

lamentations of a chinese american
the lamentations of a chinese american

i want to go to china
where i'll have no name
i want to go america
where'll i have no shame
i heard they're very accepting there
and china's culture is beautiful
and yet as hopeless as it is
and foolish as you are
you want to go to china
the land of the great
you want to go to america
the land of the brave
though free is nothing that you'll be
no, not here, nor in southern chinese seas

a lack of free will
is what you have not
you are simply a slob
an american slob?
who cannot be taught
its an impossible job--
to get all this work done
the chinese work very hard...
oh, you are a monstrous thing
and even if you went
you have nothing to bring
to such shining and golden nations

but you want to visit china
to become something more
you want to fit in with the americans
to become someone fun
anything is better than nothing after all
no, definitely, that's true
but even if I left tomorrow
I still wouldn't get very far...

but tell me what i do

when i arrive on their shore
and china does not love me
not one bit even more.

for america does not respect you
i must stop my dreaming
all of this is useless
all of this is scheming
a plan i dont have
i feel like screaming
tell me who i am
what is life then for me?
who am I?
am i dreaming?

you've wasted your wandering
and acceptance you have not
did you really think that--
that *america* wants...
that even *china* wants:
your gifts
your time
your love
your kindness
your talent
no wonder you cry
and always lack rhyme
neither land welcomes thee
oh thou who does not shine

there is much love, yet there is no love
not even a cup
a spoonful at most
but drink you will not
you're devious and gross
for which do I drink from?
the red, the white, the blue?
the red, the yellow, the golden?
hypocritical and shallow
choose one already!
hollow in thy core

stupidly dreaming
of china's distant shore
of america's city lights
you're dreaming of nowhere...

because no place on earth
nor here nor there
will ever harbor love
for you or your cares

you are
neither american
neither chinese
so what are you?
am I a...
freak?