

Mulan, Mushu

(Wu Zhong Camp. MULAN practices her manly stance.)

MULAN: *(faking a man's voice)* So this is the Wu Zhong Camp? I love it. It's filled with men. Like me. So, where would a manly man like myself sign on for the manly aaa- *(voice cracks)* -aaarmy?! Oh, who am I kidding? It's gonna take a miracle to get me into the army.

MUSHU: Did I hear someone ask for a "miracle"?!? *(MUSHU stands on the rock.)*

MULAN: What's going on? Who are you? *(MULAN grabs her sword.)*

MUSHU: Get ready, Mulan, your serpentine salvation is at hand.

MULAN: How did you know I was here?

MUSHU: I have been sent by your Ancestors... to guide you through your masquerade. So heed my words, because if the Army finds out you're a girl, the penalty is death! I am the powerful, the pleasurable, the indestructible: Mushu! *(MUSHU loses his balance and falls off the rock.)*

MULAN: You don't look very powerful or indestructible. You look like a little lizard. Why would my Ancestors send a lizard to protect me?

MUSHU: Well... they didn't have much choice. But that's another story. And I'm not a lizard! I'm a fire-breathing dragon. Watch this... *(attempts a breath of fire, nothing happens)* Hey, no fire. *(laughs nervously)* That's never happened to me before. Let me just try that again. *(tries again, fails)* Hmmmm. My tonsils must be damp or something.

MULAN: Listen, thanks for the offer. But I think I'll be better off on my own.

MUSHU: Did you miss the "penalty is death" part?

MULAN: Mushu, lets face it, I'm hopeless. If I'm going to fail, I might as well fail on my own.

MUSHU: "Fail"? Not while I'm here! There's a hero in there somewhere. We just have to make you look on the outside like you do on the inside.