

The Heaven Novelettos

Book One



The Heaven Novelettos

M.B. Goffstein



Kodaly Books
New York

To David!

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Be cute

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Pat him?

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Your little

Dog bite

He look

At me

So beseech

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Bite does he?

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Life at the Waldorf

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Paper

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Hear that

Pepper?

They call me

Professor

There is

Albert

Einstein!

We are

Having

The Heaven Novelettos

Quite a time!

I hope we

See the

Spanish lady

Pepper

Every time

She pats you

We get a

Free perfume

Sample

Professor

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Life at the Waldorf

They are not

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And finds

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Sweater

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Getting

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Life at the Waldorf

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Dealer is

Screaming

He hates

Librarians

Here comes

The famous

General

He has

Never

Been in

My shop

The Heaven Novelettos

Excuse me

I thought

This was

The bookstore

We're the

Jarmans from

Mobile

Alabama

We were here

Last year

You sold me

This cat pin

Life at the Waldorf

I'm famous

For my

Cat pin

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I wear it

All the time

My friends

Declare

Here comes

Mamie

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Cat pin

The Heaven Novelettos

The rare book

Dealer

Is screaming

Why did I

Give the

General

A discount?

He lives here

He's rich!

Here is the

General

He wants a

Life at the Waldorf

Present for

His wife

What does

She like?

I'll have

The natives

With spears

It's our

Last day in

New York

I need

Something

The Heaven Novelettos

Special

I was

Saving these

For the

Duchess

I'll take them!

Hello

General

Does your

Wife like

The natives?

I like them

Life at the Waldorf

I'll have the

Ones in

Grass skirts

Rena

Darling

Oh no

Here's the

Famous

Actress

Where are the

Natives?

They're sold

The Heaven Novelettos

Actress screams

Hotel

Security

Enters

Everything

Okay?

Oh my

Goodness

There's a big

Producer

I'll stroll

Past him

Life at the Waldorf

Isn't that

What's her name?

Yeah

She's old!

We'll be old

Someday

Nah

You got

A way

To stop it?

Yeah we're

Not dames

The Heaven Novelettos

Come along

Sylvia

We must see

To final

Details for

Your ball

Sylvia

Laughs her

Tinkly laugh

A dark-eyed

Waiter

Is watching

Life at the Waldorf

Sylvia

elopes

from ball

with coffee

waiter says

Weekly

Diez

Minutos

What do

You have

Under

Your coat

The Heaven Novelettos

Mamie?

It looks

Peculiar

I don't want

The duchess

To see

I've got her

Penguins

•

There are

The South

American

Ladies

They won't

Recognize

Me in my

Uniform

Sign up for

A tour

See the homes

Of the stars!

The Heaven Novelettos

Let's take this

Tour bus

Ynez

The seats are

Comfortable

Here we go

Where are

We going?

These houses

Are tiny!

We're on

Our way

Life at the Waldorf

We have

A strange

Driver

She looks

Familiar

She's the

Famous

Actress

From the

Waldorf

Everyone

Has a

The Heaven Novelettos

Double

Esmeralda!

Why are we

Stopping?

We're picking

Up more

Passengers

The blonde

Wearing

A full-

Skirted beige

And white

Life at the Waldorf

Dress is

Sylvia

Debutante

Of the Year

Jack Warner's

Car is

In his

Driveway

He sees

Sylvia's

Face through

The window

The Heaven Novelettos

Look at

Sylvia's

Bracelet

I see the

Writing

On the wall

Esmeralda

We are

Getting charm

Bracelets

Our stateroom

Is nice

Life at the Waldorf

We'll be

Home in

Three days

Here is

The club car

Two Veuve

Clicquot

And bring us

Some nuts

This is a

Stick-up

Hand over

The Heaven Novelettos

Your money

And jewelry

Make it

Snappy

•

There's the
Spanish lady's
Husband
Can your wife

Take care of
Pepper?
She'll be
Delighted

Pepper likes
Shopping
See how
Eagerly

The Heaven Novelettos

He enters

Each store

Is he here?

Where is the

Professor?

What have

You done

With him?

The jewelry

Showcase

Was robbed

Detective

Life at the Waldorf

Looks thru

A hole

In his

Paper

Sylvia

Is late

We made

This date a

Week ago

Shoots cuff

Detective

Jumps up

The Heaven Novelettos

Where'd you

Get the watch?

