Processing and clustering of ancient Chinese poems with the objective of finding similar sentences
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1. Summary

Having talked to Liu Dai, professor at the Beijing Institute of Technology, I learnt that Chinese students, since they are little, have to study ancient Chinese poems, and are tested about them. They have to be able not just to know poems, but also to provide sentences related to the feelings they are asked to. For example, if they are asked about happiness, or sadness, they should provide some sentences that evoke those feelings. This is all done without machines, just using the students and teachers minds. We thought that it would be a great thing if this task could be automated, because it would not only help the teachers to correct their students, but could also help the students study, using a program as an auxiliary tool for learning. At the moment there are no programs focused on this, so this project could be a first step towards something useful for the Chinese community.

The objective of this project is to create a program that processes a set of ancient Chinese poems, reading them from a text file and storing them into data structures, so that they can be used to find similar sentences to a text the user will introduce. In order to achieve this they are broken into sentences, which are clustered (always keeping track of which poem they belong to), using a tf-idf score system between them to establish their similarity. Similar sentences will be found checking the similarity between the words they contain to the provided text. The clusters are calculated with a modification of hierarchical clustering, following the same principles, but limiting clustering to four sentences maximum. This way, a small set of similar sentences can be provided to the user instead of just one sentence similar to the text he inputted. Four clusters will be provided, the ones to which the most similar sentences belong to.

This is not exactly a solution to the problem exposed before, as extracting a theme like happiness or sadness just from one sentence is a rather difficult task, but it is a good alternative approach. This is because finding similar sentences can often provide results that will also have a similar theme. A good continuation of this project could be trying to work with themes instead of just finding similar words.
2. Ancient Chinese literature

China has a great tradition of ancient literature, more specifically, of traditional poems. This is a tradition with its roots in a very distant past, but they are still considered one of the most beautiful legacies of Chinese literature. This chapter is intended to introduce the reader inside this world, giving him an overall insight about it.

The beginnings of the tradition start with the two earliest anthologies: Shi jing and Chu ci. The first one (the eldest one) is dated from over two millennia ago, around 7th century BCE, consisting in a collection of Chinese classical poems. Contains both aristocratic poems (regarding life at the royal court) and more rustic poetry and images of natural settings (derived from folk songs). Mainly they are composed of four character lines instead of five or seven character lines, which where more common amongst later Classical Chinese poetry. The second one is another anthology consisting of verses more focused on lyric and romantic features, and irregular line lengths. It mainly consists of poems from Qu Yuan (329-299 BC) and his follower Song Yu. This tradition was continued by various known dynasties, each one with its own characteristics.

The Han Dynasty followed (206 BC-220 AD), where the descriptive poem style (fu, consisting in verse and prose passages) evolved from the Chu ci style. Another style became popular in this dynasty, the Music Bureau poems (yuefu style), which were collected by the government. Lines of five or seven characters form many of the poems from this style. An important collection of poems from this dynasty is the Nineteen Old Poems.

There is a known period (Jian’an poetry) between the end of the Han Dynasty and the beginning of the Six Dynasties, overlapping them. The more characteristic poetry from this era is the one from poets Cao Cao, Cao Pi, and Cao Zhi.

Continuing the traditions on poetry developed in this mentioned eras, and leading to further developments in the future, there is the Six Dynasties era (220 CE-589 CE). There are many important known works from this dynamic era; the Seven Sages of the Bamboo Grove, the Orchid Pavilion Gathering poems, the Midnight Songs poetry, and the anthology New Songs from the Jade Terrace.

The Tang Dynasty (618-907) is considered the golden era of Chinese Classical Poetry. Not just because it had a lot of poets, but also a lot of poems, which many of them survived through time. The reason of this is that the Tang family integrated poetry in most of the aspects of both professional and social life of the literate class, making them something necessary for the Imperial Examinations (needed to take by anyone wanting a government post). When this happened, poetry was being composed following regulated tone patterns. Basically there were two kinds of poetry during this era; gushi (unregulated, ancient-style) and
jintishi (regulated, new style). Jintishi, a stricter form, was developed in the early Tang Dynasty, and had rules that dictated the structure of the poem (line length, number of lines, tonal patterns, rhyme, and parallelism). Good poets who worked with these kinds of poetry are Li Bai (gushi) and Du Fu (jintishi). They include various forms; lushi (regulated, eight-line form with lines of five, six or seven), ci (verse following set rhythmic patterns) and jueju or truncated verse (poem with four lines, each one of them having five, six, or seven characters), from which Wang Wei was a good poet. But as time passed by, many poems became more realistic, narrative and critical of social norms (Bai Juyi is a good example of a poet who follows this characteristics). On the other hand, there are poets that wrote about a more allusive and surreal character (Li He and Li Shangyin).

When the Song Dynasty (960-1279) arrived, the ci form already showed that poets could get the flexibility they needed, consisting in new lyrics written according to the set rhythms of existing tunes. Every tune had its own meter, which made the poets label the poems with a generic name (To the tune of X, where X is the name of the tune) and fit the meter and rhyme of the tune. Ci poetry mainly expressed feelings of desire. But important poets during this dynasty used this form of poems address a wide range of topics (Li Houzhu and Su Shi).

The Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368) came with some important changes, amongst them the most important was the development of types of poetry written to fixed-tone patterns (Yuan Opera librettos). Also, after the Song Dynasty, the Chinese Sanqu poetry emerged and developed and lasted into the Ming Dynasty. This reflected the set rhythms of ci, and consisted in a freer form based on new songs and dramatic arias.

There are some poets that stand out from between the others in the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644); Gao Qi, Li Dongyang, and Yuan Hongdao.

The Qing Dynasty (1644-1912) is mainly known because of the criticism of poetry developed, and the collections of poems created. Examples of these collections are the Quantangshi and Three Hundred Tang Poems (both containing poems from the Tang dynasty).

Some poems belonging to the Tang Dynasty can be read at the appendix, in the poems section, with their own English translation, and the main characteristics from this Dynasty can be checked.
3. Chosen dataset

As seen before, there are many important Chinese ancient poems, but one of the most influential dynasties is the Tang dynasty (considered the Golden Age of Chinese poetry), with the considered most beautiful and well-written poems. There is an important book called “300 Tang poems” (Tang Shi San Bai Shou), which contains 300 of the most known poems from this dynasty. I found an electronic version with correct English translations, and this is why I decided to work with this dataset. It was big enough for my objectives and the translations were not far away from the original Chinese meaning, when most of the times it is difficult not just to translate an ancient Chinese poem, but to understand its true meaning, even for Chinese people. Thus, having found a big collection of poems with good English translations and being a machine-readable version, I decided to use it as my dataset. This collection was allocated on this URL: http://etext.lib.virginia.edu/chinese/frame.htm and the poems used can be found at the appendix, in ‘Poems’ section.
4. Code explanation

In this section the most relevant parts of the code for the correct functioning of the program will be explained. The code can be found in the appendix or either in the program files, and it has inline comments which help its understanding. Some of the modules used, like scikit learning, gensim, or scipy were used to try various clustering functions and get a better understanding of the dataset, but they were not used for the final program, this is why they are not considered relevant.

The code is basically structured in two files, a python file (poems.py) and a cython file (poems.pyx). The cython file is imported from the python file, and its optimized and faster functions are used. Many different modules are imported for the later use of some of their functions, which allow some new functionalities to be created, or are just different alternatives which provide a faster execution, like numpy arrays.

Knn clustering, poems clustering.

Also, some commented function in poems.py allows the reader to check how they were before being optimized, for example, in their new version from the file poems_functions.pyx

The poems_app class is created in order to materialize the GUI, using python’s module Tkinter. Its function initialize() initializes all its elements, distributes them throughout the grid, and links them with various events. The rest of the functions are defined events that will be triggered when certain actions happen. They can find the similar sentences when a button is pressed (OnFindClick()), display a poem containing a clicked sentence inside a text area (OnSentenceClick()), calculate the similarity matrix (OnMatrixClick()), the clusters (OnClustersClick()), or change the language of the displayed poem (OnLanguageClick()).

The first function called from the program is try_expr(), which opens the dataset text file, reads its contents into a string, and then processes them. Using python regular expressions, first the poems are extracted in their Chinese version (in Chinese characters), separating the style, title, author, and corpse of the poem from each other. Then, the English translations are retrieved from the read string in a very similar way, having into account the differences when working with normal characters, and the slightly different structure. This regular expressions work correctly with this exact dataset, if it was to be changed, the regular expressions should be slightly modified as well. Then, for every poem retrieved, a new instance of the class POEM is created, with its individual information (this class is used to store the information of the Chinese version of a poem), and all of them are stored into a global list. Same process is repeated for the English version of every poem, but they are saved into instances of the class.
TRANSLATION instead of POEM (this class is used to store the information of the English version of a poem), and all of them are stored into a global list. The words from the English translation of the poem are processed using a stemmer, are stripped from non-alphabet characters, and are stored as a list of elements, thing that will make easier the calculation of the tf-idf. The unprocessed text is stored as well, for its later display. Then both of these lists of elements are run through and written into separate files, so that the correctness of the regular expressions used can be checked.

prepare_vector_space() is a function used to calculate the tf-idf (term frequency/inverse document frequency) of all of the terms. Firstly, it calls another function (get_words()) that calculates the inverse document frequency of all the words from all the documents, just one time, because they will be reused many times. Then, for every poem (English version), the tf-idf vector is calculated for all the words from word collection, and its Euclidean length.

The next function called, process_sentences(), iterates through all the translations and adds their sentences (creating a new instance of SENTENCE) to a list of sentences. The tf-idf is calculated for every sentence, as well as their Euclidean length. The previously calculated inverse document frequencies will be used now again, and not recalculated.

And when all the pre-calculations required for the clustering are finished, the main function (clustering()) is called. It can be seen that inside this function many sub-functions are commented, this is because it is an easier way to change between them, and use the wanted one. This was used to try different versions of clustering, check them, compare them, and get a better insight into the problem. But now just the hierarchical clustering using sentences is uncommented, because it is the only one needed by the program. In all the clustering functions the pre-calculated tf-idf for every word is used to establish a distance between points.

The k_means() function follows the algorithm explained in the Cambridge book (An Introduction to Information Retrieval); the initial cluster centres are randomly chosen, then the documents assigned to the closest ones. Then centres are re-calculated, and those steps are repeated until the stopping conditions are met. This function works with the whole poems, not with sentences. This was used to get a better understanding of how the poems were distributed.

hierarchical_clustering() function follows the algorithm explained in the same book, hierarchical agglomerative clustering, but its optimized version with priority queues, and it works with the whole poems as well. The similarity matrix between all the poems is calculated, the priority queues are initialized (I optimized this by using lists instead of queues, and sorting them when all the elements were inserted, rather than keeping a queue sorted all the time). Then, pair by pair, the poems with highest similarity are joined into a cluster, and then the corresponding element from the similarity matrix is actualized, and the queues recalculated. This is done until all the poems have been joined together
into one cluster. I used a merged vector to keep tracks of which poems had been merged into another one’s clusters, and not taking them into account anymore.

When having to calculate the final function, hierarchical_clustering_sentences(), I modified the general idea of the clustering algorithm mentioned before; basically it works in a very similar way, but I limited the elements allowed to be in every cluster to four, and it works with sentences instead of poems. So now, instead of just joining elements together into clusters, I had to check various restrictions. Mainly, if one of the two elements was in a cluster and the other wasn’t, join the second one into the first one’s cluster (as long as it was not full). If this was not possible, just had to find another element. If both elements were into clusters they could not be joined, so I had to find a new similar element, and if both weren’t, I had to find a cluster for them, either a new one, or one with enough space in case there weren’t. I used an occupation vector for the clusters so I could keep track of their availability in an easy way.

And lastly, find_similars() function finds the most similar sentences to a given text. Firstly, calculates its tf-idf, then the similarity matrix and priority queues between it and all of the sentences from the dataset, and then retrieves the clusters to which belong the 5 most similar sentences (without repeating any cluster).

Then a new instance of poems_app is created and put into a loop, which will initialize it and open the GUI in a new window, and allow the user to interact with it.
5. GUI

Having coded the main functionalities of the program, I decided to create a Graphical User Interface, so it would be usable by people not familiar with a command line interface. I made it simple but functional, intuitive and user-friendly, with just one main window and everything at plain sight. That way, hidden functionalities or menus would not confuse the user. Here are some screenshots showing the various states of the program, and overall, how to use it:

-First, when the program is loaded, an initial screen appears, with a text field asking the user to input some text. This is the text to which similar clustered sentences will be found. After typing some text the user can either press enter (having the text field focused) or press the button ‘Find clusters’.

-Four sentence clusters with the most similar sentences to the inputted text will be shown in the four available text areas below the inputted text. If the sentences are long the user can scroll with they keyboard arrow keys, having the focus on the text areas. Clicking the button ‘Find clusters’ again will start a new search with the typed text, deleting the previous search results. The user can click on any sentence he likes and the poem will be displayed on the big right text area, in English.
Here we can see the English translation of the poem containing the selected sentence (which was clicked). The user can press the button 'To Chinese' in order to view the Chinese version. Clicking the button 'Find clusters' again will start a new search with the typed text, deleting the previous search results and the displayed poem.

-Here we can see the Chinese translation of the poem containing the selected sentence (which was clicked). The user can press the button 'To English' in order to view the English version. Clicking the button 'Find clusters' again will start a new search with the typed text, deleting the previous search results and the displayed poem.
There are two more buttons, 'Calculate Matrix', which recalculates the similarity matrix between sentences and stores it in a text file, and 'Calculate Clusters', which recalculates the clusters of similar sentences. These two operations are very expensive computationally speaking, so they need a lot of execution time, and they won't change unless the dataset is changed. To avoid making the user wait each time he runs the program for these two operations, I decided to save the results obtained in text files and read them every time, instead of calculating them again. This whole GUI was programmed using python's module Tkinter.
6. Final results

When I finished the first working version of this program, the worst issue was the overall execution time. I first worked with clustering of poems (indexing their full text as one element), but when I started working with sentences, the number of items to work with multiplied exponentially (because I broke every poem into their sentences to create many different elements). Both the creation of the similarity matrix between sentences (3+ hours) and their clustering (so many hours I couldn’t count them) took too long to make it a viable program, mainly because it was written in full python. So I had to lower them, this is the reason I programmed some functions in cython and imported them from the main program. This drastically reduced the execution time to 4 minutes for the calculation of the matrix and 1h for the clustering, but it was still too much, so I saved the results in text files, and made the program read them instead of calculating every time, because if the dataset was not changed, those two structures wouldn't change as well, so it was a waste of resources calculating them every time the program executed. And this led to just some seconds of execution time before the loading of the GUI and the availability of the program to the user, which made it usable.

Here we can see some examples of results given an input text. First the input text is shown, then the five most similar sentences retrieved with the identifier of the cluster they belong to, and then all the sentences of that cluster (in the GUI just four clusters are shown):

“cup of wine”:
...We bow, we take our cups of wine, 92 :
  ...We bow, we take our cups of wine,
   I wish I might take him a cup of wine
   What about a cup of wine inside?
   And with every cup of wine goes another round of music.
As I offer you a cup of wine, asking you to sing. 77 :
  I dismount from my horse and I offer you wine,
  As I offer you a cup of wine, asking you to sing.
  Moved by this token, I dismounted to offer thanks.
  And to place you as an offering in the Court of Imperial Jade.
Yet here in my cottage there is old wine for our cups. 138 :
  Here I live in the same old cottage;
  Yet here in my cottage there is old wine for our cups.
  And the willow-trees about my cottage
  If we belong in the same town.”
Enjoy a cup of wine while you're alive! 658 :
  Dreaming doubters of a dream....
  Dreams of them enter, like men alive, into rooms where their loves lie sleeping.
  Enjoy a cup of wine while you're alive!
  The sand below the border-mountain lies like snow,
Let your cups never rest! 24:
  Let me leave the world. Let me alight, like you,
  Let me sing you a song!
  Let your cups never rest!
  Letting wealth and fame drift by like clouds.

“fly”
High with the wildgeese flies my heart. 83:
  High with the wildgeese flies my heart.
  High in the faint moonlight, wildgeese are soaring.
  High mountain, how I long to reach you,
  And the crying of the wildgeese grieves my sad heart
And white clouds are flying without him for ever. 332:
  I think of heaven and earth, without limit, without end,
  What is life to me without you?
  And white clouds are flying without him for ever.
  He would have bounded with his silken sails the limits of the world.
And shadowy birds are flying slow. 371:
  And autumn flowers are slow to fade....
  And shadowy birds are flying slow.
  In the faded old imperial palace,
  With monkeys whimpering on the shadowy mountain,
I move, my soul goes flying, 376:
  Lest some of my soul should never return.
  Lest you but wait for an empty bough.
  I move, my soul goes flying,
  Though our envoy, Su Wu, is gone, body and soul,
To and fro at will there’s a long wind flying, 87:
  Borne to and fro, beyond our will.
  To and fro at will there’s a long wind flying,
  Borne by the channel of a green stream,
  And of exquisite immortals moving to and fro,

“sun cloud”
And a flush of cloud in the morning sun, 54:
  And a flush of cloud in the morning sun,
  Here in the Gate City, day will flush cold
...Who knows but me about the Guard at the Gate,
  Fleet horses from the Yellow Gate, stirring no dust,
And when yellow clouds grow thin and the white sun darkens, 80:
  And now, as I climb this mountain to see you,
  And now at last I have climbed to this tower.
  Where a yellow river climbs to the white clouds,
  And when yellow clouds grow thin and the white sun darkens,
Mountains cover the white sun, 299:
  For straw to cover the roof again,
  Mountains cover the white sun,
  My hair had hardly covered my forehead.
  The feasters, all listening, covered their faces.
To see the sun, for all his glory, 187:
  In your old age you remember glory.
To see the sun, for all his glory,
  Rivers and mountains are changeless in their glory
  So changeless was His Majesty's love and deeper than the days.
Distillations of the sun. 76:
  Experience of the world has hastened his white hairs.
  My white hairs hasten my decline,
  The world has but scorn for adversity;
Distillations of the sun.

“climb mountains”
And now, as I climb this mountain to see you, 80:
  And now, as I climb this mountain to see you,
  And now at last I have climbed to this tower.
  Where a yellow river climbs to the white clouds,
  And when yellow clouds grow thin and the white sun darkens,
Which I climb to watch the coming dawn. 276:
  Which am I to follow?....
  Which I climb to watch the coming dawn.
  And following behind them
  And where, behind me, are the coming generations?
But he told me that daily you climb the mountain, 320:
  We told each other secretly in the quiet midnight world
  We have told and told till the evening bell....
  But he told me that daily you climb the mountain,
  And nothing to fear -- till the morning bell.
Flower-shadows climb when the sun is high -- 603:
  I drank alone. There was no one with me --
  I climbed to the hall, sat on the steps, and drank the rain- washed air
  There is only one Carved-Cloud, exquisite always-
  Flower-shadows climb when the sun is high --
I have climbed, without stopping, these ten miles. 321:
  ...For years now I have been serving in the army.
  The men of the army stopped, not one of them would stir
  I have climbed, without stopping, these ten miles.
  ...When death becomes a duty, who stops to think of fame?

Checking these results we can see that, in fact, similar sentences are found to the text given by the user. There is just one thing that may surprise the user's eyes; not all the sentences of the clusters may be similar to the input text. This is because the most similar sentence is found, then the cluster's sentences it belongs to are retrieved. This can led to sentences related to the most similar one, but not to the text. When I had to program I could choose between this solution or another one (finding the similarity of the text to a whole cluster, not just a sentence). But I decided to choose the first one because that way the most similar sentences won't be missed by the whole of the cluster, and there's a great chance that the rest of the cluster's sentences are similar to the text as well.
7. Conclusions

Having defined the goals of this project and with the obtained results, I am led to believe they have been achieved. Many poems have been processed and integrated into data structures inside the program, for a later clustering of their sentences. Once this has been done, similar sentences to the user’s inputted text can be found, using a tf-idf score system, in an accurate way.

Although I am very satisfied with the resulting program, there are some improvements I thought could be done on it, which would help get more accurate results, but wasn’t able to program due to my available time. One of them is using both a stemmer and a lemmatizer, instead of just using one of them (stemmer in my case), but this is a big common problem in the fields of Natural Language Processing. To simplify words and reduce them to their root is a simple task for humans, but not for machines. This is one of the objectives of NLP, to automatize this kind of tasks in order to emulate the ones that would be performed by humans, but has not been achieved 100% yet. But it is still a task in progress. Dedicating more time to this aspect would be interesting, and if someone would able to program when to use a lemmatizer or a stemmer in the same text correctly, the results would be really greatly improved, because there would be no different words reduced to similar ones, or similar ones reduced to different ones. But this would be a huge task-consuming task, and there isn’t any guarantee that it can be perfectly accomplished right now.

Also, the use of Wordnet would help find similar words by their meaning, which would improve the results of found similar sentences. Right now words are compared to be exactly the same (after being processed), so if two words have the same meaning but they are different, they are not taken into account. This is an important improvement to have in mind, because some degrees of similarity can be established between words even if they don’t have the same meaning, but belong to the same family, leading to a different calculation of the tf-idf and thus obtaining different, not just similar, but related sentences.
8. Bibliography

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- http://chinese-poems.com/
- http://www.xysa.com/quantangshi/t-index.htm
- http://poemdb.org/
- https://developers.google.com/edu/python/?hl=es-ES&csw=1
- http://www.python.org/
- http://cython.org/
- https://pypi.python.org/pypi/PyStemmer
- http://radimrehurek.com/gensim/tut2.html
- http://jonathanzong.com/blog/2013/02/02/k-means-clustering-with-tfidf-weights
- http://wordnet.princeton.edu/
9. Appendix

9.1. Code

This is the code of the program created. It is structured in two files; poems.py, containing the main functions and the GUI code (written in python), and poems_functions.pyx, containing some optimized functions that needed a faster execution time (written in cython).

9.1.1. poems.py

#!/pkg/ldc/bin/python2.6
#----------------------------------------------------------------------
# Name: poems.py
#
# Author: Gonzalo
#
# Created: 2013/03/21
# manage chinese poems database
#----------------------------------------------------------------------

# -*- coding: big5 -*-

user = 'gonzalo'
if user == 'gonzalo':
    pre = '~/>/Documents/PFC/

lang = 'en'
workingDir = pre
import re
from string import *
import Stemmer
import math
import random
import Queue
import matplotlib.pyplot as plotter
from scipy.cluster import hierarchy, vq
import hcluster as hc
import time
import poems_functions
import numpy as np
import cProfile
import Tkinter
from scipy import weave
from numpy import vstack, array
from numpy.random import rand
from sklearn.cluster import KMeans
import gensim
from gensim.corpora import mmcorpus, Dictionary
from gensim.models import LsiModel, TfidfModel, rpmodel,
logentropy_model, LsiModel
import numpy as np
from gensim import matutils, corpora

# classes

class POEM ():
    def __init__(self, style, author, title, poem):
        self._style = style
        self._author = author
        self._title = title
        self._poem = poem

    def _describe(self):
        print 'style:', self._style
        print 'author:', self._author
        print 'title:', self._title
        print 'poem:
        for p in self._poem:
            print p

class TRANSLATION ():
    def __init__(self, style, author, title, poem, processed_poem):
        self._style = style
        self._author = author
        self._title = title
        self._poem = poem
        self._processed_poem = processed_poem
        self._tf_idf = np.zeros(5000)
        self._euclidean_length = 0.0

    def _describe(self):
        print 'style:', self._style
print 'author: ', self._author
print 'title: ', self._title
print 'poem: '
for p in self._poem:
    print p

class CENTROID():
    def __init__(self, tf_idf, euclidean_length):
        self._tf_idf = tf_idf
        self._euclidean_length = euclidean_length

class SIMILARITY():  # not used
    def __init__(self, sim, index):
        self._sim = sim
        self._index = index

class SENTENCE():  # used for clustering sentences
    def __init__(self, sentence, processed_sentence, size, poem):
        self._sentence = sentence
        self._processed_sentence = processed_sentence
        self._tf_idf = np.empty(size)
        self._euclidean_length = 0.0
        self._poem = poem

class poems_app(Tkinter.Tk):
    def __init__(self, parent):
        Tkinter.Tk.__init__(self, parent)
        self.parent = parent
        self.initialize()

    def initialize(self):
        self.grid()
        self.clusterVars = []
        labelVariable = Tkinter.StringVar()
        label = Tkinter.Label(self, textvariable=labelVariable,
                              anchor="w")
        label.grid(column=0, row=0)
        labelVariable.set(u"Input a sentence or a word:"

        self.entryVariable = Tkinter.StringVar()
        self.entry = Tkinter.Entry(self, textvariable=self.entryVariable)
self.entry.grid(column=0, row=1)
self.entry.bind("<Return>", self.OnPressEnter)
self.entryVariable.set(u"Enter text here.")

labelVariable = Tkinter.StringVar()
label = Tkinter.Label(self, textvariable=labelVariable,
                      anchor="w")
label.grid(column=0, row=2, sticky='EW')
labelVariable.set(u"Clusters:")

labelVariable = Tkinter.StringVar()
label = Tkinter.Label(self, textvariable=labelVariable,
                      anchor="w")
label.grid(column=0, row=3, sticky='EW')
labelVariable.set(u"1:")

self.cluster1 = Tkinter.Text(self, height=4, width=40)
self.cluster1.grid(column=0, row=4)
self.clusterVars.append(self.cluster1)

labelVariable = Tkinter.StringVar()
label = Tkinter.Label(self, textvariable=labelVariable,
                      anchor="w")
label.grid(column=1, row=3, sticky='EW')
labelVariable.set(u"2:")

self.cluster2 = Tkinter.Text(self, height=4, width=40)
self.cluster2.grid(column=1, row=4)
self.clusterVars.append(self.cluster2)

labelVariable = Tkinter.StringVar()
label = Tkinter.Label(self, textvariable=labelVariable,
                      anchor="w")
label.grid(column=0, row=5, sticky='EW')
labelVariable.set(u"3:")

self.cluster3 = Tkinter.Text(self, height=4, width=40)
self.cluster3.grid(column=0, row=6)
self.clusterVars.append(self.cluster3)

labelVariable = Tkinter.StringVar()
label = Tkinter.Label(self, textvariable=labelVariable,
                      anchor="w")
label.grid(column=1, row=5, sticky='EW')
labelVariable.set(u"4:")

self.cluster4 = Tkinter.Text(self, height=4, width=40)
self.cluster4.grid(column=1, row=6)
self.clusterVars.append(self.cluster4)
find = Tkinter.Button(self, text=u"Find Clusters",
                      command=self.OnFindClick)  # not reference saved because no
need to use it
find.grid(column=0, row=7, columnspan=2)

matrix = Tkinter.Button(self, text=u"Calculate Matrix",
                        command=self.OnMatrixClick)
matrix.grid(column=0, row=9)

clusters = Tkinter.Button(self, text=u"Calculate Clusters",
                          command=self.OnClustersClick)
clusters.grid(column=1, row=9)

labelVariable = Tkinter.StringVar()
label = Tkinter.Label(self, textvariable=labelVariable,
                      anchor="w")
label.grid(column=2, row=0, sticky='EW')
labelVariable.set(u"Poem:")

self.poem = Tkinter.Text(self, width=50)
self.poem.grid(column=2, row=1, columnspan=2, rowspan=8, sticky='NS')

self.language = Tkinter.Button(self, text=u"Change language",
                               command=self.OnLanguageClick)
sel
language.grid(column=2, columnspan=2, row=9)
sel.actual_language = True  # true if english, false if chinese
self.actual_poem = -1  # number of the poem on the text

self.resizable(False, False)
self.update()
self.entry.focus_set()
self.entry.selection_range(0, Tkinter.END)

def OnFindClick(self):
text = self.entryVariable.get()
if len(text.strip(',.!?;')) == 0:
    self.entryVariable.set('Please enter some text.')
    return
clusters = find_similars(text, poems_functions.read_clusters('clusts.txt'))
self.entry.focus_set()
self.entry.selection_range(0, Tkinter.END)
for i in xrange(4):
    self.clusterVars[i].delete('1.0', Tkinter.END)
    self.clusterVars[i]['height'] = len(clusters[i])
    for s in xrange(len(clusters[i])):
        self.clusterVars[i].insert('%i.0' % (s + 1), '-%s' % clusters[i][s][0], '%i' %
        s)  # write line in text with a tag s
self.clusterVars[i].tag_bind('%i' % s, '<Button>', lambda event, 
  p=clusters[i][s][1]: self.OnSentenceClick(p))
self.clusterVars[i].tag_configure('format', wrap=Tkinter.WORD)
self.clusterVars[i].tag_add('format', 1.0, 'end')
if s < len(clusters[i]) - 1:
  self.clusterVars[i].insert(Tkinter.END, '\n')
self.poem.delete('1.0', Tkinter.END)
self.actual_language = True
self.actual_poem = -1
self.language['text'] = 'Change language'

def OnPressEnter(self, event):
  self.OnFindClick()

def OnSentenceClick(self, poem):
  #self.poem.insert('1.0', '%i' % poem)
  self.poem.delete('1.0', Tkinter.END)
  self.poem.insert('1.0', '%s\n % translation_collection[poem].title)
  self.poem.insert(Tkinter.END, '%s\n\n % translation_collection[poem].author)
  self.poem.tag_configure('format', justify='center', wrap=Tkinter.WORD)
  self.poem.tag_add('format', 1.0, 'end')
  self.actual_language = True
  self.language['text'] = 'To Chinese'
  self.actual_poem = poem

def OnMatrixClick(self):
  C, P = poems_functions.calculate_matrix_sentences(N, [], S, len(S))
  np.savetxt('array.txt', C)

def OnClustersClick(self):
  clustering()

def OnLanguageClick(self):
  if self.actual_poem == -1:
    return
  if self.actual_language: # language is english, change to chinese
    self.poem.delete('1.0', Tkinter.END)
    self.poem.insert('1.0', '%s\n % poem_collection[self.actual_poem].title)
    self.poem.insert(Tkinter.END, '%s\n\n % poem_collection[self.actual_poem].author)
    self.poem.insert(Tkinter.END, '%s % \\
    join(poem_collection[self.actual_poem].poem))
    self.poem.tag_configure('format', justify='center', wrap=Tkinter.WORD)
    self.poem.tag_add('format', 1.0, 'end')
    self.actual_language = False
    self.language['text'] = 'To English'
  else: # language is chinese, change to english
self.poem.delete('1.0', Tkinter.END)
self.poem.insert('1.0', '%s
n' %
translation_collection[self.actual_poem]._title)
self.poem.insert(Tkinter.END, '%s
n' %
translation_collection[self.actual_poem]._author)
self.poem.insert(Tkinter.END, '%s

n' %
translation_collection[self.actual_poem]._poem)
self.poem.tag_configure('format', justify='center', wrap=Tkinter.WORD)
self.poem.tag_add('format', 1.0, 'end')
self.actual_language = True
self.language['text'] = 'To Chinese'

## auxiliar functions

def get_words():  # translations, not chinese poems
    words = {}
    for poem in translation_collection:
        aux_words = {}
        for word in poem._processed_poem:
            if not word in words:  # global not contains word:
                words[word] = 1  # new word in dict
                aux_words[word] = 1  # new word in dict
            elif not word in aux_words:  # local not contains word:
                words[word] += 1  # +1 word in dict
                aux_words[word] = 1  # new word in dict
        docs = len(poem_collection)
        for word in words:
            words[word] = math.log(float(docs) / float(words[word]))
    return words

def tf_idf(term, document):
    tf = 0.0
    for word in document:  # contains or some function like this which gives
        if term == word:
            tf += 1
        if i == 0  # TODO: check on cython
            i = 0  # TODO: check on cython
        if i in range(len(document)):
            if term == document[i]:
                if i == 0:
                    i += 1
                tf = len(re.findall(term, ' '.join(document)))  # slow and wrong
                tf = len([x for x in document if x == term])  # a bit slower
                tf = float(tf) / float(len(document))
    return tf * words[term]
def dot_product(tf_idf1, tf_idf2):
    product = 0.0
    for pos in xrange(tf_idf1.size):
        product += tf_idf1[pos] * tf_idf2[pos]
    return product

def euclidean_length(tf_idf):
    return math.sqrt(np.sum(np.power(tf_idf, 2)))

def cosine_similarity(tf_idf1, euclidean_length1, tf_idf2, euclidean_length2):
    denominator = euclidean_length1 * euclidean_length2
    if denominator == 0:
        return 0
    sim = dot_product(tf_idf1, tf_idf2) / denominator
    return sim

def find_closest_centroid(centroids, tf_idf, euclidean_length):
    index = 0
    closest = cosine_similarity(centroids[0]._tf_idf, centroids[0]._euclidean_length, tf_idf, euclidean_length)
    #print 'similarity 0:', cosine_similarity(centroids[0]._tf_idf, centroids[0]._euclidean_length, tf_idf, euclidean_length)
    for k in xrange(1, len(centroids)):
        sim = cosine_similarity(centroids[k]._tf_idf, centroids[k]._euclidean_length, tf_idf, euclidean_length)
        #print 'similarity ', str(k), ': ', sim
        if sim > closest:
            closest = sim
            index = k
    return index  # returns centroid with higher similarity

def sum_tf_idfs(tf_idf1, tf_idf2):
    result = []
    #if tf_idf1 == []:
    #    return tf_idf2
    for i in range(len(tf_idf2)):
        if tf_idf1 == []:
            result.append(tf_idf2[i])
        else:
            result.append(tf_idf1[i] + tf_idf2[i])
    return result

def divide_tf_idf(tf_idf, d):
    result = []
for point in tf_idf:
    result.append(point / d)
# print 'division ', result
return result

def recalculate_centroids(k, clusters):
    centroids = []
    for i in range(k):
        aux_tf_idf = []
        for doc in clusters[i]:
            aux_tf_idf = sum_tf_idfs(aux_tf_idf, doc._tf_idf)
            print 'tfidf: ', clusters[i][0]._tf_idf
            print 'e length1: ', clusters[i][0]._euclidean_length
            print 'e length2: ', euclidean_length(aux_tf_idf)
            aux_tf_idf = divide_tf_idf(aux_tf_idf, len(clusters[i]))  # calculate mean of tfidf points
            print 'e length3: ', euclidean_length(aux_tf_idf)
            centroids.append(CENTROID(aux_tf_idf, euclidean_length(aux_tf_idf)))
    return centroids

def check_stopping_criteria(iterations, prev_centroids, centroids):
    print 'iteration ' + str(iterations)
    if iterations > 100:  # if X iterations without centroids remaining unchanged, stop
        return True
    for cen in range(len(prev_centroids)):
        for tf in range(len(prev_centroids[cen]._tf_idf)):
            if prev_centroids[cen]._tf_idf[tf] != centroids[cen]._tf_idf[tf]:
                return False  # at least one change, so algorithm continues
    print 'converged!!'
    return True

def get_clusters_info(clusters):
    num = 1
    for cluster in clusters:
        authors = {}
        for doc in cluster:
            if doc._author in authors:
                authors[doc._author] += 1
            else:
                authors[doc._author] = 1
        rank = sorted(authors.items(), key=lambda authors: authors[1], reverse=True)
        print 'cluster %i' % num
        num += 1
        print rank[:5]
def tfs_sum(tf_idf):
    total = 0
    for t in tf_idf:
        total += t
    return total

def plot_clusters(clusters, kind):
    cont = 0
    for c in clusters:
        color = 'bx'
        if cont == 0:
            color = 'rx'
        elif cont == 1:
            color = 'gx'
        for doc in c:
            #plotter.plot(tfs_sum(doc._tf_idf), euclidean_length(doc._tf_idf), color,
            #label='cluster')
            #euc = euclidean_length(doc._tf_idf)
            plotter.plot(tfs_sum(doc._tf_idf), doc._euclidean_length, color,
            label='cluster')
            #print str(euc)
            cont += 1
        plotter.title(kind + ' clustering')

def plot_centroids(centroids):
    cont = 0
    for c in centroids:
        color = 'bd'
        if cont == 0:
            color = 'rd'
        elif cont == 1:
            color = 'gd'
        plotter.plot(tfs_sum(c._tf_idf), c._euclidean_length, color)
        cont += 1
    plotter.show()

def k_means(k):
    centroids = [] # k centroids (tf_idfs)
    prev_centroids = [] # used to check if centroids change on consecutive iterations
    used_rnds = []
    clusters = [] # list of k clusters (cluster = list of documents)
    for i in range(k):
        rnd = random.randint(0, len(translation_collection) - 1) # get a random seed
while (rnd in used_rnds):  # get a random seed which hasn't been used yet
    rnd = random.randint(0, len(translation_collection) - 1)
print str(rnd)
used_rnds.append(rnd)
centroids.append(CENTROID(translation_collection[rnd]._tf_idf,
euclidean_length(translation_collection[rnd]._tf_idf)))  # add the new centroid to
the list of centroids
clusters.append([])  # initialize k clusters
## TODO
stopping_criteria = False
cluster_iterations = 0
while not stopping_criteria:
    for i in range(k):
        clusters[i] = []
    for doc in translation_collection:  # treat all docs
        clusters[find_closest_centroid(centroids, doc._tf_idf,
doc.euclidean_length)].append(doc)
print len(clusters[0]),  # plot_clusters(clusters, 'K-means')
    len(clusters[1]),  # plot_centroids(centroids)
    len(clusters[2])
    # get_clusters_info(clusters)
    # plot_clusters(clusters, 'K-means')
    # plot_centroids(centroids)

