

NDCFA 2008 Chinese New Year Celebration Comedy The New Butterfly Lovers Story

The Butterfly Lovers or *Liang Zhu* is a Chinese legend about the tragic romance between two lovers, **Liang Shanbo** and **Zhu Yingtai**, from whom the name of the legend is known in Chinese (梁山伯與祝英台, pinyin: Liáng Shānbó yǔ Zhù Yīngtái, often abbreviated as "梁祝", Liáng-Zhù). The legend is sometimes regarded as the Chinese equivalent to *Romeo and Juliet*. The Butterfly Lovers' Violin Concerto is one of the most famous works of Chinese music and certainly one of the most famous outside of China which is an orchestral adaptation of the legend of the Butterfly Lovers story.

Original Story:

The story is set in the Eastern Jin Dynasty.

A young woman named Zhu Yingtai from Shangyu, Zhejiang, disguised herself as a man travelling to Hangzhou to study. During her journey, she met and joined Liang Shanbo, a companion schoolmate from Kuaiji (會稽, Kuàijī, now known as Shaoxing) in the same province. They studied together for three years, during which their relationship strengthened. When the two parted, Zhu offered to arrange for Liang to marry her 16 year-old fictitious sister. When Liang travelled to Zhu's home, he discovered her true gender. Although they were devoted and passionate about each other at that point, Zhu was already engaged with Ma Wencai (馬文才, Mǎ Wéncái), a man her parents had arranged for her to be married to. Depressed, Liang died in office as a county magistrate. On the day Zhu was to be married to Ma, whirlwinds prevented the wedding procession from escorting Zhu beyond Liang's tomb. Zhu left the procession to pay her respects for Liang. Liang's tomb split apart, and Zhu dived into it to join him. A pair of butterflies emerged from the tomb and flew away.

Our new Story:

Aside: The original butterfly lovers story is still going around as it demonstrated the beauty of true love. Now after 1,000 years, at South bend, the new story goes on...

Scene 1: Finding His Love

The young man, Liang cannot find his love Zhu for one thousand years, one thousand years. Recently, he knew that Zhu's family is in Notre Dame, but he still could not find them. When he is looking for Zhu alone, the little boy just comes and suggests that he can send a group mail or posting at Meijer, Walmart or Oriental Food.

Liang is surprised and angry at the editor, hers poor scenario planning that mixing the ancient and modern elements wrongly since there is no email at that time, so he want beat her. The little boy tried to stop him and the editor explains that it is 21th century now and we need innovation!

“What a long Douglas Road and I will keep searching.”

Scene 2: Meet his Love

Miss Zhu is also looking for her love, waiting for him, even if in a rainy day. The servant asks her

to go home, but Zhu insists waiting for Liang.

Just when Miss Zhu wants to leave, a man comes near and hits her. After watch the man clearly, she is extremely shocked. So is the man. They even can not believe that this is true, but the man is Liang definitely. What a coincidence! What a romantic moment! Liang tells Zhu that he is missing her so much! So does the Miss Zhu. Liang has been looking for Zhu everywhere, from Shanghai to Notre Dame, just except the outer space. Liang is still handsome even after those heart breaking searching and Zhu looks more beautiful now.

Scene 3: Ma Wencai

Ma Wencai steps onto the stage as he is singing a famous enthusiastic Chinese song, which is named “the hot desert”. He regards himself as the world richest and most handsome, romantic, humorous, and lovely guy. The two companies with him are his bodyguards. One of them is famous by the big muscle and the other one is kind of transgender guy who likes Ma Wencai.

As Chinese Lunar New Year was coming, Ma Wencai is going to pay a visit to Zhu’s parents. He brings some traditional gifts to please Zhu’s parents. But he actually is much more eager to see Yingtai than Zhu’s parents.

Zhu’s parents are moneygrubber, and they don’t like the gifts very much. They preferred real money much more. Ma Wencai is very disappointed that Yingtai is not at home. Her mother says probably she is addicted to dating online and probably has lots of online boyfriends. Ma Wencai is shocked by the news and leaves Zhu’s home with deep depression.

Scene 4: Arrange marriage

Since Ma Wencai and Liang Shanbo both love Zhu Yingtai, Zhu’s parents want to choose the better guy between them through some kinds of contests.

Yingtai’s mother cares more about whether Liang is capable of affording the marriage and the life with her daughter. So she asks him whether he has house, car and job. But the disappointed thing is that Liang has nothing. Yingtai’s father hopes that Liang would be very intelligent. So he asks him about the education background and an IQ question. Liang’s performance is as bad as his answer to Yingtai’s mother. Instead Ma has everything, and even he got Notre Dame PhD degree. Obviously, Yingtai’s parents decide to marry Yingtai to Ma.

Ironically, Yingtai don’t like Ma at all, though Ma has fallen love with Yingtai since he first met her. Ma sings to her and chases to her, but he couldn’t even touch her. At that moment, Liang begins to dance with Yingtai. Ma and Yingtai’s parents are all so mad that they couldn’t help themselves separating Liang and Yingtai.

Scene 5: The End

Liang wants to suicide again, but he failed at the first time as the knife is a fake. Yingtai's parents stopped him before his second try. They say that the previous scene is designed to test him and they are agreed to marry their daughter to him. Liang is so excited that he thanks to all his supporters. Finally they for guys dance a four swan dance together. What a happy end!