Let's see

Your ID

Sorry to have

Troubled you

How do you

Know it's mine?

Your name's

Engraved

On it

Ah there's

Life at the Waldorf

My date

Sylvia

Flash

Over here!

Those sharp

Cheese

And toasted

Water

Crackers

Were delish

I'd better

Call my

The Heaven Novelettos

Fiancée

We're dining

With her

Parents

I'm dying

At the VA

Well I

Guess this

Is it

It's great!

I'll visit

Pepper

Life at the Waldorf

Roberto

See Pepper

Dance on his

Little

Hind legs

Why is he

So happy?

He just ate

A steak

So this is

How they live

I see

The Heaven Novelettos

Something

Shining

It's my soul

I have to

Go now

Pepper

I know you

Understand

Yes sir

I do

Thank you for

Your service

Life at the Waldorf

Wake up

Roberto

What is it

Ynez?

Pepper

Is on

The bed

Wonderful!

Where is

Sylvia?

She sent her

Regrets

The Heaven Novelettos

I wanted

To dance

With her

Pouts

We just

Got married

We have the

First dance

Here come my

Bridesmaids

It's time

To throw

Life at the Waldorf

The bouquet

Hurls it

Out of

Ballroom

Hits passing

Girl knocks her

Out cold

She's wearing

A badge

From the

Library

Convention

The Heaven Novelettos

She's awake!

Miss Fine

I'm Mister

Hathaway

A hotel

Employee

Will you

Marry me?

Notes for Novelettos

Novelettos are named for Walnettos.

They are my version of Chinese Regulated Poetry. The lines are two or three syllables, unless one, four, or five are necessary.

Notes for Life at the Waldorf

For information on Rena Rosenthal see *Art Deco Sculpture & Metalware* by Alfred W. Edward. Atglen, PA: Schiffer, 1996.

For jewelry showcase and detectives see *Confessions of a Grand Hotel* by Horace Sutton. New York: Henry Holt, 1953.

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Notes from the Chef's Desk by Arno B. Schmidt, Executive Chef the Waldorf-Astoria. Boston: Cahners Books International, 1977.

Po Chü-i at the Waldorf

Ha ha ha

What's so

Funny?

Big feet

Please be

Quiet

This is a

Library

Can I help

You find

A book?

Po Chü-i

The Heaven Novelettos

Here you go

Ha ha ha

Book foreign

Can't read

I don't know

Menswear

But your

Kimono

Looks ancient

Eleven-

Hundred year

I am

Po Chu-i at the Waldorf

Po Chü-i

I'll take you

To the

Chinese

Collection

I stay

With you

I live at

One hundred

Thirteenth Street

We wait here

For the bus

The Heaven Novelettos

I will pay

Your fare

The driver

Doesn't

See you

That is house?

It's the

Cathedral

Of St. John

The Divine

I get

A kick

Po Chu-i at the Waldorf

Out of

Hearing

You talk

No cases

No genders

No endings

There is

Dear friend

Yüan Chen

Miss Fine sees

A silver

Dragonfly

The Heaven Novelettos

Pin on

The sidewalk

Someone

Lost this

I will

Take it

To the

Police

Do not take

Yüan Chen

To police

Station!

Po Chu-i at the Waldorf

Enter

Building

Miss Fine

Unlocks

Her door

That room

Is off-

Limits

It is

Miss Goffstein's

Miss Go Chi

Like to read

The Heaven Novelettos

Po Chü-i

Standing in

Hallway

He sings

Homeless at

Seventy

Wind rise

Boat sail

White-headed

Man white-

Headed wave

Miss Go Chi

Po Chu-i at the Waldorf

As you

Call her is

Publishing

A book called

The Gats!

Her Chinese

Teacher

Said she can

Speak as

Well as

A five-

Year-old

The Heaven Novelettos

This is my

Living room

Po picks up

Picture frame

You have

Sister?

That is

Miss Millay

Please do not

Enter

My bathroom

I will

Po Chu-i at the Waldorf

Show it

To you

Sometime

But now

I have

To get

Ready

For bed

Miss Goffstein

Is drawing

A book at

Her table

The Heaven Novelettos

What is name?

Sleepy

People

You are

Maiden?

What a

Question!