def calculate_matrix(C, N, P):
    # priorityqueue = Queue.PriorityQueue()
cappend = C.append
pappend = P.append
for n in xrange(N):
    cappend([])
pappend([])
cnappend = C[n].append
pnappend = P[n].append
tctfidf = translation_collection[n]._tf_idf
tceuc = translation_collection[n]._euclidean_length
for i in xrange(N):
    sim = -cosine_similarity(tctfidf, tceuc, translation_collection[i]._tf_idf,
translation_collection[i]._euclidean_length)
    # print sim
    cnappend(sim)  # similarity because priority queue sorts by lowest value
    if i != n:  # -> P[n].delete(C[n][n])
pnappend((sim, i))
    # print 'added ' + str(n) + ' with index ' + str(i)  # ' ' + P[n].queue[0][0]
# else:
    # print 'n: ' + str(n)
# print P[n]
P[n].sort()
# I.append(1)  # I[n] = 1
if n % 10 == 0:
    print 'prepare iteration %i' % n
# write_matrix('./matrix.txt', C)
return P

def calculate_matrix_weave(C, N, P):
    weave.inline(r'
    int i;
    for(i = 0; i < 3;++i)
    {
        C.append(2);
    }
    return_val = matrix;
', ['C'], ['N'], ['P'])
return P

def max_similarity(P, N):
    k1 = 0
    # print 'P0 ', P[0].queue[0]
    max_value = 1  # all values will be negative so minor to 1
    for k in xrange(N):
        if P[k] != []:  # no need to use I[k] here now
            # print 'P' + str(k) + ' ', P[k].queue[0]
            aux_value = P[k][0][0]
            # print 'max value: ' + str(max_value) + ' aux_value: ' + str(aux_value)
            if aux_value < max_value:  # because similarities are stored in priority
                max_value = aux_value
                k1 = k
            # print 'value changed to %i!!!!!!' % k1
    return k1

def similarity(C, i, k1, k2):  # TODO: group-average
    # print 'inside'
    # sim1 = cosine_similarity(translation_collection[i]._tf_idf,
    translation_collection[k1]._tf_idf)
    sim1 = C[i][k1]
    # print 'sim1 calculated'
#sim2 = cosine_similarity(translation_collection[i]._tf_idf,
  translation_collection[k2]._tf_idf)
sim2 = C[i][k2]
#print 'sim2 calculated'
return sim1 if sim1 < sim2 else sim2  # because similarities are stored in
priority queue as negative values

def hierarchical_clustering(N):
  #C = []  # similarity matrix
  l = []  # merged vector (0 is for no longer alone poems)
  #I = [np.ones(N, dtype=np.int)]  #I = [np.ones(N, dtype=np.int)]
  P = []  # priority queue for similarities
  #for n in range(N):
  #  C.append([])
  #  P.append(Queue.PriorityQueue())
  #for i in range(N):
  #  sim = -cosine_similarity(translation_collection[n]._tf_idf,
  #  translation_collection[n]._euclidean_length, translation_collection[i]._tf_idf,
  #  translation_collection[n]._euclidean_length)
  #  #print sim
  #  C[n].append(sim)  # -similarity because priority queue sorts by lowest
  #  if i != n:  # -> P[n].delete(C[n][n])
  #    P[n].put((sim, i))
  #    # print 'added ' + str(n) + ' with index ' + str(i)  # + ' ' + P[n].queue[0][0]
  #  #else:
  #    # print 'n: ' + str(n)
  #    #print P[n].queue
  #    I.append(1)  #I[n] = 1
  #    if n % 10 == 0:
  #      #print 'prepare iteration ' + str(n)
  #      start_time = time.time()
  #      #P = calculate_matrix(C, N, P)
  #      N, P = poems_functions.calculate_matrix(N, translation_collection)
  #      C = read_matrix('./matrix.txt')
  #      print 'calc matrix %f seconds' % (time.time() - start_time)
  #      start_time = time.time()
  #      P = poems_functions.calculate_queues(N, C)
  #      print 'prepare queues %f seconds' % (time.time() - start_time)
  #      #print P[0][0], P[1][0], P[70][0]
  #      I.append(1)
  #      #print 'C[0][7]' + str(C[0][7]) + 'C[0][0]' + str(C[0][0])
  #      #print 'C[200][79]' + str(C[200][79]) + 'C[79][200]' + str(C[79][200])
  #      iappend = I.append
  for n in xrange(N):
    iappend(1)
    #print 'C[0][7]' + str(C[0][7]) + 'C[7][0]' + str(C[7][0])
    #print 'C[200][79]' + str(C[200][79]) + 'C[79][200]' + str(C[79][200])
A = []
start_time = time.time()
aappend = A.append
for k in xrange(N - 1): # merge most similar clusters
    k1 = max_similarity(P, N) # cluster with highest similarity
    print 'k1 found: %i' % k1
    k2 = P[k1][0][1] # index of the other cluster from the pair
    print P[k1].queue[0]
    print 'k2 found: %i' % k2
    aappend((k1, k2))
I[k2] = 0
P[k1] = []
P[k2] = [] # needed because k2 queue is not deleted anywhere else and
max_similarity can pick an old value
print str(k1) + ' queue (deleted??): ',
print P[k1].queue
pk1append = P[k1].append
for i in xrange(N):
    if I[i] == 1 and i != k1:
        print 'k1: ' + str(k1) + 'k2: ' + str(k2)
        print 'sim: ' + str(C[i][k1][0]) + ' index: ' + str(C[i][k1][1])
        siiiim = similarity(C, i, k1, k2)
        sim = (siiiim, C[i][k1][1])
P[i].remove((C[i][k1], k1))
P[i].remove((C[i][k2], k2))
C[i][k1] = siiiim # tuples cant be modified
P[i].append((C[i][k1], k1))
P[i].sort()
C[k1][i] = siiiim # tuples cant be modified
pk1append((C[k1][i], i))
print 'Ck1i: ', C[k1][i]
print str(k1) + ' queue now(' + str(i) + '): ',
print P[k1].queue
P[k1].sort()
print 'merge iteration %i' % k
print I
print 'hierarchical clustering %f seconds' % (time.time() - start_time)
print A
return A

''
# def max_similarity_sentences(P, N, cv): # NOOOOOOOOOOO
k1 = 0
print 'P0', P[0].queue[0]
max_value = 1 # all values will be negative so minor to 1
for k in xrange(N):
    if P[k].queue != []: # no need to use I[k] here now
        print 'P' + str(k) + ' ', P[k].queue[0]
aux_value = P[k].queue[0][0]
# print 'max value:' + str(max_value) + ' aux_value:' + str(aux_value)
print k, P[k].queue[0][1], np.equal(cv, 1).sum(), S[k][1], S[P[k].queue[0][1]][1]
if aux_value < max_value:  # because similarities are stored in priority queue as negative values
    if np.equal(cv, 1).sum() == 0 and S[k][1] == -1 and S[P[k].queue[0][1]][1] == -1:  # True if no empty clusters and current best and both not in clusters, find another
        print 'full clusters, k:', k
        pass
    elif (S[k][1] != -1 and cv[S[k][1]] == 0) or (S[P[k].queue[0][1]][1] != -1 and cv[S[k][1]] == 0):  # one of the sentences belongs to a full cluster
        'full cluster'  # shouldn't get in here
        pass
    else:
        max_value = aux_value
        k1 = k
        print 'value changed to %i!!!!!!' % k1
return k1''

def max_similarity_sentences(P, N, cv, I):
    k1 = -1
    k2 = -1
    #print 'P0 ', P[0][0]
    max_value = 1  # all values will be negative so minor to 1
    for k in xrange(N):
        if P[k] != [] and I[k] == 1:  # no need to use I[k] here now??
            #print 'P' + str(k) + ' ', P[k][0]
            aux_value = P[k][0][0]
            #print 'max value:' + str(max_value) + ' aux_value:' + str(aux_value)
            #print k, P[k][0][1], np.equal(cv, 1).sum(), S[k][1], S[P[k][0][1]][1]
            if aux_value < max_value:  # because similarities are stored in priority queue as negative values
                auxk2 = P[k][0][1]
                if S[k][1] == -1 and S[auxk2][1] != -1:  # 'k2' in cluster, 'k1' not
                    # if cv[S[P[k].queue[0][1]][1]] > 0:  # if k2 cluster is available
                    # if I[P[k].queue[0][1]] == 1:
                    max_value = aux_value
                    k1 = k
                    k2 = auxk2
                    print 'k1', k1, 'p', P[k1][0], 'k2', k2, 'p', P[k2][0]
            elif S[k][1] == -1 and S[auxk2][1] == -1:  # 'k1' in cluster, 'k2' not
                # if cv[S[k][1]] > 0:  # shouldn't be needed
                max_value = aux_value
                k1 = k
                k2 = auxk2
            elif S[k][1] == -1 and S[auxk2][1] == -1:  # 'k1' and 'k2' not in cluster
if np.equal(cv, 1).sum() != 0:  # there are empty clusters
    max_value = aux_value
    k1 = k
    k2 = auxk2
else:
    print '%i %i no empty clusters' % (k, P[k][0][1])  # then find next similar where one is in cluster
    for p in P[k]:  # check the P queue of k
        aux_value = p[0]
        auxk2 = p[1]
        if S[auxk2][1] != -1 and aux_value < max_value:  # pair is in cluster and value is greater
            max_value = aux_value
            k1 = k
            k2 = auxk2
        else:  # both in clusters
            pass
    return k1, k2  # if returns 0 and max_value == 1 algorithm should finish

def find_empty_cluster(cv):
    pos = np.where(cv == 1)
    return pos[0][0]  # return first position where there is an empty cluster, this should never give out of bounds exception because if there are no empty clusters this function will never be called from that if

def hierarchical_clustering_sentences(N, M):  # N num of poems, M num of sentences per cluster
    #C = []  # similarity matrix
    I = []  # merged vector (0 is for no longer available sentences)
    P = []  # priority queues
    clusts = []  # vector of clusters with their respective sentences
    n_sent = len(S)  # number of sentences
    cv = np.ones(((n_sent + M - 1) / M, dtype=np.int))  # occupation vector for clusters, 0 -> full, 1 -> empty, 2 -> with space

    for c in range((n_sent + M - 1) / M):  # sum M and extract 1 in order to truncate to closest higher number (so there’s enough clusters for all the sentences)
        clusts.append([])

    start_time = time.time()
    """for n in range(n_sent):
        C.append([])
        P.append(Queue.PriorityQueue())
    for i in range(n_sent):
        sim = -cosine_similarity(S[n][0]._tf_idf, S[n][0].euclidean_length, S[i][0]._tf_idf, S[i][0].euclidean_length)"""
#print sim
C[n].append(sim)  # -similarity because priority queue sorts by lowest value
if i != n:  # -> P[n].delete(C[n][n])
    P[n].put((sim, i))
    # print 'added ' + str(n) + ' with index ' + str(i)  # + '' + P[n].queue[0][0]
else:
    # print 'n: ' + str(n)
    #print P[n].queue
I.append(1)  # I[n] = 1
if n % 10 == 0:
    print 'prepare iteration %i' % n''
#C, P = poems_functions.calculate_matrix_sentences(S, n_sent)
#C = poems_functions.read_matrix('./matrix2.txt')  # better to use numpy function
C = np.genfromtxt('./array.txt', unpack=True)
print 'calc matrix %f seconds' % (time.time() - start_time)
#print C

start_time = time.time()
P = poems_functions.calculate_queues(n_sent, C)
print 'prepare queues %f seconds' % (time.time() - start_time)
#print C
iappend = I.append
for n in xrange(n_sent):
    iappend(1)

A = []
start_time = time.time()
for k in xrange(n_sent):  # merge most similar clusters
    k1, k2 = max_similarity_sentences(P, len(S), cv, I)  # cluster with highest similarity
    if k1 == -1:
        break
    print 'k1 found: %i' % k1
    #print P[k1]
    #k2 = P[k1][0][1]  # index of the other cluster from the pair
    print P[k1][0]
    print 'k2 found: %i' % k2
    A.append((k1, k2))
    print 'clusters:', clusts
    print 'cv:', cv
    l[k2] = 0
    P[k1] = []
P[k2] = []  # needed because k2 queue is not deleted anywhere else and max_similarity can pick an old value
    #print str(k1) + ' queue (deleted??): ',
    #print P[k1]
if S[k1][1] != -1:  # k1 on cluster and k2 no cluster
    clusts[S[k1][1]].append(k2)
S[k2][1] = S[k1][1]  # indicate that sentence k2 has been added to same
        # cluster than sentence k1
    if len(clusts[S[k1][1]]) == M:
        #I[k1] = 0  # if cluster is full k1 cant be used anymore
        #cv[S[k1][1]] = 2
        if len(clusts[S[k1][1]]) == M:
            cv[S[k1][1]] = 0
            #I[k1] = 0
elif S[k2][1] != -1:  # k2 on cluster and k1 no cluster
    clusts[S[k2][1]].append(k1)
S[k1][1] = S[k2][1]  # indicate that sentence k2 has been added to same
        # cluster than sentence k1
    if len(clusts[S[k1][1]]) == M:
        #I[k1] = 1
        I[k1] = 0
        #cv[S[k1][1]] = 2
    if len(clusts[S[k2][1]]) == M:
        cv[S[k2][1]] = 0
        #I[k2] = 0
else:
    I[k2] = 1  # if cluster is not full k2 should be eligible
    kaux = k2
    k2 = k1
    k1 = kaux
elif S[k1][1] == -1:  # both no cluster, because max_similarity always returns
    the k which is in a cluster, in case there’s only 1
    pos = find_empty_cluster(cv)
    clusts[pos].append(k1)
    clusts[pos].append(k2)
    S[k1][1] = pos
    S[k2][1] = pos
    cv[pos] = 2

pk1append = P[k1].append
for i in xrange(n_sent):
    if I[i] == 1 and i != k1:
        #print 'k1: ' + str(k1) + ' k2: ' + str(k2)
        #print 'sim: ' + str(C[i][k1][0]) + ' index: ' + str(C[i][k1][1])
        siiiim = similarity(C, i, k1, k2)
        #sim = (siiiim, C[i][k1][1])
        P[i].remove((C[i][k1], k1))
        P[i].remove((C[i][k2], k2))

        #if len(clusts[S[k1][1]]) < M:  # if full cluster k1 cant be used, then P[k1]
        # will be empty
        if cv[S[k1][1]] > 0:
            C[i][k1] = siiiim  # tuples cant be modified
            P[i].append((C[i][k1], k1))
def scipy_kmeans_clustering():
    #data = vstack((rand(150, 2) + array([.5, .5]), rand(150, 2)))
    #centroids, _ = vq.kmeans(data, 2)
    #idx, _ = vq.vq(data, centroids)
    #plotter.plot(data[idx == 0, 0], data[idx == 0, 1], 'ob', data[idx == 1, 0], data[idx == 1, 1], 'or')
    #plotter.plot(centroids[:, 0], centroids[:, 1], 'sg', markersize=8)
    #plotter.show()
    #print data
    centroids, _ = vq.kmeans2(feat_vectors, 3)
    idx, _ = vq.vq(feat_vectors, centroids)

def scipy_hierarchical_clustering():
    clusters = hierarchy.linkage(feat_vectors, method='complete', metric='cosine')
    # flat_clusters = hierarchy.fcluster(clusters, 0.8, 'inconsistent')
    print 'calculated'
    hc.dendrogram(clusters, color_threshold=0.9, truncate_mode='level', p=3, show_contracted=True)
    plotter.title('300 Tang Poem\'s Data Set')
    plotter.ylabel('Distance')
    plotter.xlabel('Poem Number')
    plotter.show()
# plotter.show()

def iter_documents():
    for doc in translation_collection:
        yield gensim.utils.tokenize(doc._poem, lower=True)
        # for c in gensim.utils.tokenize(doc._poem, lower=True):
            # print c
        #print ''

class MyCorpus(object):
    def __init__(self):
        self.dictionary = gensim.corpora.Dictionary(iter_documents())
        self.dictionary.filter_extremes(no_below=1, keep_n=30000)  # check API
docs for pruning params

    def __iter__(self):
        for tokens in iter_documents():
            yield self.dictionary.doc2bow(tokens)

def gensim_cluster():
    topics = 200
    num_clusters = 4
    corpus = MyCorpus()
    for vector in corpus:
        # convert each document to a bag-of-word vector
        print vector
        tfidf = TfidfModel(corpus)
        corpus_tfidf = tfidf[corpus]
        lsi_model = LsiModel(corpus_tfidf, id2word=corpus.dictionary, num_topics=topics)
        corpus_lsi = lsi_model[corpus_tfidf]
        print lsi_model.print_topics(5)
        corpus_lsi_dense = matutils.corpus2dense(corpus_lsi, topics)
        print "Dense Matrix Shape " + str(corpus_lsi_dense.shape)
        km = KMeans(k=num_clusters, init='random', max_iter=100, n_init=1, verbose=1)
        km.fit(corpus_lsi_dense)
        centroids, _ = vq.kmeans(corpus_lsi_dense, 4)
        plotter.plot(corpus_lsi_dense[idx == 0, 0], corpus_lsi_dense[idx == 0, 1], 'ob',
                      corpus_lsi_dense[idx == 1, 0], corpus_lsi_dense[idx == 1, 1], 'or',
                      corpus_lsi_dense[idx == 2, 0], corpus_lsi_dense[idx == 2, 1], 'og',
                      corpus_lsi_dense[idx == 3, 0], corpus_lsi_dense[idx == 3, 1], 'oy')
        plotter.plot(centroids[0: 1, 0], centroids[0: 1, 1], 'sb', markersize=8)
        plotter.plot(centroids[1: 1, 0], centroids[1: 1, 1], 'sr', markersize=8)
        plotter.plot(centroids[2: 1, 0], centroids[2: 1, 1], 'sg', markersize=8)
        plotter.plot(centroids[3: 1, 0], centroids[3: 1, 1], 'sy', markersize=8)
plotter.show()

def write_matrix(f, C):
    out = open(f, 'w+')
    for cl in C:
        out.write(' '.join(str(c) for c in cl) + '
')
    #text = '\n'.join(c[0] for c in C)
    #out.write(text)
    out.close()

def read_matrix(f):
    font = open(f, 'r')
    matrix = font.read()
    lines = matrix.split('
')
    C = []
    for l in lines[:-1]:  # because when writing an extra \n is written
        C.append([float(num) for num in l.split()])
    return C

##main functions

def try_expr(f):
    global poem_collection, translation_collection
    font = open('300_tang_poems.txt').read()
    #font = open('not_captured_by_characters.txt').read()
    print 'length of font read: %i' % len(font)
    ##poems = re.findall("d\d\d\n(S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n"), font)  
    ##poems = re.findall("(S+)\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n"), font)  
    ##poems = re.findall("(\S+)\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n"), font)  
    except 4 poems
    ## get style, title, author and poem (non words) after 3 digits (poem number)
    poems = re.findall("d\d\d\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n"), font)  
    ## print 'number of poems:', len(poems)
    ##almost working -> translations = re.findall("n\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n"), font)  
    # (?P<line>^.+$) (?P=line) , re.MULTILINE
    ## get style, author, title, and poem description (1-3 lines, then X < 120 lines)
    translations = re.findall("n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n(\S+\n"), font)
poem_collection = []
translation_collection = []

out = open('./res.txt', 'w+')
out2 = open('./res2.txt', 'w+')

start_time = time.time()

poemappend = poem_collection.append
for poem in poems:
    poemappend(POEM(poem[0], poem[1], poem[2], [line.strip() for line in poem[3].split('n')[0:-3]]))

for poem in poem_collection:
    out.write(poem._style + 'n')
    out.write(poem._author + 'n')
    out.write(poem._title + 'n')
    for p in poem._poem:
        out.write(p)
        out.write('n')
        out.write('-------------------n')

stemm = Stemmer.Stemmer('english').stemWords

translationappend = translation_collection.append
for translation in translations:
    translationappend(TRANSLATION(translation[0], translation[1], translation[2][:-1], translation[3], stemm(re.sub('[,\!?;]','', translation[3]).split())))

for translation in translation_collection:
    out2.write(translation._style + 'n')
    out2.write(translation._author + 'n')
    out2.write(translation._title + 'n')
    out2.write(translation._poem + 'n')

    #for t in translation._poem:
    #    out2.write(t)
    #    out2.write('!!!\n')
    out2.write('-------------------n')

print 'poems extracted: %i' % len(poem_collection)
print 'translations extracted: %i' % len(translation_collection)
print 'total time %f seconds' % (time.time() - start_time)

#for s in translation_collection[0]._poem.split('n'):
#    print s
#    print '-------'
#    print translation_collection[0]._processed_poem

def prepare_vector_space():
global feat_vectors

def get_words():
    feat_vectors = []

start_time = time.time()

tvappend = feat_vectors.append
for poem in translation_collection:
    poem._tf_idf = np.empty(len(words))
    tfidf = poem._tf_idf
    processed = poem._processed_poem
    i = 0
    for word in words:
        tfidf[i] = poems_functions.tf_idf(word, processed, words)  # all tfidf for all words of each poem
        i += 1
    #for i in range(tfidf.size):
        # print tfidf[i], ',
        # print ''
        # print poem._tf_idf
    poem._euclidean_length = poems_functions.euclidean_length(tfidf)  # this way euclidean length is calculated only 1 time for each document
    fvappend(poem._tf_idf)

print 'tf_idf calculated in %f seconds' % (time.time() - start_time)
#print cosine_similarity(translation_collection[0], translation_collection[0])
#print cosine_similarity(translation_collection[0], translation_collection[1])

'''def process_sentences():
    global S

    S = []  # sentences
    stemm = Stemmer.Stemmer('english').stemWords
    start_time = time.time()

    sappend = S.append
    for translation in translation_collection:
        for sentence in translation._poem.split(' 
        if len(sentence) > 0:
            sappend([SENTENCE(sentence, stemm(re.sub('[\\![\!\?],\,"', '', sentence).split())), -1])  # add all sentences from all poems to a list, with cluster to which they belong (-1 if dont have)

    for sentence in S:
        sentence[0]._tf_idf = np.empty(len(words))
        tfidf = sentence[0]._tf_idf
        processed = sentence[0]._processed_sentence
i = 0
for word in words:
    tfidf[i] = tf_idf(word, processed)
    i += 1
sentence[0]._euclidean_length = euclidean_length(tfidf)

print 'sentences processed in %f seconds' % (time.time() - start_time)
print 'number of sentences: %i' % (len(S))
print S[0][0]._sentence
print S[0][0]._processed_sentence

'''

def process_sentences():
    global S
    S = poems_functions.process_sentences(translation_collection, words)

def clustering():
    #k_means(3)
    hierarchical_clustering(len(translation_collection))
    #scipy_kmeans_clustering()
    #scipy_hierarchical_clustering()
    #plot[KMEANS]
    #gensimcluster()
    hierarchical_clustering_sentences(len(translation_collection), 4)  # clusters of 4 sentences
    #poems_functions.hierarchical_clustering_sentences(len(translation_collection), 4, S)  # clusters of 4 sentences

def find_similars(sentence, clusters):
    stemm = Stemmer.Stemmer('english').stemWords
    processed = stemm(re.sub('[\:\,\.,;!?]', '', sentence).split())
    tfidf = np.empty(len(words))
    i = 0
    for word in words:
        tfidf[i] = poems_functions.tf_idf(word, processed, words)  # all tfidf for all words of each poem
        i += 1
    C, P = poems_functions.calculate_vector_sentences(S, tfidf)  # C similarity vector, P sorted similarities with indexes

    start_time = time.time()
    poems_functions.assign_clusters(S, clusters)
    print 'clusters assigned in %f seconds' % (time.time() - start_time)
res = []
picked = []
for i in range(5):
    res.append([])
    while S[P[i][1]][1] in picked:
        del P[i]
        picked.append(S[P[i][1]][1])
    print(S[P[i][1]][0].sentence, S[P[i][1]][1],':'
    for cl in clusters[S[P[i][1]][1]]:
        print(' ', S[cl][0].sentence
        res[i].append((S[cl][0].sentence,
                        S[cl][0].poem))
return res

#main
try_expr(pre)
#cProfile.run('prepare_vector_space()')
prepare_vector_space()
#cProfile.run('process_sentences()')
#cProfile.run('clustering()')
clustering()
#find_similars('A lonely swan from the sea flies,'
poems_functions.read_clusters('clusts.txt'))
app = poems_app(None)
app.title('Poems application')
app.mainloop()
#print cosine_similarity(translation_collection[0].tf_idf,
translation_collection[0].euclidean_length, translation_collection[7].tf_idf,
translation_collection[7].euclidean_length)
##if (len(sys.argv) > 1):
##    if (sys.argv[1] == 'topics'):
##        processUnlocated('./testset_without_location2.xml')
##    elif (sys.argv[1] == 'located'):
##        processLocated('./devset_with_location.xml')
9.1.2. poems.functions.pyx

#!/pkg/ldc/bin/python2.6

import Queue
import math
import numpy as np
cimport numpy as np
import re
import Stemmer
import time
import Queue
from cpython cimport bool

class TRANSLATION ():

def __init__(self, style, author, title, poem, processed_poem):
    self._style = style
    self._author = author
    self._title = title
    self._poem = poem
    self._processed_poem = processed_poem
    self._tf_idf = []
    self._euclidean_length = 0.0

def _describe(self):
    print 'style: ', self._style
    print 'author: ', self._author
    print 'title: ', self._title
    print 'poem: '
    for p in self._poem:
        print p

cdef class SENTENCE: # used for clustering sentences

cdef public bytes _sentence
    cdef public list _processed_sentence
    cdef public np.ndarray _tf_idf
    cdef public float _euclidean_length
    cdef public int _poem

def __init__(self, sentence, processed_sentence, size, poem):
    self._sentence = sentence
    self._processed_sentence = processed_sentence
    self._tf_idf = np.empty(size)
    self._euclidean_length = 0.0
self._poem = poem

class SENTENCE ():  # used for clustering sentences
    def __init__(self, sentence, processed_sentence, size):
        self._sentence = sentence
        self._processed_sentence = processed_sentence
        self._tf_idf = np.empty(size)
        self._euclidean_length = 0.0

cpdef float tf_idf(bytes term, list document, dict words):
    cdef float tf = 0.0
    cdef int i
    for i from 0 <= i < len(document):  # for i in range(len(document)):
        if term == document[i]:
            tf += 1
    tf = float(tf) / float(len(document))
    return tf * words[term]

cdef float dot_product(np.ndarray tf_idf1, np.ndarray tf_idf2):
    return np.dot(tf_idf1, tf_idf2)

cdef float euclidean_length(np.ndarray tf_idf):
    return math.sqrt(np.sum(np.power(tf_idf, 2)))

cdef float cosine_similarity(np.ndarray tf_idf1, float euclidean_length1, np.ndarray tf_idf2, float euclidean_length2):
    cdef float denominator = euclidean_length1 * euclidean_length2
    cdef float sim
    if denominator == 0:
        return 0
    sim = dot_product(tf_idf1, tf_idf2) / denominator
    return sim

def write_matrix(f, C):
    out = open(f, 'w+')
    for cl in C:
        out.write(' '.join(str(c) for c in cl) + '
')
    #text = '\n'.join(c[0] for c in C)
    #out.write(text)
    out.close()
cpdef list read_matrix(bytes f):
    font = open(f, 'r')
    cdef bytes matrix = font.read()
    cdef list lines = matrix.split('n')
    cdef int i, size = len(lines) - 1
    C = []
    for i from 0 <= i < size:  # for l in lines[-1]:  # because when writing an extra \n is written
        C.append([float(num) for num in lines[i].split()])
    return C

cpdef calculate_matrix(int N, list translation_collection):
    cdef list P = []
    cdef np.ndarray C = np.empty((N, N))
    pappend = P.append
    for n in xrange(N):
        pappend([])
        pnappend = P[n].append
        tctfidf = translation_collection[n]._tf_idf
        tceuc = translation_collection[n]._euclidean_length
        for i in xrange(N):
            sim = -cosine_similarity(tctfidf, tceuc, translation_collection[i]._tf_idf, translation_collection[i]._euclidean_length)
            #print sim
            C[n][i] = sim  # -similarity because priority queue sorts by lowest value
            if i != n:  # -> P[n].delete(C[n][n])
                pnappend((sim, i))
            #else:
            #    print 'n: ' + str(n)
            #print P[n]
            P[n].sort()
            #I.append(1)  # I[n] = 1
            if n % 10 == 0:
                print 'prepare iteration %i' % n
                #write_matrix('./matrix.txt', C)
                #np.savetxt('arrayhc.txt', C)
            return C, P

cpdef list process_sentences(list translation_collection, dict words):
    cdef list S = []  # sentences
    cdef int i, j, s
    stemm = Stemmer.stemmer('english').stemWords
    start_time = time.time()
    sappend = S.append
for i from 0 <= i < len(translation_collection):  # for i in
    #for i in range(len(translation_collection)):
        pieces = translation_collection[i]..poem.split('n')
    for j from 0 <= j < len(pieces):
        if len(pieces[j]) > 0:
            sappend([SENTENCE(pieces[j], stemm(re.sub('[\.,?!;]','', pieces[j]).split())), len(words), i], -1)  # add all sentences from all poems to a list, with cluster to which they belong (-1 if dont have)

for s from 0 <= s < len(S):  # for s in range(len(S)):
    def tf_idf(word, processed, words)
        i += 1
        #for s in range(len(S)):
            #S[s][0]..tf_idf = np.empty(len(words))
            tfidf = S[s][0]..tf_idf
            processed = S[s][0]..processed_sentence
            i = 0
            for word in words:
                tfidf[i] = tf_idf(word, processed, words)
                i += 1
            S[s][0]..euclidean_length = euclidean_length(tfidf)

print sentences processed in %f seconds' % (time.time() - start_time)
print number of sentences: %i' % (len(S))
print S[0][0]..sentence
print S[0][0]..processed_sentence
return S

"""cdef calculate_matrix_sentences(int N, list P, list S, n_sent):
    cdef list C = []
    cdef int n = 0
    cappend = C.append
    pappend = P.append
    for n in range(n_sent):
        cappend([[]])
        pappend(Queue.PriorityQueue())
        cnappend = C[n].append
        pnpput = P[n].put
        tctfidf = S[n][0]..tf_idf
        tceuc = S[n][0]..euclidean_length
        for i in range(n_sent):
            sim = -cosine_similarity(tctfidf, tceuc, S[i][0]..tf_idf,
                S[i][0]..euclidean_length)

            #print sim
            cnappend(sim)  # .similarity because priority queue sorts by lowest value
            if i != n:  # -> P[n].delete(C[n][n])
                pnpput((sim, i))
            # print 'added' + str(n) + ' with index' + str(i) # + '' + P[n].queue[0][0]
            #else:
            # print 'n: ' + str(n)
# print P[n].queue
if n % 10 == 0:
    print 'prepare iteration %i' % n
# write_matrix('./matrix2.txt', C)
return C, P


cpdef read_clusters(f):
    font = open(f, 'r')
    matrix = font.read()
    lines = matrix.split('
')
    cl = []
    clappend = cl.append
    for l in lines[:-1]:  # # because when writing an extra \n is written
        clappend([int(num) for num in l.split()])
    return cl

cpdef calculate_matrix_sentences(list S, int n_sent):
    cdef np.ndarray C = np.empty((n_sent, n_sent))
    cdef int n = 0
    cdef list P = []
pappend = P.append
    for n in xrange(n_sent):
        pappend([])
        pnappend = P[n].append
        tctfidf = S[n][0]._tf_idf
        tceuc = S[n][0]._euclidean_length
        for i in xrange(n_sent):
            sim = -cosine_similarity(tctfidf, tceuc, S[i][0]._tf_idf,
                        S[i][0]._euclidean_length)

            # print sim
            C[n][i] = sim  # -similarity because priority queue sorts by lowest value
        if i != n:  # -> P[n].delete(C[n][n])
            pnappend((sim, i))
        # print 'added ' + str(n) + ' with index ' + str(i)  # + ++ P[n].queue[0][0]
        # else:
        # print 'n: ' + str(n)
        # print P[n]
        P[n].sort()
    if n % 10 == 0:
        print 'prepare iteration %i' % n
    # write_matrix('./matrix2.txt', C)  # better to use numpy function
    # np.savetxt('array.txt', C)
    return C, P

47
cpdef list calculate_queues(int N, np.ndarray C):
cdef list P = []
cdef int n, i
pappend = P.append
for n in xrange(N):
pappend([])
pnappend = P[n].append
for i in xrange(N):
    if i != n:
        # -> P[n].delete(C[n][n])
pnappend((C[n][i], i))
P[n].sort()
return P

cpdef calculate_vector_sentences(list S, np.ndarray tfidf):
cdef np.ndarray C = np.empty(len(S))
cdef int n = 0
cdef list P = []
pappend = P.append
euc = euclidean_length(tfidf)
for n from 0 <= n < len(S):
    sim = -cosine_similarity(tfidf, euc, S[n][0].tf_idf, S[n][0].euclidean_length)
    C[n] = sim  # -similarity because priority queue sorts by lowest value
    pappend((sim, n))
P.sort()
return C, P

cpdef list assign_clusters(list S, list clusters):
cdef int s, i
cdef bool found
for s from 0 <= s < len(S):
    i = 0
    found = False
    while not found:
        if s in clusters[i]:
            S[s][1] = i
            found = True
            i += 1
return S
9.2. Poems

This is the dataset of poems used by the program, both the Chinese version and their English translation, in a machine-readable format, using the same exact structure required by the regular expressions used.

001
五言古詩
張九齡
感遇其一

孤鴻海上來，池潢不敢顧；
側見雙翠鳥，巢在三珠樹。
矯矯珍木鬱，得無金丸懼？
美服患人指，高明逼神惡。
今我遊冥冥，弋者何所慕？

Five-character-ancient-verse
Zhang Jiuling
THOUGHTS I

A lonely swan from the sea flies,
To alight on puddles it does not deign.
Nesting in the poplar of pearls
It spies and questions green birds twain:
"Don't you fear the threat of slings,
Perched on top of branches so high?
Nice clothes invite pointing fingers,
High climbers god's good will defy.
Bird-hunters will crave me in vain,
For I roam the limitless sky."

002
五言古詩
張九齡
感遇其二

蘭蕪春葳蕤，桂華秋皎潔；
欣欣此生意，自爾為佳節。
誰知林棲者？聞風坐相悅，
草木有本心，何求美人折？
Five-character-ancient-verse
Zhang Jiuling
ORCHID AND ORANGE I

Tender orchid-leaves in spring
And cinnamon- blossoms bright in autumn
Are as self- contained as life is,
Which conforms them to the seasons.
Yet why will you think that a forest-hermit,
Allured by sweet winds and contented with beauty,
Would no more ask to-be transplanted
Than Would any other natural flower?

003
五言古詩
張九齡
感遇其三

幽人歸獨臥， 滯慮洗孤清，
持此謝高鳥， 因之傳遠情。
日夕懷空意， 人誰感至精？
飛沈理自隔， 何所慰吾誠？

Five-character-ancient-verse
Zhang Jiuling
THOUGHTS III

The hermit in his lone abode
Nurses his thoughts cleansed of care,
Them he projects to the wild goose
For it to his distant Sovereign to bear.
Who will be moved by the sincerity
Of my vain day-and-night prayer?
What comfort is for my loyalty
When fliers and sinkers can compare?

004
五言古詩
張九齡
感遇其四

江南有丹橘， 經冬猶綠林；
Five-character-ancient-verse
Zhang Jiuling
ORCHID AND ORANGE II

Here, south of the Yangzi, grows a red orangetree.
All winter long its leaves are green,
Not because of a warmer soil,
But because its’ nature is used to the cold.
Though it might serve your honourable guests,
You leave it here, far below mountain and river.
Circumstance governs destiny.
Cause and effect are an infinite cycle.
You plant your peach-trees and your plums,
You forget the shade from this other tree.

Five-character-ancient-verse
Li Bai
DOWN ZHONGNAN MOUNTAIN
TO THE KIND PILLOW AND BOWL OF HUSI

Down the blue mountain in the evening,
Moonlight was my homeward escort.
Looking back, I saw my path
Lie in levels of deep shadow....
I was passing the farm-house of a friend,
When his children called from a gate of thorn
And led me twining through jade bamboos
Where green vines caught and held my clothes.
And I was glad of a chance to rest
And glad of a chance to drink with my friend....
We sang to the tune of the wind in the pines;
And we finished our songs as the stars went down,
When, I being drunk and my friend more than happy,
Between us we forgot the world.

