Aytaiyn sözün chyndy2gyn
Let me tell the truth,

Arman kün,
Alas,

Azaptuu boldu bul kylym.
It [the twenty-first century] was a sad century for us.

Manastan kiün kyrgyzym
After Manas, my Kyrgyz,

Maktanych bolchu Chyngyzng.
Your Chingiz was your pride.

Aytmatov Chyngyz jarkygan
We used to say that Chingiz

Ak tangybyz dechü elek.
Was our white dawn.

Ayttylyp bütpös düynödö
We used to say he was a world saga

Dastanybyz dechü elek.
That had no ending.

Aalamdyk adabiyattyn
We used to say that

Arstanybyz dechü elek.
He was the lion of world literature.

Aalamda sizdey az ele
The world had few people like you.

Ala-Too bolup ugulchu
Just the name of our father would sound

Atabyzdyn aty ele.
Like our Ala-Too Mountains.

Alysky bashka ölködö
In faraway foreign countries,

Al özünchö masele.
He was a different story.

Tarykhty bilbey kee bir el, bizdi
Those peoples who didn't know our history

Taanybay kalsa ech ele.
And forgot who we were,

Kyrgyzdyn debey kyrgyzdy
Used to know us as the Kyrgyz,

Chyngyzdyn eli dechü ele.
As the people of Chingiz.

Emi oshol
Now,

Atabyzdy köralbay,
Unable to see our father and

Atabyz bar dey albay,
Unable to say that he is alive,
Unable to come to our senses,  
Oh, alas,  
We feel lost in deep grief.  
As if the rain were pouring tears,  
Alas,  
As if a blizzard blew by sounding like a howling wolf.  
It is as if the white glacier on the Ala-Too Mountains  
Has melted and slid down.  
The father of the nation has left  
And we have no choice but to bury him.  
Your world is left behind alone  
As if the moon became separated from the sky.  
Our Kyrgyz people are grieving  
As if their hero, a second Manas, had died.  
You were like a white river that flowed fully,  
And lifted the world up.  
This devious world never stood  
In one place without changing.  
It is the law of the false world  
That makes the entire world submit to [God's] order.  
We stand now with our hearts burning  
As if the sun became separated from the sky.  
The Kyrgyz people grieve so much  
As if Khan Bakay\(^1\) has died again.
Ömürdün jolu burulush, Life has difficult turns,
Özüngüz joktop turubuz, We mourn your death.
Köz ötkönchö jaryktan, Until we pass away from this world,
Kör tirliktin kulubuz. We live as slaves of our daily suffering.
Aiyrmangyz atake--siz But you were different, dear father,
Andaydan biyik turdunguz. You stood above them.
Akyldyn alip jarygyn You took the light of wisdom
Adamzatyna sundunguz. And gave it to mankind.
Ala-Toonun koynunan, You flowed like a spring gushing
Atylyp chygyp bulaktay, From the heart of the Ala-Too Mountains
Alp dengizderge kuydunguz. And poured into giant seas.
Atlanttyn ar jagyn kayra You turned the world's attention beyond the Atlantic
Ocean
Aziyaga burdunguz. To Asia.
Altyndan ordo kurbastan, Instead of building a palace from gold,
Ata, Father,
Akyldan ordo kurdunguz. You built a palace from wisdom.
Biz jürbüz-- While we went around being proud
Ayalyym, bala,туugan dep, That our wife gave birth to a baby boy,
Siz, You
Aalamga kyzmat kyldyngiz, oooy... Served the entire world…

Atagy kylym karytkan You were a noble, wise man,
Asyl jan eleng daanyshman. With century-old fame.
Özgö elder bizden köp süyüüp sizdi Other nations loved you more than us
Özümdük kylyp alyshkan. By making you their own.
Kün batyshtyn ar jagy  
People who live where the sun sets  

Gülsary atka jem berip  
Gave food to the Gülsary horse  

Künügö taptap bagyshkan.  
And trained him well every day.  

Jamilany engseship  
They all longed for Jamila  

Jabyla süyüp kalyshkan.  
And fell in love with her.  

Akbara menen Tashchaynar  
Akbara and Tashchaynar  

Alardy da bilet alystan.  
Are also known in faraway lands.  

Kayra emi sizdey chygary  
Will there be a man like you again  

Kalkyn turgay jerinin  
Who can make not only his people known  

Karyshkyryn jurtka taanytkan.  
But the wolves of his land?!

Ekh arman!  
Oh, alas!  

Jyldyz öchpös bolschochu,  
I wish the stars would never fade away!  

Chingyz ölbös bolschochu.  
I wish that Chingiz would be immortal.  

Kyraanynyn ölgönün  
I wish that the Kyrgyz  

Kyrgyz körbös bolschochu.  
Would never see their hero die.  

Aalamdan echen el joktop,  
Many people in the world mourn your death,  

Asman da joktop Jer joktop.  
Even the sky and the earth mourn your death.  

Bardyk aalam ölkönün  
All the leaders of the world  

Bashchylary teng joktop,  
Equally mourn your death.  

Elim menen koshulup  
Together with my people,  

Erlmirbek uulung men joktop.  
I, Elmirbek, your son, mourn your death.  

Birok,  
But,  

Aytmatov jashayt ömürdö,  
Aytmatov will live on,  

Ak jyldyz bolup tagyldyng  
For he became an eternal shining star  

Asmandyn kökürgündö.  
Pinned onto the chest of the sky.
Notes:

1. Bakay: one of the main characters in the epic *Manas*--an elderly wise man who served as Manas's adviser.


3. Jamila: the main heroine in Aitmatov's short novel *Jamila*, written in 1958. After reading the story, the French writer Louis Aragon called it "the world's most beautiful love story." The novel describes the difficult World War II years in a Kyrgyz village and the romance between a young married woman, Jamila, and a young man, Daniar, a soldier who returns wounded from the war and ends up working in the collective farm.


5. The reference is to the wolf couple in *Place of the Skull*. 