I'm a

Librarian

I did

Receive a

Proposal

Po Chu-i at the Waldorf

Ten years

Ago

At the

Waldorf

Is that a

New pin?

It lights up

Your face

Thank you

Miss Richter

Please shelve

These books

The Heaven Novelettos

Who wanted

A Hundred

Seventy

Chinese

Poems?

We do not

Ask that

Question

I have to

Go shopping

I need a

New coat

Po Chu-i at the Waldorf

Here comes

A salesgirl

Don't look

At the

Sale rack

That pin

You are

Wearing

Has style

Try this on

It's too

Expensive

The Heaven Novelettos

The price

Is wrong

It's a

Bargain!

What a

Lovely

New coat

Miss Fine

Don't get mad

I wonder

If you have

A boyfriend

Po Chu-i at the Waldorf

Miss Richter

We are

Co-workers

Not friends

You have

Too much

Time on

Your hands

Opens bag

Takes out

Waxed paper

Package

The Heaven Novelettos

But really

Miss Fine

You seem

Different

That's enough

Nonsense

Takes bite

Of sandwich

•

Miss Go's

Father

Is here

On business

He wants

To see

Where she lives

There's the

Doorbell

I'll freshen

My lipstick

She is

The Heaven Novelettos

Opening

The door

She is

Showing him

Her room!

Miss Fine

This is

My father

Albert

Goffstein

He nods

And says

Po Chü-i at the Waldorf

How are you

To Po

Miss Go

Doesn't see

Po Chü-i

She is

Aware

Her talent

Is growing

She feels

Like a worm

In very

The Heaven Novelettos

Hard ground

He is

So handsome!

He has

What we call

Quiet charm

He is

Spiritual

Kind of man

Miss Go

Complain of

Publisher

Po Chü-i at the Waldorf

He say

She have to

Let them earn

Salary

Some day

Mr. Go die

Look down

Find house

For Miss Go

And husband

Publish on

Internet

The Heaven Novelettos

Get own

Copyright

What is

On head

Miss Fine?

It's a

Hairnet

Good night

•

This is the
Waldorf
Miss Go
Is lunching

With a
Friend from
College
Are you

Really
A lady?
Yes I am
Brookie

The Heaven Novelettos

How did

You meet?

I was

Making a

Movie

In Paris

They stopped

Production

So I went

To London

And got

A job at

Po Chü-i at the Waldorf

Lord Shell's

Foundation

What do

You do?

We study

Ancient

Chinese

Porcelain

Oh

That is

So neat!

Sylvia

The Heaven Novelettos

Laughs and

Throughout the

Restaurant

Men faint

Where get

Marriage

Proposal

Miss Fine?

Come this way

I will

Show you

It was

Po Chü-i at the Waldorf

In this

Corridor

Look at

The people

Wearing

Identical

Aprons!

We are

Finalists

In the Grand

National

Bake-Off

The Heaven Novelettos

We had

Recipes

Chosen from

Thousands

Of entries

Postmarked

By midnight

June 30th

Miss Fine

Is thrilled

As four

By four

Po Chü-i at the Waldorf

They enter

Grand Ballroom

To the

Tune of

When the

Saints Go

Marching In

Beaming

With pride and

Confidence

As well

They should

The Heaven Novelettos

For they

Are at

Home in a

Kitchen

Where did

Proposal

Take place?

Right here

Miss Fine

Is that you?

I so

Often think

Po Chü-i at the Waldorf

Of you!

Lord Shell

Leaves lobby

Goes to

Restaurant

Sylvia

I am

Buying a

Zither from

Mr. Greco

Darling

Show Brooke

The Heaven Novelettos

Our Ming

Palette

She sent us

That little

Pen-and-ink

Drawing

Lord Shell

Reaches in

Pocket

Removes

A large

Saucer

Po Chü-i at the Waldorf

Translates

In his

British

Accent:

When you

Record

Something good

In ink your

Achievement

Is doubled

In value

Hands it

The Heaven Novelettos

To Brooke

She is awed

Miss Fine

Sorry

Interrupt

That man

Has *ch'in*

Is this

Some kind

Of joke?

Are you

Okay

Po Chü-i at the Waldorf

Hathaway?