006
五言古詩
李白
月下獨酌

花間一壶酒， 獨酌無相親；
舉杯邀明月， 對影成三人。
月既不解飲， 影徙隨我身；
暫伴月將影， 行樂須及春。
我歌月徘徊， 我舞影零亂；
醒時同交歡， 醉後各分散。
永結無情遊， 相期邈雲漢。

Five-character-ancient-verse
Li Bai
DRINKING ALONE WITH THE MOON

From a pot of wine among the flowers
I drank alone. There was no one with me --
Till, raising my cup, I asked the bright moon
To bring me my shadow and make us three.
Alas, the moon was unable to drink
And my shadow tagged me vacantly;
But still for a while I had these friends
To cheer me through the end of spring....
I sang. The moon encouraged me.
I danced. My shadow tumbled after.
As long as I knew, we were boon companions.
And then I was drunk, and we lost one another.
...Shall goodwill ever be secure?
I watch the long road of the River of Stars.
Five-character-ancient-verse
Li Bai
IN SPRING

Your grasses up north are as blue as jade,
Our mulberries here curve green-threaded branches;
And at last you think of returning home,
Now when my heart is almost broken....
O breeze of the spring, since I dare not know you,
Why part the silk curtains by my bed?

五言古詩
杜甫
望嶽

岱宗夫如何？齊魯青未了。
造化鍾神秀，陰陽割昏曉。
麅胸生層雲，決眦入歸鳥。
會當凌絕頂，一覽眾山小。
又作岳

Five-character-ancient-verse
Du Fu
A VIEW OF TAISHAN

What shall I say of the Great Peak? --
The ancient dukedoms are everywhere green,
Inspired and stirred by the breath of creation,
With the Twin Forces balancing day and night.
...I bare my breast toward opening clouds,
I strain my sight after birds flying home.
When shall I reach the top and hold
All mountains in a single glance?
It is almost as hard for friends to meet  
As for the morning and evening stars.  
Tonight then is a rare event,  
Joining, in the candlelight,  
Two men who were young not long ago  
But now are turning grey at the temples.  
...To find that half our friends are dead  
Shocks us, burns our hearts with grief.  
We little guessed it would be twenty years  
Before I could visit you again.  
When I went away, you were still unmarried;  
But now these boys and girls in a row  
Are very kind to their father’s old friend.  
They ask me where I have been on my journey;  
And then, when we have talked awhile,  
They bring and show me wines and dishes,  
Spring chives cut in the night-rain  
And brown rice cooked freshly a special way.  
...My host proclaims it a festival,  
He urges me to drink ten cups --  
But what ten cups could make me as drunk  
As I always am with your love in my heart?  
...Tomorrow the mountains will separate us;  
After tomorrow-who can say?
Five-character-ancient-verse
Du Fu

ALONE IN HER BEAUTY

Who is lovelier than she?
Yet she lives alone in an empty valley.
She tells me she came from a good family
Which is humbled now into the dust.
...When trouble arose in the Kuan district,
Her brothers and close kin were killed.
What use were their high offices,
Not even shielding their own lives?
--
The world has but scorn for adversity;
Hope goes out, like the light of a candle.
Her husband, with a vagrant heart,
Seeks a new face like a new piece of jade;
And when morning-glories furl at night
And mandarin-ducks lie side by side,
All he can see is the smile of the new love,
While the old love weeps unheard.
The brook was pure in its mountain source,
But away from the mountain its waters darken.
...Waiting for her maid to come from selling pearls
For straw to cover the roof again,
She picks a few flowers, no longer for her hair,
And lets pine-needles fall through her fingers,
And, forgetting her thin silk sleeve and the cold,
She leans in the sunset by a tall bamboo.
011
五言古詩
杜甫
夢李白之一

死別已吞聲，生別常悵憐。
江南瘴癘地，逐客無消息。
故人入我夢，明我長相憶；
君今在羅網，何以有羽翼？
恐非平生魂，路遠不可測。
魂來楓林青，魂返關塞黑；
落月滿屋梁，猶疑照顏色。
水深波浪闊，無使蛟龍得。

Five-character-ancient-verse
Du Fu
SEEING Li Bai IN A DREAM I

There are sobs when death is the cause of parting;
But life has its partings again and again.
...From the poisonous damps of the southern river
You had sent me not one sign from your exile --
Till you came to me last night in a dream,
Because I am always thinking of you.
I wondered if it were really you,
Venturing so long a journey.
You came to me through the green of a forest,
You disappeared by a shadowy fortress....
Yet out of the midmost mesh of your snare,
How could you lift your wings and use them?
...I woke, and the low moon's glimmer on a rafter
Seemed to be your face, still floating in the air.
...There were waters to cross, they were wild and tossing;
If you fell, there were dragons and rivermonsters.

012
五言古詩
杜甫
夢李白之二

浮雲終日行，遊子久不至；
Five-character-ancient-verse
Du Fu
SEEING Li Bai IN A DREAM II

This cloud, that has drifted all day through the sky,
May, like a wanderer, never come back....
Three nights now I have dreamed of you --
As tender, intimate and real as though I were awake.
And then, abruptly rising to go,
You told me the perils of adventure
By river and lake-the storms, the wrecks,
The fears that are borne on a little boat;
And, here in my doorway, you rubbed your white head
As if there were something puzzling you.
...Our capital teems with officious people,
While you are alone and helpless and poor.
Who says that the heavenly net never fails?
It has brought you ill fortune, old as you are.
...A thousand years' fame, ten thousand years' fame-
What good, when you are dead and gone.

013
五言古詩
王維
送別

下馬飲君酒，問君何所之？
君言不得意，歸臥南山陲。
但去莫復聞，白雲無盡時。
又作問

Five-character-quatrain
Wang Wei
AT PARTING

I dismount from my horse and I offer you wine,
And I ask you where you are going and why.
And you answer: "I am discontent
And would rest at the foot of the southern mountain.
So give me leave and ask me no questions.
White clouds pass there without end."

014
五言古詩
王維
送綦毋潛落第還鄉
聖代無隱者，英靈盡來歸，
遂令東山客，不得顧採薇。
既至金門遠，孰云吾道非？
江淮度寒食，京洛縈春衣。
置酒長安道，同心與我違；
行當浮桂棹，未幾拂荊扉。
遠樹帶行客，孤城當落暉。
吾謀適不用，勿謂知音稀？

Five-character-quatrain
Wang Wei
TO QIWU QIAN BOUND HOME
AFTER FAILING IN AN EXAMINATION
In a happy reign there should be no hermits;
The wise and able should consult together....
So you, a man of the eastern mountains,
Gave up your life of picking herbs
And came all the way to the Gate of Gold --
But you found your devotion unavailing.
...To spend the Day of No Fire on one of the southern rivers,
You have mended your spring clothes here in these northern cities.
I pour you the farewell wine as you set out from the capital --
Soon I shall be left behind here by my bosomfriend.
In your sail-boat of sweet cinnamon-wood
You will float again toward your own thatch door,
Led along by distant trees
To a sunset shining on a far-away town.
...What though your purpose happened to fail,
Doubt not that some of us can hear high music.

015
五言古詩
Five-character-quatrain
Wang Wei
A GREEN STREAM

I have sailed the River of Yellow Flowers,
Borne by the channel of a green stream,
Rounding ten thousand turns through the mountains
On a journey of less than thirty miles....
Rapids hum over heaped rocks;
But where light grows dim in the thick pines,
The surface of an inlet sways with nut-horns
And weeds are lush along the banks.
...Down in my heart I have always been as pure
As this limpid water is....
Oh, to remain on a broad flat rock
And to cast a fishing-line forever!

016
五言古詩
王維
渭川田家

斜光照墟落， 窮巷牛羊歸。
野老念牧童， 倚杖候荆扉。
雉雊麥苗秀， 蠶眠桑葉稀。
田夫荷鉏立， 相見語依依。
即此羡闲逸， 恨然吟式微。
又作至

Five-character-quatrain
Wang Wei
A FARM-HOUSE ON THE WEI RIVER

In the slant of the sun on the country-side,
Cattle and sheep trail home along the lane;
   And a rugged old man in a thatch door
Leans on a staff and thinks of his son, the herdboy.
   There are whirring pheasants? full wheat-ears,
Silk-worms asleep, pared mulberry-leaves.
And the farmers, returning with hoes on their shoulders,
   Hail one another familiarly.
   ...No wonder I long for the simple life
And am sighing the old song, Oh, to go Back Again!

Five-character-quatrain
Wang Wei
THE BEAUTIFUL XI SHI

Since beauty is honoured all over the Empire,
How could Xi Shi remain humbly at home? --
Washing clothes at dawn by a southern lake --
And that evening a great lady in a palace of the north:
   Lowly one day, no different from the others,
The next day exalted, everyone praising her.
No more would her own hands powder her face
Or arrange on her shoulders a silken robe.
And the more the King loved her, the lovelier she looked,
   Blinding him away from wisdom.
   ...Girls who had once washed silk beside her
Were kept at a distance from her chariot.
And none of the girls in her neighbours' houses
   By pursing their brows could copy her beauty.
Five-character-ancient-verse
Meng Haoran
ON CLIMBING ORCHID MOUNTAIN IN THE AUTUMN TO ZHANG

On a northern peak among white clouds
You have found your hermitage of peace;
And now, as I climb this mountain to see you,
High with the wildgeese flies my heart.
The quiet dusk might seem a little sad
If this autumn weather were not so brisk and clear;
I look down at the river bank, with homeward-bound villagers
Resting on the sand till the ferry returns;
There are trees at the horizon like a row of grasses
And against the river’s rim an island like the moon
I hope that you will come and meet me, bringing a basket of wine --
And we’ll celebrate together the Mountain Holiday.

019
Five-character-ancient-verse
Meng Haoran
IN SUMMER AT THE SOUTH PAVILION

山光忽西落，池月漸東上。
散髮乘夜涼，開軒臥閑敞。
荷風送香氣，竹露滴清響。
欲取鳴琴彈，恨無知音賞。
感此懷故人，中宵勞夢想。
THINKING OF XING

The mountain-light suddenly fails in the west,
In the east from the lake the slow moon rises.
I loosen my hair to enjoy the evening coolness
And open my window and lie down in peace.
   The wind brings me odours of lotuses,
   And bamboo-leaves drip with a music of dew....
I would take up my lute and I would play,
   But, alas, who here would understand?
   And so I think of you, old friend,
   O troubler of my midnight dreams!

020
五言古詩
孟浩然
宿業師山房待丁大不至

夕陽度西嶺，群壑倏已暝；
松月生夜涼，風泉滿清聽。
樵人歸欲盡，燃鳥棲初定。
之子期宿來，孤琴候羅徑。

Five-character-ancient-verse
Meng Haoran
AT THE MOUNTAIN-LODGE OF THE BUDDHIST PRIEST YE
WAITING IN VAIN FOR MY FRIEND DING

Now that the sun has set beyond the western range,
   Valley after valley is shadowy and dim....
And now through pine-trees come the moon and the chill of evening,
   And my ears feel pure with the sound of wind and water
Nearly all the woodsmen have reached home,
   Birds have settled on their perches in the quiet mist....
And still -- because you promised -- I am waiting for you, waiting,
   Playing lute under a wayside vine.

021
五言古詩
王昌齡
同從弟南齋晴月憶山陰崔少府

高臥南齋時，閑帷月初吐；
Five-character-ancient-verse
Wang Changling
WITH MY BROTHER AT THE SOUTH STUDY
THINKING IN THE MOONLIGHT OF VICE-PREFECT
CUI IN SHANYIN

Lying on a high seat in the south study,
We have lifted the curtain-and we see the rising moon
Brighten with pure light the water and the grove
And flow like a wave on our window and our door.
It will move through the cycle, full moon and then crescent again,
Calmly, beyond our wisdom, altering new to old.
...Our chosen one, our friend, is now by a limpid river --
Singing, perhaps, a plaintive eastern song.
He is far, far away from us, three hundred miles away.
And yet a breath of orchids comes along the wind.

022
五言古詩
邱為
尋西山隱者不遇

絕頂一茅茨， 直上三十里；
扣闂無僮僕， 窺室惟案几。
若非巾柴車？ 應是釣秋水。
差池不相見， 獨勉空仰止。
草色新雨中， 松聲晚窗裡；
及兹契幽絕， 自足蕩心耳。
雖無賓主意， 頗得清淨理。
興盡方下山， 何必待之子。

Five-character-ancient-verse
Qiu Wei
AFTER MISSING THE RECLUSE
ON THE WESTERN MOUNTAIN

To your hermitage here on the top of the mountain
I have climbed, without stopping, these ten miles.
I have knocked at your door, and no one answered;
I have peeped into your room, at your seat beside the table.
   Perhaps you are out riding in your canopied chair,
       Or fishing, more likely, in some autumn pool.
Sorry though I am to be missing you,
   You have become my meditation --
The beauty of your grasses, fresh with rain,
And close beside your window the music of your pines.
   I take into my being all that I see and hear,
Soothing my senses, quieting my heart;
   And though there be neither host nor guest,
Have I not reasoned a visit complete?
...After enough, I have gone down the mountain.
   Why should I wait for you any longer?

023
五言古詩
綦毋潛
春泛若耶溪
幽意無斷絕，此去隨所偶；
晚風吹行舟， 花路入溪口。
際夜轉西壑， 隔山望南斗。
潭煙飛溶溶， 林月低向後。
生事且瀟漫， 願為持竿叟。

Five-character-ancient-verse
Qiwu Qian
A BOAT IN SPRING ON RUOYA LAKE

Thoughtful elation has no end:
   Onward I bear it to whatever come.
And my boat and I, before the evening breeze
   Passing flowers, entering the lake,
Turn at nightfall toward the western valley,
   Where I watch the south star over the mountain
And a mist that rises, hovering soft,
   And the low moon slanting through the trees;
And I choose to put away from me every worldly matter
   And only to be an old man with a fishing-pole.

024
五言古詩
常建
宿王昌龄隐居

清溪深不测，隐处唯孤云；
松際露微月，清光猶為君。
茅亭宿花影，藥院滋苔紋。
余亦謝時去，西山鶴鶴群。

Five-character-ancient-verse
Chang Jian
AT WANG CHANGLIN’ S RETREAT

Here, beside a clear deep lake,
You live accompanied by clouds;
Or soft through the pine the moon arrives
To be your own pure-hearted friend.
You rest under thatch in the shadow of your flowers,
Your dewy herbs flourish in their bed of moss.
Let me leave the world. Let me alight, like you,
On your western mountain with phoenixes and cranes.

五言古詩
岑參
與高適薛據登慈恩寺浮圖

塔勢如湧出，孤高耸天宮；
登臨出世界，磴道盤虛空。
突兀壓神州，峥嶸如鬼工；
四角礙白日，七層摩蒼穹。
下窺指高鳥，俯聴聞驚風。
連山若波濤，奔湧如朝東。
青槐夾馳道，宮館何玲瓏？
秋色從西來，蒼然滿闕中。
五陵北原上，萬古青濛濛。
淨理了可悟，勝因夙所宗。
暫將掛冠去，覺道資無窮。

ASCENDING THE PAGODA AT THE TEMPLE OF KIND
FAVOUR WITH GAO SHI AND XUE JU

The pagoda, rising abruptly from earth,
Reaches to the very Palace of Heaven...
Climbing, we seem to have left the world behind us,
With the steps we look down on hung from space.
It overtops a holy land
And can only have been built by toil of the spirit.
Its four sides darken the bright sun,
Its seven stories cut the grey clouds;
Birds fly down beyond our sight,
And the rapid wind below our hearing;
Mountain-ranges, toward the east,
Appear to be curving and flowing like rivers;
Far green locust-trees line broad roads
Toward clustered palaces and mansions;
Colours of autumn, out of the west,
Enter advancing through the city;
And northward there lie, in five graveyards,
Calm forever under dewy green grass,
Those who know life's final meaning
Which all humankind must learn.
...Henceforth I put my official hat aside.
To find the Eternal Way is the only happiness.

026
五言古詩
元結
賊退示官吏并序
癸卯歲，西原賊入道州，焚燒殺掠，幾盡而去。明年，賊又攻永州，破邵，不犯此州邊 郡而退，豈力能制敵哉？蓋蒙其傷懇而已！諸史何為忍苦微敘！故作詩一篇以示官吏。
昔歲逢太平，山林二十年。
泉源在庭戸，洞壑當門前。
井稅有常規，日晏猶得眠。
忽然遭時變，數歲親戎旃。
今來典斯郡，山夷又紛然。
城小賊不屠，人貧傷可憐。
是以陷鄙境，此州獨見全。
使郡將貧賊，豈不如賊焉？
令彼微飲者，迫之如火煎。
誰能絕人命？以作時世賢。
思欲委符節，引竿自刺船，
將家就魚鹽，歸老江湖邊。
又作宴 又作世
Five-character-ancient-verse
Yuan Jie
TO THE TAX-COLLECTORS
AFTER THE BANDITS RETREAT

In the year Kuimao the bandits from Xiyuan entered Daozhou, set fire, raided, killed, and looted. The whole district was almost ruined. The next year the bandits came again and, attacking the neighbouring prefecture, Yong, passed this one by. It was not because we were strong enough to defend ourselves, but, probably, because they pitied us. And how now can these commissioners bear to impose extra taxes? I have written this poem for the collectors’ information.

I still remember those days of peace --
Twenty years among mountains and forests,
The pure stream running past my yard,
The caves and valleys at my door.
Taxes were light and regular then,
And I could sleep soundly and late in the morning-
Till suddenly came a sorry change.
...For years now I have been serving in the army.

When I began here as an official,
The mountain bandits were rising again;
But the town was so small it was spared by the thieves,
And the people so poor and so pitiable
That all other districts were looted
And this one this time let alone.
...Do you imperial commissioners
Mean to be less kind than bandits?
The people you force to pay the poll
Are like creatures frying over a fire.
And how can you sacrifice human lives,
Just to be known as able collectors? --
...Oh, let me fling down my official seal,
Let me be a lone fisherman in a small boat
And support my family on fish and wheat
And content my old age with rivers and lakes!

027
五言古詩
韋應物
郡齋雨中與諸文士燕集

兵衛森畫戟，宴寢凝清香。
海上風雨至，逍遙池閣涼。
煩襟近消散，嘉賓復滿堂。
自懶居處崇，未睹斯民康。
Five-character-ancient-verse
Wei Yingwu
ENTERTAINING LITERARY MEN IN MY OFFICIAL RESIDENCE ON A RAINY DAY

Outside are insignia, shown in state;
But here are sweet incense-clouds, quietly ours.
Wind and rain, coming in from sea,
Have cooled this pavilion above the lake
And driven the feverish heat away
From where my eminent guests are gathered.
...Ashamed though I am of my high position
While people lead unhappy lives,
Let us reasonably banish care
And just be friends, enjoying nature.
Though we have to go without fish and meat,
There are fruits and vegetables aplenty.
...We bow, we take our cups of wine,
We give our attention to beautiful poems.
When the mind is exalted, the body is lightened
And feels as if it could float in the wind.
...Suzhou is famed as a centre of letters;
And all you writers, coming here,
Prove that the name of a great land
Is made by better things than wealth.

028
五言古詩
韋應物
初發揚子寄元大校書

悵悵去親愛， 泛泛入煙霧；
歸棹洛陽人， 殘鐘廣陵樹。
今朝為此別， 何處還相遇？
世事波上舟， 沿洄安得住。

Five-character-ancient-verse
Wei Yingwu
SETTING SAIL ON THE YANGZI
TO SECRETARY YUAN

Wistful, away from my friends and kin,
Through mist and fog I float and float
With the sail that bears me toward Loyang.
In Yangzhou trees linger bell-notes of evening,
Marking the day and the place of our parting....
When shall we meet again and where?
...Destiny is a boat on the waves,
Borne to and fro, beyond our will.

029
五言古詩
韋應物
寄全椒山中道士

今朝郡齋冷，忽念山中客；
澗底束薪歸，來煮白石。
欲持一瓢酒，遠慰風雨夕；
落葉滿空山，何處尋行跡。

Five-character-ancient-verse
Wei Yingwu
A POEM TO A TAOIST HERMIT
CHUANJIAO MOUNTAIN

My office has grown cold today;
And I suddenly think of my mountain friend
Gathering firewood down in the valley
Or boiling white stones for potatoes in his hut....
I wish I might take him a cup of wine
To cheer him through the evening storm;
But in fallen leaves that have heaped the bare slopes,
How should I ever find his footprints!

030
五言古詩
韋應物
長安遇馮著

客從東方來，衣上灞陵雨。
Five-character-ancient-verse
Wei Yingwu
ON MEETING MY FRIEND FENG ZHU
IN THE CAPITAL

Out of the east you visit me,
With the rain of Baling still on your clothes,
I ask you what you have come here for;
You say: "To buy an ax for cutting wood in the mountains"
...Hidden deep in a haze of blossom,
Swallow fledglings chirp at ease
As they did when we parted, a year ago....
How grey our temples have grown since them!

031
五言古詩
韋應物
夕次盱眙縣

落帆逗淮鎮， 停舫臨孤驛。
浩浩風起波， 冥冥日沈夕。
人歸山郭暗， 雁下蘆洲白。
獨夜憶秦闕， 聽鐘未眠客。

Five-character-ancient-verse
Wei Yingwu
MOORING AT TWILIGHT IN YUYI DISTRICT

Furling my sail near the town of Huai,
I find for harbour a little cove
Where a sudden breeze whips up the waves.
The sun is growing dim now and sinks in the dusk.
People are coming home. The bright mountain-peak darkens.
Wildgeese fly down to an island of white weeds.
...At midnight I think of a northern city-gate,
And I hear a bell tolling between me and sleep.

032
From office confinement all year long,
I have come out of town to be free this morning
Where willows harmonize the wind
And green hills lighten the cares of the world.
I lean by a tree and rest myself
Or wander up and down a stream.
...Mists have wet the fragrant meadows;
A spring dove calls from some hidden place.
...With quiet surroundings, the mind is at peace,
But beset with affairs, it grows restless again....
Here I shall finally build me a cabin,
As Tao Qian built one long ago.

033
My heart has been heavy all day long
Because you have so far to go.
The marriage of a girl, away from her parents,
Is the launching of a little boat on a great river.
...You were very young when your mother died,
Which made me the more tender of you.
Your elder sister has looked out for you,
And now you are both crying and cannot part.
This makes my grief the harder to bear;
Yet it is right that you should go.
...Having had from childhood no mother to guide you,
How will you honour your mother-in-law?
It’s an excellent family; they will be kind to you,
They will forgive you your mistakes --
Although ours has been so pure and poor
That you can take them no great dowry.
Be gentle and respectful, as a woman should be,
Careful of word and look, observant of good example.
...After this morning we separate,
There’s no knowing for how long....
I always try to hide my feelings --
They are suddenly too much for me,
When I turn and see my younger daughter
With the tears running down her cheek.
Five-character-ancient-verse
Liu Zongyuan
READING BUDDHIST CLASSICS WITH ZHAO
AT HIS TEMPLE IN THE EARLY MORNING

I clean my teeth in water drawn from a cold well;
And while I brush my clothes, I purify my mind;
Then, slowly turning pages in the Tree-Leaf Book,
I recite, along the path to the eastern shelter.

...The world has forgotten the true fountain of this teaching
And people enslave themselves to miracles and fables.
Under the given words I want the essential meaning,
I look for the simplest way to sow and reap my nature.
Here in the quiet of the priest’s templecourtyard,
Mosses add their climbing colour to the thick bamboo;
And now comes the sun, out of mist and fog,
And pines that seem to be new-bathed;
And everything is gone from me, speech goes, and reading,
Leaving the single unison.

035
五言古詩
柳宗元
溪居

久為簪組累，幸此南夷谪。
閑依農圃鄰，偶似山林客。
曉耕翻露草，夜榜響溪石，
來往不逢人，長歌楚天碧。

Five-character-ancient-verse
Liu Zongyuan
DWELLING BY A STREAM

I had so long been troubled by official hat and robe
That I am glad to be an exile here in this wild southland.
I am a neighbour now of planters and reapers.
I am a guest of the mountains and woods.
I plough in the morning, turning dewy grasses,
And at evening tie my fisher-boat, breaking the quiet stream.
Back and forth I go, scarcely meeting anyone,
And sing a long poem and gaze at the blue sky.
Folk-song-styled-verse
Wang Changling
AT A BORDER-FORTRESS

Cicadas complain of thin mulberry-trees
In the Eighth-month chill at the frontier pass.
Through the gate and back again, all along the road,
There is nothing anywhere but yellow reeds and grasses
And the bones of soldiers from You and from Bing
Who have buried their lives in the dusty sand.
...Let never a cavalier stir you to envy
With boasts of his horse and his horsemanship

Folk-song-styled-verse
Wang Changling
UNDER A BORDER-FORTRESS

Drink, my horse, while we cross the autumn water!
- The stream is cold and the wind like a sword,
As we watch against the sunset on the sandy plain,
Far, far away, shadowy Lingtao.
Old battles, waged by those long walls,
Once were proud on all men’s tongues.
But antiquity now is a yellow dust,
Confusing in the grasses its ruins and white bones.

038
樂府
李白
關山月

明月出天山， 蒼茫雲海間；
長風幾萬里， 吹度玉門關。
漢下白登道， 胡窺青海灣。
由來征戰地， 不見有人還。
戍客望邊色， 思歸多苦顏；
高樓當此夜， 歎息未應闗。

Folk-song-styled-verse
Li Bai
THE MOON AT THE FORTIFIED PASS

The bright moon lifts from the Mountain of Heaven
In an infinite haze of cloud and sea,
And the wind, that has come a thousand miles,
Beats at the Jade Pass battlements....
China marches its men down Baideng Road
While Tartar troops peer across blue waters of the bay....
And since not one battle famous in history
Sent all its fighters back again,
The soldiers turn round, looking toward the border,
And think of home, with wistful eyes,
And of those tonight in the upper chambers
Who toss and sigh and cannot rest.

039
樂府
李白
子夜四時歌 春歌

秦地羅敷女， 采桑緣水邊。 
素手青條上， 紅妝白日鮮。 
蠶飢妾欲去， 五馬莫留連。

Folk-song-styled-verse
Li Bai
BALLADS OF FOUR SEASONS: SPRING

The lovely Lo Fo of the western land
Plucks mulberry leaves by the waterside.
Across the green boughs stretches out her white hand;
In golden sunshine her rosy robe is dyed.
"my silkworms are hungry, I cannot stay.
Tarry not with your five-horse cab, I pray."

040
欒府
李白
子夜四時歌 夏歌

鏡湖三百里，蓮荷發荷花。
五月西施采，人看隘若耶。
回舟不待月，歸去越王家。

Folk-song-styled-verse
Li Bai
BALLADS OF FOUR SEASONS: SUMMER

On Mirror Lake outspread for miles and miles,
The lotus lilies in full blossom teem.
In fifth moon Xi Shi gathers them with smiles,
Watchers o’erwhelm the bank of Yuoye Stream.
Her boat turns back without waiting moonrise
To yoyal house amid amorous sighs.

041
欒府
李白
子夜四時歌 秋歌

長安一片月，萬戶捣衣聲;
秋風吹不盡，總是玉關情。
何日平胡虜？良人罷遠征。

Folk-song-styled-verse
Li Bai
A SONG OF AN AUTUMN MIDNIGHT
A slip of the moon hangs over the capital;
Ten thousand washing-mallets are pounding;
And the autumn wind is blowing my heart
For ever and ever toward the Jade Pass....
Oh, when will the Tartar troops be conquered,
And my husband come back from the long campaign!

042
樂府
李白
子夜四時歌 冬歌

明朝驛使發，一夜絮征袍。
素手抽錐冷，那堪把剪刀。
裁縫寄遠道，幾日到臨洮。

Folk-song-styled-verse
Li Bai
BALLADS OF FOUR SEASONS: WINTER

The courier will depart next day, she's told.
She sews a warrior's gown all night.
Her fingers feel the needle cold.
How can she hold the scissors tight?
The work is done, she sends it far away.
When will it reach the town where warriors stay?

043
樂府
李白
長干行

妾髮初覆額，折花門前劇；
郎騎竹馬來，遙床弄青梅。
同居長千里，兩小無嫌猜。
十四為君婦，羞顏未嘗開；
低頭向暗壁，千呼不一回。
十五始展眉，願同塵與灰；
常存抱柱信，豈上望夫臺？
十六君遠行，瞿塘澗滿堆；
五月不可觸，猿鳴天上哀。
Folk-song-styled-verse
Li Bai
A SONG OF CHANGGAN

My hair had hardly covered my forehead.
I was picking flowers, paying by my door,
When you, my lover, on a bamboo horse,
Came trotting in circles and throwing green plums.
We lived near together on a lane in Ch'ang-kan,
Both of us young and happy-hearted.
...At fourteen I became your wife,
So bashful that I dared not smile,
And I lowered my head toward a dark corner
And would not turn to your thousand calls;
But at fifteen I straightened my brows and laughed,
Learning that no dust could ever seal our love,
That even unto death I would await you by my post
And would never lose heart in the tower of silent watching.
...Then when I was sixteen, you left on a long journey
Through the Gorges of Ch'u-t'ang, of rock and whirling water.
And then came the Fifth-month, more than I could bear,
And I tried to hear the monkeys in your lofty far-off sky.
Your footprints by our door, where I had watched you go,
Were hidden, every one of them, under green moss,
Hidden under moss too deep to sweep away.
And the first autumn wind added fallen leaves.
And now, in the Eighth-month, yellowing butterflies
Hover, two by two, in our west-garden grasses
And, because of all this, my heart is breaking
And I fear for my bright cheeks, lest they fade.
...Oh, at last, when you return through the three Pa districts,
Send me a message home ahead!
And I will come and meet you and will never mind the distance,
All the way to Chang-feng Sha.
A SONG OF A PURE-HEARTED GIRL

Lakka-trees ripen two by two
And mandarin-ducks die side by side.
If a true-hearted girl will love only her husband,
In a life as faithfully lived as theirs,
What troubling wave can arrive to vex
A spirit like water in a timeless well?

A TRAVELLER’S SONG

The thread in the hands of a fond-hearted mother
Makes clothes for the body of her wayward boy;
Carefully she sews and thoroughly she mends,
Dreading the delays that will keep him late from home.
But how much love has the inch-long grass
For three spring months of the light of the sun?
Seven-character-ancient-verse
Chen Ziang
ON A GATE-TOWER AT YUZHOU

Where, before me, are the ages that have gone?
And where, behind me, are the coming generations?
I think of heaven and earth, without limit, without end,
And I am all alone and my tears fall down.

047
七言古詩
李頎
古意

男兒事長征， 少小幽燕客，
賭勝馬蹄下， 由來輕七尺；
殺人莫敢前， 鬚如蝦毛磔。
黃雲礦底白雪飛， 未得報恩不能歸。
遼東小婦年十五， 慣彈琵琶解歌舞，
今為羌笛出塞聲， 使我三軍淚如雨。

Seven-character-ancient-verse
Li Qi
AN OLD AIR

There once was a man, sent on military missions,
A wanderer, from youth, on the You and Yan frontiers.
Under the horses’ hoofs he would meet his foes
And, recklessly risking his seven-foot body,
Would slay whoever dared confront
Those moustaches that bristled like porcupinequills.
...There were dark clouds below the hills, there were white clouds above them,
But before a man has served full time, how can he go back?
In eastern Liao a girl was waiting, a girl of fifteen years,
Deft with a guitar, expert in dance and song.
...She seems to be fluting, even now, a reed-song of home,
Filling every soldier’s eyes with homesick tears.

048
Seven-character-ancient-verse
Li Qi
A FAREWELL TO MY FRIEND CHEN ZHANGFU

In the Fourth-month the south wind blows plains of yellow barley,
Date-flowers have not faded yet and lakka-leaves are long.
The green peak that we left at dawn we still can see at evening,
While our horses whinny on the road, eager to turn homeward.

...Chen, my friend, you have always been a great and good man,
With your dragon's moustache, tiger's eyebrows and your massive forehead.
In your bosom you have shelved away ten thousand volumes.
You have held your head high, never bowed it in the dust.

...After buying us wine and pledging us, here at the eastern gate,
And taking things as lightly as a wildgoose feather,
Flat you lie, tipsy, forgetting the white sun;
But now and then you open your eyes and gaze at a high lone cloud.

...The tide-head of the lone river joins the darkening sky.
The ferryman beaches his boat. It has grown too late to sail.
And people on their way from Cheng cannot go home,
And people from Loyang sigh with disappointment.

...I have heard about the many friends around your wood land dwelling.
Yesterday you were dismissed. Are they your friends today?
Seven-character-ancient-verse  
Li Qi  
A LUTE SONG

Our host, providing abundant wine to make the night mellow,  
Asks his guest from Yangzhou to play for us on the lute.  
Toward the moon that whitens the city-wall, black crows are flying,  
Frost is on ten thousand trees, and the wind blows through our clothes;  
But a copper stove has added its light to that of flowery candles,  
And the lute plays The Green Water, and then The Queen of Chu.  
Once it has begun to play, there is no other sound:  
A spell is on the banquet, while the stars grow thin....  
But three hundred miles from here, in Huai, official duties await him,  
And so it's farewell, and the road again, under cloudy mountains.

050

七言古詩  
李頎

聽董大彈胡笳聲兼寄語弄房給事

蔡女昔造胡笳聲，一彈一十有八拍。  
胡人落淚沾邊草，漢使斷腸對歸客。  
古戍蒼茫烽火寒，大荒沈沈飛雪白。  
先拂聲絃後角羽，四郊秋葉驚摶摶。  
董夫子，通神明，深山窈窕來妖精。  
言遲更速皆應手，將往復旋如有情。  
空山百鳥散還合，萬里浮雲陰且晴。  
嘶酸鶴雁失群夜，斷絕胡兒戀母聲。  
川為靜其波，鳥亦罷其鳴；  
鳥孫部落家鄉遠，遼娑沙塵哀怨生。  
幽音變調忽飄灑，長風吹林雨墮瓦；  
迸泉飄飄飛木末，野鹿呦呦走堂下。  
長安城連東掖垣，鳳凰池對青琐門，  
高才脫略名與利，日夕望君抱琴至。

Seven-character-ancient-verse  
Li Qi  
ON HEARING DONG PLAY THE FLAGEOLET  
A POEM TO PALACE-ATTENDANT FANG
When this melody for the flageolet was made by Lady Cai,
When long ago one by one she sang its eighteen stanzas,
Even the Tartars were shedding tears into the border grasses,
And the envoy of China was heart-broken, turning back home with his escort.

...Cold fires now of old battles are grey on ancient forts,
And the wilderness is shadowed with white new-flying snow.

...When the player first brushes the Shang string and the Jue and then the Yu,
Autumn-leaves in all four quarters are shaken with a murmur.

Dong, the master,
Must have been taught in heaven.

Demons come from the deep pine-wood and stealthily listen
To music slow, then quick, following his hand,
Now far away, now near again, according to his heart.
A hundred birds from an empty mountain scatter and return;
Three thousand miles of floating clouds darken and lighten;
A wildgoose fledgling, left behind, cries for its flock,
And a Tartar child for the mother he loves.

Then river waves are calmed
And birds are mute that were singing,
And Wuzu tribes are homesick for their distant land,

And out of the dust of Siberian steppes rises a plaintive sorrow.

...Suddenly the low sound leaps to a freer tune,
Like a long wind swaying a forest, a downpour breaking tiles,
A cascade through the air, flying over tree-tops.

...A wild deer calls to his fellows. He is running among the mansions
In the corner of the capital by the Eastern Palace wall....
Phoenix Lake lies opposite the Gate of Green Jade;
But how can fame and profit concern a man of genius?
Day and night I long for him to bring his lute again.

051
七言古詩
李頎
聽安萬善吹觱篥歌

南山截竹為觱篥，此樂本自龜茲出。
流傳漢地曲轉奇，涼州胡人為我吹；
傍鄰聞者多歎息，遠客思鄉皆涕垂。
世人解聽不解賞，長飄風中自來往。　
枯桑老柏寒飕飗，九維鳴鳳亂啾啾。
龍吟虎嘯一時發，萬籟百泉相與秋。
忽然更作漁陽摻，黃雲蕭條白日暗。
變調如聞楊柳春，上林繁花照眼新。
歲夜高堂列明燭，美酒一杯聲一曲。
Seven-character-ancient-verse
Li Qi

ON HEARING AN WANSHAN PLAY THE REED-PIPE

Bamboo from the southern hills was used to make this pipe.
And its music, that was introduced from Persia first of all,
Has taken on new magic through later use in China.
And now the Tartar from Liangzhou, blowing it for me,
Drawing a sigh from whosoever hears it,
Is bringing to a wanderer's eyes homesick tears....
Many like to listen; but few understand.
To and fro at will there's a long wind flying,
Dry mulberry-trees, old cypresses, trembling in its chill.
There are nine baby phoenixes, outcryng one another;
A dragon and a tiger spring up at the same moment;
Then in a hundred waterfalls ten thousand songs of autumn
Are suddenly changing to The Yuyang Lament;
And when yellow clouds grow thin and the white sun darkens,
They are changing still again to Spring in the Willow Trees.
Like Imperial Garden flowers, brightening the eye with beauty,
Are the high-hall candles we have lighted this cold night,
And with every cup of wine goes another round of music.

