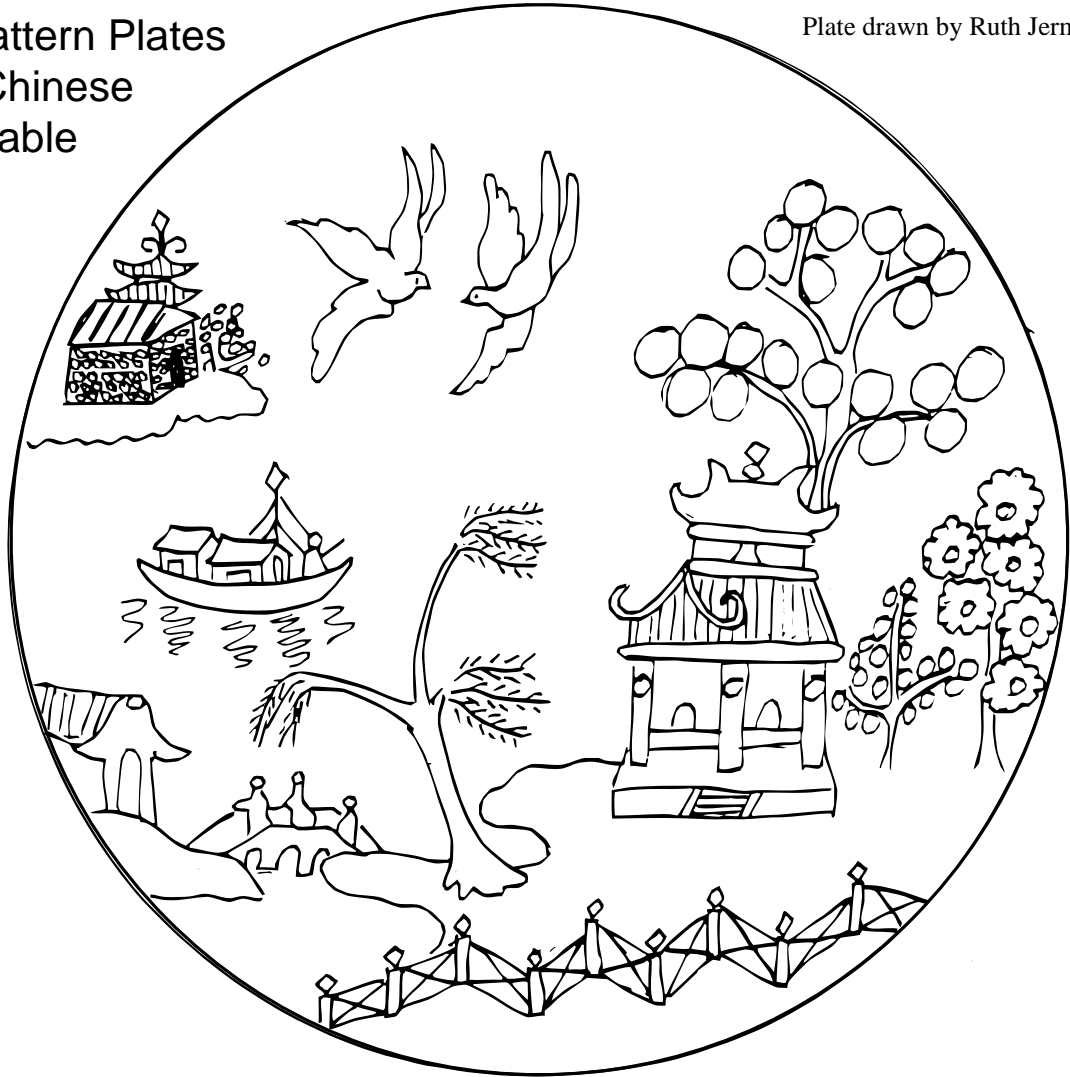


Willow Pattern Plates

- A Chinese Fable

Plate drawn by Ruth Jermy



The Story

Once upon a time, there was a wealthy Mandarin, who had a beautiful daughter, Koong-se. She had fallen in love with her father's poor accountant, Chang, greatly upsetting her father. He sacked Chang and built a fence around the house to keep the lovers apart. Her father was planning for his daughter to marry a powerful Duke. The Duke arrived by boat to claim his bride, bearing a box of jewels as a gift. The wedding was to take place on the next day some blossom fell from the willow tree.

The day before Koong-se's wedding to the Duke, the young accountant, slipped into the palace unnoticed. As the lovers escaped with the jewels, the alarm was raised. They ran over a bridge, chased by her father. They eventually escaped on the Duke's boat to the safety of a deserted island, where they lived happily together for many years. But one day, the Duke learned of their location. Wanting revenge, he sent some soldiers, who captured the lovers and put them to death. The Gods, moved by their story, transformed the lovers into a pair of doves to live for ever over the island.

Instructions

- 1 Colour in the plate design above, only using a blue colour.
- 2 Cut out the plate design.
- 3 Stick the plate design on the centre of a paper plate.
- 4 Cover the design with some sticky backed plastic.

You are now ready to eat your Chinese Snack from your Blue Willow Design Plate.