Character having likewise prostrated himself. Princess Four-Flowers does not move. The chant is continued by the Characters.]*

#### THE CHARACTERS

[Chanting.]

Music No. I (b)

Behold the Flowers that come with the Seasons and the  
Seasons that come with the Flowers!  
Behold the Garden that is surrounded by the Wall, marked  
with Characters, strengthened with Bamboo and built  
in Circles!  
Behold the Princess Four-Flowers, exquisite as the Plum  
Blossom on the Roof, and remote as the Moon from the  
Bottom of the Sea whom no one may attain!

#### ONE CHARACTER

Behold the First Season who guards the Princess!

#### THE CHARACTERS

It is the Season of Young Green Rice.

[*The Green Season revolves solemnly in place.*]



ONE CHARACTER

Behold the Second Season to guard the Princess!

THE CHARACTERS

It is the Season of Golden Flowers.

*[The Yellow Season revolves.]*

ONE CHARACTER

Behold the Third Season to guard the Princess!

THE CHARACTERS

It is the Season of Scarlet Foliage.

*[The Scarlet Season revolves.]*

ONE CHARACTER

Behold the Fourth Season to guard the Princess!

THE CHARACTERS

It is the Season of White Rain.

*[The White Season revolves.]*

ALL, EXCEPT PRINCESS

Music No. I (c)

Behold the Flowers that come with the Seasons and the  
Seasons that come with the Flowers!

ONE CHARACTER

He who would hold in his Hand the Princess Four-Flowers  
must indeed be of the Great Major Three and pile Four  
upon Four in his Buried Treasure before he retains an  
Earthly Peace. The Princess Four-Flowers is sur-

rounded by a hand-built Wall, made in Circles, strengthened by Bamboo, and lastly inscribed with Characters. She is enchained by Four Seasons.

*[The Four Seasons come forward and in turn pick up four long gilded chains that hang from the corners of the Shrine.]*

Behold the Season whose power lies upon the Wall behind a magical inscription of Characters.

*[Green Season takes up chain.]*

Behold the Season whose power lies upon the Wall between two Dragons.

*[Yellow Season takes up chain.]*

Behold the Season whose power lies upon the Wall among the Winds.

*[Scarlet Season.]*

Behold the Season whose power lies no one knows where.

*[White Season.]*

There is no one who will dare to break the chains of the Seasons who bind the Princess Four-Flowers as exquisite as the Plum Blossom on the Roof and as unattainable as the Moon from the Bottom of the Sea.

A L L , E X C E P T P R I N C E S S

*[Chanting.]*

Music No. 1 (c)

Behold the Flowers that come with the Seasons and the Seasons that come with the Flowers!

O N E C H A R A C T E R

We are the Characters. We instruct the Princess in the meaning of the Major and Minor Quadruple Fours. We are philosophers, and she must listen though her ears grow as deaf as with the ceaseless echo of the sea.

*[The Characters rock back and forth muttering.]*

THE CHARACTERS

*[In a sing-song as they rock.]*

Music No. I (d)

Pung, Chow, Pung, Chow, Pung, Chow...

*[They keep this up.]*

ONE CHARACTER

We are the Characters. Our words are written in vermilion ink, and if our discussions are long it is well to remember that in three minutes a laborer will remove an obstructing rock, but three moons will pass without two Wise Men agreeing on the meaning of a vowel. We are the Characters. Three million years old and as wise as the Hundred Intelligences. Make ready, O Princess, for Instruction in the Hundred Intelligences.

THE CHARACTERS

*[In a sing-song.]*

Pung, Chow, Pung, Chow, etc.

ONE CHARACTER

Remember, Princess, that Scratching the Four is not the same as Fishing the Eye nor yet Filling the Middle. Remember that he who Chows cannot Pung, nor he who Pungs, Chow.

*[There comes a sound as of distant thunder.]*

Ah!

*[One Character raises his wizened head and peers about.]*

I hear the roll of the Great Dice — the Opening of the Box of the Winds — and the rumble of the Dragons! There is something threatening in the air.

*[He motions the Characters to get up.]*

To the Wall! To the Wall! Replace the Loose Tiles and fill every cranny so that no breath can shake the Plum Blossom on the Roof and no tremor stir the Moon at the Bottom of the Sea! To the Wall! To the Wall!

*[He goes out; driving the little Characters before him. We hear them calling as they go out: "To the Wall! To the Wall! Pung, Chow! Pung, Chow!"]*

*[When the little Princess is left entirely alone with the Seasons, she moves for the first time and looks timidly first at the Seasons on one side of her and then on the other. She can just raise her arms a little under their chains. She speaks in a sweet, timid little voice.]*

#### F O U R - F L O W E R S

Oh, Seasons, it is very quiet in the garden. Will you not speak to me?

#### F I R S T S E A S O N

We are the Seasons. We move, but we cannot speak.

#### F O U R - F L O W E R S

Will you not dance for me then, Seasons?

#### S E C O N D S E A S O N

We are the Seasons. We guard the Flowers and move only when they do.

#### F O U R - F L O W E R S

Will you not let me go then, Seasons?

THIRD SEASON

We are the Seasons. We release you only when our chains  
are broken.

FOUR-FLOWERS

When will that be, Seasons?

FOURTH SEASON

We are the Seasons. Who knows when our power will fall?

ALL THE SEASONS

We are the Seasons. We speak no more.

FOUR-FLOWERS

Oh, your remarks are opaque and my heart is as heavy as  
a Tile that does not match!

*[She hides her face in her hands.]*

*[The voice of Mah-Jongg is heard off stage. He  
comes down through the woodland into the garden,  
singing.]*

MAH-JONGG

*[In a lusty sing-song.]*

Music No. 2 (a)

Mah-Jongg! Mah-Jongg!

Who buys my wares, plasters the crannies of his Wall with  
luck!

Mah-Jongg! Mah-Jongg!

Who buys from my basket, provides for himself a Heavenly  
Peace!

Mah-Jongg! Mah-Jongg!

Who takes what I proffer, can overcome the Thirteen odds.  
Mah-Jongg! Mah-Jongg!

*[As he appears in the garden, one sees a strong brown youth in sunburnt blue and yellow clothes, with a flat yellow straw sun hat and a tray slung around his neck by faded ribbons. On the tray are two boxes in the shape of dice enameled white with black spots. He stands looking about the garden as if for a customer.]*

MAH-JONGG

Music No. 2 (b)

Who buys? Who buys?

FOUR-FLOWERS

Seasons, who is this?

FIRST SEASON

Regard him not. He is only a Loose Tile.

FOUR-FLOWERS

I like him.

SECOND SEASON

We, the Seasons, take no note of him.

FOUR-FLOWERS

But I fear for his life in this dangerous garden.

THIRD SEASON

His life is as nothing to us . . . a discarded Tile.





Arthur French, New York

“Do not prostrate yourself.”



FOUR - FLOWERS

I would speak with him.

FOURTH SEASON

We, the Seasons, neither listen nor partake in the conversation of mortals.

*[They all assume fixed attitudes and keep them, with expressions of lofty disdain.]*

FOUR - FLOWERS

*[Leaning out.]*

Mah-Jongg! Mah-Jongg! Oh, he does not hear me! I am covered with a thousand flower-like confusions!

MAH - JONGG

Who buys? Mah-Jongg!

FOUR - FLOWERS

If you would cease for a moment the manifestations of your undoubted capacity and listen to my unworthy remarks, I would speak to you.

MAH - JONGG

*[Turns and sees her.]*

Oh, most contemptible object that I am to be manipulating my ridiculous wares when one of your moonlike perfections wishes to turn her pearl-like voice in my direction!

*[He prostrates himself.]*

FOUR - FLOWERS

Do not prostrate yourself, but look up. I find you of particular interest.

MAH-JONGG

Your voice is more musical than the chime of bells in a porcelain pagoda. If you would learn of me, my unbecoming name is Mah-Jongg, and I earn my inoffensive rice by wandering over the roads lifting my voice in song or crying the beauties of my wares. Should you wish to inspect these two insignificant boxes, you will find them containing more luck than that of Buried Treasure...

FOUR-FLOWERS

It is not so much of your wares that I am occupied in my mind, but of your danger.

MAH-JONGG

[*Rising.*]

What could be dangerous except the beauties of your dazzling self comparable only to the peacock's tail in brilliance?

FOUR-FLOWERS

It is plain, unfortunate peddler of doomed wares, that you have wandered in through a breach in the Wall and do not know who I am nor where you are. Know, then, that he who comes into this garden is as a dead Tile after the play has begun. These are the Four Seasons, and until you break their chains your hand is not worth a silver tael, and your life is as an unfavorable Wind blowing in the wrong direction. Indeed, it is too obvious that you do not realize who I am nor where you are. I am the Princess Four-Flowers.

MAH-JONGG

The Princess Four-Flowers in a Row? Otherwise and often called the Moon from the Bottom of the Sea or the Plum Blossom on the Roof?

FOUR-FLOWERS

Alas! Yes.

MAH-JONGG

Oh, Fortune more favorable than the Four Winds of heaven all blowing at once, more potent than three Dragons breathing fire in unison, to have brought me to the overwhelming presence of One who is known as the Moon from the Bottom of the Sea.

FOUR-FLOWERS

Miserable Mah-Jongg. Cease your unthinking flow of ill-advised compliments. Your hours are numbered, and the shadow of the raven already falls on your tomb.

MAH-JONGG

If I must die, I could think of no better manner than to the requiem of your voice; but I should prefer to learn a reason for my so necessary demise. Proceed, Elegance.

FOUR-FLOWERS

The reason need not be buried in a well. Know, then, that the garden is as full of dangers as a scorpion vat.

MAH-JONGG

I see none.

FOUR - FLOWERS

At present my guardians are away. Each morning they build a fresh Wall about the premises, and when that is complete there is no escape from the play of Destiny, and no break in the grinding wheel of Fortune. Unhappy Mah-Jongg, though you have an open face and a smooth hand and walk as though accustomed to a silk umbrella, I see that you hold not much of Honor, and know not your own Direction, and therefore you are lost.