052
七言古詩
孟浩然
夜歸鹿門山歌

山寺鐘鳴晝已昏， 漁梁渡頭爭渡喧；
人隨沙路向江村， 余亦乘舟歸鹿門。
鹿門月照開煙樹， 忽到龐公棲隱處；
巖扉松徑長寂寥， 惟有幽人自來去。

Seven-character-ancient-verse
Meng Haoran
RETURNING AT NIGHT TO LUMEN MOUNTAIN

A bell in the mountain-temple sounds the coming of night.
I hear people at the fishing-town stumble aboard the ferry,
While others follow the sand-bank to their homes along the river.
...I also take a boat and am bound for Lumen Mountain --
And soon the Lumen moonlight is piercing misty trees.
I have come, before I know it, upon an ancient hermitage,
The thatch door, the piney path, the solitude, the quiet,
Where a hermit lives and moves, never needing a companion.

053
七言古詩
李白
廬山謠寄盧侍御廬舟

我本楚狂人， 鳳歌笑孔丘。
手持綠玉杖， 朝別黃鶴樓；
五嶽尋仙不辭遠， 一生好入名山遊。
廬山秀出南斗傍， 屏風九疊雲繚張；
影落明湖青黛光， 金闕前開二峰長。
銀河倒掛三石梁， 香爐瀑布遙相望。
廬崖沓障凌蒼蒼， 翠影紅霞映朝日，
鳥飛不到吳天長。
登高壯觀天地間， 大江茫茫去不返。
黃雲萬里動風色， 白波九道流雪山。
好為廬山謠， 興因廬山發。
開窪石鏡清我心， 謝公行處蒼苔沒。
早服還丹無世情， 琴心三叠道初成；
遙見仙人彩雲裡， 手把芙蓉朝玉京。
先期汗漫九垓上， 願接廬敖遊太清。
又作還

Seven-character-ancient-verse
Li Bai
A SONG OF LU MOUNTAIN TO CENSOR LU XUZHOU

I am the madman of the Chu country
Who sang a mad song disputing Confucius.
...Holding in my hand a staff of green jade,
I have crossed, since morning at the Yellow Crane Terrace,
All five Holy Mountains, without a thought of distance,
According to the one constant habit of my life.
Lu Mountain stands beside the Southern Dipper
In clouds reaching silken like a nine-panelled screen,
With its shadows in a crystal lake deepening the green water.
The Golden Gate opens into two mountain-ranges.
A silver stream is hanging down to three stone bridges
Within sight of the mighty Tripod Falls.
Ledges of cliff and winding trails lead to blue sky
And a flush of cloud in the morning sun,
Whence no flight of birds could be blown into Wu.
...I climb to the top. I survey the whole world.
I see the long river that runs beyond return,
Yellow clouds that winds have driven hundreds of miles
And a snow-peak whitely circled by the swirl of a ninefold stream.
And so I am singing a song of Lu Mountain,
A song that is born of the breath of Lu Mountain.
...Where the Stone Mirror makes the heart’s purity purer
And green moss has buried the footsteps of Xie,
I have eaten the immortal pellet and, rid of the world’s troubles,
Before the lute’s third playing have achieved my element.
Far away I watch the angels riding coloured clouds
Toward heaven’s Jade City, with hibiscus in their hands.
And so, when I have traversed the nine sections of the world,
I will follow Saint Luao up the Great Purity.

054
七言古詩
李白
夢遊天姥吟留別

海客談瀛洲， 煙濤微茫信難求。
越人語天姥， 雲霧岧嶢或可睹。
天姥連天向天際， 勢拔五嶽掩赤城。
天台四萬八千丈， 對此欲倒東南傾。
我欲因之夢吳越， 一夜飛渡鏡湖月。
湖月照我影， 送我至剡溪；
謝公宿處今尚在， 涇水長湍清猿啼。
脚著谢公屐， 身登青雲梯。
半壁見海日， 空中聞天雞。
千巖萬壑路不定， 迷花倚石忽已暝。
熊咆龍吟殷巖泉， 慄深林兮聽猿狖。
雲青青兮欲雨， 水澹澹兮生煙。
列缺霹靂， 邱巒崩摧，
洞天石扉， 徑開中闢；
青冥浩蕩不見底， 日月照耀金银台。
霓為衣兮風為馬， 雲之君兮紛紛而下；
虎鼓瑟兮龍回車。 仙之人兮列如麻。
忽魂悸以魄動， 威怒起而長嗟。
惟覺時之枕席， 失向來之煙霞。
世間行樂亦如此， 古來萬事東流水。
別君去兮何時還？ 且放白鹿青崖間。
須行即騎訪名山， 安能摧眉折腰事權貴，
使我不得開心顏？

Seven-character-ancient-verse
Li Bai

TIANMU MOUNTAIN ASCENDED IN A DREAM

A seafaring visitor will talk about Japan,
Which waters and mists conceal beyond approach;
But Yueh people talk about Heavenly Mother Mountain,
Still seen through its varying deeps of cloud.
In a straight line to heaven, its summit enters heaven,
Tops the five Holy Peaks, and casts a shadow through China
With the hundred-mile length of the Heavenly Terrace Range,
Which, just at this point, begins turning southeast.
...My heart and my dreams are in Wu and Yueh
And they cross Mirror Lake all night in the moon.
And the moon lights my shadow
And me to Yan River --
With the hermitage of Xie still there
And the monkeys calling clearly over ripples of green water.
I wear his pegged boots
Up a ladder of blue cloud,
Sunny ocean half-way,
Holy cock-crow in space,
Myriad peaks and more valleys and nowhere a road.
Flowers lure me, rocks ease me. Day suddenly ends.
Bears, dragons, tempestuous on mountain and river,
Startle the forest and make the heights tremble.
Clouds darken with darkness of rain,
Streams pale with pallor of mist.
The Gods of Thunder and Lightning
Shatter the whole range.
The stone gate breaks asunder
Venting in the pit of heaven,
An impenetrable shadow.
...But now the sun and moon illumine a gold and silver terrace,
And, clad in rainbow garments, riding on the wind,
Come the queens of all the clouds, descending one by one,
With tigers for their lute-players and phoenixes for dancers.
Row upon row, like fields of hemp, range the fairy figures.
I move, my soul goes flying,
I wake with a long sigh,
My pillow and my matting
Are the lost clouds I was in.
...And this is the way it always is with human joy:
Ten thousand things run for ever like water toward the east.
And so I take my leave of you, not knowing for how long.
...But let me, on my green slope, raise a white deer
And ride to you, great mountain, when I have need of you.
Oh, how can I gravely bow and scrape to men of high rank and men of high office
Who never will suffer being shown an honest-hearted face!
Seven-character-ancient-verse
Li Bai
PARTING AT A WINE-SHOP IN NANJING

A wind, bringing willow-cotton, sweetens the shop,
And a girl from Wu, pouring wine, urges me to share it
With my comrades of the city who are here to see me off;
And as each of them drains his cup, I say to him in parting,
Oh, go and ask this river running to the east
If it can travel farther than a friend’s love!

Seven-character-ancient-verse
Li Bai
A FAREWELL TO SECRETARY SHUYUN AT THE XIETIAO VILLA IN XUANZHOU

Since yesterday had to throw me and bolt,
Today has hurt my heart even more.
The autumn wildgeese have a long wind for escort
As I face them from this villa, drinking my wine.
The bones of great writers are your brushes, in the School of Heaven,
And I am a Lesser Xie growing up by your side.
We both are exalted to distant thought,
Aspiring to the sky and the bright moon.
But since water still flows, though we cut it with our swords,
And sorrows return, though we drown them with wine,
Since the world can in no way answer our craving,
I will loosen my hair tomorrow and take to a fishingboat.

057
七言古詩
岑參
走馬川行奉送封大夫出師西征

君不見走馬川行雪海邊，平沙莽莽黃入天。
輪臺九月風夜吼，一川碎石大如斗，
隨風滿地石亂走。匈奴草黃馬正肥，
金山西見煙塵飛，漢家大將西出師。
將軍金甲夜不脱，半夜軍行戈相撥，
風頭如刀面如割。馬毛帶雪汗氣蒸，
五花連銖旋作冰，幕中草檄砚水凝。
虜騎聞之應膽寒，料知短兵不敢接，
車師西門仿獻捷。

Seven-character-ancient-verse
Cen Can
A SONG OF RUNNING-HORSE RIVER IN FAREWELL
TO GENERAL FENG OF THE WESTERN EXPEDITION

Look how swift to the snowy sea races Running-Horse River! --
And sand, up from the desert, flies yellow into heaven.
This Ninth-month night is blowing cold at Wheel Tower,
And valleys, like peck measures, fill with the broken boulders
That downward, headlong, follow the wind.
...In spite of grey grasses, Tartar horses are plump;
West of the Hill of Gold, smoke and dust gather.
O General of the Chinese troops, start your campaign!
Keep your iron armour on all night long,
Send your soldiers forward with a clattering of weapons!
...While the sharp wind's point cuts the face like a knife,
And snowy sweat steams on the horses' backs,
Freezing a pattern of five-flower coins,
Your challenge from camp, from an inkstand of ice,
Has chilled the barbarian chieftain's heart.
You will have no more need of an actual battle! --
We await the news of victory, here at the western pass!

058
七言古詩
岑參
輪臺歌奉送封大夫出師西征

輪臺城頭夜吹角， 輪臺城北旄頭落。
羽書昨夜過渠黎， 單于已在金山西。
戍樓西望煙塵黑， 漢兵屯在輪臺北。
上將擁旆西出征， 平明吹笛大軍行。
四邊伐鼓雪海 LOS， 三軍大呼陰山動。
廬塞兵氣連雲屯， 戰場白骨纓草根。
劍河風急雪片鬭， 沙口石縫馬蹄脫。
亞相勸王甘苦辛， 託將報主靜邊塵。
古來青史誰不見？ 今見功名勝古人。

Seven-character-ancient-verse
Cen Can
A SONG OF WHEEL TOWER IN FAREWELL TO GENERAL FENG OF THE WESTERN EXPEDITION

On Wheel Tower parapets night-bugles are blowing,
Though the flag at the northern end hangs limp.
Scouts, in the darkness, are passing Quli,
Where, west of the Hill of Gold, the Tartar chieftain has halted
We can see, from the look-out, the dust and black smoke
Where Chinese troops are camping, north of Wheel Tower.
...Our flags now beckon the General farther west-
With bugles in the dawn he rouses his Grand Army;
Drums like a tempest pound on four sides
And the Yin Mountains shake with the shouts of ten thousand;
Clouds and the war-wind whirl up in a point
Over fields where grass-roots will tighten around white bones;
In the Dagger River mist, through a biting wind,
Horseshoes, at the Sand Mouth line, break on icy boulders.
...Our General endures every pain, every hardship,
Commanded to settle the dust along the border.
We have read, in the Green Books, tales of old days-
But here we behold a living man, mightier than the dead.
七言古詩
岑參
白雪歌送武判官歸京

北風捲地白草折， 胡天八月即飛雪；
忽如一夜春風來， 千樹萬樹梨花開。
散入珠簾濕羅幕， 狐裘不暖錦衾薄。
將軍角弓不得控， 都護鐵衣冷猶著。
瀚海闊百丈冰， 愁雲慘淡萬里凝。
中軍置酒飲歸客， 胡琴琵琶與羌笛。
紛紛暮雪下轅門， 風掣紅旗凍不翻。
輪臺東門送君去， 去時雪滿天山路；
山迴路轉不見君， 雪上空留馬行處。

Seven-character-ancient-verse
Cen Can
A SONG OF WHITE SNOW IN FAREWELL
TO FIELD-CLERK WU GOING HOME

The north wind rolls the white grasses and breaks them;
And the Eighth-month snow across the Tartar sky
Is like a spring gale, come up in the night.
Blowing open the petals of ten thousand peartrees.
It enters the pearl blinds, it wets the silk curtains;
A fur coat feels cold, a cotton mat flimsy;
Bows become rigid, can hardly be drawn
And the metal of armour congeals on the men;
The sand-sea deepens with fathomless ice,
And darkness masses its endless clouds;
But we drink to our guest bound home from camp,
And play him barbarian lutes, guitars, harps;
Till at dusk, when the drifts are crushing our tents
And our frozen red flags cannot flutter in the wind,
We watch him through Wheel-Tower Gate going eastward.
Into the snow-mounds of Heaven-Peak Road....
And then he disappears at the turn of the pass,
Leaving behind him only hoof-prints.

060
七言古詩
杜甫
韋諫錄事宅觀曹將軍畫馬圖

國初以來畫鞍馬， 神妙獨數江都王。
Seven-character-ancient-verse
Du Fu
A DRAWING OF A HORSE BY GENERAL CAO
AT SECRETARY WEI FENG'S HOUSE

Throughout this dynasty no one had painted horses
Like the master-spirit, Prince Jiangdu --
And then to General Cao through his thirty years of fame
The world's gaze turned, for royal steeds.
He painted the late Emperor's luminous white horse.
For ten days the thunder flew over Dragon Lake,
And a pink-agate plate was sent him from the palace-
The talk of the court-ladies, the marvel of all eyes.
The General danced, receiving it in his honoured home
After this rare gift, followed rapidly fine silks
From many of the nobles, requesting that his art
Lend a new lustre to their screens.
...First came the curly-maned horse of Emperor Taizong,
Then, for the Guos, a lion-spotted horse....
But now in this painting I see two horses,
A sobering sight for whosoever knew them.
They are war- horses. Either could face ten thousand.
They make the white silk stretch away into a vast desert.
And the seven others with them are almost as noble
Mist and snow are moving across a cold sky,
And hoofs are cleaving snow-drifts under great trees-
With here a group of officers and there a group of servants.
See how these nine horses all vie with one another-
The high clear glance, the deep firm breath.
...Who understands distinction? Who really cares for art?
You, Wei Feng, have followed Cao; Zhidun preceded him.
...I remember when the late Emperor came toward his Summer Palace,
The procession, in green-feathered rows, swept from the eastern sky --
Thirty thousand horses, prancing, galloping.
Fashioned, every one of them, like the horses in this picture....
But now the Imperial Ghost receives secret jade from the River God,
For the Emperor hunts crocodiles no longer by the streams.
Where you see his Great Gold Tomb, you may hear among the pines
A bird grieving in the wind that the Emperor's horses are gone.

061
七言古詩
杜甫
丹青引贈曹霸將軍

將軍魏武之子孫，於今為庶為青門；
英雄割據雖已矣，文采風流今尚存。
學書初學衛夫人，但恨無過王右軍。
丹青不知老將至，富貴於我如浮雲。
開元之中常引見，承恩數上南薰殿，
凌煙功臣少顏色，將軍下筆開生面。
良相頭上進賢冠，猛將腰間大羽箭。
褒公鄂公毛髮動，英姿飒爽猶酣戰。
先帝天馬玉花駿，畫工如山貌不同。
是日牽來赤墀下，迥立闕闕生長風。
詔謂將軍拂絨素，意匠慘淡經營中；
斯須九重真龍出，一洗萬古凡馬空。
玉花卻在御榻上，榻上庭前屹相向；
至尊含笑催賜金，園人太僕皆惆悵。
弟子韓幹早入室，亦能畫馬窮殊相；
幹惟畫肉不畫骨，忍使驪駒氣凋喪。
將軍畫善蓋有神，偶逢佳士亦寫真；
即今漂泊干戈際，屢貌尋常行路人。
塗窮反遭俗眼看，世上未有如公貧；
但看古來盛名下，終日坎壇繫其身。
又作途

Seven-character-ancient-verse
Du Fu
A SONG OF A PAINTING TO GENERAL CAO

O General, descended from Wei's Emperor Wu,
You are nobler now than when a noble...
Conquerors and their valour perish,
But masters of beauty live forever.
...With your brush-work learned from Lady Wei
   And second only to Wang Xizhi's,
   Faithful to your art, you know no age,
   Letting wealth and fame drift by like clouds.
...In the years of Kaiyuan you were much with the Emperor,
   Accompanied him often to the Court of the South Wind.
When the spirit left great statesmen, on walls of the Hall of Fame
   The point of your brush preserved their living faces.
   You crowned all the premiers with coronets of office;
   You fitted all commanders with arrows at their girdles;
You made the founders of this dynasty, with every hair alive,
   Seem to be just back from the fierceness of a battle.
...The late Emperor had a horse, known as Jade Flower,
   Whom artists had copied in various poses.
   They led him one day to the red marble stairs
   With his eyes toward the palace in the deepening air.
   Then, General, commanded to proceed with your work,
   You centred all your being on a piece of silk.
   And later, when your dragon-horse, born of the sky,
   Had banished earthly horses for ten thousand generations,
There was one Jade Flower standing on the dais
   And another by the steps, and they marvelled at each other....
   The Emperor rewarded you with smiles and with gifts,
   While officers and men of the stud hung about and stared.
...Han Gan, your follower, has likewise grown proficient
   At representing horses in all their attitudes;
   But picturing the flesh, he fails to draw the bone-
   So that even the finest are deprived of their spirit.
   You, beyond the mere skill, used your art divinely-
   And expressed, not only horses, but the life of a good man....
Yet here you are, wandering in a world of disorder
   And sketching from time to time some petty passerby
   People note your case with the whites of their eyes.
   There's nobody purer, there's nobody poorer.
...Read in the records, from earliest times,
   How hard it is to be a great artist.

062
七言古詩
杜甫
寄韓諫議
今我不樂思岳陽，身欲奮飛病在床。
美人娟娟隔秋水，濯足洞庭望八荒。
Seven-character-ancient-verse
Du Fu
A LETTER TO CENSOR HAN

I am sad. My thoughts are in Youzhou.
I would hurry there—but I am sick in bed.
...Beauty would be facing me across the autumn waters.
Oh, to wash my feet in Lake Dongting and see at its eight corners
Wildgeese flying high, sun and moon both white,
Green maples changing to red in the frosty sky,
Angels bound for the Capital of Heaven, near the North Star,
Riding, some of them phrenixes, and others unicorns,
With banners of hibiscus and with melodies of mist,
Their shadows dancing upside-down in the southern rivers,
Till the Queen of the Stars, drowsy with her nectar,
Would forget the winged men on either side of her!
...From the Wizard of the Red Pine this word has come for me:
That after his earlier follower he has now a new disciple
Who, formerly at the capital as Emperor Liu’s adviser,
In spite of great successes, never could be happy.
...What are a country’s rise and fall?
Can flesh-pots be as fragrant as mountain fruit?....
I grieve that he is lost far away in the south.
May the star of long life accord him its blessing!
...O purity, to seize you from beyond the autumn waters
And to place you as an offering in the Court of Imperial Jade.

063
七言古詩
杜甫
古柏行

孔明廟前有老柏，柯如青銅根如石；
雙皮溜雨四十圍，黛色參天二千尺。
君臣已與時際會，樹木猶為人愛惜。
Beside the Temple of the Great Premier stands an ancient cypress
With a trunk of green bronze and a root of stone.
The girth of its white bark would be the reach of forty men
And its tip of kingfish-blue is two thousand feet in heaven.
Dating from the days of a great ruler's great statesman,
Their very tree is loved now and honoured by the people.
Clouds come to it from far away, from the Wu cliffs,
And the cold moon glistens on its peak of snow.
...East of the Silk Pavilion yesterday I found
The ancient ruler and wise statesman both worshipped in one temple,
Whose tree, with curious branches, ages the whole landscape
In spite of the fresh colours of the windows and the doors.
And so firm is the deep root, so established underground,
That its lone lofty boughs can dare the weight of winds,
Its only protection the Heavenly Power,
Its only endurance the art of its Creator.
Though oxen sway ten thousand heads, they cannot move a mountain.
...When beams are required to restore a great house,
Though a tree writes no memorial, yet people understand
That not unless they fell it can use be made of it....
Its bitter heart may be tenanted now by black and white ants,
But its odorous leaves were once the nest of phoenixes and pheasants.
...Let wise and hopeful men harbour no complaint.
The greater the timber, the tougher it is to use.
On the 19th of the Tenth-month in the second year of Dali, I saw, in the house of the Kueifu official Yuante, a girl named Li from Lingying dancing with a dagger. I admired her skill and asked who was her teacher. She named Lady Gongsun. I remembered that in the third year of Kaiyuan at Yancheng, when I was a little boy, I saw Lady Gongsun dance. She was the only one in the Imperial Theatre who could dance with this weapon. Now she is aged and unknown, and even her pupil has passed the heyday of beauty. I wrote this poem to express my wistfulness. The work of Zhang Xu of the Wu district, that great master of grassy writing, was improved by his having been present when Lady Gongsun danced in the Yeh district. From this may be judged the art of Gongsun.

There lived years ago the beautiful Gongsun,  
Who, dancing with her dagger, drew from all four quarters  
An audience like mountains lost among themselves.  
Heaven and earth moved back and forth, following her motions,  
Which were bright as when the Archer shot the nine suns down the sky  
And rapid as angels before the wings of dragons.  
She began like a thunderbolt, venting its anger,  
And ended like the shining calm of rivers and the sea...
But vanished are those red lips and those pearly sleeves;  
And none but this one pupil bears the perfume of her fame,  
This beauty from Lingying, at the Town of the White God,  
Dancing still and singing in the old blithe way.  
And while we reply to each other's questions,  
We sigh together, saddened by changes that have come.  
There were eight thousand ladies in the late Emperor's court,  
But none could dance the dagger-dance like Lady Gongsun.  
...Fifty years have passed, like the turning of a palm;  
Wind and dust, filling the world, obscure the Imperial House.  
Instead of the Pear-Garden Players, who have blown by like a mist,  
There are one or two girl-musicians now-trying to charm the cold Sun.  
There are man-size trees by the Emperor's Golden Tomb  
I seem to hear dead grasses rattling on the cliffs of Qutang.  
...The song is done, the slow string and quick pipe have ceased.  
At the height of joy, sorrow comes with the eastern moon rising.  
And I, a poor old man, not knowing where to go,  
Must harden my feet on the lone hills, toward sickness and despair.

065
七言古詩
元結
石魚湖上醉歌并序
漫叟以公田米釀酒，因休暇，則載酒於湖上，時取一醉；歡醉中，據湖岸，引臂向魚取酒，使舫載之，遍飲坐者。意疑倚巴丘，酌於君山之上，諸子環洞庭而坐，酒舫泛泛然，觸波漣而來者，乃作歌以長之。

石魚湖，似洞庭，
夏水欲滿君山青。
山為樽，水為沼，
酒徒歷歷坐洲島。
長風連日作大浪，不能廢人運酒舫。
我持長瓢坐巴丘，酌飲四座以散愁。
又作島

Seven-character-ancient-verse
Yuan Jie
A DRINKING SONG AT STONE-FISH LAKE
I have used grain from the public fields, for distilling wine. After my office hours I have the wine loaded on a boat and then I seat my friends on the bank of the lake. The little wine-boats come to each of us and supply us with wine. We seem to be drinking on Pa Islet in Lake Dongting. And I write this poem.

Stone-Fish Lake is like Lake Dongting --
When the top of Zun is green and the summer tide is rising.
...With the mountain for a table, and the lake a fount of wine,

The tipplers all are settled along the sandy shore.
Though a stiff wind for days has roughened the water,

Wine-boats constantly arrive....
I have a long-necked gourd and, happy on Ba Island,
I am pouring a drink in every direction doing away with care.

066

Seven-character-ancient-verse
Han Yu

ROUGH WERE THE MOUNTAIN-STONES, AND THE PATH VERY NARROW;
And when I reached the temple, bats were in the dusk.
I climbed to the hall, sat on the steps, and drank the rain-washed air

Among the round gardenia-pods and huge banana-leaves.

ON THE OLD WALL, SAID THE PRIEST, WERE BUDDHAS FINELY PAINTED,
And he brought a light and showed me, and I called them wonderful
He spread the bed, dusted the mats, and made my supper ready,
And, though the food was coarse, it satisfied my hunger.

AT MIDNIGHT, WHILE I LAY THERE NOT HEARING EVEN AN INSECT,
The mountain moon with her pure light entered my door....

AT DAWN I LEFT THE MOUNTAIN AND, ALONE, LOST MY WAY:
In and out, up and down, while a heavy mist

Made brook and mountain green and purple, brightening everything.
I am passing sometimes pines and oaks, which ten men could not girdle,

I am treading pebbles barefoot in swift-running water --
Its ripples purify my ear, while a soft wind blows my garments....

These are the things which, in themselves, make life happy.
Why should we be hemmed about and hampered with people?
O chosen pupils, far behind me in my own country,
What if I spent my old age here and never went back home?

067
七言古詩
韓愈
八月十五夜贈張功曹

繽雲四捲天無河，清風吹空月舒波。
沙平水息聲影絕，一杯相屬君當歌。
君歌聲酸醉且苦，不能聽終淚如雨。
洞庭連天九疑高，蛟龍出沒狎鱗號。
十生九死到官所，幽居默默如藏逃。
下床畏蛇食畏藥，海氣淪 pena 腥臊。
昨者州前槌大鼓，嗣皇繼聖登夔皋。
赦書一日行萬里，罪從大辟皆除死。
遞者追回流者還，臻暇蕩垢清朝班。
州家申名使家抑，坎輾祇得移荆蠻。
判司卑官不堪說，未免捫楚塵埃間。
同時輩流多上道，天路幽險難追攀。
君歌且休聽我歌，我歌今與君殊科。
一年明月今宵多，人生由命非由他；
有酒不飲奈明何?

Seven-character-ancient-verse
Han Yu
ON THE FESTIVAL OF THE MOON
TO SUB-OFFICIAL ZHANG

The fine clouds have opened and the River of Stars is gone,
A clear wind blows across the sky, and the moon widens its wave,
The sand is smooth, the water still, no sound and no shadow,
As I offer you a cup of wine, asking you to sing.
But so sad is this song of yours and so bitter your voice
That before I finish listening my tears have become a rain:
"Where Lake Dongting is joined to the sky by the lofty Nine-Doubt Mountain,
Dragons, crocodiles, rise and sink, apes, flying foxes, whimper....
At a ten to one risk of death, I have reached my official post,
Where lonely I live and hushed, as though I were in hiding.
I leave my bed, afraid of snakes; I eat, fearing poisons;
The air of the lake is putrid, breathing its evil odours....
Yesterday, by the district office, the great drum was announcing
The crowning of an emperor, a change in the realm.
The edict granting pardons runs three hundred miles a day,
All those who were to die have had their sentences commuted,
The unseated are promoted and exiles are recalled,
Corruptions are abolished, clean officers appointed.
My superior sent my name in but the governor would not listen
And has only transferred me to this barbaric place.
My rank is very low and useless to refer to;
They might punish me with lashes in the dust of the street.
Most of my fellow exiles are now returning home --
A journey which, to me, is a heaven beyond climbing."
...Stop your song, I beg you, and listen to mine,
A song that is utterly different from yours:
"Tonight is the loveliest moon of the year.
All else is with fate, not ours to control;
But, refusing this wine, may we choose more tomorrow?"

Seven-character-quatrain
Han Yu
STopping at a temple on Heng Mountain I
Inscribe this Poem in the Gate-Tower

The five Holy Mountains have the rank of the Three Dukes.
The other four make a ring, with the Song Mountain midmost.
To this one, in the fire-ruled south, where evil signs are rife,
   Heaven gave divine power, ordaining it a peer.
   All the clouds and hazes are hidden in its girdle;
   And its forehead is beholden only by a few.
...I came here in autumn, during the rainy season,
When the sky was overcast and the clear wind gone.
I quieted my mind and prayed, hoping for an answer;
For assuredly righteous thinking reaches to high heaven.
And soon all the mountain-peaks were showing me their faces;
   I looked up at a pinnacle that held the clean blue sky:
   The wide Purple-Canopy joined the Celestial Column;
The Stone Granary leapt, while the Fire God stood still.
   Moved by this token, I dismounted to offer thanks.
   A long path of pine and cypress led to the temple.
Its white walls and purple pillars shone, and the vivid colour
Of gods and devils filled the place with patterns of red and blue.
I climbed the steps and, bending down to sacrifice, besought
   That my pure heart might be welcome, in spite of my humble offering.
The old priest professed to know the judgment of the God:
   He was polite and reverent, making many bows.
He handed me divinity-cups, he showed me how to use them
   And told me that my fortune was the very best of all.
   Though exiled to a barbarous land, mine is a happy life.
   Plain food and plain clothes are all I ever wanted.
To be prince, duke, premier, general, was never my desire;
And if the God would bless me, what better could he grant than this? --
   At night I lie down to sleep in the top of a high tower;
   While moon and stars glimmer through the darkness of the clouds....
   Apes call, a bell sounds. And ready for dawn
   I see arise, far in the east the cold bright sun.

069
七言古詩
韓愈
石鼓歌

張生手持石鼓文，勸我譜作石鼓歌。
少陵無人譏仙死，才薄將奈石鼓何?
周編洗盡四海沸，宣王慎起揮天戈;
大開明堂受朝賀，諸侯剣佩鳴相磨。
蒐于岐陽騁雄俊，萬里禽獸皆遮羅。
鑣功勒成告萬世，鑲石作鼓鬱嵯峨。
從臣才藝咸第一，揀選撰刻留山阿。
雨淋日炙野火燎，鬼物守護煩揔呵。
公從何處得紙本？毫髮盡備無差訛。
Chang handed me this tracing, from the stone drums,  
Beseeking me to write a poem on the stone drums.  
Du Fu has gone. Li Bai is dead.  
What can my poor talent do for the stone drums?  
...When the Zhou power waned and China was bubbling,  
Emperor Xuan, up in wrath, waved his holy spear:  
And opened his Great Audience, receiving all the tributes  
Of kings and lords who came to him with a tune of clanging weapons. 
They held a hunt in Qiyang and proved their marksmanship:  
Fallen birds and animals were strewn three thousand miles.  
And the exploit was recorded, to inform new generations....  
Cut out of jutting cliffs, these drums made of stone-  
On which poets and artisans, all of the first order,  
Had indited and chiselled-were set in the deep mountains  
To be washed by rain, baked by sun, burned by wildfire,  
Eyed by evil spirits; and protected by the gods.  
...Where can he have found the tracing on this paper? --
True to the original, not altered by a hair,
The meaning deep, the phrases cryptic, difficult to read.
And the style of the characters neither square nor tadpole.
Time has not yet vanquished the beauty of these letters --
Looking like sharp daggers that pierce live crocodiles,
Like phoenix-mates dancing, like angels hovering down,
Like trees of jade and coral with interlocking branches,
Like golden cord and iron chain tied together tight,
Like incense-tripods flung in the sea, like dragons mounting heaven.
Historians, gathering ancient poems, forgot to gather these,
To make the two Books of Musical Song more colourful and striking;
Confucius journeyed in the west, but not to the Qin Kingdom,
He chose our planet and our stars but missed the sun and moon
I who am fond of antiquity, was born too late
And, thinking of these wonderful things, cannot hold back my tears....

I remember, when I was awarded my highest degree,
During the first year of Yuanho,
How a friend of mine, then at the western camp,
Offered to assist me in removing these old relics.
I bathed and changed, then made my plea to the college president
And urged on him the rareness of these most precious things.
They could be wrapped in rugs, be packed and sent in boxes
And carried on only a few camels: ten stone drums
To grace the Imperial Temple like the Incense-Pot of Gao --
Or their lustre and their value would increase a hundredfold,
If the monarch would present them to the university,
Where students could study them and doubtless decipher them,
And multitudes, attracted to the capital of culture
Prom all corners of the Empire, would be quick to gather.
We could scour the moss, pick out the dirt, restore the original surface,
And lodge them in a fitting and secure place for ever,
Covered by a massive building with wide eaves
Where nothing more might happen to them as it had before.
...But government officials grow fixed in their ways
And never will initiate beyond old precedent;
So herd-boys strike the drums for fire, cows polish horns on them,
With no one to handle them reverentially.
Still ageing and decaying, soon they may be effaced.
Six years I have sighed for them, chanting toward the west....
The familiar script of Wang Xizhi, beautiful though it was,
Could be had, several pages, just for a few white geese,
But now, eight dynasties after the Zhou, and all the wars over,
Why should there be nobody caring for these drums?
The Empire is at peace, the government free.
Poets again are honoured and Confucians and Mencians....
Oh, how may this petition be carried to the throne?
It needs indeed an eloquent flow, like a cataract-
But, alas, my voice has broken, in my song of the stone drums,
To a sound of supplication choked with its own tears.
Seven-character-ancient-verse
Liu Zongyuan
AN OLD FISHERMAN

An old fisherman spent the night here, under the western cliff;
He dipped up water from the pure Hsiang and made a bamboo fire;
And then, at sunrise, he went his way through the cloven mist,
With only the creak of his paddle left, in the greenness of mountain and river.
...I turn and see the waves moving as from heaven,
And clouds above the cliffs coming idly, one by one.
漁陽鼙鼓動地來，驚破霓裳羽衣曲。 九重城闕煙塵生，千乘萬騎西南行。 翠華搖搖行復止，西出都門百餘里。 六軍不發無奈何？宛轉蛾眉馬前死。 花钿委地無人收，翠翹金雀玉搔頭。 君王掩面救不得，回看血淚相和流。 黃埃散漫風蕭索，雲棧織紗登劍閣。 峨眉山下少人行，旌旗無光日色薄。 蜀江水碧蜀山青，聖主朝朝暮暮情。 行宮見月傷心色，夜雨聞鈴腸斷聲。 天旋地轉迥龍駕，到此踌躇不能去。 馬嵬坡下泥土中，不見玉顏空死處。 君臣相顧盡沾衣，東望都門信馬歸。 歸來池苑皆依舊，太液芙蓉未央柳； 芙蓉如面柳如眉，對此如何不淚垂？ 春風桃李花開日，秋雨梧桐葉落時。 西宮南內多秋草，落葉滿階紅不掃。 梨園子弟白髮新，椒房阿監青娥老。 夕殿鳴鸞思悄然，孤燈挑盡未成眠。 遲遲鐘鼓初長夜，耿耿星河欲曙天。 鴛鴦瓦冷霜華重，翡翠衾寒誰與共？ 悠悠生死別經年，魂魄不曾來入夢。 臨邛道士鴻都客，能以精誠致魂魄； 為感君王親養意，遂教方士殷勤探。 排空驭气奔如電，升天入地求之遍； 上窮碧落下黄泉，兩處茫茫皆不見。 忽聞海上有仙山，山在虛無缥缈問； 樓閣玲瓏五雲起，其中繽紛多仙子。 中有一人字太真，雪膚花貌參差是。 金闕西廬叩玉扃，轉教小玉報雙成。 聞道漢家天子使，九華帳裡夢魂驚。 攬衣推枕起徘徊，珠箔銀屏屢開閉， 雲鬟半偏新睡覺，花冠不整下堂來。 風吹仙袂飄飄舉，猶似霓裳羽衣舞； 玉容寂寞淚阑干，梨花一枝春帶雨。 含情凝睇謝君王，一別音容兩渺茫。 昭陽殿裡恩愛絕，蓬萊宮中日月長。 回頭下望人寰處，不見長安見塵霧。 唯將舊物表深情，钿合金釵寄將去。 叡留相合閟千全，敘捻黃金合分錐； 但教心似金錐堅，天上人間會相見。 臨別殷勤重寄詞，詞中有誓兩心知。 七月七日長生殿，夜半無人私語時。 在天願作比翼鳥，在地願為連理枝。
Seven-character-ancient-verse  
Bai Juyi  
A SONG OF UNENDING SORROW

China’s Emperor, craving beauty that might shake an empire,  
Was on the throne for many years, searching, never finding,  
Till a little child of the Yang clan, hardly even grown,  
Bred in an inner chamber, with no one knowing her,  
But with graces granted by heaven and not to be concealed,  
At last one day was chosen for the imperial household.  
If she but turned her head and smiled, there were cast a hundred spells,  
And the powder and paint of the Six Palaces faded into nothing.  
...It was early spring. They bathed her in the Flower Pure Pool,  
Which warmed and smoothed the creamy-tinted crystal of her skin,  
And, because of her languor, a maid was lifting her  
When first the Emperor noticed her and chose her for his bride.  
The cloud of her hair, petal of her cheek, gold ripples of her crown when she moved,  
Were sheltered on spring evenings by warm hibiscus curtains;  
But nights of spring were short and the sun arose too soon,  
And the Emperor, from that time forth, forsook his early hearings  
And lavished all his time on her with feasts and revelry,  
His mistress of the spring, his despot of the night.  
There were other ladies in his court, three thousand of rare beauty,  
But his favours to three thousand were concentrated in one body.  
By the time she was dressed in her Golden Chamber, it would be almost evening;  
And when tables were cleared in the Tower of Jade, she would loiter, slow with wine.  
Her sisters and her brothers all were given titles;  
And, because she so illumined and glorified her clan,  
She brought to every father, every mother through the empire,  
Happiness when a girl was born rather than a boy.  
...High rose Li Palace, entering blue clouds,  
And far and wide the breezes carried magical notes  
Of soft song and slow dance, of string and bamboo music.  
The Emperor’s eyes could never gaze on her enough-  
Till war-drums, booming from Yuyang, shocked the whole earth  
And broke the tunes of The Rainbow Skirt and the Feathered Coat.  
The Forbidden City, the nine-tiered palace, loomed in the dust  
From thousands of horses and chariots headed southwest.  
The imperial flag opened the way, now moving and now pausing- -  
But thirty miles from the capital, beyond the western gate,  
The men of the army stopped, not one of them would stir  
Till under their horses’ hoofs they might trample those moth-eyebrows....  
Flowery hairpins fell to the ground, no one picked them up,  
And a green and white jade hair-tassel and a yellowgold hair-bird.
The Emperor could not save her, he could only cover his face.
And later when he turned to look, the place of blood and tears
  Was hidden in a yellow dust blown by a cold wind.

