



Friendship in Grassland

On this immense grassland of Xinjiang in mid-summer I stand
A carpet of emerald grass dotted by wild flowers extends to no end
In the unseen distance up the Sky Mountain white snow peaks glimmer
Even mighty eagles are shy to discover if animals for prey live there
Here I walk to no destination but to inhale the fresh air in motion
My horse grazed nearby enjoying the sweet and moist grass in full portions

Overwhelmed by tranquillity my mind is empty caring no worldly loss or gain
Grateful I am to have this discrete moment hearing silver bells ring
Where my eyes can see rows of tall trees form wide corridors for winds to blow
Far beyond a herd of cattle roams their thick wools echo white clouds in float
In a flash a rider with fancy attire swiftly passed my temporal sight
Beneath her elegant chapeau a gold and purple scarf tailed the wind swooping high

In the next instance the rider came back to greet me
In close proximity her big eyes silently asked me innocently
What could me an old man be doing in this remote place of wild grows only
I searched in awe for a reply to match her cares of simplicity
She understood my hesitation by throwing up her hands in extent

To show me the beauty of this vast place so pristine and immense
Then she introduced herself with a sweet smile her name is Alezo
And began to sing with her dombra strings this song from her soul

Hearing my song Sir you will be happy and forever remember me
My family does herding in this rich nourishing place totally free
We enjoy riding our horses and feel the winds from the mountain peaks

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We set up our yurts for home in the most convenient and secure places
At night after a zestful dinner and feeling warm we watch the twinkling stars
My Mom would tell me which star I belong as I grow up to be
I dreamt of meeting this kind old man like Grandpa travelling in our territory
And sang my songs for him to remember me forever dear

Alezo's singing was so intriguing and touching I dozed off momentarily in peace
Now after thirty years I remember even my horse lay down on its sides at ease
The stars in the dark sky approved our heart-rending friendship and blessed me
I felt so safe with Mother Nature in her divine promise for fond memories so pretty.

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