MAH - JONGG

And yet I am in the very presence of the Princess Four-Flowers, and all Four Seasons seem blended into one in the full perfection of her countenance.

FOUR - FLOWERS

Check your presumptuous happiness before it engulfs you. Know that not only am I surrounded by a Wall, but that I am protected by Winds and Dragons of ungovernable force, and that I have as my keepers innumerable slaves and Characters as thick as a forest of Bamboo.

MAH - JONGG

I will break the Wall and win you.

FOUR - FLOWERS

Think of the Winds.

MAH - JONGG

I will make them prevail against each other.

FOUR - FLOWERS

And the Dragons.

MAH-JONGG

What is the very inadequate claw of a wholly superfluous dragon to a slice of the Moon from the Bottom of the Sea?

FOUR-FLOWERS

I admire your intrepidity, and will do all I can to help you. But what can you use against them?

MAH-JONGG

My wits...and these boxes.

FOUR-FLOWERS

What is in them?

MAH-JONGG

Luck.

FOUR-FLOWERS

What can you do with it?

MAH-JONGG

When I have reached the point where I must gamble or lose all, I shall break one of these and follow its teachings.

FOUR-FLOWERS

Oh, I am taught by the most dreadful old creature called One Character...and I see him approaching now! He has finished superintending the building of the Wall, and is returning to give me my lessons. I am supposed to be proficient in all the Symbols, to know the significance of the ones and nines, and the entire history of the Minor and Major Three. Truly, I am very unhappy and long for a little Earthly Peace.

MAH - JONGG

You will see that I will secure it for you, though I am only a poor wanderer, a Loose Tile upon the earth; yet will I catch the Moon from the Bottom of the Sea...

FOUR - FLOWERS

The Dragons will eat you.

MAH - JONGG

They will find me tough in digestion.

FOUR - FLOWERS

Or if they do not, the Winds will blow you to pieces. This garden is ruled by East Wind, and he is twice as powerful as any other creature.

MAH - JONGG

So will he pay double when Mah-Jongg wins.

FOUR - FLOWERS

Tremble. Here comes One Character. The Play has begun.  
*[One Character comes hobbling back into the garden. Under his arm are nine rolls of paper.]*

MAH - JONGG

I am ready for him. I do not fear Characters.

FOUR - FLOWERS

Oh, be careful! Remember there are eight others. See, he holds their scripts of power with him.

ONE CHARACTER

*[At the edge of the garden.]*

The Wall is finished! The Wall is finished! The East Wind is blowing. Who defies the East Wind?

MAH-JONGG

I do.

ONE CHARACTER

What?

*[He comes towards Mah-Jongg, trembling with rage.]*

You dare defy the East Wind who is twice as strong as any other? You dare march into the Garden of the Seasons and Winds and Dragons and breathe the air that is scented by the Plum Blossom on the Roof?

MAH-JONGG

Chance is open to all.

ONE CHARACTER

You wretched sparrow! You unsolicited Loose Tile! You absolutely Dead Hand!

*[He shakes so with anger that he drops one of his rolls of paper. We see that it has a big Chinese character on it.]*

MAH-JONGG

I am not a Dead Hand yet. Allow me to Pung what you discard.

*[He takes up the roll.]*

ONE CHARACTER

Much good may it do you. I keep the others.

*[He turns to Four-Flowers.]*

Have you no respect for your Seasons that you indulge in idle chatter with a crimson-minded Barbarian who lacks a single matched Tile in his roof? Is it for nothing that you have learned the Characters, and the Bamboos grow in a forest about this garden while the paths are worn in Circles by your slaves? I will call the Dragons to destroy him.

FOUR-FLOWERS

Do not be angry with me. I was but curious to see what luck the Loose Tile brought with his wares.

ONE CHARACTER

Already one Season shakes. A Loose Tile often means the taking of a Season.

FOUR-FLOWERS

But observe the graceful movement of his well-arranged eyebrows and the golden aspect of his closed hand. With him I could share rice and contentment by a ruined Wall.

ONE CHARACTER

May the principles of his warmth and cold never be adjusted; may he never put three of a kind together and his hand hold only Mixed Chows. . .

FOUR-FLOWERS

Cease your complicated disquietude.



ONE CHARACTER

Never! while the Wind blows in his Direction. I will call the Dragons! May they gnaw him to a bone!

*[In his anger he dashes another paper down to the ground.]*

MAH-JONGG

Destiny has four feet, eight hands and sixteen eyes. Allow me again to Pung what you have discarded.

ONE CHARACTER

*[Screaming.]*

Wretch, you have filled your hand with them!

FIRST SEASON

*[In a clear voice.]*

He has completed a four of Characters and the First Season comes to the Loose Tile.

*[First Season drops the chain.]*

ONE CHARACTER

May the overhanging roof of care always screen your brow. You have taken a Season!

FOUR-FLOWERS

My heart grows light with the promise of release.

ONE CHARACTER

*[Calling.]*

Dragons! Dragons! Come quickly! Dragons!

*[He goes to her shrine and starts to pull the curtains about her.]*

I will draw your curtain so you will not see his death.

FOUR - FLOWERS

No, No! He will not die! The game is not yet over.

ONE CHARACTER

He has as much chance of winning as catching the Moon from  
the Bottom of the Sea.

FOUR - FLOWERS

But there is still the Plum Blossom on the Roof!

*[She takes a flower from her hair and flings it at  
Mah-Jongg.]*

There is a Flower...and it is your own!

MAH - JONGG

The sun shines through your words and the moon adorns  
your utterances. Your light doubles my strength and  
the fullness of your illustrious outline is as a display of  
colored lanterns to my enraptured vision.

FOUR - FLOWERS

For that you shall have another Flower, O fortunate Loose  
Tile!

*[She throws him another.]*

MAH - JONGG

It is written that Four-Flowers make the Limit of Fortune.

ONE CHARACTER

It is written! It is written, but it never will be set to music.  
The Winds will blow your flower petals to nothing, and  
the Dragons will tear them with their claws. I will

hide the Princess from your sight and guard her with the Three Remaining Seasons.

*[He draws the curtains, and the Seasons stand in front of the Shrine.]*

F O U R - F L O W E R S

Ah! Rescue me!

O N E C H A R A C T E R

What? With an Uncleared Hand and no Direction? Rescue you with no Honors and not even a knowledge of the Minor Three? The bats will roost in the tombs of his ancestors and the goats trample on his neglected corpse!

F O U R - F L O W E R S

*[Behind the curtains.]*

Rescue me!

M A H - J O N G G

I will! Hear my unpainted word. I am Mah-Jongg!

O N E C H A R A C T E R

Bah! The Dragons will settle you! I feel the earth shaking to their feet. Even I will not remain, so great will be their wrath when they see a Loose Tile in their path. Bah!

*[He throws a final manuscript at Mah-Jongg as he goes out.]*

M A H - J O N G G

*[Picking up the roll, and tucking it with the others in his belt.]*

Kong! That makes an excellent hand of Characters. Again I Pung from you.

ONE CHARACTER

*[Going out, shaking his fist and screaming.]*

Sparrow! Sparrow! May your life become stagnant like a pool in the sun, and your actions be as unavailing as a paper umbrella in a thunderstorm. Sparrow! Sparrow!  
*[As One Character goes out the Dots come running down through the wood, shouting.]*

DOTS

Chow! Chow! Chow! Chow! The Dragons! The Dragons!  
Chow!

*[They run frantically across the garden as if pursued. There should be eight of them, but fewer will do. They are very small and dressed in faded colored smocks and trousers, each with a Dot mark on his back and front. They wear peaked straw hats, and each carries a big bright-colored wooden or paper circle nailed to the top of a stick and looking something like a gardening tool.]*

MAH-JONGG

Here! Stop this precipitous effort towards a spontaneous exit! Stop!

*[He seizes One Dot by the ear. The others escape and run out of the garden or stand gibbering in a frightened circle at the back.]*

ONE DOT

O most sacred, illustrious and imposing Mandarin, release your hold on my unworthy ear. Do not Chow me! Do not Chow me!

MAH-JONGG

I am not collecting Dots. Have no fear.

ONE DOT

Let me go! The Dragons have broken through the wall...  
both the Red Dragon and the Green Dragon...and we  
poor little Dots are worth nothing!

MAH-JONGG

If I let you go, shall I meet a Dragon?

ONE DOT

Indeed, most Significant, they are coming from the Wall  
towards you even now. They breathe fire and smoke!

MAH-JONGG

Some people's trout are ever salmon.

ONE DOT

But not these. The Red Dragon is only equalled in propor-  
tions by the Green Dragon, and both together make  
Two Doubles.

MAH-JONGG

Speak...and that to the narrow edge! Of what are they  
afraid?

ONE DOT

Nothing! Nothing! The Red Dragon and the Green Dragon  
are equalled by nothing. They are as strong as the  
Prevailing Wind. Nothing conquers them!

*[He breaks away from Mah-Jongg.]*

If you would live to be Mah-Jongg, Chow! Chow! Chow!  
while you can!

*[He joins the others. They all run out wailing  
"Chow! Chow!"]*

MAH-JONGG

Little weakling. Chow, indeed! Fish the Eye, I'll do nothing  
of the sort. I'm no coward. I have taken from One  
Character. Now for the Dragons.

*[He assumes a valiant attitude and draws a sword  
from his belt.]*

*[The head of little One Dot appears cautiously  
around the arbor. He calls out to Mah-Jongg.]*

ONE DOT

Remember Dragons are most honorable and uncombatable.  
They have a thousand teeth and their position is any-  
where!

MAH-JONGG

In spite of myself I begin to have a somewhat incapable feel-  
ing of no confidence in the innermost seat of my self-  
esteem.

ONE DOT

Think of his tree-like eyebrows and fiercely moving whiskers!

MAH-JONGG

Be still, wretched Dot. To be born is in the course of Nature,  
but to die is according to the decree of Destiny. I have  
my luck still to break against the Wall.

*[He takes one of his dice boxes and breaks it.]*

ONE DOT

Look out that you don't break your head!

