

GRAEME WILSON

TRANSLATIONS FROM KOREAN

ANONYMOUS  
*(18th Century)*

SHRIMP SLEEP

Curled up like a shrimp,  
Last night I slept alone:  
The night before, again a shrimp,  
I curled up on my own.

What sort of life is this?  
To lie from dusk till dawn,  
Night after night, curled up in sleep  
Like some tight-bellied prawn.

But, ah, today my darling's come  
And paddle times are past:  
Tonight I shall, with long-stretched legs,  
Un-shrimp myself at last.