

AI Acknowledgement

☐ I have not used AI in my assignment

I confirm that I have not used any AI tools in the research and creation of this assignment. I confirm that I have not presented any AI agenerated materials as my own work. I confirm I have copies of my drafts, notes, and other resources I used, which I may be asked to provide in evidence.

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I acknowledge the use of [ChatGPT] [(https://chatgpt.com/)] on [25.10.2025] to [Purpose my work: translation and check grammar]. I used the prompt(s):

1. [translation.....]
2. [check.....grammar]

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The Harm of Slander: A Reflection on Xiaoya · Qingying and Its Influence on Moral Relationships

Module code :SICH4010

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-Outline-

- Interpretation through
Classical Commentaries
- Insights into Moral
Relationships
- What We Can
Learn and Do

Part 1 :

Interpretation through
Classical Commentaries

Part 1:

Ts'ing ying

— — — — —

① They buzz about, the blue flies,
Lighting on the fences.

O! happy and courteous sovereign,
Do not believe slamdrous speeches.¹



Part 1:

Ts'ing ying

— — — — —



② They buzz about, the blue flies,
Lighting on the jujube trees.

The slanderers observe no limits,
And throw the whole kingdom into confusion.²

Part 1:

Ts'ing ying

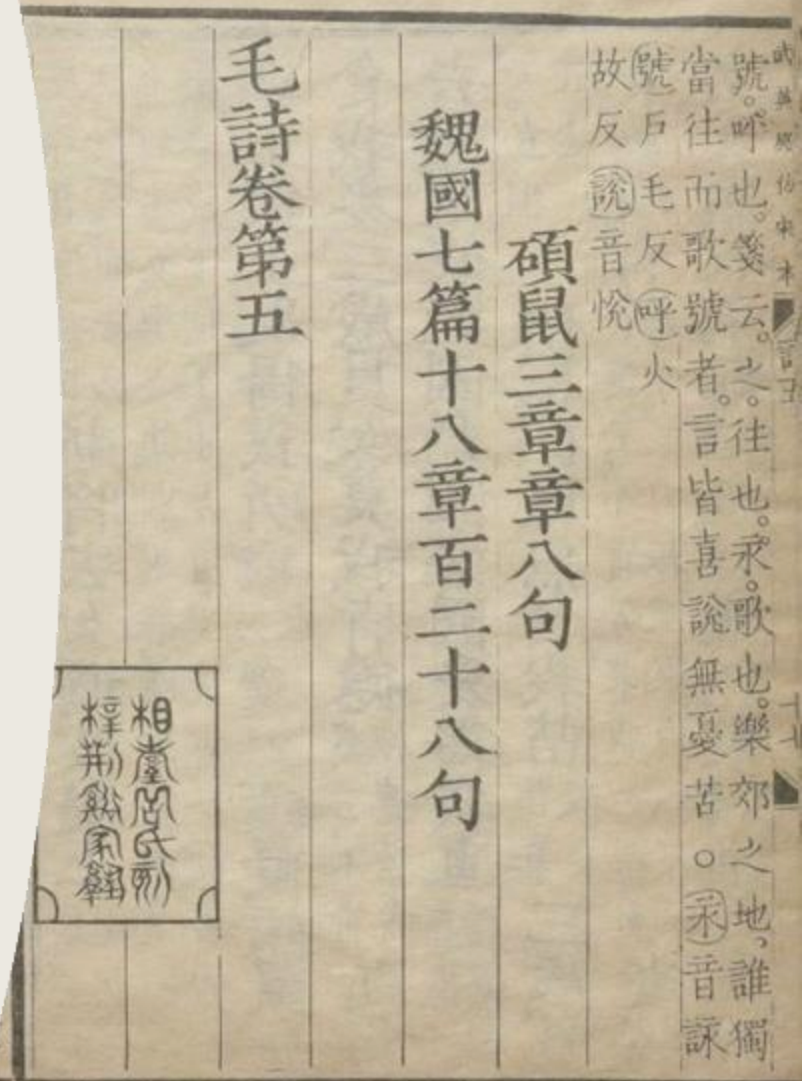
— — — — —

- ③ They buzz about, the blue flies,
Lighting on the hazel trees.
The slanderers observe no limits,
And set us two at variance.³