*[He vanishes.]*

MAH-JONGG

*[Takes a long scroll out of the dice box. He reads.]*

The Counsel of Sages says that "the unseen is more powerful than the seen." The unseen more powerful than the seen. What, then, Mah-Jongg, is more powerful than a Red Dragon and a Green Dragon? Nothing? No. Something that is at once nothing and yet something. If the unseen is more powerful than the seen...that which is more powerful than two visible Dragons... than a Red and a Green Dragon together...is two Invisible Dragons! Aha! I am Mah-Jongg! Make way for Mah-Jongg and his pair of Invisible Dragons!

*[He strides across the garden brandishing his sword, and practically runs into the Red and Green Dragons who have come down into the Garden through the wood. They are indeed terrifying creatures, with their Dragon's heads and long, knobby tails and scales of glistening armor plates. The Red Dragon is long and thin and vicious looking. The Green rather short and fat, but very powerful and stocky. Mah-Jongg rushes at them, shouting.]*

I am Mah-Jongg! What do I care for a Red and a Green Dragon together when I have two Invisible Dragons in my hand!

RED DRAGON

[*Dodging him with a sinuous movement.*]

One moment, one moment, O too impetuous and rash! Do you know who I am?

MAH-JONGG

You are the Red Dragon! And I place you in the discard!

GREEN DRAGON

[*Rumbling up.*]

But I am the Green Dragon.

MAH-JONGG

I discard you too! I have two Invisible Dragons!

RED DRAGON

Two Invisible Dragons!

GREEN DRAGON

Two Invisible Dragons!

MAH-JONGG

Yes. They are Demons and see through solid matter. But you cannot see through them. I hold them closed in my hand! I am as strong as the Nine United Sons. Beware! They have a thousand claws and their manners set all axioms at naught. They are anywhere and everywhere, and their bite means that Mah-Jongg conquers!

GREEN DRAGON

Do my indifferent ears lead my threadbare mind astray, or did he say two Invisible Dragons?



R E D D R A G O N

Let us see them. If once I saw them, their next journey would be in an upward or a downward rather than in a sidewise direction!

M A H - J O N G G

You'll not see them, till I conquer...and then you will be as dead as a mixed Chow. You will never know when they will spring upon you with all their teeth and claws and double invisible strength, crying Mah-Jongg! and all will be over!

*[He digs the Red Dragon in the back with his sword. The Red Dragon springs into the air.]*

R E D D R A G O N

By my scarlet and brimstone tail, what was that?

M A H - J O N G G

The bite of an Invisible Dragon!

*[He pricks the Green Dragon.]*

G R E E N D R A G O N

*[Leaping in terror.]*

Something nipped behind me.

M A H - J O N G G

Another Invisible Dragon!

R E D D R A G O N

*[Thrashing about.]*

Let me at them. I'll beat them to a pulp! I'll force them to walk backwards in the direction of their ancestors!

GREEN DRAGON

If I could once see the iridescence of their eyes, I'd dig them out with my claws!

MAH-JONGG

There's an Invisible Dragon between you now!

RED DRAGON

Whoof! The Red Dragon will eat him!

GREEN DRAGON

Pung! Chow! Pung! He is the Green Dragon's meat!  
*[They spring forward, and of course fall on each other.]*

MAH-JONGG

*[Dancing about and pricking them both with his sword.]*

Pung! Pung! Pung! Feel the claws of the Invisible Dragons! They are doubly stronger than a Red and a Green together. Pung! Pung!

RED DRAGON

Out of my way while I fight the Invisible Dragon!  
*[He claws the Green Dragon.]*

GREEN DRAGON

I feel him biting me! Out of my way!  
*[He claws the other.]*

MAH-JONGG

Thus thrusts the Invisible Dragon!

*[He runs his sword into the back of the Red Dragon.]*

RED DRAGON

Oh, may his path be flattened before him and run over the edge of a precipice! I am done!

*[He falls.]*

MAH-JONGG

Thus thrusts the Other Invisible Dragon!

*[He runs the Green Dragon through.]*

GREEN DRAGON

By the Great Major Three, a Nine is called on me. I am in the discard.

*[He falls.]*

MAH-JONGG

*[Standing over them.]*

Both in the discard! And a tombstone is lifted from this person's mind by their demise. May Heavenly Peace descend on them. Now that their spirits have arisen I should say that I had four Invisible Dragons as companions instead of two. Four Invisible Dragons! Kong! That should bring me some Honor and Double Strength! May the Winds blow away the ashes of these departed ones and be favorable to me.

*[Four little Dots come out and drag away the Dragons. Note. — If more characters are desired, it would be quite amusing to have the four*

*Invisible Dragons represented as Four Little Dragons in white, seen only by Mah-Jongg and not by the others.]*

S E C O N D   S E A S O N

*[Clearly.]*

Four Invisible Dragons on the Table. O Fortunate Loose Tile! Another Season drops from the Wall into your hand.

*[Second Season drops the chain, and as it does so the curtain pulls back, and we again see the Princess. She is smiling at Mah-Jongg.]*

M A H - J O N G G

*[Prostrating himself.]*

O gracious Season of Golden Flowers, to permit me again a glimpse of One who is the Plum Blossom on the Roof of my heart and transcends all Major and Minor Quadruple Joys.

F O U R - F L O W E R S

O marvelous Mah-Jongg, to have slain the Dragons and have drawn a Season. Behold the Third Flower of my favor.

*[She throws the Third Flower from her hair.]*

M A H - J O N G G

*[Prostrate.]*

O Triply Doubled Fortunate Hand of Mah-Jongg!

*[During this the Bamboos come running on.]*

B A M B O O S

Bamboo! Bamboo! The Flowers are falling! Bamboo!

FOUR-FLOWERS

Beware! The Bamboos are the Gardeners. Their anger will be so great when they see the Seasons turn and the Flowers fall. Oh, the Plum Blossom on the Roof trembles!  
[*She hides her face in her hands.*]

MAH-JONGG

I will protect you from their sight.

[*He draws the curtains of her shrine and stands with his back to them facing the Bamboos who are circling the Garden, crying "Bamboo! The Four-Flowers are falling! Bamboo!"*]

FOUR-FLOWERS

[*From a crack in the curtains.*]

O clever Mah-Jongg! If you could only capture the tall rod of Two Bamboo. With that you might indeed fish the Moon from the Bottom of the Sea.

MAH-JONGG

[*In a loud voice.*]

I discard Two Bamboo!

[*The Bamboos instantly surround him at these words. They are headed by Two Bamboo, a tall slim person in green with a flat, green hat. He carries in his hand a bamboo staff with a sprout of green leaf like a thin flag at the top. The other Bamboos are like him only smaller. Two carry a wicker cage between them on a bamboo stick, and in the cage is a fantastic wooden bird.*]

T W O B A M B O O

Who are you who discards Bamboo?

M A H - J O N G G

I am Mah-Jongg. I have plucked Three of the Four Flowers,  
and soon I will have the Plum Blossom from the Roof!

T W O B A M B O O

Bamboos, surround him!

*[To Mah-Jongg.]*

Your heart is fat with presumptuous pride. Know, wretched  
Loose Tile, that I, Two Bamboo, the gardener, am nine  
strong with my henchmen, and before you pluck the  
Plum Blossom from the Roof, whose root I myself  
planted, each and every one of us will have to go down  
as a reed before a storm, and the voice of the Bird One  
Bamboo be strangled in his throat. How can you pre-  
vail with an Open Hand against Nine Bamboos?

*[The Bamboos surround Mah-Jongg.]*

B A M B O O S

Bamboo! Bamboo! You shall never pluck the Plum Blossom  
from the Roof. We, the Bamboos, make a forest  
against it! One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight,  
nine, Bamboo!

*[They continue the counting, sotto voce.]*

M A H - J O N G G

Cease! Cease! My head whirls. Even a silver trumpet may  
not prevail against a score of brazen horns.

T W O B A M B O O

I am the ruler of the Seasons. I am the Gardener in the land  
of the Princess Four-Flowers. I am Bamboo.

M A H - J O N G G

Let me speak! Let me speak!

T W O B A M B O O

Cease rustling, Bamboos.

*[They stop.]*

M A H - J O N G G

*[Bowling.]*

Most auspicious and fertile Gardener and holder of Flowers  
and Seasons. I see that you have there in a wicker cage  
a bird of iridescent eye and prodigious tail. Surely your  
heart must be softened and your mind enlarged by the  
keeping of so amiable a household pet.

T W O B A M B O O

That is the Bird One Bamboo, and the Badge of our office.

M A H - J O N G G

I, myself, by profession, am a singer of imagined ballads, and  
to this end I spread my mat wherever my uplifted voice  
can entice together those to listen. Should my feeble  
efforts be deemed worthy of reward . . . but will you  
not permit me to sing for you and judge for yourself  
whether I am not worthy of the Plum Blossom from the  
Roof?

T W O B A M B O O

That argument is not so simple as to lie contained within the hollow of a bamboo sheath. But if you sing so that our Bird One Bamboo answers you in approval, your life will be spared and we will give you the Bird as a present.

M A H - J O N G G

Your generosity is more than overwhelming. Your Bird is of a perfection far too potent for one of my humble pretensions. I will sing for you, but I fear I must reject the Bird. I am collecting objects of a different sort.

T W O B A M B O O

Sing; that will be decided later . . . as the hands fall.

[*Mah-Jongg sings.*]

SONG: The Seasons and the Flowers.

