

## Willow pattern - the romantic

### fable:

Once there was a wealthy Mandarin, who had a beautiful daughter, Koong-se. Koong-se fell in love with her father's accounting assistant, Chang. The wealthy mandarin was very angry; he didn't raise a beautiful daughter for her to marry one of his servants. The mandarin sacked the young man and built a high fence around his house to keep the lovers apart. The mandarin planned to marry his daughter off to a powerful Duke who duly arrived by boat to claim his bride, bearing a box of jewels as a gift. The wedding was to take place on the day the blossom fell from the willow tree.

the star  
crossed  
lovers



On the eve of Koong-se's wedding to the Duke, the young accountant, disguised as a servant, slipped into the palace unnoticed. As the lovers escaped, carrying off the jewels, the alarm was raised. They ran over a bridge, chased by the mandarin, whip in hand. The lovers jumped onto the Duke's ship and sailed to the safety of a secluded island, where they lived happily for years. But one day the Duke learned of their refuge. Hungry for revenge he sent soldiers, who captured the lovers and put them to death. The Gods, moved by their plight, transformed the lovers into a pair of doves.

Draw your own story, picture or  
pattern on the paper plate ...