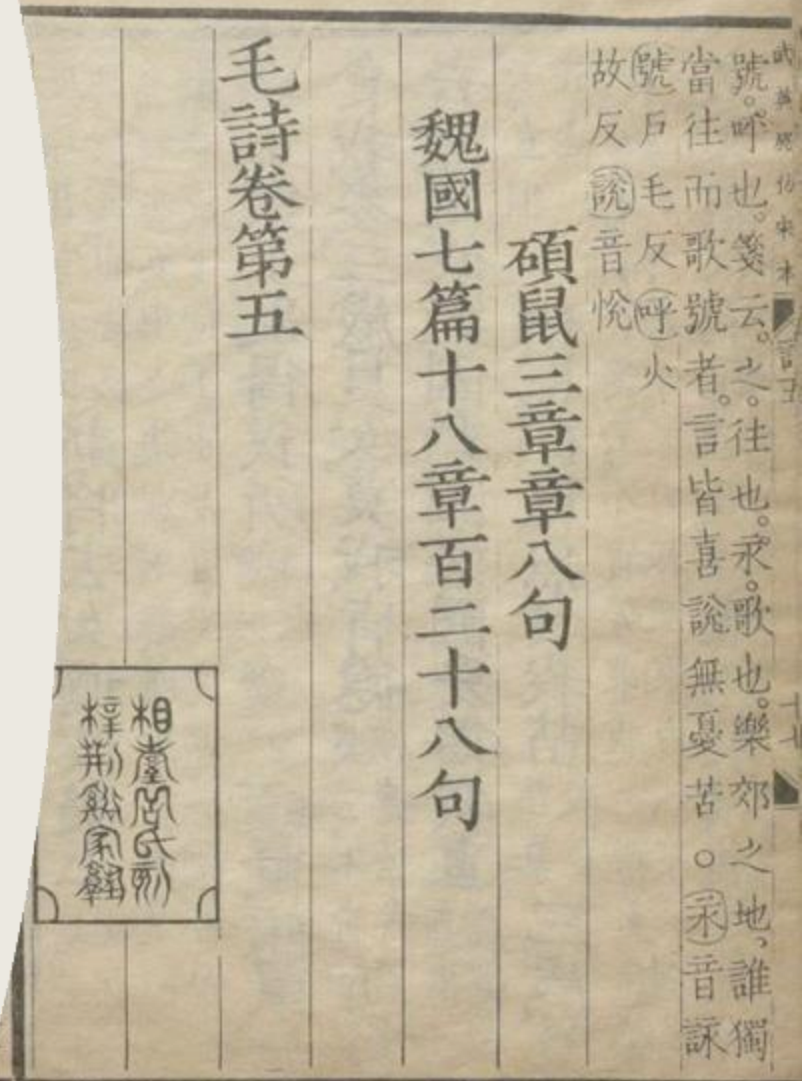
Part 1:

Mao's Preface sees 'blue flies' as an officer's critique of King You, exposing its role as a political remonstrance against the ruler's trust in slander.⁴



Part 1:

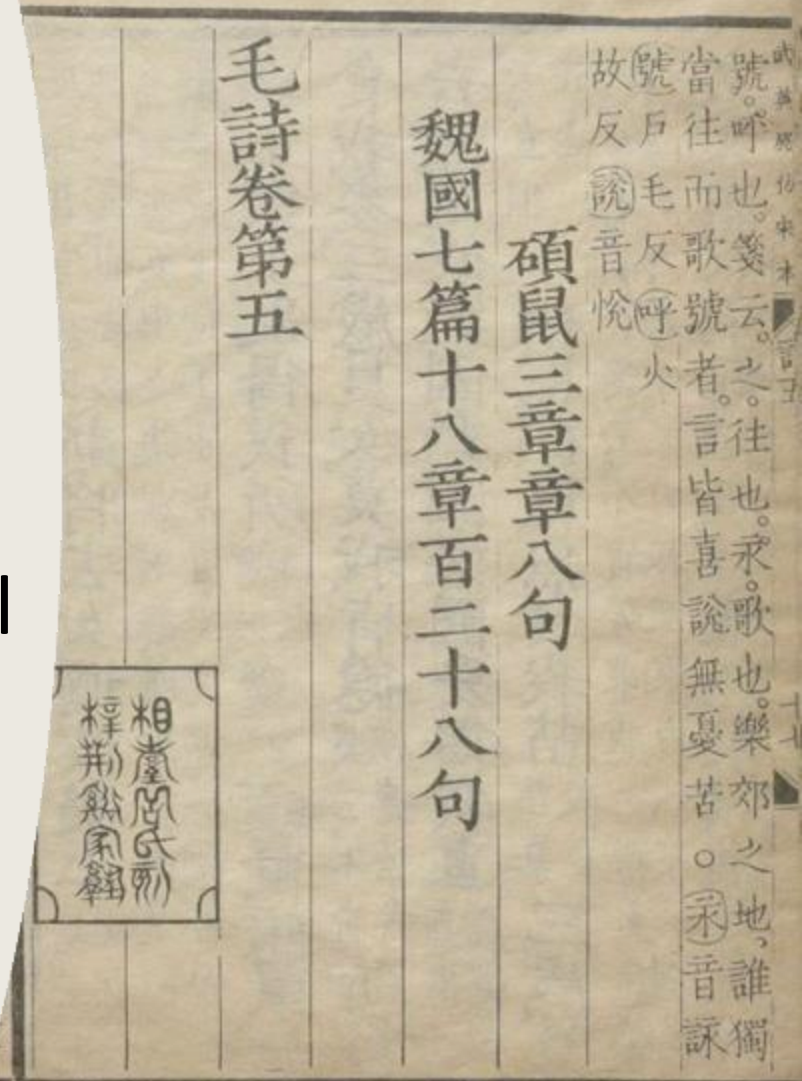
Zhu Xi interprets the ‘blue flies’ as a **metaphor for slanderous voices**, symbolizing the king’s weakness in listening to them. ⁵



Part 1:

Shi Jing Zhu Xi 詩經注析：

The Commentary views the poem as condemning slanderers who harm people and the state, broadening its message from personal caution to universal moral concern.⁶



Part 1:

And also...

