

## Sha Huang

### A Nap in the Afternoon

A second ago I was in another life  
with another man, in Chengdu  
living with his parents  
He has dark complexion and a quick temper  
and just began his own business

We had a little fight about a trifle about our daughter  
(yes, we have a daughter)  
I burst into tears  
He pushed me into our bedroom, shut the door  
and pulled me into his arms  
Smelling his sweat  
I blinked away tears  
relieved and satisfied

I woke up  
Winter sunshine crawling outside  
Your arms around my waist:  
“Hey kitty, you wake up?  
Shall we get up and clean the garden?”

“Just had a weird dream.”  
I paused  
amazed at our fate:  
what a game played by chance

**Sha Huang** grew up in Chengdu, China. Her poems were published in 16 literary journals and anthologies in China and the U.S, including *Verse-Virtual*, *Trouvaille Review*, *Global Poemic* and *Chinese and Western Poetry* (中西诗歌). She currently teaches Chinese language and Asian cultures at a university in the U.S.