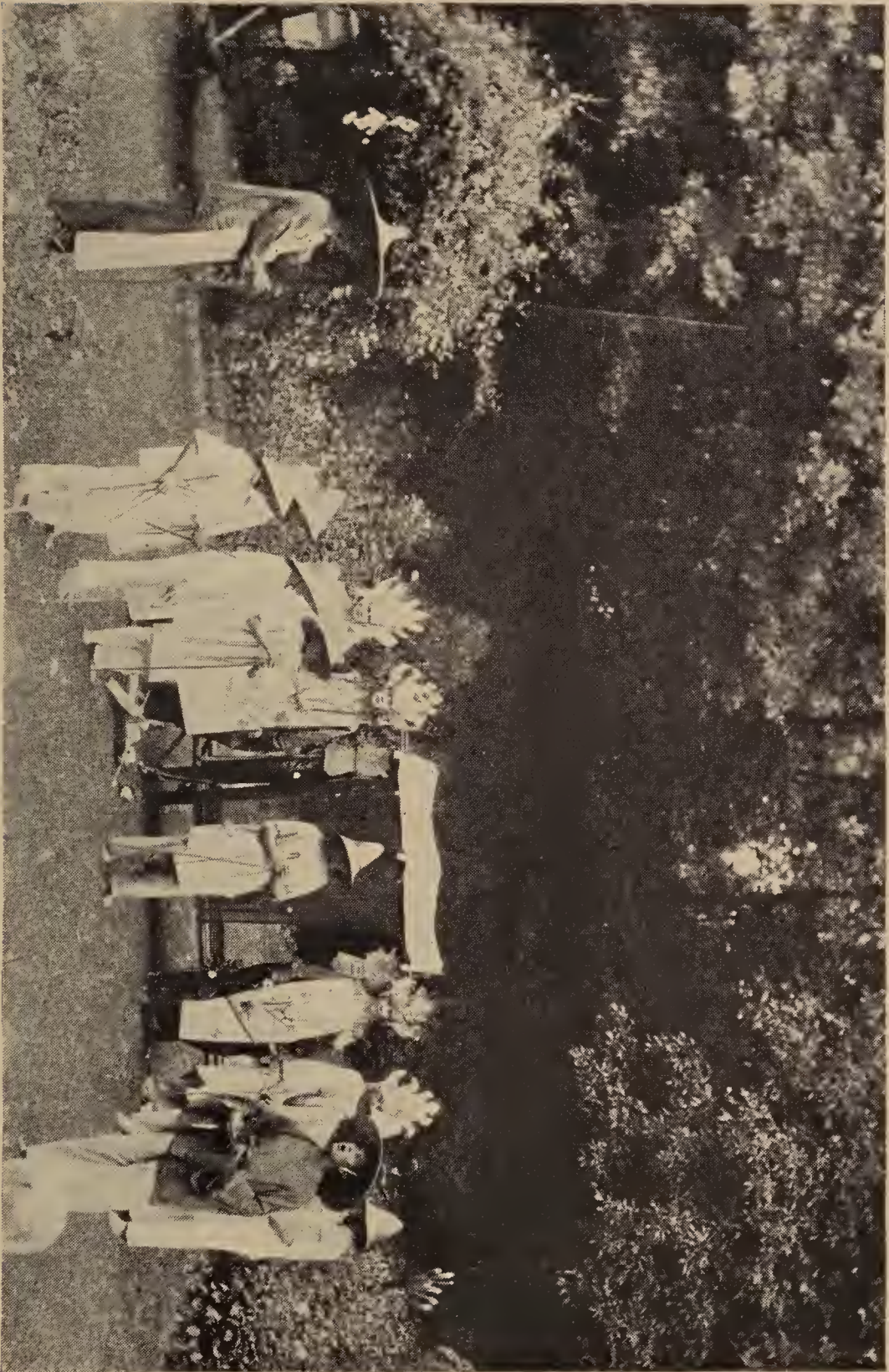
M A H - J O N G G

Music No. 3.

I

The Seasons and the Flow'rs  
Blow down the Winds away,  
The swiftly moving hours  
Each brings new games to play.





Arthur French, New York

Mah-Jongg Sings.



## II

The Bamboo shadows lengthen,  
The Bird is stilled in sleep;  
My Hand I cannot strengthen,  
Lest I my Honor keep.

## III

The Flowers and the Seasons  
Drift light across the Wall;  
Pung, Chow, what are the reasons  
Why I should heed your call?

## IV

My Wall, strong Bamboos make it,  
Two Dragons guard the gate,  
My Season, I must take it,  
Before it is too late.

## V

The Seasons and the Flow'rs  
Are never marked the same.  
Will it be many hours  
Before I end the Game?

*[After Mah-Jongg has finished his song the Bird gives a piercing squeak. Instantly all but Two Bamboo prostrate themselves.]*

B A M B O O S

*[Prostrated.]*

The Bird sings! The Bird One Bamboo sings!

T W O B A M B O O

Most complete Loose Tile.

*[He bows low.]*

I see that the Major and the Minor Three are but gillyflowers growing in your path. Your voice is more musical than that of the red-legged crane in nesting time, and to touch the extremity of your incomparable pigtail would repay all earthly fatigue. Allow me to offer you the Bird One Bamboo.

*[With great ceremony he lifts the cage and offers it to Mah-Jongg.]*

B A M B O O S

*[In chorus.]*

Allow us to offer you the Bird One Bamboo. We discard the Bird One Bamboo.

M A H - J O N G G

Most excellent Bamboo. I realize that the Bird One Bamboo would be the rainbow of my prosaic existence and belongs with the Thirteen Unique Wonders. The gong-like clash of your spontaneous enthusiasm for my incompetent voice fills my heart with a Limit Hand. But I cannot collect the Bird One Bamboo. I must decline.

T W O B A M B O O

What! O living exponent of profuse incompetence! O brazen-tongued and paper-rooted! You refuse Bird One Bamboo!

M A H - J O N G G

I must. I have no use for it.

B A M B O O S

*[In chorus.]*

He refuses Bird One Bamboo. Oh! Oh! Oh! He refuses Bird One Bamboo!

T W O B A M B O O

*[Threateningly.]*

Do not get entangled among my advancing footsteps, immature one! Speak! And if your voice casts a reasonable shadow, we may regard your tongue as an outstretched olive branch. Otherwise...beware the Bamboos!

B A M B O O S

*[In chorus.]*

Beware the Bamboos! One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, Bamboo!

*[They manœuvre about, pointing their bamboo sticks as levelled lances at Mah-Jongg.]*

M A H - J O N G G

I cannot set an iron screen between my ambition and its fulfillment. The voice of the Bird One Bamboo would betray me wherever I went as one who aspired to character but who had stopped to chow with Bamboo on the way; and I desire to procure the Four-Flowers and the Moon from the Bottom of the Sea.

T W O B A M B O O

Miserable Mah-Jongg, as you most unsuitably call yourself, know that the Bamboos will be too much for you. Wherever you turn, observe the fierceness of their pointed lances. Whenever you draw, Fate will send you a Bamboo to ruin your hand! Beware! Beware!

B A M B O O S

*[In chorus.]*

Beware! Beware! Bamboo! Bamboo! We are coming!  
One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, Bam-  
boo!

*[They rush at Mah-Jongg who tries to fight them off.]*

M A H - J O N G G

Help! Help!

T W O B A M B O O

The Bamboos will swamp you! We will bury you in our jungle. We, the Bamboos, tumble off the Wall and into your face!

M A H - J O N G G

Help! Help! O Winds, blow them away! Oh, where is the favorable Wind to tear down this jungle in the track of its cyclone! O Fate, come to my rescue!

*[He breaks the other dice box, and pulls out a scroll of paper with the mark of the South Wind on it. He reads it with a triumphant shout.]*

South Wind! South Wind! I have drawn a South Wind and it is my own!

B A M B O O S

*[Hesitating; their attack broken.]*

Woe! Woe! He has drawn a South Wind! He can discard us!

*[As Mah-Jongg broke the dice, South Wind appears in the arbor. She is very tall and slim and dark, draped in misty green-grey cloudy veils, and her dark hair hung with poppies. She has a lovely pale oval face with a red mouth and slumberous eyes. She moves with a slow grace, almost seeming to drift across the grass.]*

S O U T H W I N D

*[In a slow, sleepy, yet clear and lovely voice.]*

Who calls upon the South Wind?

B A M B O O S

Run! Run! The South Wind! The South Wind! It prevails! The Bamboos break before the South Wind! Woe! Woe! Woe!

*[They run off.]*

S O U T H W I N D

*[Advancing.]*

I, the South Wind, come to assist Mah-Jongg.

T W O B A M B O O

*[Who has stayed to gather up his Bird.]*

Beware the East, the West and the North Winds!

*[He throws his spear at Mah-Jongg. South Wind catches it.]*

SOUTH WIND

I am his Own Wind, and can blow down any Bamboo.

TWO BAMBOO

Beware the East Wind! It is cold! It is chill! However high the tree the shortest axe can reach its trunk. Beware the East Wind! I feel it blowing now!

*[He goes out with his Bird.]*

MAH-JONGG

O most glorious South Wind! By the Sanctity of Four upon Four, you are more beautiful than the Season of White Rain side by side with the Season of Lilies, and the scented breath from your garments overcomes my unbalanced brain. With your coming the Four Blessings Hover over the Door. Allow me to prostrate myself, Goddess.

SOUTH WIND

Do not breathe upon the surface of your self-repose, O Loose Tile! I am only your Favoring Wind and not the prevailing one. East Wind prevails, and you must make ready for the battle to the death against him.

MAH-JONGG

East Wind?

SOUTH WIND

Even so. And his adherents, North and West Winds, will be against you also. But most of all, East Wind. He is twice as powerful as any other Wind. The Moon from the Bottom of the Sea wanes in his grasp, and the Plum Blossom on the Roof withers and fades. Beware the East Wind!



M A H - J O N G G

What am I to do?

S O U T H W I N D

He is desperate and will do anything to kill Mah-Jongg. He knows by now that there is some one in his garden who has broken the wall, Punged from One Character, slain the Red and Green Dragons by holding in his hand two Invisible Dragons, and now, assisted by me, his Favoring Wind, is a dangerous enemy. Mah-Jongg, he will kill you at any cost. He will slay his pride and Mix his Hand rather than have you pluck the Plum Blossom from the Roof.

M A H - J O N G G

O most life-giving South Wind! Let me entice you into further loquacity. Already I feel the chill of the East Wind creeping up my spine. What shall I do?

S O U T H W I N D

[*Shivering.*]

I, too, feel the cold of invisible fingers. East Wind comes . . .

M A H - J O N G G

Help me, most Melodious Vision.

S O U T H W I N D

I am your Wind. I will do my best. Hide, therefore, in the bushes, and as I am a Sister Wind I doubt not they come here to seek me now. I will assume an attitude of sympathetic unconcern, and at the same time lead them on to blow crosswise among themselves. One wind makes a hurricane, but four winds blowing upon themselves make a vacuum. I will lead their tongues astray and

mix their Honors. While they expend their breath upon each other you may yet pluck the Plum Blossom from the Roof blown down by the over-vigorousness of their windiness.