... At the cleft of the Dagger-Tower Trail they crisscrossed through a cloud-line
  Under Omei Mountain. The last few came.

  Flags and banners lost their colour in the fading sunlight....
  But as waters of Shu are always green and its mountains always blue,
  So changeless was His Majesty's love and deeper than the days.
  He stared at the desolate moon from his temporary palace.
  He heard bell-notes in the evening rain, cutting at his breast.

And when heaven and earth resumed their round and the dragon car faced home,
  The Emperor clung to the spot and would not turn away
From the soil along the Mawei slope, under which was buried
  That memory, that anguish. Where was her jade-white face?
  Ruler and lords, when eyes would meet, wept upon their coats
As they rode, with loose rein, slowly eastward, back to the capital.

... The pools, the gardens, the palace, all were just as before,
  The Lake Taiye hibiscus, the Weiyang Palace willows;
  But a petal was like her face and a willow-leaf her eyebrow --
  And what could he do but cry whenever he looked at them?

... Peach-trees and plum-trees blossomed, in the winds of spring:
  Lakka-foliage fell to the ground, after autumn rains;
  The Western and Southern Palaces were littered with late grasses,
  And the steps were mounded with red leaves that no one swept away.

  Her Pear-Garden Players became white-haired
  And the eunuchs thin-eyebrowed in her Court of PepperTrees;
  Over the throne flew fire-flies, while he brooded in the twilight.

  He would lengthen the lamp-wick to its end and still could never sleep.
  Bell and drum would slowly toll the dragging nighthours
  And the River of Stars grow sharp in the sky, just before dawn,
  And the porcelain mandarin-ducks on the roof grow thick with morning frost
  And his covers of kingfisher-blue feel lonelier and colder
  With the distance between life and death year after year;
  And yet no beloved spirit ever visited his dreams.

... At Lingqiong lived a Taoist priest who was a guest of heaven,
  Able to summon spirits by his concentrated mind.
And people were so moved by the Emperor's constant brooding
  That they besought the Taoist priest to see if he could find her.
  He opened his way in space and clove the ether like lightning,
  Up to heaven, under the earth, looking everywhere.

Above, he searched the Green Void, below, the Yellow Spring;
  But he failed, in either place, to find the one he looked for.
  And then he heard accounts of an enchanted isle at sea,
  A part of the intangible and incorporeal world,
  With pavilions and fine towers in the five-coloured air,
  And of exquisite immortals moving to and fro,
  And of one among them-whom they called The Ever True-
  With a face of snow and flowers resembling hers he sought.

So he went to the West Hall's gate of gold and knocked at the jasper door
And asked a girl, called Morsel-of-Jade, to tell The Doubly-Perfect.

And the lady, at news of an envoy from the Emperor of China,
Was startled out of dreams in her nine-flowered, canopy.
She pushed aside her pillow, dressed, shook away sleep,
And opened the pearly shade and then the silver screen.
Her cloudy hair-dress hung on one side because of her great haste,
And her flower-cap was loose when she came along the terrace,
While a light wind filled her cloak and fluttered with her motion
As though she danced The Rainbow Skirt and the Feathered Coat.

And the tear-drops drifting down her sad white face
Were like a rain in spring on the blossom of the pear.

But love glowed deep within her eyes when she bade him thank her liege,
Whose form and voice had been strange to her ever since their parting --
Since happiness had ended at the Court of the Bright Sun,
And moons and dawns had become long in Fairy-Mountain Palace.

But when she turned her face and looked down toward the earth
And tried to see the capital, there were only fog and dust.

So she took out, with emotion, the pledges he had given
And, through his envoy, sent him back a shell box and gold hairpin,

But kept one branch of the hairpin and one side of the box,

Breaking the gold of the hairpin, breaking the shell of the box;

"Our souls belong together," she said, "like this gold and this shell --
Somewhere, sometime, on earth or in heaven, we shall surely
And she sent him, by his messenger, a sentence reminding him
Of vows which had been known only to their two hearts:

"On the seventh day of the Seventh-month, in the Palace of Long Life,

We told each other secretly in the quiet midnight world
That we wished to fly in heaven, two birds with the wings of one,
And to grow together on the earth, two branches of one tree."

Earth endures, heaven endures; some time both shall end,

While this unending sorrow goes on and on for ever.

072
七言古詩
白居易
琵琶行并序

元和十年，予左遷九江郡司馬。明年秋，送客湓浦口，聞舟中夜彈琵琶者，聽其音，铮铮然有京都聲；問其人，本長安倡女，嘗學琵琶於穆曹二善才。年長色衰，委身為賈人婦。遂命酒，使快彈數曲，曲罷悯然。自叙少小時歡樂事，今漂淪憔悴，轉徙於江湖間。予出官二年，恬然自安，感斯人言，是夕，始覺有遷谪意，因為長句歌以贈之，凡六百一十六言，命曰琵琶行。

浔陽江頭夜送客，楓葉荻花秋瑟瑟。
主人下馬客在船，舉酒欲飲無管絃。
醉不成歡惨將別，別時茫茫江浸月。
忽聞水上琵琶聲，主人忘歸客不發。
尋聲暗問彈者誰？琵琶聲停欲語遲。
移船相近邀相見，添酒回燈重開宴。
千呼萬喚始出來，猶抱琵琶半遮面。
轉軸撥弦三兩聲，未成曲調先有情。
絃絃掩抑聲聲思，似訴平生不得志。
低眉信手續續彈，說盡心中無限事。
輕拢慢捻抹復挑，初為霓裳後六幺。
大絃嘈嘈如急雨，小絃切切如私語。
嘈嘈切切錯雜彈，大珠小珠落玉盤。
間關關語花底滑，幽咽泉流冰下灘。
水泉冷澀絃凝絕，凝絕不通聲漸歇。
別有幽愁暗恨生，此時無聲勝有聲。
銀瓶乍破水漣迸，鐵騎突出刀槍鳴。
曲終收撥當心畫，四絃一聲如裂帛。
東船西舫悄無言，唯聞江心秋月白。
沈吟放撥插絃中，整頓衣裳起敘容。
自言本是京城女，家在蝦蟆陵下住。
十三學得琵琶成，名屬教坊第一部。
曲罷曾教善才服，妝成每被秋娘妒。
五陵年少爭纏頭，一曲紅绡不知數。
钿頭银篦击节碎，血色罗裙翻酒污。
今年欢笑复明年，秋月春风等闲度。
弟走從軍阿姨死，暮去朝来颜色故。
门前冷落車馬稀，老大嫁作商人婦。
商人重利輕別離，前月浮梁買茶去。
去來江口守空船，繞船月明江水寒。
夜深忽夢少年事，夢啼妝淚紅鬱千。
我聞琵琶已嘆息，又聞此語重唧唧。
同是天涯淪落人，相逢何必曾相識。
我從去年辭帝京，謫居臥病浔陽城。
浔陽地僻無音樂，終歲不聞絲竹聲。
住近湓江地低遼，黃蘆苦竹繞宅生。
其间旦暮闻何物，杜鵑啼血猿哀鳴。
春江花朝秋月夜，往往取酒還獨傾。
豈無山歌與村笛？嘔啞嘲哳難為聽。
今夜聞君琵琶語，如聽仙樂耳暫明。
莫辭更坐彈一曲，為君翻作琵琶行。
感我此言良久立，卻坐促絃絃轉急。
淒凄不似向前聲，滿座重聞皆掩泣。
座中泣下誰最多，江州司馬青衫濕。

Seven-character-ancient-verse
Bai Chuyi

110
THE SONG OF A GUITAR

In the tenth year of Yuanhe I was banished and demoted to be assistant official in Jiujiang. In the summer of the next year I was seeing a friend leave Penpu and heard in the midnight from a neighbouring boat a guitar played in the manner of the capital. Upon inquiry, I found that the player had formerly been a dancing-girl there and in her maturity had been married to a merchant. I invited her to my boat to have her play for us. She told me her story, heyday and then unhappiness. Since my departure from the capital I had not felt sad; but that night, after I left her, I began to realize my banishment. And I wrote this long poem -- six hundred and twelve characters.

I was bidding a guest farewell, at night on the Xunyang River,
Where maple-leaves and full-grown rushes rustled in the autumn.
I, the host, had dismounted, my guest had boarded his boat,
And we raised our cups and wished to drink-but, alas, there was no music.
For all we had drunk we felt no joy and were parting from each other,
When the river widened mysteriously toward the full moon --
We had heard a sudden sound, a guitar across the water.
Host forgot to turn back home, and guest to go his way.
We followed where the melody led and asked the player’s name.
The sound broke off...then reluctantly she answered.
We moved our boat near hers, invited her to join us,
Summoned more wine and lanterns to recommence our banquet.
Yet we called and urged a thousand times before she started toward us,
Still hiding half her face from us behind her guitar.
...She turned the tuning-pegs and tested several strings;
We could feel what she was feeling, even before she played:
Each string a meditation, each note a deep thought,
As if she were telling us the ache of her whole life.
She knit her brows, flexed her fingers, then began her music,
Little by little letting her heart share everything with ours.
She brushed the strings, twisted them slow, swept them, plucked them --
First the air of The Rainbow Skirt, then The Six Little Ones.
  The large strings hummed like rain,
  The small strings whispered like a secret,
  Hummed, whispered-and then were intermingled
Like a pouring of large and small pearls into a plate of jade.
  We heard an oriole, liquid, hidden among flowers.
  We heard a brook bitterly sob along a bank of sand...
By the checking of its cold touch, the very string seemed broken
  As though it could not pass; and the notes, dying away
  Into a depth of sorrow and concealment of lament,
  Told even more in silence than they had told in sound....
  A silver vase abruptly broke with a gush of water,
And out leapt armored horses and weapons that clashed and smote --
And, before she laid her pick down, she ended with one stroke,
  And all four strings made one sound, as of rending silk
There was quiet in the east boat and quiet in the west,
And we saw the white autumnal moon enter the river's heart.
...When she had slowly placed the pick back among the strings,
She rose and smoothed her clothing and, formal, courteous,
   Told us how she had spent her girlhood at the capital,
Living in her parents' house under the Mount of Toads,
   And had mastered the guitar at the age of thirteen,
With her name recorded first in the class-roll of musicians,
   Her art the admiration even of experts,
Her beauty the envy of all the leading dancers,
How noble youths of Wuling had lavishly competed
And numberless red rolls of silk been given for one song,
And silver combs with shell inlay been snapped by her rhythms,
And skirts the colour of blood been spoiled with stains of wine....

Season after season, joy had followed joy,
Autumn moons and spring winds had passed without her heeding,
   Till first her brother left for the war, and then her aunt died,
   And evenings went and evenings came, and her beauty faded --
With ever fewer chariots and horses at her door;
   So that finally she gave herself as wife to a merchant
Who, prizing money first, careless how he left her,
   Had gone, a month before, to Fuliang to buy tea.
And she had been tending an empty boat at the river's mouth,
   No company but the bright moon and the cold water.
And sometimes in the deep of night she would dream of her triumphs
   And be wakened from her dreams by the scalding of her tears.
Her very first guitar-note had started me sighing;
   Now, having heard her story, I was sadder still.
"We are both unhappy -- to the sky's end.
We meet. We understand. What does acquaintance matter?
I came, a year ago, away from the capital
   And am now a sick exile here in Jiujiang --
And so remote is Jiujiang that I have heard no music,
   Neither string nor bamboo, for a whole year.
My quarters, near the River Town, are low and damp,
With bitter reeds and yellowed rushes all about the house.
   And what is to be heard here, morning and evening? --
The bleeding cry of cuckoos, the whimpering of apes.
On flowery spring mornings and moonlit autumn nights
   I have often taken wine up and drunk it all alone,
Of course there are the mountain songs and the village pipes,
   But they are crude and-strident, and grate on my ears.
And tonight, when I heard you playing your guitar,
   I felt as if my hearing were bright with fairymusic.
Do not leave us. Come, sit down. Play for us again.
   And I will write a long song concerning a guitar."
   ...Moved by what I said, she stood there for a moment,
Then sat again to her strings-and they sounded even sadder,
Although the tunes were different from those she had played before....
   The feasters, all listening, covered their faces.
But who of them all was crying the most?
This Jiujiang official. My blue sleeve was wet.

073
七言古詩
李商隱
韓碑

元和天子神武姿，彼何人哉軒與義，
誓將上雪列聖恥，坐法宮中朝四夷。
淮西有賊五十載，封狼生虜讎生虜;
不據山河據平地，長戈利矛日可麾。
帝得聖相相曰度，賊斫不死神扶持。
腰懸相印作都統，陰風惨澹天王旗。
忽武古通作牙爪，儀曹外郎載筆隨。
行軍司馬智且勇，十四萬眾猶虎貔。
入蔡縛賊獻太廟。功無與讓恩不訾。
帝曰汝度功第一，汝從事愈宜為醉。
愈拜稽首蹈且舞，書石刻畫臣能為。
古者世稱大手筆，此事不係於職司。
當仁自古有不讓，言詠詠頌天子顧。
公退齋戒坐小閣，潺湲大筆何淋漓。
點竈堯典舜典字，塗改清廟生民詩。
文成破體書在紙，清晨再拜輔丹墀。
表曰臣愈昧死上，詠神聖功徃之碑。
碑高三丈字如斗，負以靈鼈蟠以螭。
句奇語重喻者少，讖之天子言其私。
長繩百尺挽碑倒，蠶沙大石相磨治。
公之斯文若元氣，先時已入人肝脾。
湯盤孔鼐有述作，今無其器存其辭。
鳴呼聖皇及聖相，相與烜赫流浮熙。
公之斯文不示後，曷與三五相攀追？
願書萬本詠萬過，口角流沫右手胝；
傳之七十有二代，以為封禪玉檢明堂基。

Seven-character-ancient-verse
Li Shangyin
THE HAN MONUMENT

The Son of Heaven in Yuanhe times was martial as a god
And might be likened only to the Emperors Xuan and Xi.
He took an oath to reassert the glory of the empire,
And tribute was brought to his palace from all four quarters.
Western Huai, for fifty years had been a bandit country, 
Wolves becoming lynxes, lynxes becoming bears. 
They assailed the mountains and rivers, rising from the plains, 
With their long spears and sharp lances aimed at the Sun. 
But the Emperor had a wise premier, by the name of Du, 
Who, guarded by spirits against assassination, 
Hong at his girdle the seal of state, and accepted chief command, 
While these savage winds were harrying the flags of the Ruler of Heaven. 
Generals Suo, Wu, Gu, and Tong became his paws and claws; 
Civil and military experts brought their writingbrushes, 
And his recording adviser was wise and resolute.

A hundred and forty thousand soldiers, fighting like lions and tigers, 
Captured the bandit chieftains for the Imperial Temple. 
So complete a victory was a supreme event; 
And the Emperor said: "To you, Du, should go the highest honour, 
And your secretary, Yu, should write a record of it."
When Yu had bowed his head, he leapt and danced, saying: 
"Historical writings on stone and metal are my especial art; 
And, since I know the finest brush-work of the old masters, 
My duty in this instance is more than merely official, 
And I should be at fault if I modestly declined."

The Emperor, on hearing this, nodded many times. 
And Yu retired and fasted and, in a narrow workroom, 
His great brush thick with ink as with drops of rain, 
Chose characters like those in the Canons of Yao and Xun, 
And a style as in the ancient poems Qingmiao and Shengmin. 
And soon the description was ready, on a sheet of paper. 
In the morning he laid it, with a bow, on the purple stairs. 
He memorialized the throne: "I, unworthy, 
Have dared to record this exploit, for a monument."
The tablet was thirty feet high, the characters large as dippers; 
It was set on a sacred tortoise, its columns flanked with ragons....

The phrases were strange with deep words that few could understand; 
And jealousy entered and malice and reached the Emperor --
So that a rope a hundred feet long pulled the tablet down 
And coarse sand and small stones ground away its face.

But literature endures, like the universal spirit, 
And its breath becomes a part of the vitals of all men. 
The Tang plate, the Confucian tripod, are eternal things, 
Not because of their forms, but because of their inscriptions.... 
Sagacious is our sovereign and wise his minister,
And high their successes and prosperous their reign;
But unless it be recorded by a writing such as this, 
How may they hope to rival the three and five good rulers? 
I wish I could write ten thousand copies to read ten thousand times, 
Till spittle ran from my lips and calluses hardened my fingers, 
And still could hand them down, through seventy-two generations, 
As corner-stones for Rooms of Great Deeds on the Sacred Mountains.
In the sixth year of Kaiyuan, a friend returned from the border and showed me the Yan Song. Moved by what he told me of the expedition, I have written this poem to the same rhymes.

The northeastern border of China was dark with smoke and dust. To repel the savage invaders, our generals, leaving their families, strode forth together, looking as heroes should look; and having received from the Emperor his most gracious favour, they marched to the beat of gong and drum through the Elm Pass.

They circled the Stone Tablet with a line of waving flags, till their captains over the Sea of Sand were twanging feathered orders. The Tartar chieftain’s hunting-fires glimmered along Wolf Mountain, and heights and rivers were cold and bleak there at the outer border; but soon the barbarians’ horses were plunging through wind and rain. Half of our men at the front were killed, but the other half are living, and still at the camp beautiful girls dance for them and sing.

...As autumn ends in the grey sand, with the grasses all withered,
The few surviving watchers by the lonely wall at sunset,
Serving in a good cause, hold life and the foeman lightly.
And yet, for all that they have done, Elm Pass is still unsafe.
Still at the front, iron armour is worn and battered thin,
And here at home food-sticks are made of jade tears.
Still in this southern city young wives’ hearts are breaking,
While soldiers at the northern border vainly look toward home.
The fury of the wind cuts our men’s advance
In a place of death and blue void, with nothingness ahead.
Three times a day a cloud of slaughter rises over the camp;
And all night long the hour-drums shake their chilly booming,
Until white swords can be seen again, spattered with red blood.
...When death becomes a duty, who stops to think of fame?
Yet in speaking of the rigours of warfare on the desert
We name to this day Li, the great General, who lived long ago.

Folk-song-styled-verse
Li Qi
AN OLD WAR-SONG

Through the bright day up the mountain, we scan the sky for a war-torch;
At yellow dusk we water our horses in the boundaryriver;
And when the throb of watch-drums hangs in the sandy wind,
We hear the guitar of the Chinese Princess telling her endless woe....
Three thousand miles without a town, nothing but camps,
Till the heavy sky joins the wide desert in snow.
With their plaintive calls, barbarian wildgeese fly from night to night,
And children of the Tartars have many tears to shed;
But we hear that the Jade Pass is still under siege,
And soon we stake our lives upon our light warchariots.
Each year we bury in the desert bones unnumbered,
Yet we only watch for grape-vines coming into China.
There's a girl from Loyang in the door across the street,
   She looks fifteen, she may be a little older.
...While her master rides his rapid horse with jade bit an bridle,
   Her handmaid brings her cod-fish in a golden plate.
On her painted pavilions, facing red towers,
   Cornices are pink and green with peach-bloom and with willow,
Canopies of silk awn her seven-scented chair,
   And rare fans shade her, home to her nine-flowered curtains.
Her lord, with rank and wealth and in the bud of life,
   Exceeds in munificence the richest men of old.
He favours this girl of lowly birth, he has her taught to dance;
   And he gives away his coral-trees to almost anyone.
The wind of dawn just stirs when his nine soft lights go out,
   Those nine soft lights like petals in a flying chain of flowers.
Between dances she has barely time for singing over the songs;
   No sooner is she dressed again than incense burns before her.
Those she knows in town are only the rich and the lavish,
   And day and night she is visiting the hosts of the gayest mansions.
...Who notices the girl from Yue with a face of white jade,
   Humble, poor, alone, by the river, washing silk?
When he was a youth of fifteen or twenty,
He chased a wild horse, he caught him and rode him,
He shot the white-browed mountain tiger,
He defied the yellow-bristled Horsemant of Ye.
Fighting single-handed for a thousand miles,
With his naked dagger he could hold a multitude.

...Granted that the troops of China were as swift as heaven's thunder
And that Tartar soldiers perished in pitfalls fanged with iron,
General Wei Qing's victory was only a thing of chance.
And General Li Guang's thwarted effort was his fate, not his fault.
Since this man's retirement he is looking old and worn:
Experience of the world has hastened his white hairs.
Though once his quick dart never missed the right eye of a bird,
Now knotted veins and tendons make his left arm like an osier.
He is sometimes at the road-side selling melons from his garden,
He is sometimes planting willows round his hermitage.
His lonely lane is shut away by a dense grove,
His vacant window looks upon the far cold mountains
But, if he prayed, the waters would come gushing for his men
And never would he wanton his cause away with wine.

...War-clouds are spreading, under the Helan Range;
Back and forth, day and night, go feathered messages;
In the three River Provinces, the governors call young men --
And five imperial edicts have summoned the old general.  
So he dusts his iron coat and shines it like snow-
Waves his dagger from its jade hilt in a dance of stary steel.  
He is ready with his strong northern bow to smite the Tartar chieftain --
That never a foreign war-dress may affront the Emperor.
...There once was an aged Prefect, forgotten and far away,
Who still could manage triumph with a single stroke.

Folk-song-styled-verse 
Wang Wei 
A SONG OF PEACH-BLOSSOM RIVER

A fisherman is drifting, enjoying the spring mountains,  
And the peach-trees on both banks lead him to an ancient source.  
Watching the fresh-coloured trees, he never thinks of distance  
Till he comes to the end of the blue stream and suddenly- strange men!  
It's a cave-with a mouth so narrow that he has to crawl through;  
But then it opens wide again on a broad and level path --  
And far beyond he faces clouds crowning a reach of trees,  
And thousands of houses shadowed round with flowers and bamboos....  
Woodsmen tell him their names in the ancient speech of Han;  
And clothes of the Qin Dynasty are worn by all these people
Living on the uplands, above the Wuling River,
On farms and in gardens that are like a world apart,
Their dwellings at peace under pines in the clear moon,
Until sunrise fills the low sky with crowing and barking.

...At news of a stranger the people all assemble,
And each of them invites him home and asks him where he was born.
Alleys and paths are cleared for him of petals in the morning,
And fishermen and farmers bring him their loads at dusk....

They had left the world long ago, they had come here seeking refuge;
They have lived like angels ever since, blessedly far away,
No one in the cave knowing anything outside,
Outsiders viewing only empty mountains and thick clouds.

...The fisherman, unaware of his great good fortune,
Begins to think of country, of home, of worldly ties,
Finds his way out of the cave again, past mountains and past rivers,
Intending some time to return, when he has told his kin.
He studies every step he takes, fixes it well in mind,
And forgets that cliffs and peaks may vary their appearance.

...It is certain that to enter through the deepness of the mountain,
A green river leads you, into a misty wood.
But now, with spring-floods everywhere and floating peachpetals --
Which is the way to go, to find that hidden source?

079
樂府
李白
蜀道難

噫吁嚦，危乎高哉！
蜀道之難難於上青天！
蠧叢及魚鸋，開國何茫然。
爾來四萬八千歲，始與秦塞通人煙。
西當太白有鳥道，可以橫絕峨眉巖。
地崩山摧壯士死，然後天梯石棧方銜連。
上有六龍回日之高標，下有衝波逆折之回川。
黃鶴之飛尚不得，猿猱欲度愁攀援。
青泥何盤盤，百步九折萦岩巖。
捫膺歎仰氣息，以手撫膺坐長歎。
問君西遊何時還？畏途巉巖不可攀。
但見悲鳥號古木，雄飛雌從繞林間；
又聞子規啼，夜月愁空山。
蜀道之難難於上青天！
使人聽此凋朱顏。
連峰去天不盈尺，枯松倒掛倚絶壁。
飛湍瀑流爭喧豗，砯崖轉石萬壑雷。
Folk-song-styled-verse
Li Bai
HARD ROADS IN SHU

Oh, but it is high and very dangerous!
Such travelling is harder than scaling the blue sky.
...Until two rulers of this region
Pushed their way through in the misty ages,
Forty-eight thousand years had passed
With nobody arriving across the Qin border.
And the Great White Mountain, westward, still has only a bird’s path
Up to the summit of Emei Peak --
Which was broken once by an earthquake and there were brave men lost,
Just finishing the stone rungs of their ladder toward heaven.
...High, as on a tall flag, six dragons drive the sun,
While the river, far below, lashes its twisted course.
Such height would be hard going for even a yellow crane,
So pity the poor monkeys who have only paws to use.
The Mountain of Green Clay is formed of many circles-
Each hundred steps, we have to turn nine turns among its mound--
Panting, we brush Orion and pass the Well Star,
Then, holding our chests with our hands and sinking to the ground with a groan,
We wonder if this westward trail will never have an end.
The formidable path ahead grows darker, darker still,
With nothing heard but the call of birds hemmed in by the ancient forest,
Male birds smoothly wheeling, following the females;
And there come to us the melancholy voices of the cuckoos
Out on the empty mountain, under the lonely moon....
Such travelling is harder than scaling the blue sky.
Even to hear of it turns the cheek pale,
With the highest crag barely a foot below heaven.
Dry pines hang, head down, from the face of the cliffs,
And a thousand plunging cataracts outroar one another
And send through ten thousand valleys a thunder of spinning stones.
With all this danger upon danger,
Why do people come here who live at a safe distance?
...Though Dagger-Tower Pass be firm and grim,
And while one man guards it
Ten thousand cannot force it,
What if he be not loyal,
But a wolf toward his fellows?
...There are ravenous tigers to fear in the day
And venomous reptiles in the night
With their teeth and their fangs ready
To cut people down like hemp.
Though the City of Silk be delectable, I would rather turn home quickly.
Such travelling is harder than scaling the blue sky....
But I still face westward with a dreary moan.

Folk-song-styled-verse
Li Bai
ENDLESS YEARNING 1

"I am endlessly yearning
To be in Changan.
...Insects hum of autumn by the gold brim of the well;
A thin frost glistens like little mirrors on my cold mat;
The high lantern flickers; and. deeper grows my longing.
I lift the shade and, with many a sigh, gaze upon the moon,
Single as a flower; centred from the clouds.
Above, I see the blueness and deepness of sky.
Below, I see the greenness and the restlessness of water....
Heaven is high, earth wide; bitter between them flies my sorrow.
Can I dream through the gateway, over the mountain?
Endless longing
Breaks my heart."

080
樂府
李白
長相思之一

長相思， 在長安。
絡緯秋啼金井闌， 微霜淺築簟色寒。
孤燈不明思欲絕， 卷帷望月空長歎。
美人如花隔雲端， 上有青冥之長天，
下有渌水之波瀾。
天長路遠魂飛苦， 夢魂不到關山難。
長相思， 搶心肝。

081
Folk-song-styled-verse
Li Bai
ENDLESS YEARNING II

"The sun has set, and a mist is in the flowers;
And the moon grows very white and people sad and sleepless.
A Zhao harp has just been laid mute on its phoenix holder,
And a Shu lute begins to sound its mandarin-duck strings....
Since nobody can bear to you the burden of my song,
Would that it might follow the spring wind to Yanran Mountain.
I think of you far away, beyond the blue sky,
And my eyes that once were sparkling
Are now a well of tears.
...Oh, if ever you should doubt this aching of my heart,
Here in my bright mirror come back and look at me!"
Pure wine costs, for the golden cup, ten thousand coppers a flagon,
And a jade plate of dainty food calls for a million coins.
I fling aside my food-sticks and cup, I cannot eat nor drink....
I pull out my dagger, I peer four ways in vain.
I would cross the Yellow River, but ice chokes the ferry;
I would climb the Taihang Mountains, but the sky is blind with snow....
I would sit and poise a fishing-pole, lazy by a brook --
But I suddenly dream of riding a boat, sailing for the sun....
Journing is hard,
Journing is hard.
There are many turnings --
Which am I to follow?....
I will mount a long wind some day and break the heavy waves
And set my cloudy sail straight and bridge the deep, deep sea.

Folk-song-styled-verse
Li Bai
HARD IS THE WAY OF THE WORLD II

The way is broad like the blue sky,
But no way out before my eye.
I am ashamed to follow those who have no guts,
Gambling on fighting cocks and dogs for pears and nuts.
Feng would go homeward way, having no fish to eat;
Zhou did not think to bow to noblemen was meet.
General Han was mocked in the market-place;
The brilliant scholar Jia was banished in disgrace.
Have you not heard of King of Yan in days gone by,
Who venerated talents and built Terrace high
On which he offered gold to gifted men
And stooped low and swept the floor to welcome them?
Grateful, Ju Xin and Yue Yi came then
And served him heart and soul, both full of stratagem.
The King’s bones were now buried,
who would sweep the floor of the Gold Terrace any more?
Hard is the way.
Go back without delay!

084
樂府
李白
行路難之三

有耳莫洗穎川水，有口莫食首陽蕨。
含光混世貴無名，何用孤高比雲月？
吾觀自古賢達人，功成不退皆殞身。
子胥既棄吳江上，屈原終投湘水濱。
陸機雄才豈自保？李斯税駕苦不早。
華亭鶴唳詎可聞？上蔡蒼鷹何足道。
君不見，吳中張翰稱達生，
秋風忽憶江東行。
且樂生前一杯酒，何須身後千載名？

Folk-song-styled-verse
Li Bai
HARD IS THE WAY OF THE WORLD III

Don’t wash your ears on hearing something you dislike
Nor die of hunger like famous hermits on the Pike!
Living without a fame among the motley crowd,
Why should one be as lofty as the moon or cloud?
Of ancient talents who failed to retire, there’s none
But came to tragic ending after glory’s won.
The head of General Wu was hung o’er city gate;
In the river was drowned the poet laureate.
The highly talented scholar wished in vain
To preserve his life to hear the cry of the crane.
Minister Li regretted not to have retired
To hunt with falcon gray as he had long desired.
Have you not heard of Zhang Han who resigned, carefree,
To go home to eat his perch with high glee?
Enjoy a cup of wine while you're alive!
Do not care if your fame will not survive!
君不見，黃河之水天上来，
奔流到海不復回？
君不見，高堂明鏡悲白髮，
朝如青絲暮成雪！
人生得意須盡歡，
莫使金樽空對月，
天生我材必有用，
千金散盡還復來。
烹羊宰牛且為樂，會須一飲三百杯。
岑夫子！丹丘生！
將進酒：君莫停。
與君歌一曲，請君為我側耳聽。
鐘鼓馔玉不足貴，但願長醉不願醒。
古來聖賢皆寂寞，惟有飲者留其名。
陳王昔時宴平樂，斗酒十千恣歡谑。
主人何為言少錢？徑須沽取對君酌。
五花馬，千金裘。
呼兒將出換美酒，與爾同消萬古愁。

085
樂府
李白
將進酒

君不見，黃河之水天上来，
奔流到海不復回？
君不見，高堂明鏡悲白髮，
朝如青絲暮成雪？
人生得意須盡歡，
莫使金樽空對月，
天生我材必有用，
千金散盡還復來。
烹羊宰牛且為樂，會須一飲三百杯。
岑夫子！丹丘生！
將進酒：君莫停。
與君歌一曲，請君為我側耳聽。
鐘鼓馔玉不足貴，但願長醉不願醒。
古來聖賢皆寂寞，惟有飲者留其名。
陳王昔時宴平樂，斗酒十千恣歡谑。
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五花馬，千金裘。
呼兒將出換美酒，與爾同消萬古愁。

Folk-song-styled-verse
Li Bai
BRINGING IN THE WINE

See how the Yellow River’s waters move out of heaven.
Entering the ocean, never to return.
See how lovely locks in bright mirrors in high chambers,
Though silken-black at morning, have changed by night to snow.
...Oh, let a man of spirit venture where he pleases
And never tip his golden cup empty toward the moon!
Since heaven gave the talent, let it be employed!
Spin a thousand pieces of silver, all of them come back!
Cook a sheep, kill a cow, whet the appetite,
And make me, of three hundred bowls, one long drink!
...To the old master, Cen,
And the young scholar, Danqiu,
Bring in the wine!
Let your cups never rest!
Let me sing you a song!
Let your ears attend!
What are bell and drum, rare dishes and treasure?
Let me be forever drunk and never come to reason!
Sober men of olden days and sages are forgotten,  
And only the great drinkers are famous for all time.  
...Prince Chen paid at a banquet in the Palace of Perfection  
Ten thousand coins for a cask of wine, with many a laugh and quip.  
Why say, my host, that your money is gone?  
Go and buy wine and we’ll drink it together!  
My flower-dappled horse,  
My furs worth a thousand,  
Hand them to the boy to exchange for good wine,  
And we’ll drown away the woes of ten thousand generations!

Folk-song-styled-verse  
Du Fu  
A SONG OF WAR-CHARIOTS  

The war-chariots rattle,  
The war-horses whinny.  
Each man of you has a bow and a quiver at his belt.
Father, mother, son, wife, stare at you going,
Till dust shall have buried the bridge beyond Changan.
They run with you, crying, they tug at your sleeves,
And the sound of their sorrow goes up to the clouds;
And every time a bystander asks you a question,
You can only say to him that you have to go.

...We remember others at fifteen sent north to guard the river
And at forty sent west to cultivate the campfarms.
The mayor wound their turbans for them when they started out.
With their turbaned hair white now, they are still at the border,
At the border where the blood of men spills like the sea --
And still the heart of Emperor Wu is beating for war.

...Do you know that, east of China’s mountains, in two hundred districts
And in thousands of villages, nothing grows but weeds,
And though strong women have bent to the ploughing,
East and west the furrows all are broken down?

...Men of China are able to face the stiffest battle,
But their officers drive them like chickens and dogs.
Whatever is asked of them,
Dare they complain?
For example, this winter
Held west of the gate,
Challenged for taxes,
How could they pay?

...We have learned that to have a son is bad luck-
It is very much better to have a daughter
Who can marry and live in the house of a neighbour,
While under the sod we bury our boys.

...Go to the Blue Sea, look along the shore
At all the old white bones forsaken --
New ghosts are wailing there now with the old,
Loudest in the dark sky of a stormy day.

