

## AN Week8 Time

### **Format: 2D Animation**

**Main character:** Lady, Scholar, Maid

**Environment:** Garden

**Time:** Real world and Lady's dream

**Key scene:** Lady fall sleep, the water haven't boiling yet, when lady wake up, the water just have boiling yet.

### **Story**

Once upon a time, a poor scholar dreamed of a beautiful woman standing under a plum tree in a garden, said to be his future wife, and has often thought of her ever since.

In the capital, there was a daughter of a great official, talented and beautiful. She had always imagined beautiful love stories after reading about ancient love stories by books. Her maid then persuaded her to go and rest in the garden, and the maid went to boil water to make her tea. The lady read under the plum tree, and in the heat of midday she drifted off to sleep. In her drowsy dream she saw a scholar coming to court her with a half weeping willow, a plum blossom embroidered on his sleeve, and they met from time to time by the garden pavilion. In their dreams, they had a wonderful time, each time avoiding the eyes of the family, but the two eventually became a couple. The scholar also got his exams and became a great official and married the young lady. They lived in great wealth and comfort. The following year, the scholar was promoted and his position grew from day to day. Later on, the scholar made another meritorious achievement for the court. When he returned to the court, he continued to rise through the ranks and became a chancellor for ten years. They had three sons and more than ten grandchildren, all of whom became officials. Their marriage to a wealthy and powerful family gave the scholar and his wife great honour and pride. They lived into their eighties, the scholar never cheated on his wife, and he was devoted to her all his life.

Suddenly, there was a bird call and the young lady woke up. Finding herself still under the plum tree, books scattered beside her, and the maid only just coming over with tea. From then on, the young lady was stricken with lovesickness, sorrowful and thin, and fell ill. On her deathbed, she asked her mother to bury her under the plum tree in the garden, instructing the maid to hide her self-portrait under a large stone. Her father built a temple of plum blossoms in her honour.

Three years later, when the scholar went to the capital to take his exams, he stayed in the temple of plum blossoms and found her portrait under the big stone. The spirit of the lady wanders through the garden and reunites with the scholar. The scholar excavates the tomb and opens the coffin, and the lady comes back to life.

## Thinking about class

For this assignment, I would like to respond about the importance of the construction of the timeline in the story, time determines the development of the plot and the direction of the story. So for this story I picked a story that fits the theme very well. There are two timelines in this story, one for the normal real world and one for the lady's dream timeline. In China there have been many traditional stories about time or in sleep can not distinguish between time space and the real world, such stories are very much. I was also inspired by one of the scenes of the traditional play "A Dream in the Garden". I decided to make this story into a big project and use it as my work during Studio2. I will continue this one plan in the later AN assignments to make it better and clearer. In the next week's AN, I will write out the specific shot script and find related work.