You look like

You've seen

A ghost

That was

Miss Fine

I started

To ask her

To join me

For dinner

And she walked

Away

The Heaven Novelettos

Talking to

Herself

I have

Déjà vu

Let's get

Back to work

On this

Bake-Off

Delicious

Aromas

Emanate

From 100

Po Chü-i at the Waldorf

GE ovens

Timers

Ring like

Temple bells

Dishes are

Judged in

Sequestration

Based on

General

Appeal

Tastiness

Ease of

The Heaven Novelettos

Preparation

And aptness

Of name

In eight

Categories:

Cookies

Quick breads

Yeast breads

Pies cakes

Frostings and

Fillings

Desserts and

Po Chü-i at the Waldorf

Main dishes

Ch'in is

Zither

Miss Fine

I write

Poem

About *ch'in*

One time

I take

Two stone from

Lake Tung-t'ing

Put *ch'in*

The Heaven Novelettos

On one

Wine jar

On other

Lord Shell loves

Lacquerware

See how he

Caresses it

I let wind

Caress it

Ha ha ha

One time

It has only

Po Chü-i at the Waldorf

One string

This prunus

Blossom

Crackle

Is a sign

Of great

Antiquity

The tone is

Resonant

Greco

Sweeps across

Seven strings

The Heaven Novelettos

Not play

In high wind

Heavy rain

Marketplace

Near common

People

Not play

When not

Properly

Seated

Dressed

Hatted

Po Chü-i at the Waldorf

I thought

Taoists don't

Discriminate

But I read

That you were

A censor

We have free

Speech in

America

Have job

Criticize

Emperor

The Heaven Novelettos

Eunuch

Jealous of

Poetry

Banish me

To Chiang-chou

I take

Money

Buy tree

Many bloom

Peach apricot

Plum

All mix

Po Chü-i at the Waldorf

Together

I meant

No harm

I was

Only

Making

A joke

My friend!

Fame is like

Public tool

I use

Too much

The Heaven Novelettos

The brightness

Disappears

Leaving a

Dull black like

Ebony

The first hole

Is the

Dragon pool

The second

Is the

Phoenix pond

The space

Po Chü-i at the Waldorf

Between

Is hollowed

So that

The sound

Will be

Sustained

I keep *ch'in*

Under

Bedclothes

Ch'in like

Human

Spirit

The Heaven Novelettos

The length

Is three feet

Six inches

For the

Three hundred

Sixty

Days of

The year

Top round

Represent

Heaven

Bottom flat

Po Chü-i at the Waldorf

Represent

Earth

Horizontal

Cuts in the

Lacquer tree

Exude a

Transparent

Substance

That changes

In color

From white

To gray

The Heaven Novelettos

To black

Goodbye

Miss Fine

I leave

Red Dust

Where will

You go

Po Lo-t'ien?

•

Notes for Po Chü-i at the Waldorf

For “Homeless at seventy” see “Seeing Hsia Chan Off by River,” *The White Pony An Anthology of Chinese Poetry* Edited by Robert Payne. New York: John Day, 1947.

A Hundred and Seventy Chinese Poems translated by Arthur Waley. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1919.

For ink palette see No. 661 in *Illustrated Catalog of Underglaze Blue and Copper Red Decorated Porcelains* by Margaret Medly. London: University of London, 1976.

For “I take two stone from Lake Tung t’ing” see “A Pair of Stones,” *Po Chü-i Selected Poems* translated by Burton Watson. New York: Columbia University Press, 2000.

For “I let wind caress it” see “The Ch’in,” Watson *Po Chü-i Selections*.

For information on zither see *Dated Chinese Antiquities 600–1650* by Sheila Riddell. London: Faber and Faber, 1979.

For “Planting Flowering Trees on Eastern Slope” see Watson *Po Chü- i Selections*.

For “Fame is like public tool” see *Biography of Po Chü-i* Annotated translation from chüan 166 of the *Chin T’ang-shu* by Eugene Feifel. Reprinted from *Monumenta Serica* Vol. XVII, 1958.

Lo Tien is Po’s given name; Chü-i is his literary name.

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

The air is
Crystal cold
The ground
Is white

Miss Go Chi
Is in
Heaven
And as she

Walks up
The long drive
She real-
izes it's

The Heaven Novelettos

Bennington

There are

Girls in

Leotards

And dangly

Earrings

Are you

Taking

Poetry

With Po

Chü-i?

One asks

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

I didn't
Know he was
Teaching this
Semester!