087
樂府
杜甫
麗人行

三月三日天氣新，長安水邊多麗人。
態裝遠迎淑且真，肌理細膩骨肉勻。
縟羅衣裳照暮春，蹙金孔雀銀麒麟。
頭上何所有？翠緄叢葉垂鸞唇。
背後何所見？珠壓腰髻穩稱身。
就中雲幕椒房親，賜名大國誠與秦。
紫駝之峰出翠釜，水精之盤行素鱗。
犀箸鮫鮫久未下，鸞刀纖切空紛綸。
Folk-song-styled-verse
Du Fu
A SONG OF FAIR WOMEN

On the third day of the Third-month in the freshening weather
Many beauties take the air by the Changan waterfront,
Receptive, aloof, sweet-mannered, sincere,
With soft fine skin and well-balanced bone.
Their embroidered silk robes in the spring sun are gleaming --
With a mass of golden peacocks and silver unicorns.
And hanging far down from their temples
Are blue leaves of delicate kingfisher feathers.
And following behind them
Is a pearl-laden train, rhythmic with bearers.
Some of them are kindred to the Royal House --
The titled Princesses Guo and Qin.
Red camel-humps are brought them from jade broilers,
And sweet fish is ordered them on crystal trays.
Though their food-sticks of unicorn-horn are lifted languidly
And the finely wrought phoenix carving-knife is very little used,
Fleet horses from the Yellow Gate, stirring no dust,
Bring precious dishes constantly from the imperial kitchen.
...While a solemn sound of flutes and drums invokes gods and spirits,
Guests and courtiers gather, all of high rank;
And finally, riding slow, a dignified horseman
Dismounts at the pavilion on an embroidered rug.
In a snow of flying willow-cotton whitening the duckweed,
Bluebirds find their way with vermilion handkerchiefs --
But power can be as hot as flame and burn people's fingers.
Be wary of the Premier, watch for his frown.
Folk-song-styled-verse
Du Fu
A SONG OF SOBBING BY THE RIVER

I am only an old woodsman, whispering a sob,
As I steal like a spring-shadow down the Winding River.
...Since the palaces ashore are sealed by a thousand gates--
Fine willows, new rushes, for whom are you so green?
...I remember a cloud of flags that came from the South Garden,
And ten thousand colours, heightening one another,
And the Kingdom's first Lady, from the Palace of the Bright Sun,
Attendant on the Emperor in his royal chariot,
And the horsemen before them, each with bow and arrows,
And the snowy horses, champing at bits of yellow gold,
And an archer, breast skyward, shooting through the clouds
And felling with one dart a pair of flying birds.
...Where are those perfect eyes, where are those pearly teeth?
A blood-stained spirit has no home, has nowhere to return.
And clear Wei waters running east, through the cleft on Dagger-Tower Trail,
Carry neither there nor here any news of her.
People, compassionate, are wishing with tears
That she were as eternal as the river and the flowers.
...Mounted Tartars, in the yellow twilight, cloud the town with dust.
I am fleeing south, but I linger-gazing northward toward the throne.
Folk-song-styled-verse
Du Fu
A SONG OF A PRINCE DEPOSED

Along the wall of the Capital a white-headed crow
Flies to the Gate where Autumn Enters and screams there in the night,
Then turns again and pecks among the roofs of a tall mansion
Whose lord, a mighty mandarin, has fled before the Tartars,
With his golden whip now broken, his nine war-horses dead
And his own flesh and bone scattered to the winds....
There's a rare ring of green coral underneath the vest
Of a Prince at a street-corner, bitterly sobbing,
Who has to give a false name to anyone who asks him-
Just a poor fellow, hoping for employment.
A hundred days' hiding in grasses and thorns
Show on his body from head to foot.
But, since their first Emperor, all with hooknoses,
These Dragons look different from ordinary men.
Wolves are in the palace now and Dragons are lost in the desert --
O Prince, be very careful of your most sacred person!
I dare not address you long, here by the open road,
Nor even to stand beside you for more than these few moments.
Last night with the spring-wind there came a smell of blood;
The old Capital is full of camels from the east.
Our northern warriors are sound enough of body and of hand --
Oh, why so brave in olden times and so craven now?
Our Emperor, we hear, has given his son the throne
And the southern border-chieftains are loyally inclined
And the Huamen and Limian tribes are gathering to avenge us.
But still be careful-keep yourself well hidden from the dagger.
Unhappy Prince, I beg you, be constantly on guard --
Till power blow to your aid from the Five Imperial Tombs.

090
五言律詩
唐玄宗
I PASS THROUGH THE LU DUKEDOM WITH A SIGH AND A SACRIFICE FOR CONFUCIUS

O Master, how did the world repay
Your life of long solicitude? --
The Lords of Zou have misprized your land,
And your home has been used as the palace of Lu....
You foretold that when phoenixes vanished, your fortunes too would end,
You knew that the captured unicorn would be a sign of the dose of your teaching....
Can this sacrifice I watch, here between two temple pillars,
Be the selfsame omen of death you dreamed of long ago?

LOOKING AT THE MOON AND THINKING OF ONE FAR AWAY

The moon, grown full now over the sea,
Brightening the whole of heaven,
Brings to separated hearts
The long thoughtfulness of night....
It is no darker though I blow out my candle.
It is no warmer though I put on my coat.
So I leave my message with the moon
And turn to my bed, hoping for dreams.

Five-character-regular-verse
Wang Bo
FAREWELL TO VICE-PREFECT DU
SETTING OUT FOR HIS OFFICIAL POST IN SHU

By this wall that surrounds the three Qin districts,
Through a mist that makes five rivers one,
We bid each other a sad farewell,
We two officials going opposite ways....
And yet, while China holds our friendship,
And heaven remains our neighbourhood,
Why should you linger at the fork of the road,
Wiping your eyes like a heart-broken child?
A POLITICAL PRISONER LISTENING TO A CICADA

While the year sinks westward, I hear a cicada
Bid me to be resolute here in my cell,
Yet it needed the song of those black wings
To break a white-haired prisoner's heart....
His flight is heavy through the fog,
His pure voice drowns in the windy world.
Who knows if he be singing still? - -
Who listens any more to me?

ON A WALK IN THE EARLY SPRING
HARMONIZING A POEM BY MY FRIEND LU
STATIONED AT CHANGZHOU

Only to wanderers can come
Ever new the shock of beauty,
Of white cloud and red cloud dawning from the sea,
Of spring in the wild-plum and river-willow....
I watch a yellow oriole dart in the warm air,
And a green water-plant reflected by the sun.
Suddenly an old song fills
My heart with home, my eyes with tears.
Against the City of the Yellow Dragon
Our troops were sent long years ago,
And girls here watch the same melancholy moon
That lights our Chinese warriors --
And young wives dream a dream of spring,
That last night their heroic husbands,
In a great attack, with flags and drums,
Captured the City of the Yellow Dragon.

They say that wildgeese, flying southward,
Here turn back, this very month....
Shall my own southward journey
Ever be retraced, I wonder?
...The river is pausing at ebb-tide,
And the woods are thick with clinging mist --
But tomorrow morning, over the mountain,
Dawn will be white with the plum-trees of home.

097
五言律詩
王灣
次北固山下
客路青山外，行舟绿水前。
潮平兩岸闊，風正一帆懸。
海日生殘夜，江春入舊年。
鄉書何處達？歸雁洛陽邊。

Five-character-regular-verse
Wang Wan
A MOORING UNDER NORTH FORT HILL
Under blue mountains we wound our way,
My boat and 1, along green water;
Until the banks at low tide widened,
With no wind stirring my lone sail. 
...Night now yields to a sea of sun,
And the old year melts in freshets. 
At last I can send my messengers --
Wildgeese, homing to Loyang.

098
五言律詩
常建
題破山寺後禪院
清晨入古寺，初日照高林。 
曲徑通幽處，禪房花木深。 
山光悦鳥性，潭影空人心。 
萬籟此俱寂，惟餘鐘磬音。 

Five-character-regular-verse
Chang Jian
A BUDDHIST RETREAT BEHIND BROKEN-MOUNTAIN TEMPLE
In the pure morning, near the old temple, 
Where early sunlight points the tree-tops,
My path has wound, through a sheltered hollow
Of boughs and flowers, to a Buddhist retreat.
Here birds are alive with mountain-light,
And the mind of man touches peace in a pool,
And a thousand sounds are quieted
By the breathing of a temple-bell.

099
五言律詩
岑參
寄左省杜拾遺
聯步趨丹陛，分曹限紫微。
曉隨天仗入，暮惹御香歸。
白髮悲花落，青雲羡鳥飛。
聖朝無闕事，自覺諫書稀。

Five-character-regular-verse
Cen Can
A MESSAGE TO CENSOR Du Fu
AT HIS OFFICE IN THE LEFT COURT
Together we officials climbed vermilion steps,
To be parted by the purple walls....
Our procession, which entered the palace at dawn,
Leaves fragrant now at dusk with imperial incense.
...Grey heads may grieve for a fallen flower,
Or blue clouds envy a lilting bird;
But this reign is of heaven, nothing goes wrong,
There have been almost no petitions.

100
五言律詩
李白
贈孟浩然
吾愛孟夫子，風流天下聞。
紅顏棄軒冕，白首臥松雲。
醉月頻中聖，迷花不事君。
高山安可仰？徒此把清芬。

Five-character-regular-verse
Li Bai
A MESSAGE TO MENG HAORAN

Master, I hail you from my heart,
And your fame arisen to the skies....
Renouncing in ruddy youth the importance of hat and chariot,
You chose pine-trees and clouds; and now, whitehaired,
Drunk with the moon, a sage of dreams,
Flower- bewitched, you are deaf to the Emperor....
High mountain, how I long to reach you,
Breathing your sweetness even here!

101
五言律詩
李白
渡荊門送別

渡遠荊門外，來從楚國遊。
山隨平野盡，江入大荒流。
月下飛天鏡，雲生結海樓。
仍憐故鄉水，萬里送行舟。

Five-character-regular-verse
Li Bai
BIDDING A FRIEND FAREWELL AT JINGMEN FERRY

Sailing far off from Jingmen Ferry,
Soon you will be with people in the south,
Where the mountains end and the plains begin
And the river winds through wilderness....
The moon is lifted like a mirror,
Sea-clouds gleam like palaces,
And the water has brought you a touch of home
To draw your boat three hundred miles.

102
五言律詩
李白
送友人

青山橫北郭， 白水遼東城。
此地一為別， 孤蓬萬里征。
浮雲游子意， 落日故人情。
Five-character-regular-verse
Li Bai
A FAREWELL TO A FRIEND

With a blue line of mountains north of the wall,
And east of the city a white curve of water,
Here you must leave me and drift away
Like a loosened water-plant hundreds of miles....
I shall think of you in a floating cloud;
So in the sunset think of me.
...We wave our hands to say good-bye,
And my horse is neighing again and again.

103
五言律詩
李白
聽蜀僧濁彈琴

蜀僧抱綠綺， 西下峨眉峰；
為我一揮手， 如聽萬壑松。
客心洗流水， 餘響入霜鏘。
不覺碧山暮， 秋雲暗幾重？

Five-character-regular-verse
Li Bai
ON HEARING JUN THE BUDDHIST MONK
FROM SHU PLAY HIS LUTE

The monk from Shu with his green silk lute-case,
Walking west down Omei Mountain,
Has brought me by one touch of the strings
The breath of pines in a thousand valleys.
I hear him in the cleansing brook,
I hear him in the icy bells;
And I feel no change though the mountain darken
And cloudy autumn heaps the sky.
夜泊牛渚怀古

牛渚西江夜，青天无片云；
登舟望秋月，空忆谢将军。
余亦能高咏，斯人不可闻。
明朝挂帆席，枫叶落纷纷。

Five-character-regular-verse
Li Bai
THOUGHTS OF OLD TIME FROM A NIGHT-MOORING
UNDER MOUNT NIU-ZHU

This night to the west of the river-brim
There is not one cloud in the whole blue sky,
As I watch from my deck the autumn moon,
Vainly remembering old General Xie....
I have poems; I can read;
He heard others, but not mine.
...Tomorrow I shall hoist my sail,
With fallen maple-leaves behind me.

105
五言律詩
杜甫
月夜

今夜鄜州月，闺中只獨看。
遠憐小兒女，未解憶長安。
香霧雲鬟濕，清輝玉臂寒。
何時倚虛幌，雙照淚痕乾。

Five-character-regular-verse
Du Fu
ON A MOONLIGHT NIGHT

Far off in Fuzhou she is watching the moonlight,
Watching it alone from the window of her chamber-
For our boy and girl, poor little babes,
Are too young to know where the Capital is.
Her cloudy hair is sweet with mist,
Her jade-white shoulder is cold in the moon.
...When shall we lie again, with no more tears,
Watching this bright light on our screen?
106
五言律詩
杜甫
春望

國破山河在，城春草木深。
感時花濺涕，恨別鳥驚心。
烽火連三月，家書抵萬金。
白頭搔更短，渾欲不勝簪。

Five-character-regular-verse
Du Fu
A SPRING VIEW

Though a country be sundered, hills and rivers endure;
And spring comes green again to trees and grasses
Where petals have been shed like tears
And lonely birds have sung their grief.
...After the war-fires of three months,
One message from home is worth a ton of gold.
...I stroke my white hair. It has grown too thin
To hold the hairpins any more.

107
五言律詩
杜甫
春宿左省

花隱掖垣暮，啾啾棲鳥過。
星臨萬戶動，月傍九霄多。
不寐聽金館，因風想玉珂。
明朝有封事，數問夜如何。

Five-character-regular-verse
Du Fu
A NIGHT-VIGIL IN THE LEFT COURT OF THE PALACE

Flowers are shadowed, the palace darkens,
Birds twitter by for a place to perch;
Heaven’s ten thousand windows are twinkling,
And nine cloud-terraces are gleaming in the moonlight.
...While I wait for the golden lock to turn,
I hear jade pendants tinkling in the wind....
I have a petition to present in the morning,
All night I ask what time it is.

108
五言律詩
杜甫
至德二載甫自京金光門出，問道歸鳳翔。乾元初從左拾遺移華州掾。與親故別，
因出此門。有悲往事。

此道昔歸順， 西郊胡正繁。
至今殘破膽， 應有未招魂。
近得歸京邑， 移官豈至尊。
無才日衰老， 駐馬望千門。

Five-character-regular-verse
Du Fu
TAKING LEAVE OF FRIENDS ON MY WAY TO HUAZHOU

In the second year of Zhide, I escaped from the capital through the Gate of Golden Light and went to Fengxiang. In the first year of Qianyuan, I was appointed as official to Huazhou from my former post of Censor. Friends and relatives gathered and saw me leave by the same gate. And I wrote this poem.

This is the road by which I fled,
When the rebels had reached the west end of the city;
And terror, ever since, has clutched at my vitals
Lest some of my soul should never return.
...The court has come back now, filling the capital;
But the Emperor sends me away again.
Useless and old, I rein in my horse
For one last look at the thousand gates.

109
五言律詩
杜甫
月夜憶舍弟

戍鼓斷人行， 秋邊一雁聲。
露從今夜白， 月是故鄉明。
有弟皆分散， 無家問死生。
寄書長不達， 況乃未休兵。

142
Five-character-regular-verse
Du Fu
REMEMBERING MY BROTHERS ON A MOONLIGHT NIGHT

A wanderer hears drums portending battle.
By the first call of autumn from a wildgoose at the border,
He knows that the dews tonight will be frost.
...How much brighter the moonlight is at home!
O my brothers, lost and scattered,
What is life to me without you?
Yet if missives in time of peace go wrong --
What can I hope for during war?

110
五言律詩
杜甫
天末懷李白

凉風起天末， 君子意如何。
鴻雁幾時到， 江湖秋水多。
文章憎命達， 魚魅喜人過。
應共冤魂語， 投詩贈汨羅。

Five-character-regular-verse
Du Fu
TO LI BAI AT THE SKY SEND

A cold wind blows from the far sky....
What are you thinking of, old friend?
The wildgeese never answer me.
Rivers and lakes are flooded with rain.
...A poet should beware of prosperity,
Yet demons can haunt a wanderer.
Ask an unhappy ghost, throw poems to him
Where he drowned himself in the Milo River.

111
五言律詩
杜甫
奉濟驛重送嚴公四韻

遠送從此別， 青山空復情。
Five-character-regular-verse
Du Fu
A FAREWELL AT FENGI STATION TO GENERAL YAN

This is where your comrade must leave you,
Turning at the foot of these purple mountains....
When shall we lift our cups again, I wonder,
As we did last night and walk in the moon?
The region is murmuring farewell
To one who was honoured through three reigns;
And back I go now to my river-village,
Into the final solitude.

Five-character-regular-verse
Du Fu
ON LEAVING THE TOMB OF PREMIER FANG

Having to travel back now from this far place,
I dismount beside your lonely tomb.
The ground where I stand is wet with my tears;
The sky is dark with broken clouds....
I who played chess with the great Premier
Am bringing to my lord the dagger he desired.
But I find only petals falling down,
I hear only linnets answering.
A light wind is rippling at the grassy shore....
Through the night, to my motionless tall mast,
The stars lean down from open space,
And the moon comes running up the river.
...If only my art might bring me fame
And free my sick old age from office! --
Flitting, flitting, what am I like
But a sand-snipe in the wide, wide world!

I had always heard of Lake Dongting --
And now at last I have climbed to this tower.
With Wu country to the east of me and Chu to the south,
I can see heaven and earth endlessly floating.
...But no word has reached me from kin or friends.
I am old and sick and alone with my boat.
North of this wall there are wars and mountains --
And here by the rail how can I help crying?
115

五言律詩
王維
辋川隴居贈裴秀才迪

寒山轉蒼翠，秋水日潺湲。  
倚杖柴門外，臨風聽暮蟬。  
渡頭餘落日，墟里上孤煙。  
復值接輦醉，狂歌五柳前。

Five-character-regular-verse
Wang Wei
A MESSAGE FROM MY LODGE AT WANGCHUAN
TO PEI DI

The mountains are cold and blue now  
And the autumn waters have run all day.  
By my thatch door, leaning on my staff,  
I listen to cicadas in the evening wind.  
Sunset lingers at the ferry,  
Supper-smoke floats up from the houses.  
...Oh, when shall I pledge the great Hermit again  
And sing a wild poem at Five Willows?

116

五言律詩
王維
山居秋暝

空山新雨後，天氣晚來秋。  
明月松間照，清泉石上流。  
竹喧歸浣女，蓮動下漁舟。  
隨意春芳歇，王孫自可留。

Five-character-regular-verse
Wang Wei
AN AUTUMN EVENING IN THE MOUNTAINS

After rain the empty mountain  
Stands autumnal in the evening,  
Moonlight in its groves of pine,  
Stones of crystal in its brooks.
Bamboos whisper of washer-girls bound home,
Lotus-leaves yield before a fisher-boat --
And what does it matter that springtime has gone,
While you are here, O Prince of Friends?

117
五言律詩
王維
歸嵩山作

清川帶長薄， 車馬去闔闔。
流水如有意， 暮禽相與還。
荒城臨古渡， 落日滿秋山。
迢遞嵩高下， 歸來且閉關。

Five-character-regular-verse
Wang Wei
BOUND HOME TO MOUNT SONG

The limpid river, past its bushes
Running slowly as my chariot,
Becomes a fellow voyager
Returning home with the evening birds.
A ruined city-wall overtops an old ferry,
Autumn sunset floods the peaks.
...Far away, beside Mount Song,
I shall close my door and be at peace.

118
五言律詩
王維
终南山

太乙近天都， 連山接海隅。
白雲廻望合， 青霧入看無。
分野中峰變， 陰晴眾壑殊。
欲投人處宿， 隔水問樵夫。

Five-character-regular-verse
Wang Wei
MOUNT ZHONGNAN
Its massive height near the City of Heaven 
Joins a thousand mountains to the corner of the sea. 
Clouds, when I look back, close behind me, 
Mists, when I enter them, are gone. 
A central peak divides the wilds 
And weather into many valleys. 
...Needing a place to spend the night, 
I call to a wood-cutter over the river.

119
五言律詩
王維
酬張少府
晚年惟好靜，萬事不關心。
自顧無長策，空知返舊林。
松風吹解帶，山月照彈琴。
君問窮通理，漁歌入浦深。

Five-character-regular-verse
Wang Wei
ANSWERING VICE-PREFECT ZHANG

As the years go by, give me but peace, 
Freedom from ten thousand matters. 
I ask myself and always answer:
What can be better than coming home?
A wind from the pine-trees blows my sash, 
And my lute is bright with the mountain moon.
You ask me about good and evil fortune?....
Hark, on the lake there’s a fisherman singing!

120
五言律詩
王維
過香積寺
不知香積寺，數里入雲峰。 
古木無人徑，深山何處鐘。
泉聲咽危石，日色冷青松。
薄暮空潭曲，安禪制毒龍。
Toward the Temple of Heaped Fragrance

Not knowing the way to the Temple of Heaped Fragrance,
Under miles of mountain-cloud I have wandered
Through ancient woods without a human track;
But now on the height I hear a bell.
A rillet sings over winding rocks,
The sun is tempered by green pines....
And at twilight, close to an emptying pool,
Thought can conquer the Passion-Dragon.

A Message to Commissioner Li at Zizhou

From ten thousand valleys the trees touch heaven;
On a thousand peaks cuckoos are calling;
And, after a night of mountain rain,
From each summit come hundreds of silken cascades.
...If girls are asked in tribute the fibre they weave,
Or farmers quarrel over taro fields,
Preside as wisely as Wenweng did....
Is fame to be only for the ancients?
Five-character-regular-verse
Wang Wei
A VIEW OF THE HAN RIVER

With its three southern branches reaching the Chu border,
And its nine streams touching the gateway of Jing,
This river runs beyond heaven and earth,
Where the colour of mountains both is and is not.
The dwellings of men seem floating along
On ripples of the distant sky --
These beautiful days here in Xiangyang
Make drunken my old mountain heart!

123
五言律詩
王維
終南別業

中歲頗好道， 晚家南山陲。
興來美獨往， 勝事空自知。
行到水窮處， 坐看雲起時。
偶然值林叟， 談笑無還期。

Five-character-regular-verse
Wang Wei
MY RETREAT AT MOUNT ZHONGNAN

My heart in middle age found the Way.
And I came to dwell at the foot of this mountain.
When the spirit moves, I wander alone
Amid beauty that is all for me....
I will walk till the water checks my path,
Then sit and watch the rising clouds --
And some day meet an old wood-cutter
And talk and laugh and never return.

124
五言律詩
孟浩然
Here in the Eighth-month the waters of the lake
Are of a single air with heaven,
And a mist from the Yun and Meng valleys
Has beleaguered the city of Youzhou.
I should like to cross, but I can find no boat.
...How ashamed I am to be idler than you statesmen,
As I sit here and watch a fisherman casting
And emptily envy him his catch.

While worldly matters take their turn,
Ancient, modern, to and fro,
Rivers and mountains are changeless in their glory
And still to be witnessed from this trail.
Where a fisher-boat dips by a waterfall,
Where the air grows colder, deep in the valley,
The monument of Yang remains;
And we have wept, reading the words.
In my bed among the woods, grieving that spring must end,
I lifted up the curtain on a pathway of flowers,
And a flashing bluebird bade me come
To the dwelling-place of the Red Pine Genie.
...What a flame for his golden crucible --
Peach-trees magical with buds! --
And for holding boyhood in his face,
The rosy-flowing wine of clouds!

I petition no more at the north palace-gate.
...To this tumble-down hut on Zhongnan Mountain
I was banished for my blunders, by a wise ruler.
I have been sick so long I see none of my friends. 
My white hairs hasten my decline, 
Like pale beams ending the old year. 
Therefore I lie awake and ponder 
On the pine-shadowed moonlight in my empty window.

128
五言律詩
孟浩然
過故人莊

故人具雞黍，邀我至田家。 
綠樹村邊合，青山郭外斜。 
開軒面場圃，把酒話桑麻。 
待到重陽日，還來就菊花。

Five-character-regular-verse
Meng Haoran
STOPPING AT A FRIEND’S FARM-HOUSE

Preparing me chicken and rice, old friend, 
You entertain me at your farm. 
We watch the green trees that circle your village 
And the pale blue of outlying mountains. 
We open your window over garden and field, 
To talk mulberry and hemp with our cups in our hands. 
...Wait till the Mountain Holiday -- 
I am coming again in chrysanthemum time.

129
五言律詩
孟浩然
秦中感秋寄遠上人

一丘當欲臥，三徑苦無資。 
北土非吾願，東林懷我師。 
黃金燃桂盡，壯志逐年衰。 
日夕涼風至，聞蟬但益悲。

Five-character-regular-verse
Meng Haoran
FROM QIN COUNTRY TO THE BUDDHIST PRIEST YUAN
How gladly I would seek a mountain
If I had enough means to live as a recluse!
For I turn at last from serving the State
To the Eastern Woods Temple and to you, my master.
...Like ashes of gold in a cinnamon-flame,
My youthful desires have been burnt with the years-
And tonight in the chilling sunset-wind
A cicada, singing, weighs on my heart.

Five-character-regular-verse
Meng Haoran
FROM A MOORING ON THE TONGLU
TO A FRIEND IN YANGZHOU

With monkeys whimpering on the shadowy mountain,
And the river rushing through the night,
And a wind in the leaves along both banks,
And the moon athwart my solitary sail,
I, a stranger in this inland district,
Homesick for my Yangzhou friends,
Send eastward two long streams of tears
To find the nearest touch of the sea.

131
五言律詩
孟浩然
留別王侍御維

寂寂竟何待， 朝朝空自歸。
欲尋芳草去， 惜與故人違。
當路誰相假， 知音世所稀。
祗應守寂寞， 還掩故園扉。
Five-character-regular-verse
Meng Haoran
TAKING LEAVE OF WANG WEI

Slow and reluctant, I have waited
Day after day, till now I must go.
How sweet the road-side flowers might be
If they did not mean good-bye, old friend.
The Lords of the Realm are harsh to us
And men of affairs are not our kind.
I will turn back home, I will say no more,
I will close the gate of my old garden.

南下辞京兆，惜别未忍违。
客舍秋日长，风雪夜暗晖。
何事悲伤者，独行迷旧归。
汉宫已荒废，东道为谁归。

Five-character-regular-verse
Meng Haoran
MEMORIES IN EARLY WINTER

South go the wildgesse, for leaves are now falling,
And the water is cold with a wind from the north.
I remember my home; but the Xiang River's curves
Are walled by the clouds of this southern country.
I go forward. I weep till my tears are spent.
I see a sail in the far sky.
Where is the ferry? Will somebody tell me?
It's growing rough. It's growing dark.

秋日登吳公臺上寺遠眺

132
五言律詩
孟浩然
早寒江上有懷

木落雁南渡，北風江上寒。
我家襄水曲，遥隔楚雲端。
鄉淚客中盡，孤帆天際看。
迷津欲有問，平海夕漫漫。

133
五言律詩
劉長卿
秋日登吳公臺上寺遠眺
古台搖落後，秋日望鄉心。
野寺人來少，雲峰水隔深。
夕陽依舊塲，寒磬滿空林。
惆悵南朝事，長江獨至今。

Five-character-regular-verse
Liu Changqing
CLIMBING IN AUTUMN FOR A VIEW FROM THE TEMPLE ON THE TERRACE OF GENERAL WU

So autumn breaks my homesick heart....
Few pilgrims venture climbing to a temple so wild,
Up from the lake, in the mountain clouds.
...Sunset clings in the old defences,
A stone gong shivers through the empty woods.
...Of the Southern Dynasty, what remains?
Nothing but the great River.

134
五言律詩
劉長卿
送李中丞歸漢陽別業

流落征南將，曾驅十萬師。
罷歸無舊業，老去戀明時。
獨立三邊靜，輕生一劍知。
茫茫江漢上，日暮復何之。

Five-character-regular-verse
Liu Changqing
A FAREWELL TO GOVERNOR LI ON HIS WAY HOME TO HANYANG

Sad wanderer, once you conquered the South,
Commanding a hundred thousand men;
Today, dismissed and dispossessed,
In your old age you remember glory.
Once, when you stood, three borders were still;
Your dagger was the scale of life.
Now, watching the great rivers, the Jiang and the Han,
On their ways in the evening, where do you go?
Five-character-regular-verse
Liu Changing
ON SEEING WANG LEAVE FOR THE SOUTH

Toward a mist upon the water
Still I wave my hand and sob,
For the flying bird is lost in space
Beyond a desolate green mountain....
But now the long river, the far lone sail,
five lakes, gleam like spring in the sunset;
And down an island white with duckweed
Comes the quiet of communion.

Five-character-regular-verse
Liu Changing
WHILE VISITING ON THE SOUTH STREAM
THE TAOIST PRIEST CHANG

Walking along a little path,
I find a footprint on the moss,
A while cloud low on the quiet lake,
Grasses that sweeten an idle door,
A pine grown greener with the rain,
A brook that comes from a mountain source --
And, mingling with Truth among the flowers,
I have forgotten what to say.

137
五言律詩
劉長卿
新年作

鄉心新歲切， 天畔獨潸然。
老至居人下， 春歸在客先。
嶺猿同旦暮， 江柳共風煙。
己似長沙傅， 從今又幾年。

Five-character-regular-verse
Liu Changqing
NEW YEAR’S AT CHANGSHA

New Year’s only deepens my longing,
Adds to the lonely tears of an exile
Who, growing old and still in harness,
Is left here by the homing spring...
Monkeys come down from the mountains to haunt me.
I bend like a willow, when it rains on the river.
I think of Jia Yi, who taught here and died here-
And I wonder what my term shall be.

138
五言律詩
錢起
送僧歸日本

上國隨緣住， 來途若夢行。
浮天滄海遠， 去世法舟輕。
水月通禪寂， 魚龍聽梵聲。
惟憐一燈影， 萬里眼中明。

Five-character-regular-verse
Qian Qi
FAREWELL TO A JAPANESE BUDDHIST PRIEST
BOUND HOMEWARD

You were foreordained to find the source.
Now, tracing your way as in a dream
There where the sea floats up the sky,
You wane from the world in your fragile boat....
The water and the moon are as calm as your faith,
Fishes and dragons follow your chanting,
And the eye still watches beyond the horizon
The holy light of your single lantern.

139
五言律詩
錢起
谷口書齋寄楊補闥

泉壑帶茅茨，雲霞生薜帷。
竹憐新雨後，山愛夕陽時。
聞鶴棲常早，秋花落更遲。
家童掃蘿徑，昨與故人期。

Five-character-regular-verse
Qian Qi
FROM MY STUDY AT THE MOUTH OF THE VALLEY.
A MESSAGE TO CENSOR YANG

At a little grass-hut in the valley of the river,
Where a cloud seems born from a viney wall,
You will love the bamboos new with rain,
And mountains tender in the sunset.
Cranes drift early here to rest
And autumn flowers are slow to fade....
I have bidden my pupil to sweep the grassy path
For the coming of my friend.

140
五言律詩
韋應物
淮上喜會梁川故人

江漢曾為客，相逢每醉還。
浮雲一別後，流水十年間。
歡笑情如舊，蕭疏鬢已斑。
何因北歸去？淮上對秋山。
Five-character-regular-verse  
Wei Yingwu  
A GREETING ON THE HUAI RIVER  
TO MY OLD FRIENDS FROM LIANGCHUAN

We used to be companions on the Jiang and the Han,  
And as often as we met, we were likely to be tipsy.  
Since we left one another, floating apart like clouds,  
Ten years have run like water—till at last we join again.  
And we talk again and laugh again just as in earlier days,  
Except that the hair on our heads is tinged now with grey.  
Why not come along, then, all of us together,  
And face the autumn mountains and sail along the Huai?

141  
五言律詩  
韋應物  
賦得暮雨送李胄

楚江微雨著，建業暮鐘時。  
漠漠帆来重，冥冥鸟去迟。  
海门深不见，浦树远含滋。  
相送情无限，沾襟比散丝。

Five-character-regular-verse  
Wei Yingwu  
A FAREWELL IN THE EVENING RAIN TO LI CAO

Is it raining on the river all the way to Chu?  
The evening bell comes to us from Nanjing.  
Your wet sail drags and is loath to be going  
And shadowy birds are flying slow.  
We cannot see the deep ocean-gate  
Only the boughs at Pukou, newly dripping.  
Likewise, because of our great love,  
There are threads of water on our faces.

142  
五言律詩  
韓翃  
酬程延秋夜即事見贈

長簟迎風早，空城澹月華。
五言律詩
劉脊虛
闕題

道由白雲盡，春與青溪長。  
時有落花至，遠隨流水香。  
閑門向山路，深柳築書堂。  
幽映每白日，清輝照衣裳。  
又作開

五言律詩
五言律詩

Five-character-regular-verse

 аналогично

AN AUTUMN EVENING HARMONIZING

CHENG QIN’S POEM

While a cold wind is creeping under my mat,
And the city’s naked wall grows pale with the autumn moon,
I see a lone wild-goose crossing the River of Stars,
And I hear, on stone in the night, thousands of washing mallets....
But, instead of wishing the season, as it goes,
To bear me also far away,
I have found your poem so beautiful
That I forget the homing birds.

On a road outreaching the white clouds,
By a spring outrunning the bluest river,
Petals come drifting on the wind
And the brook is sweet with them all the way.
My quiet gate is a mountain-trail,
And the willow-trees about my cottage
Sift on my sleeve, through the shadowy noon,
Distillations of the sun.

143
Five-character-regular-verse
Dai Shulun
CHANGING ON OLD FRIENDS IN A VILLAGE INN

While the autumn moon is pouring full
On a thousand night-levels among towns and villages,
There meet by chance, south of the river,
Dreaming doubters of a dream....
In the trees a wind has startled the birds,
And insects cower from cold in the grass;
But wayfarers at least have wine
And nothing to fear -- till the morning bell.

Five-character-regular-verse
Lu Lun
A FAREWELL TO LI DUAN

By my old gate, among yellow grasses,
Still we linger, sick at heart.
The way you must follow through cold clouds
Will lead you this evening into snow.
Your father died; you left home young;
Nobody knew of your misfortunes.
We cry, we say nothing. What can I wish you,
In this blowing wintry world?
A BRIEF BUT HAPPY MEETING WITH MY BROTHER-IN LAW
"MEETING BY ACCIDENT, ONLY TO PART"

After these ten torn wearisome years
We have met again. We were both so changed
That hearing first your surname, I thought you a stranger --
Then hearing your given name, I remembered your young face....
All that has happened with the tides
We have told and told till the evening bell....
Tomorrow you journey to Youzhou,
Leaving autumn between us, peak after peak.

A FAREWELL TO HAN SHEN AT THE YUNYANG INN

Long divided by river and sea,
For years we two have failed to meet --
And suddenly to find you seems like a dream....
With a catch in the throat, we ask how old we are.
...Our single lamp shines, through cold and wet,
On a bamboo- thicket sheathed in rain;
But forgetting the sadness that will come with tomorrow,
Let us share the comfort of this farewell wine.

148
五言律詩
司空曙
喜外弟盧綸見宿

靜夜四無鄰， 荒居舊業貧。
雨中黃葉樹， 燈下白頭人。
以我獨沉久， 愧君相訪頻。
平生自有分， 況是蔡家親。

Five-character-regular-verse
Sikong Shu
WHEN LU LUN MY COUSIN COMES FOR THE NIGHT

With no other neighbour but the quiet night,
Here I live in the same old cottage;
And as raindrops brighten yellow leaves,
The lamp illumines my white head....
Out of the world these many years,
I am ashamed to receive you here.
But you cannot come too often,
More than brother, lifelong friend.

149
五言律詩
司空曙
賊平後送人北歸

世亂同南去， 時清獨北還。
他鄉生白髮， 舊國見青山。
曉月過殘壘， 繁星宿故關。
寒禽與衰草， 處處伴愁顏。

Five-character-regular-verse
Sikiong Shu
TO A FRIEND BOUND NORTH
AFTER THE REBELLION

In dangerous times we two came south;
Now you go north in safety, without me.
But remember my head growing white among strangers,
When you look on the blue of the mountains of home.
...The moon goes down behind a ruined fort,
Leaving star-clusters above an old gate....
There are shivering birds and withering grasses,
Whichever way I turn my face.

150
五言律詩
劉禹錫
蜀先主廟

天地英雄氣， 千秋尚凛然。
勢分三足鼎， 業後五銖錢。
得相能開國， 生兒不象賢。
淒涼蜀故妓， 來舞魏宮前。

Five-character-regular-verse
Liu Yuxi
IN THE TEMPLE OF THE FIRST KING OF SHU

Even in this world the spirit of a hero
Lives and reigns for thousands of years.
You were the firmest of the pot's three legs;
It was you who maintained the honour of the currency;
You chose a great premier to magnify your kingdom....
And yet you had a son so little like his father
That girls of your country were taken captive
To dance in the palace of the King of Wei.

151
五言律詩
張籍
沒蕃故人

前年伐月支， 城下沒全師。
蕃漢斷消息， 死生長別離。
無人收廢帳， 歸馬識殘旗。
欲祭疑君在， 天涯哭此時。
THINKING OF A FRIEND LOST
IN THE TIBETAN WAR

Last year you went with your troops to Tibet;
And when your men had vanished beyond the citywall,
News was cut off between the two worlds
As between the living and the dead.
No one has come upon a faithful horse guarding
A crumpled tent or torn flag, or any trace of you.
If only I knew, I might serve you in the temple,
Instead of these tears toward the far sky.

GRASSES

Boundless grasses over the plain
Come and go with every season;
Wildfire never quite consumes them --
They are tall once more in the spring wind.
Sweet they press on the old high road
And reach the crumbling city-gate....
O Prince of Friends, you are gone again....
I hear them sighing after you.
Five-character-regular-verse  
Du Mu  
A NIGHT AT A TAVERN  

Solitary at the tavern,  
I am shut in with loneliness and grief.  
Under the cold lamp, I brood on the past;  
I am kept awake by a lost wildgoose.  
...Roused at dawn from a misty dream,  
I read, a year late, news from home --  
And I remember the moon like smoke on the river  
And a fisher-boat moored there, under my door.