MAH-JONGG

I claim the protection of your benignant shadow. I am your slave.

SOUTH WIND

They come. I hear the voice of their blowing and wrangling even from here. He who considers everything decides nothing. East Wind will blow himself to pieces. Retreat! Retreat! And watch for the falling of the Plum Blossom from the Roof.

*[Mah-Jongg goes into the bushes as the Winds come on through the arbor. Each Wind is attended by a little Dot who carries an umbrella over his head. The umbrella is twirled continuously as if by a strong breeze. The Winds are dressed very gorgeously. West Wind is a little pointed-faced woman with an elaborate head-dress, and an embroidered robe with the insignia of West Wind on it. North Wind is an old man of stately appearance with snow-white beard. His robes are white with a silver sign of the North Wind. He wears a round white Mandarin hat with silver tassel. East Wind is far more gorgeous than either of the others, and instead of a parasol he could have a sort of palanquin carried by four Dots. He is a yellow-faced, vicious individual, with drooping grey mustachios and darting, suspicious black eyes under fierce eyebrows. He wears a yellow-green robe and round Mandarin hat with a crimson tassel. He is hung with jewels and his fingers loaded with*

rings. But he appears very nervous and fidgety and plays continuously and nervously with his fan. As they come we hear their voices in high altercation, dominated by the grating tones of East Wind.]

E A S T W I N D

[*In the arbor, against an indefinite clamor of the others.*]

I am East Wind! Who dares defy me? I will do as I please and blow as I please. I am East Wind!

S O U T H W I N D

[*To Mah-Jongg in the bushes.*]

Hide your head, or the clamor of their blowing will tear off your hair. But already they shift against each other, and the weathercock is dizzy with fatigue.

E A S T W I N D

[*Standing at the arbor.*]

I am East Wind! Who else is in my garden? I rule here! I will not be thwarted, I say! Where is the Loose Tile who calls himself Mah-Jongg? Let me tear him to pieces! Where is he?

[*He turns fiercely to West Wind, who cringes.*]

You said he was here!

[*He swings on North Wind.*]

You uttered that he was present! Let me get my fangs in him! He shall pay double!

W E S T W I N D

[*Fluttering.*]

Be careful how you blow too hard and give yourself away.

N O R T H W I N D

Remember your importance, your danger, your position and  
your peril, O East Wind!

E A S T W I N D

Remember! Remember! Could I ever forget! My moments  
are as gnats that sting me. My fears are as sands that  
grind in my ear. I am desperate. Oh, those who are  
born great suffer greatly! At any moment the Plum  
Blossom from the Roof may fall into the hands of the  
Marauder and then it will be I — I who pay!

*[He almost collapses.]*

W E S T W I N D

*[Supporting him on one side.]*

Why not gather the Bamboos about you?

N O R T H W I N D

I should recommend Characters.

W E S T W I N D

Why not Dots?

N O R T H W I N D

Or put your faith in Dragons?

E A S T W I N D

Oh! Oh! My head swims! And the Dragons have deserted  
me! The Wall grows weaker and weaker, and the day of  
doom nearer and nearer. Oh, let me see him that I may  
blow him to atoms! Let me have him mixed as a fine  
powder in my tea! Let me have him torn by contending  
Bamboo birds!

S O U T H W I N D

*[Approaching gracefully.]*

O Great and Doubly Powerful East Wind, your enlightened patronage is a continual nourishment to the soil of my imagination. Does something trouble you?

E A S T W I N D

Something! The foundations of trouble vibrate like the strings of a many-toned lute! Mah-Jongg threatens the Garden! He has sworn to carry away the Moon from the Bottom of the Sea and the Plum Blossom from the Roof. East Wind will be a void and his Counters vanish! Bring me the Moon and the Plum Blossom! I'll drown them and hang them before Mah-Jongg gets them!

S O U T H W I N D

O most inhuman!

W E S T W I N D

Consider, East Wind, you may not know all. A tale half told is the father of many lies...

E A S T W I N D

The game will be over when She is drowned with the Moon at the Bottom of the Sea, and the Plum Blossom in her hair. Oh, rather a draw with no score than this agonizing suspense! Ah!

*[He sees the shrine with the Seasons who have loosed their chains.]*

Two Seasons have been broken! Their chains are loosed!

S O U T H W I N D

Every rope has two ends.

E A S T W I N D

Peace, traitorous female. A subtle woman will cause more trouble than twelve armed men can quell. I am East Wind, and women are to me as leaves to be blown.

*[His hand is on the curtain.]*

N O R T H W I N D

Propriety sits beneath your supple tongue. Truth adorns your lips and accuracy annoints your palate.

S O U T H W I N D

Beware the Season that is blown down with the Winds.

W E S T W I N D

*[Fanning herself.]*

Do not adjust your sandals while passing through a melon field, nor yet arrange your hat beneath an orange tree.

N O R T H W I N D

Remember the counsel of the Sages. . .

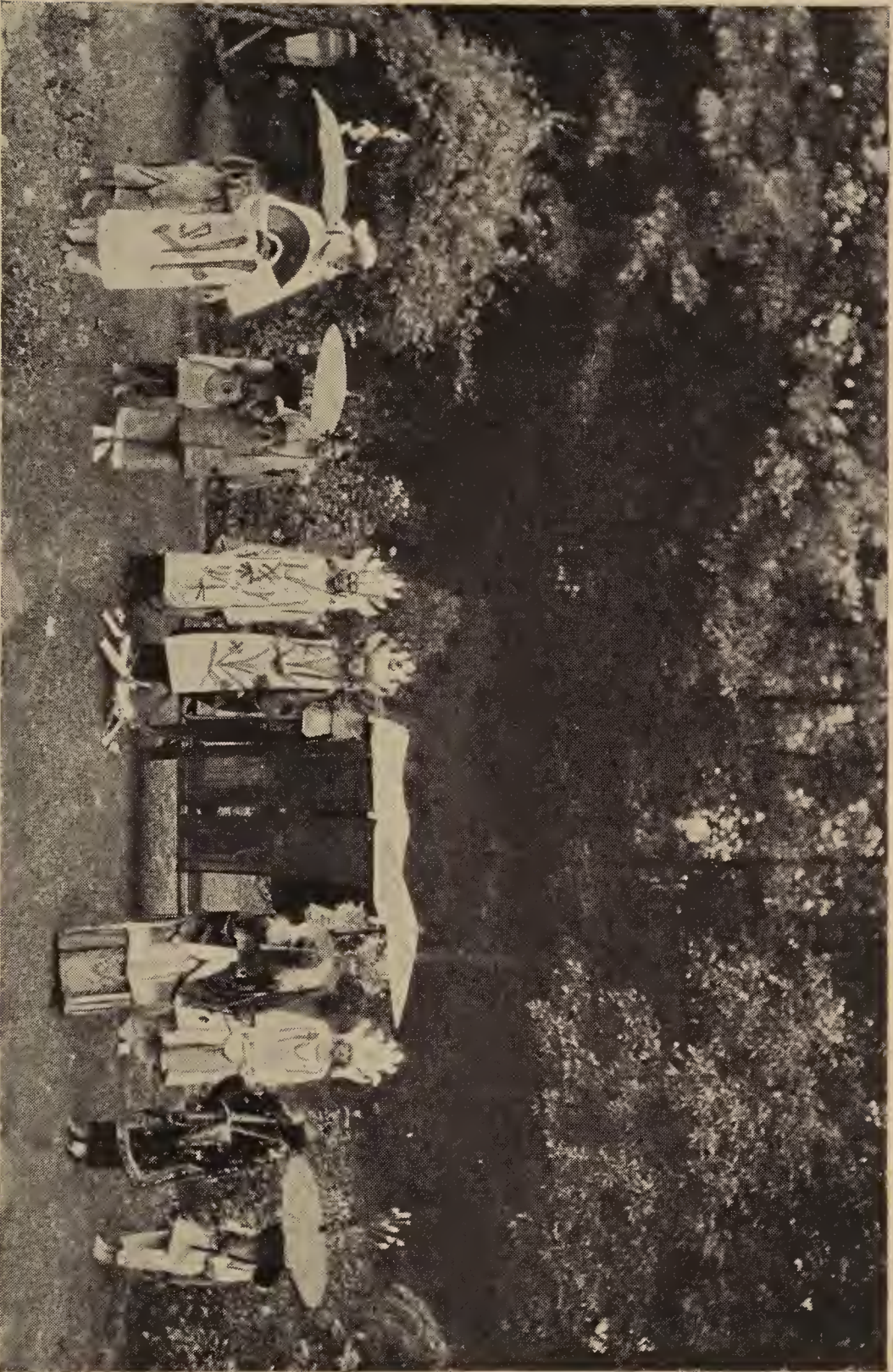
E A S T W I N D

Even the classics become obscure in the dark. I know not where my enemies are. I am desperate. Mah-Jongg! Mah-Jongg! At any cost!

*[He draws the curtain and starts back in horror.]*

Three Flowers have fallen from her hair! I will discard myself rather than have the Fourth fall! I will blow her to pieces so that the petals will only fall into my hands.

*[He stands before the shrine, with hands upraised in malediction.]*



Arthur French, New York

“Beware the Season that is blown down with the Winds.”





S O U T H W I N D

Turn your attention to the Plum Blossom from the Roof.  
It trembles while your eyes are elsewhere.

E A S T W I N D

Peace! The advice of a woman will ruin a walled city.

W E S T W I N D

If the Plum Blossom falls while you blow in an opposite  
direction, we are ruined!

E A S T W I N D

It is easier to rule a kingdom than control one's own thoughts.  
Bring me this Plum Blossom also!

N O R T H W I N D

Be cautious.

W E S T W I N D

Remember the dangers of falling Seasons and Loose Tiles.

E A S T W I N D

I will blow the whole Garden to pieces...and the Princess  
with it!

S O U T H W I N D

The Plum Blossom from the Roof is not in her hair. Do you  
consider it safe where it hangs?