Her house
Is the
First one
You come to

She passes
The tree
That fills
Her room

The Heaven Novelettos

With yellow

Light on cold

Autumn

Mornings

Enters

And climbs

The stairs

Did you have

A good Non-

Resident

Term?

The two

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

Sophomores

Leaning

Over the

Banister

Ynez and

Esmeralda

Have the

Double

Next to

Her single

Her room

Is just as

The Heaven Novelettos

She left it

Her books

Surprise her

I had them

All this time

She thinks

The three

Suitemates

Go up to

Commons

For dinner

Next morning

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

Miss Go

Wakes up

Under

Her quilt

Poetry

Workshop

Is in

The Barn

Behind

Commons

Create dish

Write out

The Heaven Novelettos

Recipe

Prepare

Dish use

Recipe

Make sure

Recipe

Right says

Po Chü-i

Jane Lorraine

Is a

Special

Student

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

Chewy said

I'd like it

She tells

Miss Go Chi

I didn't

Know dogs were

Allowed

Suddenly

Two more

Come thru the

Doorway

The big one

The Heaven Novelettos

Is Barla

The little one

Corey

They greet

Miss Go

Turn around

And lie down

My brother

Is a

Great cook

Says Jane

Is he here?

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

No silly

He doesn't

Need a

Cooking class

Miss Moore

Enters

Take last

Kitchen

Po tells her

She eyes

His hat

And says

The Heaven Novelettos

I once wore

A fez

With a

Blue dress

Hat give

To me

By old

Gentleman

He sings

His poem

Wow says

Nemerov

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

I studied

With Lu Chi

It was

Nothing

Like this

What is your

Brother

Taking?

Maybe I

Should transfer

I think

It would be

The Heaven Novelettos

Too hard

Ritchie

Valens

Is in

That class

Recipe

Poem

Says Po

Everyone

Create

Simple but

Tasty dish

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

Miss Go

Tries to

Remember

What she

Had for

Breakfast

She is

Starting

To feel

Desperate

Name of dish

Important

The Heaven Novelettos

I call name

From former

Bake-Off:

Toffee Dream

Butter Crunch

Oriental

Treasure

Macaroon

Polka Dot

Long Ago

Lemon

Walnut

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

Sandwich

Chocolate

Shadow

Crunch Date

Chocolate

Beau Catcher

Almond

Tosca Bar

Cherry Fluff

Ha ha ha

Laughs Po

He's a good

The Heaven Novelettos

Teacher

Says Jane

I have

A name

For mine

Chewy's

Carrot Cake

German

Shepherd

Smiles fondly

Miss Go tells

Miss Moore

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

I like your

Poem

About Ben

Zuckerman

Pearl buttons

From ocean

Shine like moons!

I shall

Serve Fritos

They are

Nutritious

Where can I

The Heaven Novelettos

Get them?

There's a

Snack bar in

Commons

But I think

They have

Dipsy

Doodles

I must have

Fritos

I will

Serve them

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

In small

Paper cups

Governor

Yang is next

I make

Western

Ocean

Take white

Of egg

And flour

Mix paste

Make metal

The Heaven Novelettos

Pincers

With plate

At each end

Leave less

Than one-

Tenth inch

Between

Closed plates

Hold over

Fire one

Moment

Wafer

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

Is done

White as snow

Shiny as

Glaze paper

Add sugar

And pine nut

After class

Miss Go

Looks at

The mountain

This is

And is not

The Heaven Novelettos

Bennington

The mountain

Could be in

Afghanistan

I have

A car

Says Ynez

We can

Drive in

To town

Miss Go

Will check

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

On David

He will know

What she

Can cook

What is this

Red dust?

Ynez

Asks coughing

David

Is fine

He won't

Miss small

The Heaven Novelettos

Afghani

Rug from

Attic

Barla and

Corey

Race back

From ocean

With sticks

Dish should be

No flavor

It should be

Beyond

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

Sourness and

Saltiness

Miss Go

Remembers

The three

Friends of

Winter

Bamboo

Plum and pine

She will

Remove

Plum pit

The Heaven Novelettos

Replace

With bit of

Bamboo shoot

And a

Pine nut

Call it

Three Friends

Polka

•

Heaven is

Filled with

Librarians

Miss Fine and

Miss Richter

Arrive and

Settle in

Isn't it

Pretty

Says Miss

Richter

Miss Fine

The Heaven Novelettos

Sees someone

Coming in

A gown

And black hat

Sign up

For class

Says Po

Bake-Off

I promised

Miss Richter

I would take

Knitting

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

A Bake-

Off sounds

Good says

Miss Richter

She is

Jolly

And broad

In the beam

Miss Go

In class

Miss Go

Want to

The Heaven Novelettos

Move up

To higher

Level

What's so great

Up there?