154  
五言律詩  
許渾  
秋日赴閻闌遊驛樓  

紅葉晚蕭蕭，長亭酒一瓢。  
殘雲歸太華，疏雨過中條。  
樹色隨山迥，河聲入海遙。  
帝鄉明日到，猶自夢漁樵。  

Five-character-regular-verse  
Xu Hun  
INSCRIBED IN THE INN AT TONG GATE  
ON AN AUTUMN TRIP TO THE CAPITAL  

Red leaves are fluttering down the twilight  
Past this arbour where I take my wine;  
Cloud-rifts are blowing toward Great Flower Mountain,  
And a shower is crossing the Middle Ridge.  
I can see trees colouring a distant wall.  
I can hear the river seeking the sea,  
As I the Imperial City tomorrow --  
But I dream of woodsmen and fishermen.
Five-character-regular-verse
Xu Hun
EARLY AUTUMN

There's a harp in the midnight playing clear,
While the west wind rustles a green vine;
There's a low cloud touching the jade-white dew
And an early wildgoose in the River of Stars....
Night in the tall trees clings to dawn;
Light makes folds in the distant hills;
And here on the Huai, by one falling leaf,
I can feel a storm on Lake Dongting.

Five-character-regular-verse
Li Shangyin
A CICADA

Pure of heart and therefore hungry,
All night long you have sung in vain --
Oh, this final broken indrawn breath
Among the green indifferent trees!
Yes, I have gone like a piece of driftwood,
I have let my garden fill with weeds....
I bless you for your true advice
To live as pure a life as yours.

157

五言律詩
李商隱
風雨
淒涼寶劍篇， 羈泊欲窮年。
黃葉仍風雨， 青樓自管絃。
新知遭薄俗， 舊好隔良緣。
心斷新豐酒， 銷愁斗幾千。

Five-character-regular-verse
Li Shangyin
WIND AND RAIN

I ponder on the poem of The Precious Dagger.
My road has wound through many years.
...Now yellow leaves are shaken with a gale;
Yet piping and fiddling keep the Blue Houses merry.
On the surface, I seem to be glad of new people;
But doomed to leave old friends behind me,
I cry out from my heart for Xinfeng wine
To melt away my thousand woes.

158

五言律詩
李商隱
落花
高閣客竟去， 小園花亂飛。
參差連曲陌， 迢遞送斜暉。
腸斷未忍掃， 眼穿仍欲歸。
芳心向春盡， 所得是沾衣。

Five-character-regular-verse
Li Shangyin
 FALLING PETALS

Gone is the guest from the Chamber of Rank,
And petals, confused in my little garden,
Zigzagging down my crooked path,
Escort like dancers the setting sun.
Oh, how can I bear to sweep them away?
To a sad-eyed watcher they never return.
Heart's fragrance is spent with the ending of spring
And nothing left but a tear-stained robe.

159
五言律詩
李商隱
涼思
客去波平鏡， 蟬休露滿枝。
永懷當此節， 倚立自移時。
北斗兼春遠， 南陵寓使遲。
天涯占夢數， 疑誤有新知。

Five-character-regular-verse
Li Shangyin
THOUGHTS IN THE COLD

You are gone. The river is high at my door.
Cicadas are mute on dew-laden boughs.
This is a moment when thoughts enter deep.
I stand alone for a long while.
...The North Star is nearer to me now than spring.
And couriers from your southland never arrive --
Yet I doubt my dream on the far horizon
That you have found another friend.

160
五言律詩
李商隱
北青蔬
殘陽西入崦， 茅屋訪孤僧。
落葉人何在？ 寒雲路幾層。
獨敲初夜磬， 闊倚一枝藤。
世界微塵裡， 吾寧愛與憎。

Five-character-regular-verse
Li Shangyin
NORTH AMONG GREEN VINES

Where the sun has entered the western hills,
I look for a monk in his little straw hut;
But only the fallen leaves are at home,
And I turn through chilling levels of cloud
I hear a stone gong in the dusk,
I lean full-weight on my slender staff
How within this world, within this grain of dust,
Can there be any room for the passions of men?

161
五言律詩
温庭筠
送人東遊

荒戍落黃葉， 浩然離故關。
高風漢陽渡， 初日郢門山。
江上幾人在？ 天涯孤棹還。
何當重相見？ 樽酒慰離顏。

Five-character-regular-verse
Wen Tingyun
TO A FRIEND BOUND EAST

The old fort brims with yellow leaves....
You insist upon forsaking this place where you have lived.
A high wind blows at Hanyang Ferry
And sunrise lights the summit of Yingmen....
Who will be left for me along the upper Yangzi
After your solitary skiff has entered the end of the sky?
I ask you over and over when we shall meet again,
While we soften with winecups this ache of farewell.

162
五言律詩
馬戴
灞上秋居

灞原風雨定， 晚見雁行頻。
落葉他鄉樹， 寒燈獨夜人。
空園白露滴， 孤壁野僧鄰。
寄臥郊扉久， 何年致此身？
Five-character-regular-verse
Ma Dai
AN AUTUMN COTTAGE AT BASHANG

After the shower at Bashang,
I see an evening line of wildgeese,
The limp-hanging leaves of a foreign tree,
A lantern’s cold gleam, lonely in the night,
An empty garden, white with dew,
The ruined wall of a neighbouring monastery.
...I have taken my ease here long enough.
What am I waiting for, I wonder.

THOUGHTS OF OLD TIME
ON THE CHU RIVER

A cold light shines on the gathering dew,
As sunset fades beyond the southern mountains;
Trees echo with monkeys on the banks of Lake Dongting,
Where somebody is moving in an orchid-wood boat.
Marsh-lands are swollen wide with the moon,
While torrents are bent to the mountains' will;
And the vanished Queens of the Clouds leave me
Sad with autumn all night long.
Though a bugle breaks the crystal air of autumn,
Soldiers, in the look-out, watch at ease today
The spring wind blowing across green graves
And the pale sun setting beyond Liangzhou.
For now, on grey plains done with war,
The border is open to travel again;
And Tartars can no more choose than rivers:
They are running, all of them, toward the south.

Farther and farther from the three Ba Roads,
I have come three thousand miles, anxious and watchful,
Through pale snow-patches in the jagged nightmountains --
A stranger with a lonely lantern shaken in the wind.
...Separation from my kin
Binds me closer to my servants --
Yet how I dread, so far adrift,
New Year’s Day, tomorrow morning!
166

Five-character-regular-verse
Cui Tu
A SOLITARY WILDGOOSE

Line after line has flown back over the border.

Where are you headed all by yourself?
In the evening rain you call to them --
And slowly you alight on an icy pond.
The low wet clouds move faster than you
Along the wall toward the cold moon.
...If they caught you in a net or with a shot,
Would it be worse than flying alone?

167

Five-character-regular-verse
Du Xunhe
A SIGH IN THE SPRING PALACE

Knowing beauty my misfortune,
I face my mirror with a sigh.
To please a fastidious emperor,
How shall I array myself?....

Birds flock and sing when the wind is warm,
Flower-shadows climb when the sun is high --
And year after year girls in the south
Are picking hibiscus, dreaming of love!

Five-character-regular-verse
Wei Zhuang
A NIGHT THOUGHT ON TERRACE TOWER

Far through the night a harp is sighing
With a sadness of wind and rain in the strings....
There's a solitary lantern, a bugle-call --
And beyond Terrace Tower down goes the moon.
...Fragrant grasses have changed and faded
While still I have been hoping that my old friend would come....
There are no more messengers I can send him,
Now that the wildgeese have turned south.

Five-character-regular-verse
Seng Jiaoran
NOT FINDING LU HONGXIAN AT HOME

To find you, moved beyond the city,
A wide path led me, by mulberry and hemp,
To a new-set hedge of chrysanthemums --
Not yet blooming although autumn had come.
...I knocked; no answer, not even a dog.
I waited to ask your western neighbour;
But he told me that daily you climb the mountain,
Never returning until sunset.

七言律詩
崔頤
黃鶴樓

昔人已乘黃鶴去，此地空餘黃鶴樓。
黃鶴一去不復返，白雲千載空悠悠。
晴川歷歷漢陽樹，芳草萋萋鹦鹉洲。
日暮鄉關何處是？煙波江上使人愁。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Cui Hao
THE YELLOW CRANE TERRACE

Where long ago a yellow crane bore a sage to heaven,
Nothing is left now but the Yellow Crane Terrace.
The yellow crane never revisited earth,
And white clouds are flying without him for ever.
...Every tree in Hanyang becomes clear in the water,
And Parrot Island is a nest of sweet grasses;
But I look toward home, and twilight grows dark
With a mist of grief on the river waves.

行經華陰

岩嶽太華俯咸京，天外三峰削不成。
武帝祠前雲欲散，仙人掌上雨初晴。
河山北枕秦關險，驛樹西連漢畤平。
借問路傍名利客，無如此處學長生。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Cui Hao
PASSING THROUGH HUAYIN
Lords of the capital, sharp, unearthly,
The Great Flower's three points pierce through heaven.
Clouds are parting above the Temple of the Warring Emperor,
Rain dries on the mountain, on the Giant's Palm.
Ranges and rivers are the strength of this western gate,
Whence roads and trails lead downward into China.
...O pilgrim of fame, O seeker of profit,
Why not remain here and lengthen your days?

172
七言律詩
祖詠
望薊門

燕臺一去客心驚， 簫鼓喧喧漢將營。
萬里寒光生積雪， 三邊曙色動危旌。
沙場烽火侵胡月， 海畔雲山擁薊城。
少小雖非投筆吏， 論功還欲請長纜。

Five-character-regular-verse
Zu Yong
LOOKING TOWARD AN INNER GATE
OF THE GREAT WALL

My heart sank when I headed north from Yan Country
To the camps of China echoing ith bugle and drum.
...In an endless cold light of massive snow,
Tall flags on three borders rise up like a dawn.
War-torches invade the barbarian moonlight,
Mountain-clouds like chairmen bear the Great Wall from the sea.
...Though no youthful clerk meant to be a great general,
I throw aside my writing-brush --
Like the student who tossed off cap for a lariat,
I challenge what may come.

173
七言律詩
李頎
送魏萬之京

朝聞遊子唱驪歌， 昨夜微霜初度河。
鴻雁不堪愁裡聽， 雲山況是客中過。
Seven-character-regular-verse
Li Qi
A FAREWELL TO WEI WAN

The travellers' parting-song sounds in the dawn.
Last night a first frost came over the river;
And the crying of the wildgeese grieves my sad heart
Bounded by a gloom of cloudy mountains....
Here in the Gate City, day will flush cold
And washing-flails quicken by the gardens at twilight --
How long shall the capital content you,
Where the months and the years so vainly go by?

174
七言律詩
崔曙
九日登望仙臺呈劉明府

漢文皇帝有高臺，此日登臨曙色開。
三晉雲山皆北向，二陵風雨自東來。
闗門令尹誰能識？河上仙翁去不回，
且欲竟尋彭澤宰，陶然共醉菊花杯。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Cui Shu
A CLIMB ON THE MOUNTAIN HOLIDAY
TO THE TERRACE WHENCE ONE SEES THE MAGICIAN
A POEM SENT TO VICE-PREFECT LU

The Han Emperor Wen bequeathed us this terrace
Which I climb to watch the coming dawn.
Cloudy peaks run northward in the three Jin districts,
And rains are blowing westward through the two Ling valleys.
...Who knows but me about the Guard at the Gate,
Or where the Magician of the River Bank is,
Or how to find that magistrate, that poet,
Who was as fond as I am of chrysanthemums and winecups?
七言律詩
李白
登金陵鳳凰台

凤凰台上凤凰游， 鳳去台空江自流。
吳宮花草埋幽徑， 晉代衣冠成古邱。
三山半落青天外， 二水中分白鹭洲。
總為浮雲能蔽日， 長安不見使人愁。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Li Bai
ON CLIMBING IN NANJING TO THE TERRACE OF PHOENIXES

Phoenixes that played here once, so that the place was named for them,
Have abandoned it now to this desolate river;
The paths of Wu Palace are crooked with weeds;
The garments of Qin are ancient dust.
...Like this green horizon halving the Three Peaks,
Like this Island of White Egrets dividing the river,
A cloud has arisen between the Light of Heaven and me,
To hide his city from my melancholy heart.

176
七言律詩
高適
送李少府貶嶠中王少府貶長沙

嗟君此別意何如？ 駐馬銜杯問讒居。
巫峽啼猿數行淚， 衡陽歸雁幾封書。
青楓江上秋帆遠， 白帝城邊古木疏。
聖代即今多雨露， 暫時分手莫踌躇。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Gao Shi
TO VICE-PREFECTS LI AND WANG DEGRADED AND TRANSFERRED TO XIAZHONG AND CHANGSHA

What are you thinking as we part from one another,
Pulling in our horses for the stirrup-cups?
Do these tear-streaks mean Wu Valley monkeys all weeping,
Or wildgeese returning with news from Heng Mountain?....
On the river between green maples an autumn sail grows dim,
There are only a few old trees by the wall of the White God City....
But the year is bound to freshen us with a dew of heavenly favour --
Take heart, we shall soon be together again!

177

七言律詩
岑參

奉和中書舍人賈至早朝大明宮

雞鳴紫陌曙光寒，鷓鳴皇州春色闌。
金闕曉鐘開萬戶，玉階仙仗擁千官。
花迎劍珮星初落，柳拂旌旗露未乾。
獨有鳳凰池上客，陽春一曲和皆難。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Cen Can

AN EARLY AUDIENCE AT THE PALACE OF LIGHT
HARMONIZING SECRETARY JIA ZHI’S POEM

Cock-crow, the Purple Road cold in the dawn;
Linnet songs, court roofs tinted with April;
At the Golden Gate morning bell, countless doors open,
And up the jade steps float a thousand officials
With flowery scabbards.... Stars have gone down;
Willows are brushing the dew from the flags --
And, alone on the Lake of the Phoenix, a guest
Is chanting too well The Song of Bright Spring.

178

七言律詩
王維

和賈舍人早朝大明宮之作

絳帳雞人送曉籌，尚衣方進翠雲裘。
九天闔閣開宮殿，萬國衣冠拜冕旒。
日色纔臨仙掌動，香煙欲傍龍池浮。
朝罷須裁五色詔，珮聲歸向鳳池頭。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Wang Wei

AN EARLY AUDIENCE AT THE PALACE OF LIGHT
HARMONIZING SECRETARY JIA ZHI POEM
The red-capped Cock-Man has just announced morning;
The Keeper of the Robes brings Jade-Cloud Furs;
Heaven's nine doors reveal the palace and its courtyards;
And the coats of many countries bow to the Pearl Crown.
Sunshine has entered the giants' carven palms;
Incense wreathes the Dragon Robe:
The audience adjourns-and the five-coloured edict
Sets girdle-beads clinking toward the Lake of the Phoenix.

179
七言律詩
王維
奉和聖製從蓬萊向興慶閣道中留春雨中春望之作應制
　渭水自萦秦塞曲， 黃山舊遞漢宮斜。
　贑輿迥出千門柳， 閣道迥看上苑花。
　雲裡帝城雙鳳闕， 雨中春樹萬人家。
　為乘陽氣行時令， 不是宸遊玩物華。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Wang Wei
LOOKING DOWN IN A SPRING-RAIN ON THE COURSE
FROM FAIRY-MOUNTAIN PALACE TO THE PAVILION OF
INCREASE HARMONIZING THE EMPEROR'S POEM

Round a turn of the Qin Fortress winds the Wei River,
And Yellow Mountain foot-hills enclose the Court of China;
Past the South Gate willows comes the Car of Many Bells
On the upper Palace-Garden Road-a solid length of blossom;
A Forbidden City roof holds two phoenixes in cloud;
The foliage of spring shelters multitudes from rain;
And now, when the heavens are propitious for action,
Here is our Emperor ready-no wasteful wanderer.

180
七言律詩
王維
積雨軒川莊作
　積雨空林煙火遲， 蒸藜炊黍飽東藜。
　漠漠水田飛白鷺， 陰陰夏木嚬黃鸝。
　山中習靜觀朝槿， 松下清齋折露葵。
　野老與人爭席罷， 海鷗何事更相疑？
Seven-character-regular-verse
Wang Wei
IN MY LODGE AT WANG CHUAN
AFTER A LONG RAIN

The woods have stored the rain, and slow comes the smoke
As rice is cooked on faggots and carried to the fields;
Over the quiet marsh-land flies a white egret,
And mango-birds are singing in the full summer trees....
I have learned to watch in peace the mountain morningglories,
To eat split dewy sunflower-seeds under a bough of pine,
To yield the post of honour to any boor at all....
Why should I frighten sea gulls, even with a thought?

181
七言律詩
王維
酬郭給事
洞門高閣靄餘輝，桃李陰陰柳絮飛。
禁棧疏鐘宮舍晚，省中啼鳥吏人稀。
晨橈玉珮趨金殿，夕奉天書拜頃闕。
強欲從君無那老，將因臥病解朝衣。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Wang Wei
HARMONIZING A POEM BY PALACE-ATTENDANT GUO

High beyond the thick wall a tower shines with sunset
Where peach and plum are blooming and the willowcotton flies.
You have heard in your office the court-bell of twilight;
Birds find perches, officials head for home.
Your morning-jade will tinkle as you thread the golden palace;
You will bring the word of Heaven from the closing gates at night.
And I should serve there with you; but being full of years,
I have taken off official robes and am resting from my troubles.

182
七言律詩
杜甫
蜀相
丞相祠堂何处寻？锦官城外柏森森，
映阶碧草自春色，隔叶黄鹂空好音。
三顾频烦天下计，两朝开济老臣心。
出师未捷身先死，长使英雄泪满襟。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Du Fu
THE TEMPLE OF THE PREMIER OF SHU

Where is the temple of the famous Premier? --
In a deep pine grove near the City of Silk,
With the green grass of spring colouring the steps,
And birds chirping happily under the leaves.
...The third summons weighted him with affairs of state
And to two generations he gave his true heart,
But before he could conquer, he was dead;
And heroes have wept on their coats ever since.

183
七言律詩
杜甫
客至

舍南舍北皆春水，但見群鷗日日來。
花徑不曾緣客掃，蓬門今始為君開。
盤飧市遠無兼味，樽酒家貧只舊醅。
肯與鄰翁相對飲，隔籬呼取盡餘杯。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Du Fu
A HEARTY WELCOME TO VICE-PREFECT CUI

North of me, south of me, spring is in flood,
Day after day I have seen only gulls....
My path is full of petals -- I have swept it for no others.
My thatch gate has been closed -- but opens now for you.
It's a long way to the market, I can offer you little --
Yet here in my cottage there is old wine for our cups.
Shall we summon my elderly neighbour to join us,
Call him through the fence, and pour the jar dry?
Seven-character-regular-verse
Du Fu

A VIEW OF THE WILDERNESS

Snow is white on the westward mountains and on three fortified towns,
And waters in this southern lake flash on a long bridge.
But wind and dust from sea to sea bar me from my brothers;
And I cannot help crying, I am so far away.
I have nothing to expect now but the ills of old age.
I am of less use to my country than a grain of dust.
I ride out to the edge of town. I watch on the horizon,
Day after day, the chaos of the world.

Seven-character-regular-verse
Du Fu

BOTH SIDES OF THE YELLOW RIVER
RECAPTURED BY THE IMPERIAL ARMY

News at this far western station! The north has been recaptured!
At first I cannot check the tears from pouring on my coat --
Where is my wife? Where are my sons?
Yet crazily sure of finding them, I pack my books and poems-
And loud my song and deep my drink
On the green spring-day that starts me home,
Back from this mountain, past another mountain,
Up from the south, north again-to my own town!

186

Seven-character-regular-verse
Du Fu
A LONG CLIMB

In a sharp gale from the wide sky apes are whimpering,
Birds are flying homeward over the clear lake and white sand,
Leaves are dropping down like the spray of a waterfall,
While I watch the long river always rolling on.
I have come three thousand miles away. Sad now with autumn
And with my hundred years of woe, I climb this height alone.
Ill fortune has laid a bitter frost on my temples,
Heart-ache and weariness are a thick dust in my wine.

187

Seven-character-regular-verse
Du Fu
FROM AN UPPER STORY

Flowers, as high as my window, hurt the heart of a wanderer
For I see, from this high vantage, sadness everywhere.
The Silken River, bright with spring, floats between earth and heaven
Like a line of cloud by the Jade Peak, between ancient days and now.
...Though the State is established for a while as firm as the North Star
And bandits dare not venture from the western hills,
Yet sorry in the twilight for the woes of a longvanished Emperor,
I am singing the song his Premier sang when still unestranged from the mountain.

188
七言律詩
杜甫
宿府
清秋幕府井梧寒，獨宿江城蟹眼殘。
永夜角聲悲自語，中天月色好誰看？
風塵荏苒書難絕，關塞蕭條行路難。
己未伶俜十年事，強移棲息一枝安。
又作路

Seven-character-regular-verse
Du Fu
STAYING AT THE GENERAL’S HEADQUARTERS

The autumn night is clear and cold in the lakka-trees of this courtyard.
I am lying forlorn in the river-town. I watch my guttering candle.
I hear the lonely notes of a bugle sounding through the dark.
The moon is in mid-heaven, but there’s no one to share it with me.
My messengers are scattered by whirls of rain and sand.
City-gates are closed to a traveller; mountains are walls in my way --
Yet, I who have borne ten years of pitiable existence,
Find here a perch, a little branch, and am safe for this one night.

189
七言律詩
杜甫
閏夜
歲暮陰陽催短景，天涯霜雪霽寒霄。
五更鼓角聲悲壯，三峽星河影動搖。
野哭千家聞戰伐，夷歌數處起漁樵。
臥龍躍馬終黃土，人事音書漫寂寥。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Du Fu

NIGHT IN THE WATCH-TOWER

While winter daylight shortens in the elemental scale
And snow and frost whiten the cold-circling night,
Stark sounds the fifth-watch with a challenge of drum and bugle.
...The stars and the River of Heaven pulse over the three mountains;
I hear women in the distance, wailing after the battle;
I see barbarian fishermen and woodcutters in the dawn.
...Sleeping-Dragon, Plunging-Horse, are no generals now, they are dust --
Hush for a moment, O tumult of the world.

190

七言律詩
杜甫
詠懷古跡五首之一

支離東北風塵際，漂泊西南天地間。
三峽樓台淹日月，五溪衣服共雲山。
羯胡事主終無賴，詞客哀時且未還。
庾信平生最蕭瑟，暮年詩賦動江關。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Du Fu

POETIC THOUGHTS ON ANCIENT SITES I

Forlorn in the northeast among wind and dust,
Drifting in the southwest between heaven and earth,
Linger for days and months in towers and terraces at the Three Gorges,
Sharing clouds and mountains with the costumes of the Five Streams.
The barbarian serving the ruler in the end was unreliable.
The wandering poet lamenting the times had no chance to return.
Yu Xin throughout his life was most miserable,
In his waning years his poetry stirred the land of rivers and passes.

191

七言律詩
杜甫
詠懷古跡五首之二

搖落深知宋玉悲，風流儒雅亦吾師。
悵望千秋一灑淚，蕭條異代不同時。
江山故宅空文藻，雲雨荒臺豈夢思。
Seven-character-regular-verse
Du Fu
POETIC THOUGHTS ON ANCIENT SITES II

"Decay and decline": deep knowledge have I of Sung Yu's grief.
Romantic and refined, he too is my teacher.
Sadly looking across a thousand autumns, one shower of tears,
Melancholy in different epochs, not at the same time.
Among rivers and mountains his old abode -- empty his writings;
Deserted terrace of cloud and rain -- surely not just imagined in a dream?
Utterly the palaces of Chu are all destroyed and ruined,
The fishermen pointing them out today are unsure.

192
七言律詩
杜甫
詠懷古跡五首之三
群山萬壑赴荆門，生長明妃尚有村。
一去紫臺連朔漠，獨留青塜向黃昏。
畫圖省識春風面，環珮空歸月下魂。
千載琵琶作胡語，分明怨恨曲中論。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Du Fu
THOUGHTS OF OLD TIME III

Ten thousand ranges and valleys approach the Jing Gate
And the village in which the Lady of Light was born and bred.
She went out from the purple palace into the desertland;
She has now become a green grave in the yellow dusk.
Her face! Can you picture a wind of the spring?
Her spirit by moonlight returns with a tinkling
Song of the Tartars on her jade guitar,
Telling her eternal sorrow.

193
七言律詩
杜甫
詠懷古跡五首之四
The ruler of Shu had his eyes on Wu and progressed as far as the Three Gorges.
In the year of his demise, too, he was in the Palace of Eternal Peace.
The blue-green banners can be imagined on the empty mountain,
The jade palace is a void in the deserted temple.
In the pines of the ancient shrine aquatic cranes nest;
At summer and winter festivals the comers are village elders.
The Martial Marquis's memorial shrine is ever nearby;
In union, sovereign and minister share the sacrifices together.

Zhuge's prestige transcends the earth;
There is only reverence for his face;
Yet his will, among the Three Kingdoms at war,
Was only as one feather against a flaming sky.
He was brother of men like Yi and Lu
And in time would have surpassed the greatest of all statesmen.
Though he knew there was no hope for the House of Han,
Yet he wielded his mind for it, yielded his life.
Seven-character-regular-verse
Liu Changquing
ON LEAVING GUIJIANG AGAIN TO XUE AND LIU

Dare I, at my age, accept my summons,
Knowing of the world’s ways only wine and song?....
Over the moon-edged river come wildgeese from the Tartars;
And the thinner the leaves along the Huai, the wider the southern mountains....
I ought to be glad to take my old bones back to the capital,
But what am I good for in that world, with my few white hairs?....
As bent and decrepit as you are, I am ashamed to thank you,
When you caution me that I may encounter thunderbolts.

Seven-character-regular-verse
Liu Changqing
ON PASSING JIA YI’S HOUSE IN CHANGSHA

Here, where you spent your three years’ exile,
To be mourned in Chu ten thousand years,
Can I trace your footprint in the autumn grass --
Or only slanting sunlight through the bleak woods?
If even good Emperor Wen was cold-hearted,
Could you hope that the dull river Xiang would understand you,
These desolate waters, these taciturn mountains,
When you came, like me, so far away?

197
七言律詩
劉長卿
自夏口至鸚洲夕望岳陽寄源中丞

汀洲無浪復無煙， 楚客相思益渺然。 漢口夕陽斜渡鳥， 洞庭秋水遠連天。 孤城背嶺寒吹角， 獨戍臨江夜泊船。 賈誼上書憂漢室， 長沙謫去古今憐。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Liu Changqing
AN EVENING VIEW OF THE CITY OF YOUZHOU AFTER COMING FROM HANKOU TO PARROT ISLAND A POEM SENT TO MY FRIEND GOVERNOR YUAN

No ripples in the river, no mist on the islands, Yet the landscape is blurred toward my friend in Chu... Birds in the slanting sun cross Hankou, And the autumn sky mingles with Lake Dongting. ...From a bleak mountain wall the cold tone of a bugle Reminds me, moored by a ruined fort, That Jia Yi's loyal plea to the House of Han Banned him to Changsha, to be an exile.

198
七言律詩
錢起
贈閻下裴舍人

二月黃鸝飛上林， 春城紫禁曉陰陰。 長樂鐘聲花外盡， 虎池柳色雨中深。 陽和不散窮途恨， 露懷長懷捧日心。 獻賦十年猶未遇， 羡將白髮對華簪。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Qian Qi
TO MY FRIEND AT THE CAPITAL SECRETARY PEI

Finches flash yellow through the Imperial Grove
Of the Forbidden City, pale with spring dawn;  
Flowers muffle a bell in the Palace of Bliss  
And rain has deepened the Dragon Lake willows;  
But spring is no help to a man bewildered,  
Who would be like a cloud upholding the Light of Heaven,  
Yet whose poems, ten years refused, are shaming  
These white hairs held by the petalled pin.

199

七言律詩  
韋應物  
寄李儋元錫

去年花裡逢君別，今日花開又一年。  
世事茫茫難自料，春愁黯黯獨成眠。  
身多疾病思田里，邑有流亡愧俸錢。  
聞道欲來相間訊，西樓望月幾回圓。

Seven-character-regular-verse  
Wei Yingwu  
TO MY FRIENDS LI DAN AND YUANXI

We met last among flowers, among flowers we parted,  
And here, a year later, there are flowers again;  
But, with ways of the world too strange to foretell,  
Spring only brings me grief and fatigue.  
I am sick, and I think of my home in the country-  
Ashamed to take pay while so many are idle.  
...In my western tower, because of your promise,  
I have watched the full moons come and go.

200

七言律詩  
韓翃  
同題仙遊觀

仙臺初見五城樓，風物凄凄宿雨收。  
山色遙連秦樹晚，砧聲近報漢宮秋。  
疏松影落空壇靜，細草香聞小洞幽。  
何用別尋方外去？人間亦自有丹丘。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Han Hong
INSCRIBED IN THE TEMPLE OF THE WANDERING GENIE

I face, high over this enchanted lodge, the Court of the Five Cities of Heaven,
And I see a countryside blue and still, after the long rain.
The distant peaks and trees of Qin merge into twilight,
And Had Palace washing-stones make their autumnal echoes.
Thin pine-shadows brush the outdoor pulpit,
And grasses blow their fragrance into my little cave.
...Who need be craving a world beyond this one?
Here, among men, are the Purple Hills

201
七言律詩
皇甫冉
春思

鷓鴣啼燕語報新年， 馬邑龍堆路幾千。
家住層城鄰漢苑， 心隨明月到胡天。
機中錦字論長恨， 樓上花枝笑獨眠。
為問天戎竇車騎， 何時返旆勒燕然。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Huangfu Ran
SPRING THOUGHTS

Finch-notes and swallow-notes tell the new year....
But so far are the Town of the Horse and the Dragon Mound
From this our house, from these walls and Han Gardens,
That the moon takes my heart to the Tartar sky.
I have woven in the frame endless words of my grieving....
Yet this petal-bough is smiling now on my lonely sleep.
Oh, ask General Dou when his flags will come home
And his triumph be carved on the rock of Yanran mountain!

202
七言律詩
盧綸
晚次鄂州

雲開遠視漢陽城， 猶是孤帆一日程。
估客晝眠知浪靜， 舟人夜語覺潮生。
三湘愁鬓逢秋色， 萬里歸心對月明。
Seven-character-regular-verse
Lu Lun
A NIGHT-MOORING AT WUCHANG

Far off in the clouds stand the walls of Hanyang,
Another day's journey for my lone sail....
Though a river-merchant ought to sleep in this calm weather,
I listen to the tide at night and voices of the boatmen.
...My thin hair grows wintry, like the triple Xiang streams,
Three thousand miles my heart goes, homesick with the moon;
But the war has left me nothing of my heritage --
And oh, the pang of hearing these drums along the river!

Seven-character-regular-verse
Liu Zongyuan
FROM THE CITY-TOWER OF LIUZHOU
TO MY FOUR FELLOW-OFFICIALS AT ZHANG,
DING, FENG, AND LIAN DISTRICTS

At this lofty tower where the town ends, wilderness begins;
And our longing has as far to go as the ocean or the sky....
Hibiscus-flowers by the moat heave in a sudden wind,
And vines along the wall are whipped with slanting rain.
Nothing to see for three hundred miles but a blur of woods and mountain --
And the river's nine loops, twisting in our bowels....
This is where they have sent us, this land of tattooed people --
And not even letters, to keep us in touch with home.
Ruyu Xi

西塞山懷古

王濬樓船下益州，金柵王氣黯然收。
千尋鐵鎖沈江底，一片降旗出石頭。
人世幾回傷往事，山形依舊枕寒流。
從今四海為家日，故壁蕭蕭簾幾秋。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Liu Yuxi

THOUGHTS OF OLD TIME AT WEST FORT MOUNTAIN

Since Wang Jun brought his towering ships down from Yizhou,
   The royal ghost has pined in the city of Nanjing.
Ten thousand feet of iron chain were sunk here to the bottom --
   And then came the flag of surrender on the Wall of Stone....
Cycles of change have moved into the past,
While still this mountain dignity has commanded the cold river;
   And now comes the day of the Chinese world united,
   And the old forts fill with ruin and with autumn reeds.

205

七言律詩
元稹
遣悲懷之一

謝公最小偏憐女，自嫁黔婁百事乖。
顧我無衣搜舊箧，泥他沽酒拔金釵。
野蔬充膳甘長藿，落葉添薪仰古槐。
今日俸錢過十萬，與君營奠復營齋。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Yuan Zhen

AN ELEGY I

O youngest, best-loved daughter of Xie,
   Who unluckily married this penniless scholar,
You patched my clothes from your own wicker basket,
   And I coaxed off your hairpins of gold, to buy wine with;
For dinner we had to pick wild herbs --
   And to use dry locust-leaves for our kindling.
...Today they are paying me a hundred thousand --
   And all that I can bring to you is a temple sacrifice.
We joked, long ago, about one of us dying,
But suddenly, before my eyes, you are gone.
Almost all your clothes have been given away;
Your needlework is sealed, I dare not look at it....
I continue your bounty to our men and our maids --
Sometimes, in a dream, I bring you gifts.
...This is a sorrow that all mankind must know --
But not as those know it who have been poor together.

I sit here alone, mourning for us both.
How many years do I lack now of my threescore and ten?
There have been better men than I to whom heaven denied a son,
There was a poet better than I whose dead wife could not hear him.
What have I to hope for in the darkness of our tomb?
You and I had little faith in a meeting after death-
Yet my open eyes can see all night
That lifelong trouble of your brow.

208
七言律詩
白居易
自河南經亂，關內阻饑，兄弟離散，各在一處。因望月有感，成書所懷，寄上
浮梁大兄，於潛七兄，烏江十五兄，兼示符離及下邽弟妹。

時難年荒世業空，弟兄離旅各西東。
田園寥落干戈後，骨肉流離道路中。
弔影分為千里雁，辭根散作九年蓬。
共看明月應垂淚，一夜鄉心五處同。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Bai Juyi
TO MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS ADRIFT
IN TROUBLED TIMES THIS POEM OF THE MOON

Since the disorders in Henan and the famine in Guannei, my brothers and sisters
have been scattered. Looking at the moon, I express my thoughts in this poem,
which I send to my eldest brother at Fuliang, my seventh brother at Yuqian, My
fifteen brother at Wujiang and my younger brothers and sisters at Fuli and
Xiagui.

My heritage lost through disorder and famine,
My brothers and sisters flung eastward and westward,
My fields and gardens wrecked by the war,
My own flesh and blood become scum of the street,
I moan to my shadow like a lone-wandering wildgoose,
I am torn from my root like a water-plant in autumn:
I gaze at the moon, and my tears run down
For hearts, in five places, all sick with one wish.

209
七言律詩
李商隱
錦瑟
錦瑟無端五十弦，一絃一柱思華年。
莊生曉夢迷蝴蝶，望帝春心託杜鵑。
滄海月明珠有淚，藍田日暖玉生煙。
I wonder why my inlaid harp has fifty strings,
Each with its flower-like fret an interval of youth.
...The sage Chuangzi is day-dreaming, bewitched by butterflies,
The spring-heart of Emperor Wang is crying in a cuckoo,
Mermen weep their pearly tears down a moon-green sea,
Blue fields are breathing their jade to the sun....
And a moment that ought to have lasted for ever
Has come and gone before I knew.

The stars of last night and the wind of last night
Are west of the Painted Chamber and east of Cinnamon Hall.
...Though I have for my body no wings like those of the bright-coloured phoenix,
Yet I feel the harmonious heart-beat of the Sacred Unicorn.
Across the spring-wine, while it warms me, I prompt you how to bet
Where, group by group, we are throwing dice in the light of a crimson lamp;
Till the rolling of a drum, alas, calls me to my duties
And I mount my horse and ride away, like a water-plant cut adrift.
His Palace of Purple Spring has been taken by mist and cloud,
As he would have taken all Yangzhou to be his private domain
But for the seal of imperial jade being seized by the first Tang Emperor,
He would have bounded with his silken sails the limits of the world.
Fire-flies are gone now, have left the weathered grasses,
But still among the weeping-willows crows perch at twilight.
...If he meets, there underground, the Later Chen Emperor,
Do you think that they will mention a Song of Courtyard Flowers?

You said you would come, but you did not, and you left me with no other trace
Than the moonlight on your tower at the fifth-watch bell.
I cry for you forever gone, I cannot waken yet,
I try to read your hurried note, I find the ink too pale.
...Blue burns your candle in its kingfisher-feather lantern
And a sweet breath steals from your hibiscus-broidered curtain.
But far beyond my reach is the Enchanted Mountain,
And you are on the other side, ten thousand peaks away.
213

Seven-character-regular-verse
Li Shangyin
TO ONE UNNAMED II

A misty rain comes blowing with a wind from the east,
And wheels faintly thunder beyond Hibiscus Pool.
...Round the golden-toad lock, incense is creeping;
The jade tiger tells, on its cord, of water being drawn
A great lady once, from behind a screen, favoured a poor youth;
A fairy queen brought a bridal mat once for the ease of a prince and then vanished.
...Must human hearts blossom in spring, like all other flowers?
And of even this bright flame of love, shall there be only ashes?

