

MAI LING: Or everything you taught me.

PADRAIC: Hey, look out now; I've learned a lot from you.

MANUEL: I've given you a lot of trouble Professor.

PADRAIC: (Tousling Manuel's hair) You, Manuel? I never would believe it!

(They break into laughter and Manuel impulsively hugs Padraic. All the students crowd around him in farewells.)

STUDENTS: To you Professor. To you . . .

PADRAIC: There's just one thing I want to know. Something I'm sure you can teach me. You've been here two years now. Have you discovered America yet?

HUANG PO: It's been a wonderful country.

YUDISTHIRA: Generous, free, hospitable . . .

NATASHA: A place where men of all creeds and races can learn to live together.

MAI LING: But there are so many contradictions . . .

HANS: Something is missing . . .

COLLETE: For me America is the unknown--the new--the undiscovered continent of self. The place where I can find out who I am. You've always taught us every outer place corresponds to some inner place within. I guess America is in what you said before. A place where each man and woman can find their conscience without any of the old authorities of king or custom or tradition, or even God, blocking the way. The idea of America . . . and that's what I'll take back with me when I go home.

(Padraic meditatively nods his head. Long pause.)

YUDISTHIRA: Yes, yes. I could not have said it better myself.

MAI LING: To you, Professor Muldoon, and the spirit of America!

STUDENTS: To you, Professor Muldoon! (They all toast.)

PADRAIC: I sing you a great mystery. America, I Sing! One World I sing!

(They all drink.)

PADRAIC: Well, you've given me a lot of toasting and before we go our separate ways, there's one word more I'd like to give you. It's not the dying that counts. It's the living for. Will you live for it boys and girls? Will you stake your life on it? That's the only thing that counts; what you value; what you live for; and what you'll never swerve from or betray. Aye, even though men try to stop you. Aye, even though they kill you for it. Promise me that, boys and girls, and we'll call it quits. I don't know if I ever taught you anything, but I have tried to teach you that. And now, it's time to say goodbye.

COLLETE: Will we ever meet again?

YUDISTHIRA: Who knows if our paths will cross . . .

MAI LING: Or if we'll ever meet again . . .

PADRAIC: Sure we will, one place or another.

HUANG PO: One time or another.

MANUEL: Do you believe that Professor?

PADRAIC: Yes, I believe that. How can I not, when from time to time I'll be recollecting your shining faces. Manuel, with "I don't believe that Professor." And Collete, with "Can you prove that Professor?" And Hans, with "We'll see about that." And Huang Po, with "I don't know Professor." And Mai ling, with "I'm not sure I can do that." And Yudisthira saying "In my country Professor." And Natasha, with "Why Professor?" And Ishi, who probably won't be saying anything.



(They all laugh gayly.)

PADRAIC  
(Continuing):

Oh yes, one day, in this world or the next, we're sure to meet again.

MANUEL:

I don't believe that, Professor.

(Everyone breaks up with laughter.)

PADRAIC:

How can we not? We're all on the same journey. And have been since the beginning of time. Somewhere beyond space and time, beyond all contradiction, beyond anything we can sense or think or feel or know, lies the whole. To be able to take our stand in that and say yes forever. To be in the presence of that Unknowable, Unnameable--that quickener of life that makes each passing moment so fair and all creation new. What would a man not pay for that great privilege? What cost would be too great?

~~MAI LING~~  
HUANG PO:

Oh, I would give anything to catch one glimpse of that.

YUDISTHIRA:

Yes, yes, yes . . .

HANS:

Oh, to see that mighty vision!

PADRAIC:

A man can do anything he chooses. If we choose to be men, we can see it.

NATASHA:

We're not called Muldoon's Folly for nothing. We're the Magnificent Seven--and Ishi makes eight. We'll ride through time with you.

PADRAIC:

And you'll take your chances?

ISHI:

We're men and women now. School is out. We'll ride with you, but each of us is on our own. As you've taught us,

YUDISTHIRA:

One moment of deathless seeing is worth all the rest.

~~MAI LING~~  
G-KUANG

What are we waiting for? Let's go!

PADRAIC: That's what I want to hear! Come on then, lads and lasses, let's get on our chariots of fire. We'll travel fast as heart's desire. And off we go through the Fourth Dimension! What mankind needs is a reconciling vision, past all division, that harmonizes instinct, mind and heart. We need a mighty vision that unifies the world -- self, family, nation -- all peoples, times and places. We've got to stretch to reach that. A unifying vision that leaves nothing out: The races of the world, all countries, planets, solar systems. For this is the age of mind. We've got to get up in ourselves--get on our tiptoes and look as far as the eye can see--open our minds to the uttermost branches of the tree of life. Let's trace it from our rude beginnings. Here's mankind racing through the corridors of time. Comes Egypt and Pyramids to the sun.

COLLETE: The dance has begun.

PADRAIC: Can you see?

YUDISTHIRA: Yes; comes India with Krishna, Buddha and the Song of God.

~~MAT LING:~~  
G KUNG: The celestial middle Kingdom China spins its golden thread. Lao-tzu and Confucius bring the law of reciprocity and the spirit of family is bred.

PADRAIC: We're standing tiptoe on the shoulders of time. What comes next?

HANS: Mars is in ascendancy. Europe spawns its first civilization: The fighting men of ancient Greece.

NATASHA: Next comes Venus, star-gazer, medieval cathedrals; the Holy Roman Empire which sires all the Russias, France, the Hapsburgs, England, Germany.

MANUEL: Arabia and medicine, alchemy, and the stars. The poets of Provence. The Grand Inquisition. The Reformation.