

Green betrayal

by [Yuan Changming](#) in the [July 6, 2016](#) issue

You wish to be a Douglas fir  
Tall, straight, almost immortal  
But you stand like a Peking willow  
Prone to cankers, full of twisted twigs

Worse still, you are not so resistant  
As the authentic willow that can bend gracefully  
Shake off all its unwanted leaves in autumn  
When there is a wind blowing even from nowhere

No matter how much sunshine you receive  
During the summer, you have nothing but scars  
To show off against winter storms  
The scars that you can never shake off