E A S T W I N D

Fetch it to me that I may blow it to pieces!

W E S T W I N D

Do not attempt to escape from a flood by clinging to a tiger's tail. This is the extremity of rashness!

N O R T H W I N D

There are times when our venerable tongue is strangely inadequate to express emotion. He who believes in gambling will live to sell his sandals!

E A S T W I N D

Fetch me that Plum Blossom!

D O T

*[Prostrates himself.]*

O most honorable and Double East Wind, I am only a Dot; I dare not.

E A S T W I N D

North Wind...

N O R T H W I N D

*[Drawing himself up.]*

I am not your Slave. I am an Honor.

S O U T H W I N D

O most courageous, enterprising and astonishing East Wind, the Plum Blossom from the Roof should be blown down by all the Winds contending together. Then the East Wind, proving that he is doubly strong, would find the disputed flower within his compelling hands.

NORTH WIND

South Wind, your harmonious ear corrects the deficiencies of my afflicted style. That was what I wished to convey.

WEST WIND

Haply his feet may become entangled in a mesh of hair...

SOUTH WIND

I am also a Wind. I will assist.

EAST WIND

You have the patronage of my extended hand.

SOUTH WIND

You first, O North and West and East...

*[They turn.]*

South Wind will follow.

WEST WIND

Blow, East Wind!

*[She puffs out her cheeks and blows as she runs towards the arbor.]*

NORTH WIND

Blow, East Wind!

*[He does likewise.]*

EAST WIND

I will blow down the Plum Blossom from the Roof. I will tear through the other Winds like a firework through an assembly of turtles. I am East Wind! I blow!

*[He rushes madly about under the Plum Blossom on the arbor, blowing, his attendant Dot after him. All the Winds swirl about, blowing and shouting.]*

S O U T H W I N D

Blow! Blow!

*[She stays down stage and waves them always toward the arbor.]*

Blow, Winds, blow! The Dragons are dead and the Winds contend one with the other! Mah-Jongg is at the gates of the Wall! Behold two Seasons have fallen and the Third trembles. Blow! It is the Season of the Winds and Scarlet Foliage that trembles! Blow that it may fall!

*[Mah-Jongg comes out of the bushes.]*

T H I R D S E A S O N

*[Lets fall its chain.]*

Behold! The Third Season falls into the hand of Mah-Jongg, for the Winds contend one with the other and know not which way they blow.

S O U T H W I N D

O fortunate Mah-Jongg! Now is your opportunity. Fish the Eye while you can, Mah-Jongg. The Winds are blowing themselves to pieces, and while they blow you can catch the Moon from the Bottom of the Sea.

*[She gives him the spear of One Bamboo. It has a hook on its tip.]*

Blow, Winds, blow! And while they blow the quiet duck will put his foot on the unobservant worm!

*[She dances about screening Mah-Jongg from the Winds, who are jumping and twirling and blowing in the background.]*

Blow! Do not wait for the rice to grow about your ankles! Fish the Eye! Fish the Eye! And the Moon from the Bottom of the Sea will be yours! With the Moon is the

Key to unlock the last chain of the Princess, and Mah-Jongg will win! Quick! Quick! Fish the Eye before East Wind turns!

*[Mah-Jongg takes the bamboo rod and throws it into the pool as she speaks.]*

MAH-JONGG

May the Great Major Three of One Hundred Intelligences  
and the Symbols Four upon Four aid my Luck!

*[With a jerk he brings up the Moon attached to his hook. It is a round disk that glitters in the sun. He handles it as if it were a great flat fish.]*

SOUTH WIND

Behold the Moon from the Bottom of the Sea!

FOURTH SEASON

Behold the Moon from the Bottom of the Sea fished up by Mah-Jongg. He has a Limit Hand, and the Power of the Fourth Season is broken. Mah-Jongg wins!

*[It loosens its chain.]*

SOUTH WIND

Behold the Fourth Season has fallen!

MAH-JONGG

O most felicitous Vision!

FOUR-FLOWERS

You have saved me from being blown to pieces. The Moon from the Bottom of the Sea is yours, and the light it sheds on your countenance is so pleasing to me that I drop my Fourth Flower into your hand.

MAH-JONGG

O Most Perfect and Complete One! Is it possible that at last I draw you from the Wall?

*[He assists the Princess from her shrine.]*

FOUR-FLOWERS

I am yours, and my Four Seasons smile on you. No one can take me from you, for you will guard me with the Wisdom of your Characters, the protection of your Wind, and the strength of your four Invisible Dragons. Great and to the Highest Limit is Mah-Jongg! And the Seasons and Four-Flowers are his, together with double gold from the perfidious and vanquished East Wind.

MAH-JONGG

What is precious metal after listening to the pure gold of thy lips, and who shall esteem gems after gazing on the full, round radiance of thy Moon-like countenance?

FOUR-FLOWERS

Mah-Jongg!

*[She prostrates herself.]*

SEASONS

*[Coming forward in attitudes of worship.]*

Mah-Jongg!

MAH-JONGG

*[In triumph, raising the Princess.]*

Mah-Jongg!

*[The Winds hear this, and, turning, rush towards him. The East Wind holds the Plum Blossom which just that moment has fallen from the roof.]*

W I N D S

Mah-Jongg!

M A H - J O N G G

Yes. Mah-Jongg!

W I N D S

*[Confused and breathless.]*

The Plum Blossom has fallen from the roof!

M A H - J O N G G

I am Mah-Jongg!

E A S T W I N D

*[Very shaken and winded.]*

Prove it! I am East Wind!

S O U T H W I N D

Prove it and many taels of silver will glide from East Wind  
into your awaiting sleeve.

M A H - J O N G G

I have caught the Moon from the Bottom of the Sea, and she  
is mine with her Four-Flowers.

E A S T W I N D

O miserable frog! O Loose Tile, who has stolen my Buried  
Treasure, Scratched the Four on me and ruined all  
Earthly Peace!

*[He drops the Plum Blossom.]*

M A H - J O N G G

And also takes the Plum Blossom from the Roof. Can you  
blow it away from me?

E A S T W I N D

[*Gasping.*]

My wind is spent. I have no more power.

M A H - J O N G G

Observe, then, my Characters...

[*He throws down his scrolls.*]

My own Wind...

[*This is South.*]

and my four Invisible Dragons, to say nothing of the Moon from the Bottom of the Sea and her Four-Flowers. Am I not Mah-Jongg the Great?

A L L

[*Bowing.*]

Mah-Jongg! Mah-Jongg!

M A H - J O N G G

East Wind pays me.

[*He advances, and East Wind counts out silver into his hand.*]

E A S T W I N D

O most complete and entire Mah-Jongg, the Garden and the Game are yours. You have shown me that the quiet mole can instruct the philosopher in digging, and that all is not favorable that calls itself East Wind. In shallow water Dragons become the laughing stock of shrimps. We will prepare the feast for Mah-Jongg, with little jars of gold-fish gills...

W E S T W I N D

And small serpents preserved in oil...



N O R T H W I N D

And many eggs branded with the assurance that they have  
been earth-buried eleven years. . .

S O U T H W I N D

While Mah-Jongg will sit in the radiance of the Moon from  
the Bottom of the Sea, smell the Plum Blossom from the  
Roof, and be blown upon by the South Wind.

M A H - J O N G G

O felicitous Mah-Jongg! What a remarkably interesting and  
profitable Game it is.

A L L

*[In attitudes.]*

O felicitous Mah-Jongg! O Incomparable Mah-Jongg!  
*[They bow.]*

E A S T W I N D

We will waste not a moment in going forward to instruct the  
world in how altogether perfect is Mah-Jongg!

*[They all form a sort of procession, and go out  
through the audience, Mah-Jongg, with Four-  
Flowers, leading. South Wind comes next and  
then the others. Mah-Jongg sings as he did on  
entering.]*

Music No. 2 (*a and b*)

Mah-Jongg! Mah-Jongg!

Who buys my wares, plasters the crannies of his Wall with  
luck!

Mah-Jongg! Mah-Jongg!

Who takes from my basket, provides for himself a Heavenly  
Peace!

Mah-Jongg! Mah-Jongg!

Who seizes what I proffer, can overcome the Thirteen Odds!

Mah-Jongg! Mah-Jongg!

*[They all take up the song as they go out slowly.]*

END OF THE PLAY

## SUGGESTIONS FOR COSTUMING

NOTE. — It is desirable in costuming this play to preserve a certain uniformity. Do not use elaborate costumes for some of the characters and cheap materials for others.

The front panels with the Mah-Jongg symbols should all be of the same material with no exception, except the *Winds*. The designs of a good Chinese Mah-Jongg set should be followed in these to the least detail of color and proportion. They cannot be improved upon. A good material to use for these panels is cream-colored paper muslin, but it must not be allowed to wrinkle. The designs are better painted than cut from paper, as paper crackles and tears. Brilliant colors should be used, and if poster paints are used, mixed with white of egg, they will not sink into the cloth.

### PROLOGUE

The Prologue wears ceremonially embroidered Chinese robes, and round scarlet Mandarin hat with tassel.

The four Mah-Jongg Mandarins also wear embroidered robes, and black satin Mandarin hats with scarlet buttons of rank. The make-up is straight Chinese. They should be persons of height and dignity.

### MAH-JONGG

Tall, with brown Chinese make-up; long black queue (made of black cloth cut in strips and braided).

Peaked straw Chinese sun hat.

Full, deep yellow coat, knee length, with long full sleeves. This may be elaborated somewhat by black and green Chinese designs or by green sleeves, but the whole thing should be kept very simple.

Blue trousers.

Wooden, sharp-pointed sword hung by scarlet cord from waist.

Bare feet or sandals.

Green and scarlet tray slung over the shoulder by green and scarlet ribbons.

On the tray are dice boxes of cardboard, six inches square, each containing a roll of manuscript with Chinese characters in black ink.

(It may be more practicable to have a flat Chinese basket rather than a tray.)

## PRINCESS FOUR-FLOWERS

High, elaborate coiffure of smooth black hair, surmounted, if becoming, by a round silver moon disc and four moderate-sized artificial Chinese flowers, preferably lotus, of scarlet and yellow. Flowers pinned in by gold pins. Earrings of jewels or gold. This headdress can also be made in a conventional Chinese pattern of cardboard, gilded, and have long tassels on each side.