214

Seven-character-regular-verse
Li Shangyin
IN THE CAMP OF THE SKETCHING BRUSH

Monkeys and birds are still alert for your orders
And winds and clouds eager to shield your fortress.
...You were master of the brush, and a sagacious general,
But your Emperor, defeated, rode the prison-cart.
You were abler than even the greatest Zhou statesmen,
Yet less fortunate than the two Shu generals who were killed in action.
And, though at your birth-place a temple has been built to you,
You never finished singing your Song of the Holy Mountain

215
七言律詩
李商隱
無題之三
相見時難別亦難，東風無力百花殘。
春蠶到死絲方盡，蠟炬成灰淚始乾。
曉鏡但愁雲鬓改，夜吟應覺月光寒。
蓬萊此去無多路，青鶴殷勤為探看。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Li Shangyin
TO ONE UNNAMED III
Time was long before I met her, but is longer since we parted,
And the east wind has arisen and a hundred flowers are gone,
And the silk-worms of spring will weave until they die
And every night the candles will weep their wicks away.
Mornings in her mirror she sees her hair-cloud changing,
Yet she dares the chill of moonlight with her evening song.
...It is not so very far to her Enchanted Mountain
O blue-birds, be listening!-Bring me what she says!

216
七言律詩
李商隱
春雨
懐臥新春白袷衣，白門寥落意多遙。
紅樓隔雨相望冷，珠箔飄燈獨自歸。
遠路應悲春晼晚，殘宵猶得夢依稀。
玉琯緇札何由達，萬里雲羅一雁飛。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Li Shangyin
SPRING RAIN
I am lying in a white-lined coat while the spring approaches,
But am thinking only of the White Gate City where I cannot be.
...There are two red chambers fronting the cold, hidden by the rain,
And a lantern on a pearl screen swaying my lone heart homeward.
...The long road ahead will be full of new hardship,
With, late in the nights, brief intervals of dream.
Oh, to send you this message, this pair of jade earrings! --
I watch a lonely wildgoose in three thousand miles of cloud.

217
七言律詩
李商隱
無題之四

鳳尾香羅薄幾重， 碧文圓頂夜深縷。
扇裁月魄羞難掩， 車走雷聲語未通。
曾是寂寥金燭暗， 斷無消息石榴紅。
斑骓只繫垂楊岸， 何處西南任好風？

Seven-character-regular-verse
Li Shangyin
TO ONE UNNAMED IV

A faint phoenix-tail gauze, fragrant and doubled,
Lines your green canopy, closed for the night....
Will your shy face peer round a moon-shaped fan,
And your voice be heard hushing the rattle of my carriage?
It is quiet and quiet where your gold lamp dies,
How far can a pomegranate-blossom whisper?
...I will tether my horse to a river willow
And wait for the will of the southwest wind.

218
七言律詩
李商隱
無題之五

重帷深下莫愁堂， 臥後清宵細細長。
神女生涯原是夢， 小姑居處本無郎。
風波不信菱枝弱， 月露誰教桂葉香。
直道相思了無益， 未妨惆悵是清狂。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Li Shangyin
TO ONE UNNAMED V

There are many curtains in your care-free house,
Where rapture lasts the whole night long.
...What are the lives of angels but dreams
If they take no lovers into their rooms?
...Storms are ravishing the nut-horns,
Moon- dew sweetening cinnamon-leaves
I know well enough naught can come of this union,
Yet how it serves to ease my heart!

219

Seven-character-regular-verse
Wen Tingyun
NEAR THE LIZHOU FERRY

The sun has set in the water's clear void,
And little blue islands are one with the sky.
On the bank a horse neighs. A boat goes by.
People gather at a willow- clump and wait for the ferry.
Down by the sand-bushes sea-gulls are circling,
Over the wide river-lands flies an egret.
...Can you guess why I sail, like an ancient wise lover,
Through the misty Five Lakes, forgetting words?

220

Seven-character-regular-verse
Wen Tingyun
SUI WU MIAN

Sui Wu's soul is at the river's brink,
Here where the trees are thick.
Flowers of autumn bring to mind the shepherds,
Peers of the throne used to sit.
The emperor long ago,
I dreamt of when the spring is over.
Seven-character-regular-verse
Wen Tingyun
THE TEMPLE OF SU WU

Though our envoy, Su Wu, is gone, body and soul,
This temple survives, these trees endure....
Wildgeese through the clouds are still calling to the moon there
And hill-sheep unshepherded graze along the border.
...Returning, he found his country changed
Since with youthful cap and sword he had left it.
His bitter adventures had won him no title....
Autumn-waves endlessly sob in the river.

221
七言律詩
薛逢
宮詞

十二樓中盡曉妝，望仙樓上望君王。
鎖銜金獸連環冷，水滴銅龍畫漏長。
雲髻罷梳還對鏡，羅衣欲換更添香。
遙窺正殿簾開處，袍褲宮人掃御床。

Seven-character-regular-verse
Xue Feng
A PALACE POEM

In twelve chambers the ladies, decked for the day,
Peer afar for their lord from their Fairy-View Lodge;
The golden toad guards the lock on the door-chain,
And the bronze-dragon water-clock drips through the morning
Till one of them, tilting a mirror, combs her cloud of hair
And chooses new scent and a change of silk raiment;
For she sees, between screen-panels, deep in the palace,
Eunuchs in court-dress preparing a bed.

222
七言律詩
秦韜玉
貧女
Seven-character-regular-verse
Qin Taoyu
A POOR GIRL

Living under a thatch roof, never wearing fragrant silk,
She longs to arrange a marriage, but how could she dare?
Who would know her simple face the loveliest of them all
When we choose for worldliness, not for worth?
Her fingers embroider beyond compare,
But she cannot vie with painted brows;
And year after year she has sewn gold thread
On bridal robes for other girls.

Folk-song-styled-verse
Shen Quanqi
BEYOND SEEING

A girl of the Lu clan who lives in Golden-Wood Hall,
Where swallows perch in pairs on beams of tortoiseshell,
Hears the washing-mallets’ cold beat shake the leaves down.
...The Liaoyang expedition will be gone ten years,
And messages are lost in the White Wolf River.
...Here in the City of the Red Phoenix autumn nights are long,
Where one who is heart-sick to see beyond seeing,
Sees only moonlight on the yellow-silk wave of her loom.
五言絶句
王維
鹿柴

空山不見人，但聞人語響。
返景入深林，復照青苔上。

Five-character-quatrain
Wang Wei
DEER-PARK HERMITAGE

There seems to be no one on the empty mountain....
And yet I think I hear a voice,
Where sunlight, entering a grove,
Shines back to me from the green moss.

225
五言絶句
王維
竹里館

獨坐幽篁裡，彈琴復長嘯。
深林人不知，明月來相照。

Five-character-quatrain
Wang Wei
IN A RETREAT AMONG BAMBOOS

Leaning alone in the close bamboos,
I am playing my lute and humming a song
Too softly for anyone to hear --
Except my comrade, the bright moon.

226
五言絕句
王維
送別

山中相送罷，日暮掩柴扉。
春草明年綠，王孫歸不歸。
Friend, I have watched you down the mountain
Till now in the dark I close my thatch door....
Grasses return again green in the spring,
But O my Prince of Friends, do you?

When those red berries come in springtime,
Flushing on your southland branches,
Take home an armful, for my sake,
As a symbol of our love.

You who have come from my old country,
Tell me what has happened there ! --
Was the plum, when you passed my silken window,
Opening its first cold blossom?
229

五言絕句
裴迪
送崔九

歸山深淺去， 須盡丘壑美。
莫學武陵人， 暫遊桃源裡。

Five-character-quatrain
Pei Di
A FAREWELL TO CUI

Though you think to return to this maze of mountains,
Oh, let them brim your heart with wonder!....
Remember the fisherman from Wuling
Who had only a day in the Peach-Blossom Country.

230

五言絕句
祖詠
終南望餘雪

終南陰嶺秀， 積雪浮雲端。
林表明霧色， 城中增暮寒。

Five-character-quatrain
Zu Young
ON SEEING THE SNOW-PEAK OF ZHONGNAN

See how Zhongnan Mountain soars
With its white top over floating clouds --
And a warm sky opening at the snow-line
While the town in the valley grows colder and colder.

231

五言絕句
孟浩然
宿建德江
移舟泊烟渚，日暮客愁新。 野旷天低树，江清月近人。

Five-character-quatrain
Meng Haoran
A NIGHT-MOORING ON THE JIANDE RIVER

While my little boat moves on its mooring of mist,  
And daylight wanes, old memories begin....  
How wide the world was, how close the trees to heaven,  
And how clear in the water the nearness of the moon!

五言绝句
孟浩然
春晓

春眠不觉晓，处处闻啼鸟。  
夜来风雨声，花落知多少。

Five-character-quatrain
Meng Haoran
A SPRING MORNING

I awake light-hearted this morning of spring,  
Everywhere round me the singing of birds --  
But now I remember the night, the storm,  
And I wonder how many blossoms were broken.

五言绝句
李白
夜思

床前明月光，疑是地上霜。  
举头望明月，低头思故乡。

Five-character-quatrain
Li Bai
IN THE QUIET NIGHT
So bright a gleam on the foot of my bed --
Could there have been a frost already?
Lifting myself to look, I found that it was moonlight.
Sinking back again, I thought suddenly of home.

234
五言絶句
李白
怨情
美人卷珠簾，深坐蹙蛾眉。
但見淚痕顰，不知心恨誰。

Five-character-quatrain
Li Bai
A BITTER LOVE
How beautiful she looks, opening the pearly casement,
And how quiet she leans, and how troubled her brow is!
You may see the tears now, bright on her cheek,
But not the man she so bitterly loves.

235
五言絕句
杜甫
八陣圖
功蓋三分國，名成八陣圖。
江流石不轉，遺恨失吞吳。

Five-character-quatrain
Du Fu
THE EIGHT-SIDED FORTRESS
The Three Kingdoms, divided, have been bound by his greatness.
The Eight-Sided Fortress is founded on his fame;
Beside the changing river, it stands stony as his grief
That he never conquered the Kingdom of Wu.
五言绝句
王之涣
登鹳雀楼

白日依山尽，黄河入海流。
欲穷千里目，更上一层楼。

Five-character-quatrain
Wang Zhihuan
AT HERON LODGE

Mountains cover the white sun,
And oceans drain the golden river;
But you widen your view three hundred miles
By going up one flight of stairs.

237
五言绝句
刘长卿
送灵澈

苍苍竹林寺，杳杳钟声晚。
荷笠带斜阳，青山独归远。

Five-character-quatrain
Liu Changqing
ON PARTING WITH THE BUDDHIST PILGRIM LING CHE

From the temple, deep in its tender bamboos,
Comes the low sound of an evening bell,
While the hat of a pilgrim carries the sunset
Farther and farther down the green mountain.

238
五言绝句
刘长卿
弹琴

泠泠七絃上，静听松风寒。
古调虽自爱，今人多不弹。
Five-character-quatrain  
Liu Changqing  
ON HEARING A LUTE-PLAYER

Your seven strings are like the voice  
Of a cold wind in the pines,  
Singing old beloved songs  
Which no one cares for any more.

五言絶句  
劉長卿  
送上人

孤雲將野鶴，豈向人間住。  
莫買沃洲山，時人已知處。

Five-character-quatrain  
Liu Changqing  
FAREWELL TO A BUDDHIST MONK

Can drifting clouds and white storks  
Be tenants in this world of ours? --  
Or you still live on Wuzhou Mountain,  
Now that people are coming here?

五言絶句  
韋應物  
秋夜寄邱員外

懷君屬秋夜，散步詠涼天。  
空山松子落，幽人應未眠。

Five-character-quatrain  
Wei Yingwu  
AN AUTUMN NIGHT MESSAGE TO QIU

As I walk in the cool of the autumn night,  
Thinking of you, singing my poem,  
I hear a mountain pine-cone fall...  
You also seem to be awake.
241

五言絕句
李端
聽箏

鳴箏金粟柱，素手玉房前。
欲得周郎顧，時時誤拂絃。

Five-character-quatrain
Li Duan
ON HEARING HER PLAY THE HARP

Her hands of white jade by a window of snow
Are glimmering on a golden-fretted harp --
And to draw the quick eye of Chou Yu,
She touches a wrong note now and then.

242

五言絕句
王建
新嫁娘

三日入廚下，洗手作羹湯。
未諳姑食性，先遣小姑嘗。

Five-character-quatrain
Wang Jian
A BRIDE

On the third day, taking my place to cook,
Washing my hands to make the bridal soup,
I decide that not my mother-in-law
But my husband's young sister shall have the fiat taste.

243

五言絕句
權德輿
玉臺體
Five-character-quatrains

Quan Deyu
THE JADE DRESSING-TABLE

Last night my girdle came undone,
And this morning a luck-beetle flew over my bed.
So here are my paints and here are my powders --
And a welcome for my yoke again.

Liu Zongyuan
RIVER-SNOW

A hundred mountains and no bird,
A thousand paths without a footprint;
A little boat, a bamboo cloak,
An old man fishing in the cold river-snow.

Yuan Zhen
THE SUMMER PALACE
In the faded old imperial palace,  
Peonies are red, but no one comes to see them....  
The ladies-in-waiting have grown white-haired  
Debating the pomps of Emperor Xuanzong.

246
五言絕句  
白居易  
問劉十九

綠蠟新醅酒， 紅泥小火爐。  
晚來天欲雪， 能飲一杯無。

Five-character-quatrain  
Bai Juyi  
A SUGGESTION TO MY FRIEND LIU

There’s a gleam of green in an old bottle,  
There’s a stir of red in the quiet stove,  
There’s a feeling of snow in the dusk outside --  
What about a cup of wine inside?

247
五言絕句  
張祜  
何滿子

故國三千里， 深宮二十年。  
一聲何滿子， 雙淚落君前。

Five-character-quatrain  
Zhang Hu  
SHE SINGS AN OLD SONG

A lady of the palace these twenty years,  
She has lived here a thousand miles from her home-  
Yet ask her for this song and, with the first few words of it,  
See how she tries to hold back her tears.
Five-character-quatrains
Li Shangyin
THE LEYOU TOMBS

With twilight shadows in my heart
I have driven up among the Leyou Tombs
To see the sun, for all his glory,
Buried by the coming night.

Jia Dao
A NOTE LEFT FOR AN ABSENT ECLUSE

When I questioned your pupil, under a pine-tree,
"My teacher," he answered, "went for herbs,
But toward which corner of the mountain,
How can I tell, through all these clouds?"
Five-character-quatrain
Li Pin
CROSSING THE HAN RIVER

Away from home, I was longing for news
Winter after winter, spring after spring.
Now, nearing my village, meeting people,
I dare not ask a single question.

251
五言絕句
金昌緒
春怨

打起黃鸝兒，莫教枝上啼。
啼時驚妾夢，不得到遼西。

Five-character-quatrain
Jin Changzu
A SPRING SIGH

Drive the orioles away,
All their music from the trees....
When she dreamed that she went to Liaoxi Camp
To join him there, they wakened her

252
五言絕句
西鄙人
哥舒歌

北斗七星高，哥舒夜帶刀。
至今窺牧馬，不敢過臨洮。

Five-character-quatrain
Xibiren
GENERAL GE SHU

This constellation, with its seven high stars,
Is Ge Shu lifting his sword in the night:
And no more barbarians, nor their horses, nor cattle,
Dare ford the river boundary.
Folk-song-styled-verse  
Cui Hao  
A SONG OF CHANGGAN I

"Tell me, where do you live? --  
Near here, by the fishing-pool?  
Let's hold our boats together, let's see  
If we belong in the same town."

Folk-song-styled-verse  
Cui Hao  
A SONG OF CHANGGGAN II

"Yes, I live here, by the river;  
I have sailed on it many and many a time.  
Both of us born in Changgan, you and I!  
Why haven't we always known each other?"
Folk-song-styled-verse
Li Bai
A SIGH FROM A STAIRCASE OF JADE

Her jade-white staircase is cold with dew;
Her silk soles are wet, she lingered there so long....
Behind her closed casement, why is she still waiting,
Watching through its crystal pane the glow of the autumn moon?

Folk-song-styled-verse
Lu Lun
BORDER-SONGS I

His golden arrow is tipped with hawk’s feathers,
His embroidered silk flag has a tail like a swallow.
One man, arising, gives a new order
To the answering shout of a thousand tents.

Folk-song-styled-verse
Lu Lun
BORDER-SONGS II
The woods are black and a wind assails the grasses,  
Yet the general tries night archery --  
And next morning he finds his white-plumed arrow  
Pointed deep in the hard rock.

Folk-song-styled-verse  
Lu Lun  
BORDER-SONGS III

High in the faint moonlight, wildgeese are soaring.  
Tartar chieftains are fleeing through the dark --  
And we chase them, with horses lightly burdened  
And a burden of snow on our bows and our swords.

Folk-song-styled-verse  
Lu Lun  
BORDER-SONGS IV

Let feasting begin in the wild camp!  
Let bugles cry our victory!  
Let us drink, let us dance in our golden armour!  
Let us thunder on rivers and hills with our drums!
Folk-song-styled-verse
Li Yi
A SONG OF THE SOUTHERN RIVER

Since I married the merchant of Qutang
He has failed each day to keep his word....
Had I thought how regular the tide is,
I might rather have chosen a river-boy.

Seven-character-quatrain
He Zhizhang
COMING HOME

I left home young, I return old;
Speaking as then, but with hair grown thin;
And my children, meeting me, do not know me.
They smile and say: "Stranger, where do you come from?"
Seven-character-quatrain
Zhang Xu
PEACH-BLOSSOM RIVER

A bridge flies away through a wild mist,
Yet here are the rocks and the fisherman’s boat.
Oh, if only this river of floating peach-petals
Might lead me at last to the mythical cave!

263
七言絕句
王維
九月九日憶山東兄弟
獨在異鄉為異客，每逢佳節倍思親。遙知兄弟登高處，遍插茱萸少一人。

Seven-character-quatrain
Wang Wei
ON THE MOUNTAIN HOLIDAY
THINKING OF MY BROTHERS IN SHANDONG

All alone in a foreign land,
I am twice as homesick on this day
When brothers carry dogwood up the mountain,
Each of them a branch-and my branch missing.

264
七言絕句
王昌齡
芙蓉樓送辛渐
寒雨連江夜入吳，平明送客楚山孤。洛陽親友如相問，一片冰心在玉壺。

Seven-character-quatrain
Wang Changling
AT HIBISCUS INN
PARTING WITH XIN JIAN

With this cold night-rain hiding the river, you have come into Wu.
In the level dawn, all alone, you will be starting for the mountains of Chu.
Answer, if they ask of me at Loyang:
"One-hearted as ice in a crystal vase."

265
七言绝句
王昌龄
闺怨

闺中少妇不知愁，春日凝妆上翠楼。
忽见陌头杨柳色，悔教夫婿觅封侯。

Seven-character-quatrain
Wang Changling
IN HER QUIET WINDOW

Too young to have learned what sorrow means,
Attired for spring, she climbs to her high chamber....
The new green of the street-willows is wounding her heart --
Just for a title she sent him to war.

266
七言绝句
王昌龄
春宫曲

昨夜东风开露井桃，未央前殿月轮高。
平阳歌舞新承宠，帘外春寒赐锦袍。

Seven-character-quatrain
Wang Changling
A SONG OF THE SPRING PALACE

Last night, while a gust blew peach-petals open
And the moon shone high on the Palace Beyond Time,
The Emperor gave Pingyang, for her dancing,
Brocades against the cold spring-wind.

267
七言绝句
They sing, they drain their cups of jade,
They strum on horseback their guitars.
...Why laugh when they fall asleep drunk on the sand? --
How many soldiers ever come home?

You have left me behind, old friend, at the Yellow Crane Terrace,
On your way to visit Yangzhou in the misty month of flowers;
Your sail, a single shadow, becomes one with the blue sky,
Till now I see only the river, on its way to heaven.
Seven-character-quatrain
Li Bai
THROUGH THE YANGZI GORGES

From the walls of Baidi high in the coloured dawn
To Jiangling by night-fall is three hundred miles,
Yet monkeys are still calling on both banks behind me
To my boat these ten thousand mountains away.

270
七言絕句
岑參
逢入京使

故園東望路漫漫， 雙袖龍鐘淚不乾。
馬上相逢無紙筆， 憑君傳語報平安。

Seven-character-quatrain
Cen Can
ON MEETING A MESSENGER TO THE CAPITAL

It's a long way home, a long way east.
I am old and my sleeve is wet with tears.
We meet on horseback. I have no means of writing.
Tell them three words: "He is safe."

271
七言絕句
杜甫
江南逢李龜年

岐王宅裡尋常見， 崔九堂前幾度聞。
正是江南好風景， 落花時節又逢君。

Seven-character-quatrain
Du Fu
ON MEETING LI GUINIAN DOWN THE RIVER

I met you often when you were visiting princes
And when you were playing in noblemen's halls.
...Spring passes.... Far down the river now,
I find you alone under falling petals.
272

Seven-character-quatrain
Wei Yingwu
AT CHUZHO ON THE WESTERN STREAM

Where tender grasses rim the stream
And deep boughs trill with mango-birds,
On the spring flood of last night’s rain
The ferry-boat moves as though someone were poling.

273

Seven-character-quatrain
Zhang Ji
A NIGHT-MOORING NEAR MAPLE BRIDGE

While I watch the moon go down, a crow caws through the frost;
Under the shadows of maple-trees a fisherman moves with his torch;
And I hear, from beyond Suzhou, from the temple on Cold Mountain,
Ringing for me, here in my boat, the midnight bell.
Seven-character-quatrain
Han Hong
AFTER THE DAY OF NO FIRE

Petals of spring fly all through the city
From the wind in the willows of the Imperial River.
And at dusk, from the palace, candles are given out
To light first the mansions of the Five Great Lords.

Seven-character-quatrain
Liu Fangping
A MOONLIGHT NIGHT

When the moon has coloured half the house,
With the North Star at its height and the South Star setting,
I can feel the first motions of the warm air of spring
In the singing of an insect at my green-silk window.

Seven-character-quatrain
Liu Fangping
SPRING HEART-BREAK
With twilight passing her silken window,
She weeps alone in her chamber of gold
For spring is departing from a desolate garden,
And a drift of pear-petals is closing a door.

277
七言絕句
柳中庸
征人怨

歲歲金河復玉關， 朝朝馬策與刀環。
三春白雪歸青塚， 萬里黃河繞黑山。

Seven-character-quatrain
Liu Zhongyong
A TROOPER’S BURDEN

For years, to guard the Jade Pass and the River of Gold,
With our hands on our horse-whips and our swordhilts,
We have watched the green graves change to snow
And the Yellow Stream ring the Black Mountain forever.

278
七言絕句
顧況
宮詞

玉樓天半起笙歌， 風送宮嬋笑語和。
月殿影開聞夜漏， 水晶簾捲近秋河。

Seven-character-quatrain
Gu Kuang
A PALACE POEM

High above, from a jade chamber, songs float half-way to heaven,
The palace-girls’ gay voices are mingled with the wind --
But now they are still, and you hear a water-clock drip in the Court of the Moon....
They have opened the curtain wide, they are facing the River of Stars.
Seven-character-quatrain
Li Yi
ON HEARING A FLUTE AT NIGHT
FROM THE WALL OF SHOUXIANG

The sand below the border-mountain lies like snow,
And the moon like frost beyond the city-wall,
And someone somewhere, playing a flute,
Has made the soldiers homesick all night long.

Seven-character-quatrain
Liu Yuxi
BLACKTAIL ROW

Grass has run wild now by the Bridge of Red-Birds;
And swallows' wings, at sunset, in Blacktail Row
Where once they visited great homes,
Dip among doorways of the poor.
Seven-character-quatrains

Liu Yuxi
A SPRING SONG

In gala robes she comes down from her chamber
Into her courtyard, enclosure of spring...
When she tries from the centre to count the flowers,
On her hairpin of jade a dragon-fly poises.

Bai Juyi
A SONG OF THE PALACE

Her tears are spent, but no dreams come.
She can hear the others singing through the night.
She has lost his love. Alone with her beauty,
She leans till dawn on her incense-pillow.

Zhang Hu
OF ONE IN THE FORBIDDEN CITY

When the moonlight, reaching a tree by the gate,
Shows her a quiet bird on its nest,
She removes her jade hairpins and sits in the shadow.
And puts out a flame where a moth was flying.

284
七言絕句
張祜
集靈臺之一

日光斜照集靈台，紅樹花迎曉露開。昨夜上皇新授錄，太真含笑入簾來。

Seven-character-quatrain
Zhang Hu
ON THE TERRACE OF ASSEMBLED ANGELS I

The sun has gone slanting over a lordly roof
And red-blossoming branches have leaned toward the dew
Since the Emperor last night summoned a new favourite
And Lady Yang’s bright smile came through the curtains.

285
七言絕句
張祜
集靈臺之二

虢國夫人承主恩，平明駕馬入宮門。
卻嫌脂粉污顏色，淡掃蛾眉朝至尊。

Seven-character-quatrain
Zhang Hu
ON THE TERRACE OF ASSEMBLED ANGELS II

The Emperor has sent for Lady Guoguo.
In the morning, riding toward the palace-gate,
Disdainful of the paint that might have marred her beauty,
To meet him she smooths her two moth-tiny eyebrows.

286
七言絕句
張祜
題金陵渡
Seven-character-quatrain
Zhang Hu
AT NANJING FERRY

This one-story inn at Nanjing ferry
Is a miserable lodging-place for the night --
But across the dead moon's ebbing tide,
Lights from Guazhou beckon on the river.

Seven-character-quatrain
Zhu Qingyu
A SONG OF THE PALACE

Now that the palace-gate has softly closed on its flowers,
Ladies file out to their pavilion of jade,
Agrim to the lips with imperial gossip
But not daring to breathe it with a parrot among them.

Seven-character-quatrain
Zhu Qingyu
ON THE EVE OF GOVERNMENT EXAMINATIONS
TO SECRETARY ZHANG

Out go the great red wedding-chamber candles.
Tomorrow in state the bride faces your parents.
She has finished preparing; she asks of you meekly
Whether her eyebrows are painted in fashion.

289
七言絶句
杜牧
將赴吳興登樂遊原

清時有味是無能， 閒愛孤雲靜愛僧。
欲把一麾江海去， 樂遊原上望昭陵。

Seven-character-quatrain
Du Mu
I CLIMB TO THE LEYOU TOMBS
BEFORE LEAVING FOR WUXING

Even in this good reign, how can I serve?
The lone cloud rather, the Buddhist peace....
Once more, before crossing river and sea,
I face the great Emperor's mountain-tomb.

290
七言絶句
杜牧
赤壁

折戟沈沙鐵未銷， 自將磨洗憶前朝。
東風不與周郎便， 銅雀春深鎖二喬。

Seven-character-quatrain
Du Mu
BY THE PURPLE CLIFF

On a part of a spear still unrusted in the sand
I have burnished the symbol of an ancient kingdom....
Except for a wind aiding General Zhou Yu,
Spring would have sealed both Qiao girls in CopperBird Palace.
291
七言絕句
杜牧
泊秦淮

煙籠寒水月籠沙， 夜泊秦淮近酒家。
商女不知亡國恨， 隔江猶唱後庭花。

Seven-character-quatrain
Du Mu
A MOORING ON THE QIN HUAI RIVER

Mist veils the cold stream, and moonlight the sand,
As I moor in the shadow of a river-tavern,
Where girls, with no thought of a perished kingdom,
Gaily echo A Song of Courtyard Flowers.

292
七言絕句
杜牧
寄揚州韓綽判官

青山隱隱水迢迢， 秋盡江南草未凋。
二十四橋明月夜， 玉人何處教吹簫。

Seven-character-quatrain
Du Mu
A MESSAGE TO HAN CHO THE YANGZHOU MAGISTRATE

There are faint green mountains and far green waters,
And grasses in this river region not yet faded by autumn;
And clear in the moon on the Twenty-Four Bridges,
Girls white as jade are teaching flute-music.

293
七言絕句
杜牧
遺懷

落魄江湖載酒行， 楚腰纖細掌中輕。
Seven-character-quatrain
Du Mu
A CONFESSION

With my wine-bottle, watching by river and lake
For a lady so tiny as to dance on my palm,
I awake, after dreaming ten years in Yangzhou,
Known as fickle, even in the Street of Blue Houses.

294
七言絕句
杜牧
秋夕

銀燭秋光冷畫屏， 輕羅小扇撲流螢。
天階夜色涼如水， 坐看牽牛織女星。

Seven-character-quatrain
Du Mu
IN THE AUTUMN NIGHT

Her candle-light is silvery on her chill bright screen.
Her little silk fan is for fireflies....
She lies watching her staircase cold in the moon,
And two stars parted by the River of Heaven.

295
七言絕句
杜牧
贈別之一

娉娉嫋嫋十三餘， 豆蔻梢頭二月初。
春風十里揚州路， 卷上珠簾總不如。

Seven-character-quatrain
Du Mu
PARTING I

She is slim and supple and not yet fourteen,
The young spring-tip of a cardamon-spray.
On the Yangzhou Road for three miles in the breeze
Every pearl-screen is open. But there's no one like her.

296
七言絕句
杜牧
贈別之二

多情卻似總無情，唯覺樽前笑不成。
蠟燭有心還惜別，替人垂淚到天明。

Seven-character-quatrain
Du Mu
Parting II

How can a deep love seem deep love,
How can it smile, at a farewell feast?
Even the candle, feeling our sadness,
Weeps, as we do, all night long.

297
七言絕句
杜牧
金谷園

繁华事散逐香塵，流水無情草自春。
日暮東風怨啼鳥，落花猶似墜樓人。

Seven-character-quatrain
Du Mu
THE GARDEN OF THE GOLDEN VALLEY

Stories of passion make sweet dust,
Calm water, grasses unconcerned.
At sunset, when birds cry in the wind,
Petals are falling like a girl’s robe long ago.
NOTE ON A RAINY NIGHT TO A FRIEND IN THE NORTH

You ask me when I am coming. I do not know. 
I dream of your mountains and autumn pools brimming all night with the rain. 
Oh, when shall we be trimming wicks again, together in your western window? 
When shall I be hearing your voice again, all night in the rain?

A MESSAGE TO SECRETARY LINGHU

I am far from the clouds of Sung Mountain, a long way from trees in Qin; 
And I send to you a message carried by two carp: 
-- Absent this autumn from the Prince's garden, 
There's a poet at Maoling sick in the rain.
Li Shangyin
THERE IS ONLY ONE

There is only one Carved-Cloud, exquisite always—Yet she dreads the spring, blowing cold in the palace, When her husband, a Knight of the Golden Tortoise, Will leave her sweet bed, to be early at court.

301
七言绝句
李商隐
隋宫

乘兴南游不戒严， 九重谁省谏书函。
春風舉國裁宮錦， 半作障泥半作帆。

Seven-character-quatrain
Li Shangyn
THE SUI PALACE

When gaily the Emperor toured the south
Contrary to every warning,
His whole empire cut brocades,
Half for wheel-guards, half for sails.

302
七言绝句
李商隐
瑶池

瑶池阿母绮窗开，黄竹歌声动地哀。
八骏日行三万里， 穆王何事不重来。

Seven-character-quatrain
LI SHANGYIN
THE JADE POOL

The Mother of Heaven, in her window by the Jade Pool,
Hears The Yellow Bamboo Song shaking the whole earth.
Where is Emperor Mu, with his eight horses running
Ten thousand miles a day? Why has he never come back?
Seven-character-quatrain
Li Shangyin
TO THE MOON GODDESS

Now that a candle-shadow stands on the screen of carven marble
And the River of Heaven slants and the morning stars are low,
Are you sorry for having stolen the potion that has set you
Over purple seas and blue skies, to brood through the long nights?

Seven-character-quatrain
Li Shangyin
JIASHENG

When the Emperor sought guidance from wise men, from exiles,
He found no calmer wisdom than that of young Jia
And assigned him the foremost council-seat at midnight,
Yet asked him about gods, instead of about people.
雁声遠過瀟湘去，十二樓中月自明。

Seven-character-quatrain
Wen Tingyun
SHE SIGHS ON HER JADE LUTE

A cool-matted silvery bed; but no dreams....
An evening sky as green as water, shadowed with tender clouds;
But far off over the southern rivers the calling of a wildgoose,
And here a twelve-story building, lonely under the moon.

306
七言絕句
鄭畋
馬嵬坡
玄宗回馬楊妃死，雲雨難忘日月新。
終是聖明天子事，景陽宮井又何人。

Seven-character-quatrain
Zheng Tian
ON MAWEI SLOPE

When the Emperor came back from his ride they had murdered Lady Yang --
That passion unforgettable through all the suns and moons
They had led him to forsake her by reminding him
Of an emperor slain with his lady once, in a well at Jingyang Palace.

307
七言絕句
韓偓
已涼
碧闌干外繡簾垂，猩色屏風畫折枝。
八尺龍鬚方錦褥，已涼天氣未寒時。

Seven-character-quatrain
Han Wu
COOLER WEATHER

Her jade-green alcove curtained thick with silk,
Her vermilion screen with its pattern of flowers,
Her eight-foot dragon-beard mat and her quilt brocaded in squares
Are ready now for nights that are neither warm nor cold.

308
七言绝句
韋莊
金陵圖

江雨霏霏江草齊，六朝如夢鳥空啼。
無情最是臺城柳，依舊煙籠十里堤。

Seven-character-quatrain
Wei Zhuang
A NANJING LANDSCAPE

Though a shower bends the river-grass, a bird is singing,
While ghosts of the Six Dynasties pass like a dream
Around the Forbidden City, under weeping willows
Which loom still for three miles along the misty moat.

309
七言絕句
陳陶
隴西行

誓掃匈奴不顧身，五千貂錦喪胡塵。
可憐無定河邊骨，猶是新開夢裡人。

Seven-character-quatrain
Chen Tao
TURKESTAN

Thinking only of their vow that they would crush the Tartars-
On the desert, clad in sable and silk, five thousand of them fell....
But arisen from their crumbling bones on the banks of the river at the border,
Dreams of them enter, like men alive, into rooms where their loves lie sleeping.

310
七言絕句
Seven-character-quatrains

Zhang Bi

A MESSAGE

I go in a dream to the house of Xie
Through a zigzag porch with arching rails
To a court where the spring moon lights for ever
Phantom flowers and a single figure.

Wumingshi

THE DAY OF NO FIRE

As the holiday approaches, and grasses are bright after rain,
And the causeway gleams with willows, and wheatfields wave in the wind,
We are thinking of our kinsfolk, far away from us.
O cuckoo, why do you follow us, why do you call us home?
Wang Wei
A SONG AT WEICHENG

A morning-rain has settled the dust in Weicheng;
Willows are green again in the tavern dooryard....
   Wait till we empty one more cup --
West of Yang Gate there'll be no old friends.

Folk-song-styled-verse
Wang Wei
A SONG OF AN AUTUMN NIGHT

Under the crescent moon a light autumn dew
Has chilled the robe she will not change --
And she touches a silver lute all night,
Afraid to go back to her empty room.

Folk-song-styled-verse
Wang Changling
A SIGH IN THE COURT OF PERPETUAL FAITH

She brings a broom at dawn to the Golden Palace doorway
And dusts the hall from end to end with her round fan,
   And, for all her jade-whiteness, she envies a crow
Whose cold wings are kindled in the Court of the Bright Sun.
Folk-song-styled-verse
Wang Changling
OVER THE BORDER

The moon goes back to the time of Qin, the wall to the time of Han,
And the road our troops are travelling goes back three hundred miles....
Oh, for the Winged General at the Dragon City --
That never a Tartar horseman might cross the Yin Mountains!

Folk-song-styled-verse
Wang Zhihuan
BEYOND THE BORDER

Where a yellow river climbs to the white clouds,
Near the one city-wall among ten-thousand-foot mountains,
A Tartar under the willows is lamenting on his flute
That spring never blows to him through the Jade Pass

Folk-song-styled-verse
李白
清平調之一

雲想衣裳花想容， 春風拂槛露華濃。
A SONG OF PURE HAPPINESS I

Her robe is a cloud, her face a flower;
Her balcony, glimmering with the bright spring dew,
Is either the tip of earth’s Jade Mountain
Or a moon- edged roof of paradise.

A SONG OF PURE HAPPINESS II

There’s a perfume stealing moist from a shaft of red blossom,
And a mist, through the heart, from the magical Hill of Wu-
The palaces of China have never known such beauty-
Not even Flying Swallow with all her glittering garments.

A SONG OF PURE HAPPINESS III

Lovely now together, his lady and his flowers
Lighten for ever the Emperor's eye,
As he listens to the sighing of the far spring wind
Where she leans on a railing in the Aloe Pavilion.

320
樂府
杜秋娘
金縷衣

勸君莫惜金縷衣， 勸君惜取少年時。
花開堪折直須折， 莫待無花空折枝。

Folk-song-styled-verse
Du Quniang
THE GOLD-THREADED ROBE

Covet not a gold-threaded robe,
Cherish only your young days!
If a bud open, gather it --
Lest you but wait for an empty bough.
9.3. clusts.txt

File containing all the clusters of similar sentences, each of them containing up to 4 sentences, represented by identifiers.

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