No Non-

Resident

Term

Forget

Everything

Learn again

Can get

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

Sickening

We will

See you

Later

We are off

To the store

In the Barn

To buy yarn

Miss Richter

Takes brown

Miss Fine

Takes pink

The Heaven Novelettos

They walk up

To Commons

Get coffee

From snack bar

Take it to

Window seat

Looking

At mountain

Miss Fine

How do you

Know

Po Chü-i?

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

That I am

Not at

Liberty

To say

And who

Is Miss

Goat Cheese?

The next

Level

Sounds scary

I like

NRT

The Heaven Novelettos

Look at the

Dancers

Continues

Miss Richter

Look at their

Posture

And haughty

Demeanor

Po joins them

Why aren't you

At the next

Level?

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

Miss Richter's

Teasing

Appeals

To men

Miss Fine

Fusses

With her bag

Of yarn

Come from

Hinterland

Says Po

Very poor

The Heaven Novelettos

No calligraphy

No painting

No gambling

Not one

Relative

At court

Heaven does

Not like

Early

Poems

On human

Suffering

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

Sets down

Coffee cup

Removes

Drake Cake

From sleeve

Opens it

Carefully

And smooths

Out folds

In the

Cellophane

Wrapper

The Heaven Novelettos

Please go on

Says Miss Fine

Where is

Your friend

Yüan Chen?

He is on

Upper

Level

I don't stop

Writing

Poem

He stop

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

Though I am

Doltish

In ten year

I pass three

Literary

Exam

Name become

Widely known

In private

I mix with

Greatest

Talent

The Heaven Novelettos

In palace

I wait

Upon

Emperor

Don't look

Now says

Miss Richter

But that girl

At the last

Table

Is a

Movie star

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

Nemerov

Sits with

Jane and

Chewy

They leave

And walk

Down to

Stone wall

That night

There is

A House

Meeting

The Heaven Novelettos

In Woolley

Living room

A dancer

Speaks to

Miss Richter

What was

That all

About

Miss Fine

Inquires

I am

Saving

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

Her a seat

Do you mind

If I

Don't take

Knitting?

I want to

Lose weight

And be a

Dancer

I have

Always worn

My hair

The Heaven Novelettos

In a bun

That is true

Says Miss Fine

And now

It is time

For the

Bake-Off

Miss Go

Finds 16

Plums in her

Miniature

Kitchen

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

A large

Bamboo

Shoot and

A jar of

Pine nuts

Four times

Her listed

Ingredients

Waiters go

Up and down

The aisles

Removing

The Heaven Novelettos

Dirty

Utensils

Bringing

Clean ones

Miss Go

Raises knife

She has

Never made

This thing

Governor

Yang builds

A raging

Miss Go Chi in Heaven

Fire on

Top of

His stove

Nemerov

Arranges

Saltine

Crackers and

Seven-Up

Po is

Coming

To do

The tasting

The Heaven Novelettos

Governor

Yang wins

Makes million

Million

Wafers

Everyone

At fire

Singing rounds

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Notes for Miss Go Chi in Heaven

For “The Hat Given to the Poet by Li Chien” see Waley *170 Chinese Poems*.

For “To Lu Chi” see *The Collected Poems of Howard Nemerov*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1977.

For information on Bake-Off see *Best of the Bake-Off Cookbook* Updated and Revised by the Pillsbury Company. New York: Clarkson Potter, 2001.

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For information on Marianne Moore and Fritos see *Their Ancient Glittering Eyes* by Donald Hall. New York: Ticknor & Fields, 1992.

For “The Master Tailor” see *The Poems of Marianne Moore* edited by Grace Shulman. New York: Penguin Books, 2003.

For “Western Ocean” see *Madly Singing in the Mountains An Appreciation and Anthology of Arthur Waley* edited by Ivan Morris. New York: Walker and Company, 1970.