Heavily embroidered short Chinese coat; skirt or trousers to match. Embroidered slippers. Appropriate Chinese necklaces, bangles, anklets, etc.

Elaborate Chinese make-up, with rice powder and very red lips.

If an embroidered costume is not procurable, a costume of coat and trousers of scarlet or blue silk with round Chinese designs painted in gold and silver will do.

Elaborately embroidered or peacock fan.

## FIRST SEASON — the Season of Young Green Rice

Stiff, conventionalized headdress of gold (buckram or cardboard), with green painted points and green leaf design either painted or of paper. Gold earrings or green. Green or gold necklace.

Loose knee-length kimono-sleeved coat of pale green.

Trousers of darker green, loose to ankles.

If desired, over-draperies on shoulders, and sleeves of darker green thin material; pointed ends or butterfly design on sleeves. Drapes could also be made of a series of very narrow strips like long grass blades.

Yellow or green shoes on yellow or green wooden blocks.

Over-panel from shoulder to knee of cream linen painted to represent the Number One Season of a Mah-Jongg set.

## SECOND SEASON — the Season of Golden Flowers

Stiff, gold, conventionalized headdress, with design of yellow, orange or gold flowers, either painted or made of paper.

Gold earrings and necklace.

Loose coat of deep Chinese gold color. Trousers of same.

If desired, Chinese design of gold or yellow flowers on sleeves.

Over-panel from shoulder to knee of cream linen painted as the tile of the Second Season in a Mah-Jongg set.

Gold shoes on gold or yellow wooden blocks.

### THIRD SEASON — The Season of Scarlet Foliage

Stiff headdress of gold covered with design of scarlet and yellow leaves, either painted or of paper.

Gold grape earrings. Gold necklace.

Loose coat of scarlet. Trousers of same.

If desired, over-draperies on shoulders, and sleeves of very thin scarlet material cut into long points.

Scarlet shoes on yellow wooden blocks.

Cream linen knee-length panel painted as Number Three Season.

### FOURTH SEASON — the Season of White Rain

Headdress of stiff silver with snow-crystal design in white tracery, and crystals and silver hanging from the points.

Silver earrings and crystal or silver necklace.

Loose coat of very pale gray. Trousers of same.

Silver or white shoes on silver or white wooden blocks.

If desired, long trails of crystal and silver over arms and shoulders; white snow-sparkle on shoulders.

Over-panel knee length of cream linen painted as Number Four Season in a Mah-Jongg set. It is more effective in this case not to follow the exact coloring, but paint the design in white and blue and gray outlined in silver.

The length of costume and height of headdress of all the *Seasons* should be exactly the same. The actors should be tall and of the same height, and the costume material as nearly the same as possible in different colors. The headdresses should be made of the same material, and, though differing slightly in outline, should have the same general contour, and be either painted or decorated with paper flowers in the same manner.

The make-up of the *Seasons* is that of a porcelain Chinese idol, with vivid coloring and long wing eyebrows.

The *Seasons* could each carry a symbol cut from bristol board or thin wood. The *First* may be conventionalized thin green grass blades; the *Second*, conventionalized golden flowers; the *Third*, conventionalized scarlet leaves; the *Fourth*, may carry a round white and silver ball.

The costumes need not necessarily be expensive, buckram serving very well, gilded or silvered, for headdresses, and sateen of soft colors for the dresses. Cream paper-muslin painted as in all the *Tiles* makes the over-panel. The wooden shoe blocks are not indispensable, but the shoes must be flat sandals.

## GREEN AND RED DRAGONS

The *Green Dragon* costume should be of two colors of green scales; crest and head of same.

Stiff dragon head made of cardboard, buckram or cloth, stuffed, with artificial eyes of white and red; yellow or green snout with long white teeth and pointed red tongue; high crest of green spikes. This head is not so difficult to contrive as it sounds. Often artificial heads of other animals more easily procurable can be made into splendid dragon heads with the aid of a little paint and additional cardboard or stuffed cloth.

The *Dragon* costume can be made as a knee-length tunic, with long tight sleeves, over green tights of the same color. On these and the tunic, scales of lighter green and even silver and gold can be sewed.

The claws can be made of large cotton gloves dyed green, with long nails hanging at the ends for talons.

The tail is made of stuffed cloth or buckram to correspond with the head, and is covered with scales.

The *Red Dragon* should be very like the *Green Dragon*, only in two shades of brilliant scarlet.

The materials of the *Dragon* costumes should be the same except in color. The heads should be of slightly different design.

Each wears an over-panel of cream linen from shoulder to knee, with the insignia of the *Red* or the *Green Dragon* of a Mah-Jongg set painted on it. It is very effective for the *Dragons* to smoke cigarettes inside their heads if possible, the smoke curling out through their mouths.

The costumes are best made of some inexpensive, fairly strong material. However, paper muslin will do.

## EAST WIND

First design.

Full undercoat and trousers or skirt of plain pale green; neck and sleeve decoration of scarlet and blue.

Long front panel of heavy yellow material with symbol of *East Wind* in deep blue or black.

Green, stiff, round Mandarin hat with scarlet tassel and sign of *East Wind* in front in black or blue.

Small black or blue paper fan.

Scarlet shoes.

Old man make-up with long black moustache and deep lines in face.

Second design.

Scarlet Mandarin hat with green tassel, and *East Wind* sign in black in front. Elaborately embroidered coat and skirt.

Make-up and accessories same.

The Mandarin hats can be made of cardboard, with black silk for crowns. A Chinese paper parasol is held over *East Wind* by *One Dot*, or, if desired, a scarlet and green canopy may be carried by four *Dots*.

*East Wind* can be made very elaborate if desired. The first design is given for a case where no embroidered Chinese coats are procurable. If this is followed, the other *Winds* should not have embroidered coats.

## WEST WIND

First design.

Stiff headdress painted green and scarlet and gold, made to resemble an old Chinese design, with artificial flowers over the ears and long hanging tassels and earrings.

Elaborate Chinese make-up.

Full knee-length coat of Chinese deep blue, with trousers or skirt of same.

Knee-length panel of green with *West Wind* symbol in black or deep blue.

Scarlet shoes. Peacock or heavily embroidered round Chinese fan.

Second design.

Elaborately embroidered Chinese coat and skirt (or trousers of dark satin).

Make-up the same. It is possible to have a simple smooth Chinese coiffure without the headdress.

*West Wind* has a paper Chinese umbrella carried over her by a *Dot*.

## NORTH WIND

Stiff, round, silver Mandarin hat with white or silver tassel and *North Wind* symbol in white or silver in front.

Long white or silver coat with silver or white designs.

Silver or white shoes.

Long white panel with *North Wind* design in silver. Silver staff, or black and silver fan.

Old man make-up, with long white hair and beard.

White or silver shoes.

Powdered snow-sparkle can be used on *North Wind*.

White or silver Chinese umbrella carried over *North Wind* by a *Dot*.

If umbrella is not possible, a huge white and silver disc with snow-crystal designs carried on a silver pole.

*North Wind* can wear silver or crystal chains.

His costume can be made effectively of sateen.

## SOUTH WIND

First design.

Short sleeveless coat of soft gray material; trousers of same, chiffon or silk if possible. Pale green wide sash undercoat with *South Wind* symbol in black.

Smooth black coiffure; hair parted in middle with scarlet poppies in the coils at the sides. Long trails of pale green poppy stems and leaves and scarlet poppy flowers.

Bare feet and arms. Green and silver anklets; bracelets and earrings to suit.

Long chiffon scarf with *South Wind* symbols in black on ends.

If scarf is not used, the costume can be made with sleeves like a regulation Chinese costume. In this case a heavier gray material is recommended.

Chinese make-up, very pale, with red mouth and dark eyebrows.

Black or scarlet round fan.

Second design.

Chinese silk coat of brilliant yellow embroidered with butterflies and flowers; much lighter and gayer than *West Wind*. Blue or green trousers. Simple Chinese coiffure with poppies or yellow flowers. Straight Chinese make-up.

*South Wind* has an umbrella carried over her by a *Dot*. If possible, the umbrella should be yellow or blue paper and very gay.

## ONE CHARACTER

Very old man make-up, with bald head and long white moustache, or smooth shaven.

Coat and trousers of pale cream yellow silk or cotton, with over-design in front on cream linen panel of *One Character*. A scarlet or black fan.



## CHARACTERS

First design.

Peaked straw or painted hats of bright blue or yellow, with *Character* symbol painted or cut out from scarlet cardboard and pinned on the front.

Coat and trousers of cotton, preferably white or yellow (pajamas can be used for this, rolled to the knees if desired).

Over-panel, shoulders to knees, of cream linen with *Character* number painted on as in tiles of a Mah-Jongg set.

There should be eight small *Characters*, a number to each.

Red sandals or bare feet.

Brown Chinese make-up and long queue (made of black material cut in strips and braided).

Second design.

Loose costume of cream material same as *One Character*. Front panel with *Character* symbol.

Mask of brown for entire face, as Chinese and conventionally ugly as possible. Black skull cap or white wig, bald.

Red sandals or bare feet.

The *Characters* should be little actors; children do very well, and should be more or less of the same height. They should be trained to act their parts with great precision and all speak in unison and move identically.

TWO BAMBOO — very tall and thin

Coat and trousers of soft green cotton material.

Peaked straw Chinese sun hat.

Straight front panel of cream, with symbol of *Two Bamboo* painted in green.

Bamboo pole, very tall, with little three-cornered green-leaf pennant.

Bare feet; brown make-up; pigtail of black.

He carries a Chinese wicker or wooden cage with a wooden bird in it.

## BAMBOOS

Coat and trousers of soft colored cotton, preferably blue or green.

Peaked Chinese straw sun hats.

Front panels marked as *Bamboos* in the Mah-Jongg set.

There should be eight of these *Bamboos*, all small actors of the same height, possibly small boys. They carry bamboo staves, and should be trained to precision in acting and shouting.

