

24. According to legend, Lü Tung-pin himself was converted to Taoism when he was made to dream in which he experienced all the experiences in life, including happiness, sorrow, departures, re-unions, success, failure, glories and humiliation. When he finally woke up, the yellow millet in the pot was still not cooked.
25. Ya-fu refers to Chao Ya-fu, a famous general of the Han Dynasty. Once he stationed on the border region known as Hsi-liu, meaning "Thin Willows". Thus he called his garrison Liu-ying, or Willow Garrison. So the willow tree was involved with Ya-fu.
26. Emperor Yang here refers to the infamous play-boy of the Sui Dynasty. He was a man of lust and luxury. During his reign, he ordered the Grand Canal dug out so that he could ride his dragon boat to visit the beautiful south. On the two banks of the canal, willows were planted for providing shade. Thus the willow trees were involved with Emperor Yang.
27. King Ling of the State of Ch'u was a man of lust who was fond of young girls with slender waists. Consequently, the palace maids, in order to gain favor from the king, starved themselves so that they could have slender waists. The young beauties thin waisted thus were traditionally described as having "willow waists." Thus the willow was involved with the Ch'u king.
28. Ibid.
29. The long pavilion was a place where friends and relatives would see their dear ones off. It was usually built outside a city about ten Chinese miles. Therefore, it was also called "Ten Mile Long Pavilion" in the olden days. Willows were usually planted and were used for two purposes; travelers would tie their horses on a tree while say good-by to their kinfolks. Those who see the traveler off could break a willow branch and give it to the traveler as a good-will gesture.
30. Pa-ling Bridge was located outside the city of Chang-an, Capital of T'ang. It was a place where people would say good-by to one another when some one left the Capital. According to custom, people who saw some one off at the bridge he would break a willow branch and give it to the person leaving as a token of good wishes. If the willow branches were thrown on the ground and were trampled by horses and carriages, they were not valuable. Thus the allusion implies bad willows.
31. Chang-t'ai was the name of a street in Chang-an, Capital of T'ang Court. A young scholar by the name of Han Hung met a young sing-song girl there whose family name was Liu, meaning "willow" and who promised to marry Han. However for three years after their departure, Han Hung could not have his promise fulfilled. To express his feelings for the girl. Han wrote a poem with these lines:

Oh, the willow of Chang-t'ai, the willow of Chang-t'ai!
In the old days you were fresh, green and beautiful.
But are you still there now

Thus the illusion here implies beautiful young girls.
32. Here the expression "Lü cliff" has a double meaning. The Taoist Lü Tung-pin's name was Lü Yen, and the character "yen" means "cliff" in Chinese.
33. Chien-hsi was a place in Fukien (province) famous for its tea.

34. Lang-yüan was a legendary place where fairies lived.
35. The purple robe and white gown were symbolic of the official class in olden days.
36. Golden Pill, or Golden Elixir, is the magic drug which the Taoists tried to cultivate in order to achieve immortality.
37. Black temples and rouge faces imply men of youth. In Taoism, it is believed that when a man achieves immortality, he would remain a permanent youth.
38. Hsü Fu was a man of the Ch'in Dynasty, the first empire of China. Emperor Shih-huang of Ch'in was obsessed with the desire of attaining immortality. He had heard that a certain fungus, when consumed, would help a man reach immortality. But it could only be found in the Eastern Seas. So he commissioned Hsü Fu to go to Eastern Seas to gather the divine fungus.
39. Ch'en T'uan was a man of the Sung Dynasty. He gave up his ambitions of attaining fame and wealth in governmental service. He went to Mount Hua (Hua Shan), one of the sacred mountains of China, trying to achieve the Tao, and thus became a recluse.
40. Lao-tzu, founder of Taoism as the legend says, went and passed through Han-ku Pass, and disappeared. It was at the Han-ku Pass that Lao-tzu left his famous work, the *Tao-Te Ching*.
41. Kuo Shang-tso is another name of Kuo Ma-erh.
42. Ch'en Fan was a man of the Eastern Han time. He seldom kept his visitors overnight with the exception of one friend, named Hsü Ch'ih. Whenever Hsü came to pay him a visit, Ch'en would lower a couch (bed) specifically reserved for Hsü and kept him overnight. Thus the expression "lower one's bed" has become a synonym of hospitality.
43. Ts'ao Ts'ao was the prime minister of the State of Wei during the Three Kingdoms period in ancient China. Once he fought a war with allied forces of Wu and Shu states. Defeated he had a narrow escape on the Hua-jung Path.
44. King Pa of Western Ch'u, fought with Liu Pang for the empire of the Ch'in Dynasty, though he was a strong man who once raised a tripod of one thousand catties (about a thousand pounds) he lost his fight, and committed suicide on the bank of the River Wu.
45. There are many stories told about the scoundrel and the prime minister of the State of Wei during the Three Kingdoms period (about third century), Ts'ao Ts'ao. The expression that he "slept on a round pillow at night" suggests that it kept him alert, for round pillows would make people alert in their sleep; the expression that he "gave poisoned wine to others" perhaps hints that Ts'ao Ts'ao had murdered many people when he was in power.
46. In the Chinese language, the surname Lü is made of two component parts, all meaning "mouth." On top it is a small-sized "mouth," and at the bottom, it is a large-sized "mouth." Thus the pun is made here.
47. The Chinese character "p'in" means "quality," it is made up with three but similar parts, all meaning "mouth." Thus the pun.
48. In Chinese language the expression for "goat's fat" and that for "willow trees' sap" sound alike, namely, *yang-chih*. Thus the pun is made here.
49. The Chinese expression for "dry food" is *Kan-liang*. The expression for "dry