For “Beyond sourness and saltiness” see *The Poetry of Wang Wei New Translations and Commentary* by Pauline Yu. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1980.

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Po Chü-i in Heaven

The Waldorf

Steffi

Leans back

In seat as

Cab speeds off

Sees city

Thru window

Exits cab

Enters

Hotel

Goes to

Restaurant

The Heaven Novelettos

Says a

Gentleman

Will be

Joining me

Orders drink

Sips it

Hello

Johnny

John orders

His drink

Looks at

Menu

Po Chü-i in Heaven

Steffi says

It's nice

To see you

Johnny

You mean it?

Yes I do

I'm going

To sell

You a

Screenplay

Just say

What you

The Heaven Novelettos

Want to say

I really

Do have a

Screenplay

I wrote

With you

In mind

Oh Jeeze

It's a

Thriller

Waiter

Serves them

Po Chü-i in Heaven

This looks

Yummy

Steffi

Picks up

Her fork

How is

Your lunch

Johnny?

Very good

Listen

I don't have

Much time

The Heaven Novelettos

Then I'll start

Reading

Hello

Darling

Thank you for

The flowers

You got them?

Yes I did

See you

Tonight?

I can't

I got

Po Chü-i in Heaven

Married

We went out

Last night

I can't live

Without you

BANG!

I saw you

Kill him

Johnny

I'll go on

Gloria—

Who the hell's

The Heaven Novelettos

Gloria?

Your wife

Laura

You don't want

Me to use

Her real name

Do you?

Who cares?

That's up

To you

Do we have

A deal?

Po Chü-i in Heaven

Yeah we do

You're dead

Not so fast

Johnny

Detective

Gets up from

Nearby

Table

You're under

Arrest

For the

Murder of

The Heaven Novelettos

Mel Pinto

Well Stef

It's been a

Little slice of

Heaven

Takes out

Gun and

Shoots her

Hotel

Police

Shout at

Detective

Po Chü-i in Heaven

He says

She called

Me from

LA

She says

She can

Make him

Confess

To a

Decades-

Old crime

Do you

The Heaven Novelettos

Remember

Mel Pinto?

He had a

Nightclub

What was

It called?

Pinto's

That's right

•

Miss Fine and

Dr. Po

Are you

Ready to

Leave this

Red Dust?

Ynez

Jingles

Car keys

We see

Bake-Off

Says Po

The Heaven Novelettos

Peacheesy

Pie

Then you won't

Want to stop

At Lindy's

Can I bum

A ride?

Asks Steffi

They get

In the car

And are soon

On their way

Po Chü-i in Heaven

Among

The stars

My Non-

Resident

Term was a

Disaster

Steffi says

Starting with

My stupid

Parents

Never mind says

Miss Fine

The Heaven Novelettos

I just

Saw a

Poster

For my

Colleague

Ruth Richter

Dancing in

Swan Lake

She meant

To be

A modern

Dancer

Po Chü-i in Heaven

They come to

A camp and

Ynez

Stops the car

Travelers

Are cooking

Over an

Open fire

They make

Western

Ocean

From class

The Heaven Novelettos

Says Po

Everyone

Takes one

This is

Delicious!

Steffi

Didn't get

To eat the

Waldorf

Salad she

Ordered

A woman

Po Chü-i in Heaven

From the

Upper

West Side

Looks in

Zabar's

Shopping bag

Takes out

Jam saying

Put some

Of this

On top

Steffi!

The Heaven Novelettos

Mel Pinto

Comes from

Shadow

Why are

You here?

Johnny Cohn

Shot me

You too?

For a

Minute

Back there

I thought

Po Chü-i in Heaven

I blew

My own

Brains out

But I

Couldn't

Have done it

Since I am

Right-handed

And don't

Hear good

With my

Left ear

The Heaven Novelettos

Have trouble

With eye

Says Po

Too much

Study see

Crystal

Age 68

Left leg

Does not

Support me

Servant

Carry me

Po Chü-i in Heaven

Out in

Sedan chair

You were rich?