## DOTS

### *One Dot*

Peaked hat of Chinese straw or painted scarlet, with the symbol of a *Dot* painted or cut from cardboard and pinned on it.

Soft colored coats and trousers of cotton, preferably blue.

Bare feet. Front panels with *Dot* symbols on each, numbered.

These should be very small children, all more or less of a height. It is nice to have *One Dot* the smallest of all.

## PALANQUIN

Posts of green or black or scarlet. Scarlet roof (made of cardboard or thin wood) with the Four Symbols of the Winds.

Chinese cornices if desired. Side panels of scarlet with black and gold Chinese dragons.

Scarlet curtains — very thin — or scarlet doors like a shrine.

Behind the *Princess*, a Chinese design of wood or bristol board, gilded, surmounted by a round, silver moon.

Dragon heads or curious designs in gold or silver can be put where desired, but it is best to keep the *palanquin* rather simple, and to be very careful to have it accurately Chinese.

## SUGGESTION FOR INDOOR SETTING

Although the Play of Mah-Jongg is written for a garden, it can easily be given on an indoor stage. The following is a suggestion for a setting:

At the back of the stage runs a high cream-colored wall built of large blocks representing the backs of Mah-Jongg Tiles. Set in the center is the Shrine of the Princess, brilliant with scarlet and gold laquered doors. The Four Seasons stand against the Wall, two each side of the Shrine, and as the curtain rises, the Characters are in a row, down stage, chanting. The pool, ringed with thick, brilliant colored flowers is either at center or at right. Dwarf evergreen trees, in stone pots, one or more on each side, would make interesting accessories indicative of a Chinese Garden. The back drop shows a deep blue sky. The Shrine could very effectively have a Pagoda-shaped roof of scarlet and gold.

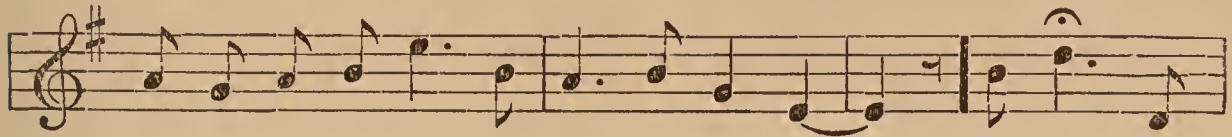
The photographs were taken during an actual performance in a garden and are by Arthur French of New York.

# THE MUSIC





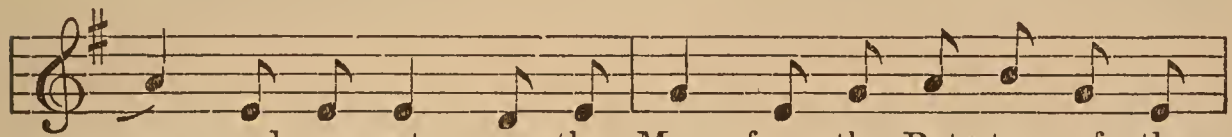
Gar-den that is surrounded by the Wall, marked with Characters,



strengthened with Bamboo and built in Cir - cles. . Be-hold! the



Prin-cess Four-Flowers, [ex-qui-site as the Plum-Blossom on the Roof,



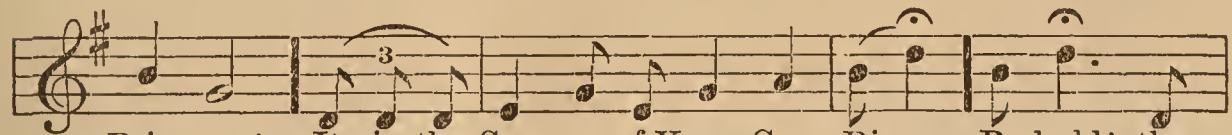
... and re-mote as the Moon from the Bot - tom of the



Sea, whom no one may attain. Behold! the First Season . who guards the

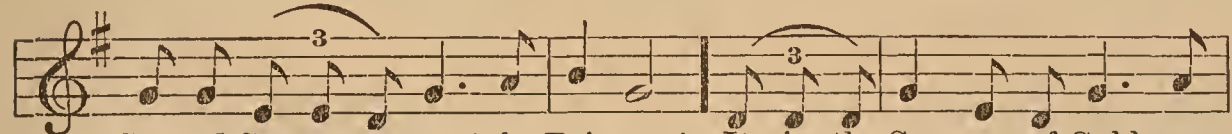
THE CHARACTERS

ONE CHARACTER



Prin-cess! It is the Sea-son of Young Green Rice. Be-hold! the

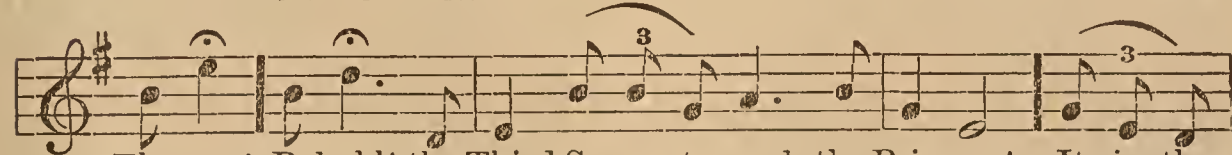
THE CHARACTERS



Second Season to guard the Princess! It is the Sea-son of Gold - en

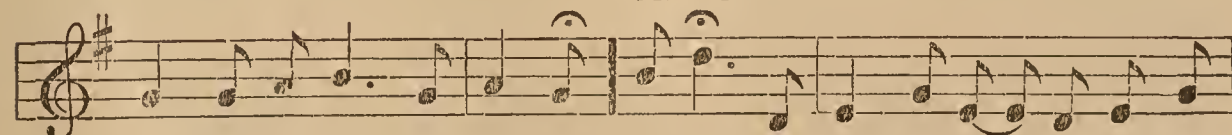
ONE CHARACTER

THE CHARACTERS



Flowers! Behold! the Third Season to guard the Princess! It is the

ONE CHARACTER



Sea - son of Scar - let Fo-liage! Behold! the Fourth Season . to guard the

THE CHARACTERS

Prin - cess! It is the Sea - son of White Rain! . .

(c) ALL, (except the Princess)

Be - hold! the Flow - ers that come with the

Sea - sons and the Sea - sons that come with the Flow - ers!

(d) THE CHARACTERS

Pung, Chow, . Pung, Chow, . Pung, Chow, . Pung, Chow!

No. 2 (a) STREET CRY

*f Andante* (MAH JONGG)

Mah Jongg! Mah Jongg! Who buys my wares, plasters the crannies of his

Wall with luck! . Mah Jongg! Mah Jongg! Who buys from my basket, pro-

vides for him - self . a Heav'nly Peace! Mah Jongg! Mah

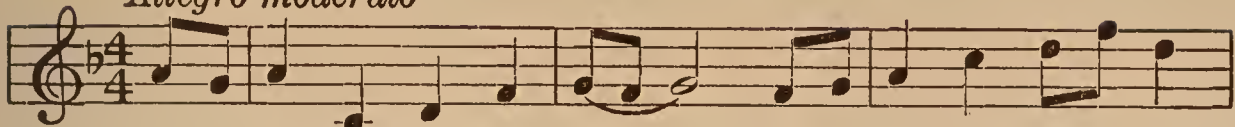
Jongg! Who takes what I prof - fer, can o - ver - come the

Thirteen Odds! Mah Jongg! Mah Jongg! Who buys? Who buys?

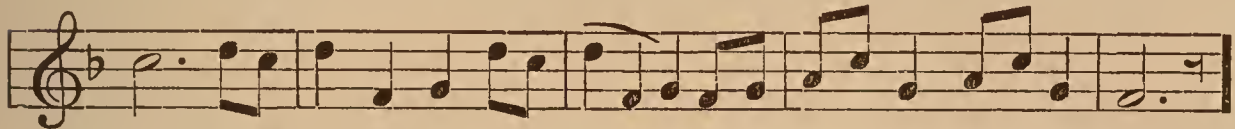
No. 3 SONG. THE SEASONS AND THE FLOWERS

(MAH JONGG)

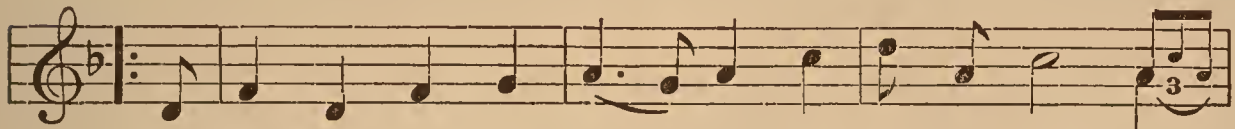
*Allegro moderato*



1. The Sea-sons and the Flow'rs Blow down the Winds a -



way, The swiftly mov-ing hours, Each brings new games to play.



2. The Bam-boo shad-ows length-en, The Bird is stilled in .

4. My Wall, strong Bamboos make it, Two Dra-gons guard the



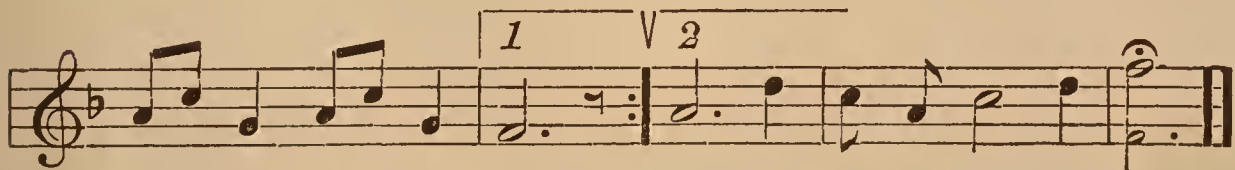
sleep; My Hand I can - not strength-en, Lest  
gate, My Sea - son, I must take . it, Be -



I my Hon - or keep. 3. The Flow-ers and the Sea-sons Drift  
fore it is too late. 5. The Sea-sons and the Flow'rs.. Are



light a - cross the Wall; Pung, Chow, what are the rea-sons Why  
nev - er marked the same. Will it be man - y hours.. Be -



I . should heed your call?  
fore I end the (Omit . .) Game, Be - fore I end the Game?

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