— — — — —

In ‘Qing Ying’ (‘Blue Flies’), the fly serves as a metaphor for slanderers who cause political harm.

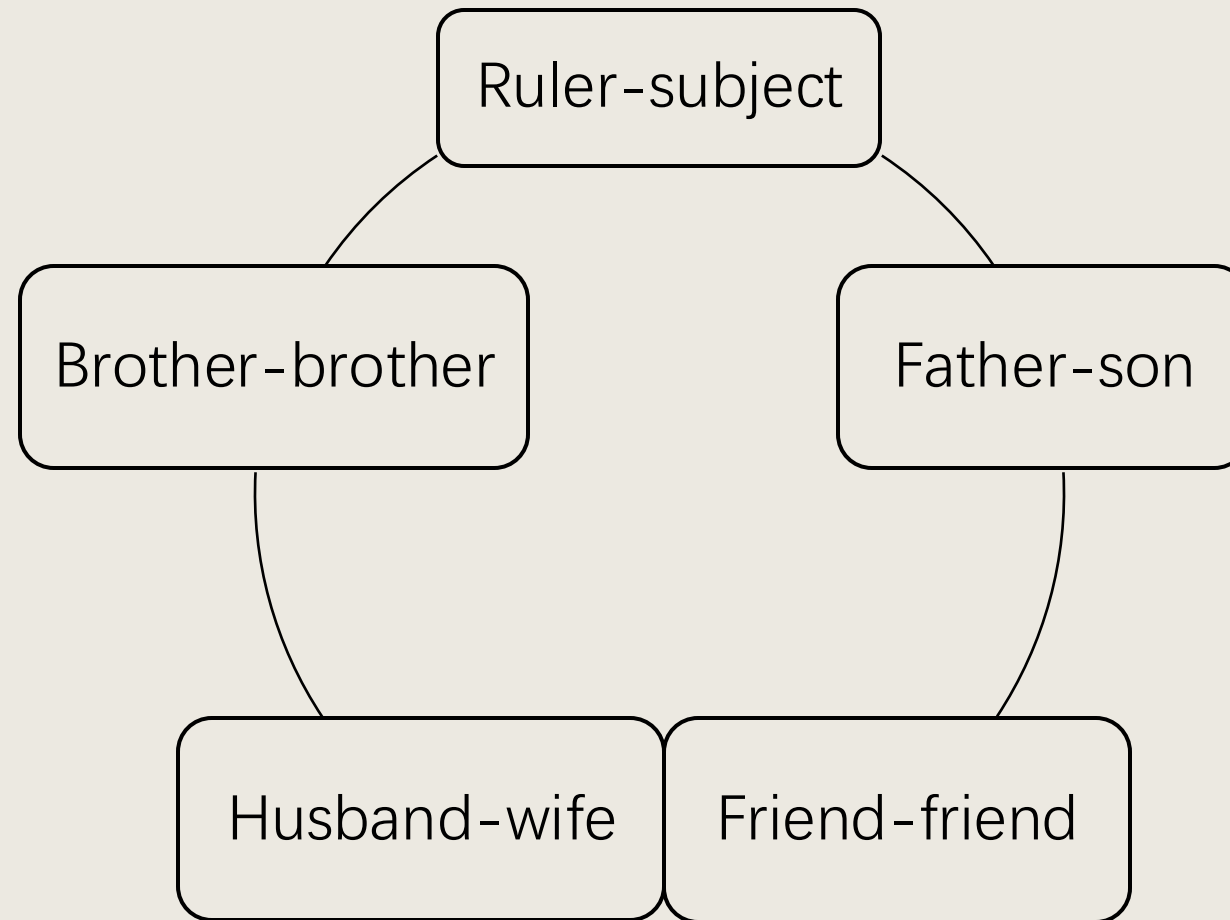
As a short-lived pest feeding on decay, it symbolizes those who flatter the powerful for gain—disgusting, dangerous, and emblematic of moral corruption.⁷

⁷ Translation from: Long Shixing 龍世行, *The Composition and Connotations of Fu Poems on Flies throughout History* 歷代詠蠅賦的創作及其內涵, (Journal of Eastern Liaoning University Social Sciences), vol. 25, no. 3 (2020), pp. 45–52.

Part 2 :
Insights into Moral
Relationships

Part 2:

The five Confucian relationsh



Part 2:



1. Slander Disrupts Trust
2. Slander Undermines Moral Order
3. Slander Leads to misjudgment and injustice

Part 3 :

What We Can
Learn and Do

Thank you for your
patient listening.



— Bibliography —

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