Asks Mel

Don't be

Be an

Idiot

He's a

Poet

He lived in

Ancient

China

The Heaven Novelettos

Ynez

Walks among

The campers

Looking for

A small

White dog with

Black spots

She invites

Mel Pinto

To ride

With them

But he

Po Chü-i in Heaven

Declines

Saying

He has

A friend

In the camp

Who is

Shy around

People

The crystal

Shapes are

Ocular

Migraines says

The Heaven Novelettos

Steffi

I had

Them all

The time

Miss Go

Have same

Infirmity

See crystal

Age 68

Left leg

Is weak

Ha ha ha

Po Chü-i in Heaven

Laughs Po

Husband

Tell her

Po Chü-i

Try to get

In touch

With you

This way

The vastness

Around them

Blazes

With white stars

The Heaven Novelettos

They get back

In the

Car and

Drive on

•

Dr. Po

May I

Speak to you?

Asks Steffi

Po reaches

In sleeve

Hands her

Bake-Off

Entry form

Thank you

I wanted

To talk

The Heaven Novelettos

To you

About

NRT

We walk

Says Po

They leave

Classroom

In Barn

Go past

Commons

And down

The lawn

Po Chü-i in Heaven

Steffi is

Aware

Of Po's

Old gown

Whispering

His slippers

Patting

The grass

His jade fish

In *yu-tai*

Hanging from

His sash

The Heaven Novelettos

Official rank

Fifth class

He says

Sensing

Her thoughts

Have forty–

Fifty

Thousand cash

Monthly

Get clothes

To wear

Food to eat

Po Chü-i in Heaven

Help family

They sit on

The low

Stone wall

Looking

At Mount

Anthony

I think

I should take

Another

NRT

Right away

The Heaven Novelettos

I used to

Skip school

And hang

Out in

A bar

Owned by

Mel Pinto

I saw him

Get shot

I ran

Outside

And called

Po Chü-i in Heaven

For help

But didn't

Tell police

I had

Been there

My parents

Would have

Killed me

New kind of

Bake-Off

Says Po

Recipe

The Heaven Novelettos

Must use

Bamboo shoot

Some way

Slice chop

Grate grind

Into

Flour

Powder

Make stick

Dip in

Chocolate

Up to

Po Chü-i in Heaven

Finger

Put cherry

On top

Man in Hat

Why do

You stay

At this

Level

Asks Steffi

Seventy-

Five chüan of

Writing in

The Heaven Novelettos

Red Dust

Make five

Copy

One to

Library

Two to

Monastery

Two to

Family

How can I

Ever

Leave them?

Po Chü-i in Heaven

Two men

And a dog

Walk up

The long drive

Booth is

The first

House they

Come to

Anyone home

Calls Mel

Ynez and

Esmeralda

The Heaven Novelettos

Scream with

Joy on

Seeing

Pepper

Steffi's in

Woolley

They tell

The men

Cross the

Lawn and

Go behind

The house

Po Chü-i in Heaven

Opposite

This one

It will

Be the third

Down on

Your left

I must call

Roberto

Ynez

And Pepper

Go to

Phone room

The Heaven Novelettos

Ring-ring

Someone

Wants to

Say hello

Gives phone

To Pepper

Huh huh

He pants

Who is that?

Woof!

Pepper

Barks on

Po Chü-i in Heaven

Hearing

His voice

They go out

Steffi

And Po

Walk up

The lawn

Pepper

Is very

Intrigued

By Po

Po quotes

The Heaven Novelettos

From old

Poem

About

His home:

Dogs and

Chickens

Are peaceful

And placid

That night

There is

Singing

In the

Po Chü-i in Heaven

Living room

Friends from

Williams

Arrive with

Guitars

Banjo

And a

Mandolin

Who did

You say

It was

Brother

The Heaven Novelettos

Plink plink

Who was it

Fell by

The way?

I heard

The crash

On the

Highway

But I

Didn't hear

Nobody pray

Hugo

Po Chü-i in Heaven

Opens his

Guitar case

Puts on

Capo

Boil the

Cabbage

Down boys

Bake the

Hoe cake brown

The only

Song I

Ever did

The Heaven Novelettos

Sing was

Boil the

Cabbage down

I wish

I had

A nickel

I wish

I had

A dime

Miss Go Chi

Comes down

She loves

Po Chü-i in Heaven

Singing

Little DAR-

Her voice

Leaps up

Two notes

ling pal

Of mine

She feels

She is

Running

The show

Feels she

The Heaven Novelettos

Is a

Dragon

Behind a

Small cloud

Notes for Po Chü-i in Heaven

For facts about Po see Feifel *Biography of Po Chü-i*.

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