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All structures great and small: on copular sentences with shì in Mandarin

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All structures great and small

On copular sentences with *shì* in Mandarin

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To the past years, which are

Swifter far than summer's flight
Swifter far than youth's delight
Swifter far than happy night

from "Remembrance"
– P.B. Shelley

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Abbreviations

CLF	classifier
COP	copula
DE	*de* in sentence final position
DEM	demonstrative
EXP	experiential aspect marker
FEM	feminine
MAS	masculine
NEG	negation
PFV	perfective aspect marker
PL	plural
PROG	progressive aspect marker
PST	past tense
Q	interrogative particle
RED	reduplication
SFP	sentence final particle
SG	singular
SHI	*shì* in non-prototypical copular sentences
SUB	subordinate operator
TM	topic marker