

Cold 山

昼旋Sky

凡读我诗者，  
心中须护净。  
慳贪继日廉，  
谄曲登时正。  
驱遣除恶业，  
归依受真性。  
今日得佛身，  
急急如律令。

All who read my poems  
You must be clear-hearted  
From corruption to bravery  
From toadying to kindness.  
Drive out all of your evil  
Revert to nature.  
Let it flow with you,  
This is my urgent command.

庄子说送终，  
天地为棺槨。  
吾归此有时，  
唯须一蕃箔。  
死将喂青蝇，  
吊部劳白鹤。  
饿箸首阳山，  
生廉死亦乐。

Burying one's dead, said Zhuangzi,  
The world is a coffin.  
We'll all converge some day,  
Death is a silk screen.  
I'll feed the flies  
And tire out the white crane.  
Writing on the sunny mountain hungry  
Life and death I love.

可怜好丈夫，  
身体极棱棱。  
春秋未三十，  
才艺百般能。  
金羈逐侠客，  
玉饌集良朋。  
唯有一班恶，  
不传无尽灯。

Miserable man  
Your body ages  
With thirty falls and springs  
And your one hundred talents.  
Chasing knights on gold-bridled steeds  
Your jade and food collecting friends  
You have committed but one evil  
You have not burnt up your passion.

三月蚕犹小，  
女人来菜花。  
隈墙弄蝴蝶，  
临水掷蛤蟆。  
罗袖盛梅子，  
金鑿挑笋芽。  
斗论多物色，  
此地胜余家。

The silkworms are still small in March  
When women come to pick flowers  
Butterflies flutter by the riverbend  
And frogs leap on the banks  
A secret plum in every sleeve  
Gold ploughs hold up bamboo saplings  
A thousand voices tumble one over other  
In this spring world, my home.

个是何措大，  
时来省南院。  
年可三十馀，  
曾经四五选。  
囊里有青蚨，  
篋中有黄绢。  
行到食店前，  
不敢暂回面。

How could it be this bad  
I went to North Hospital  
Thirty years old  
With four or five choices  
Then my bag didn't have mites  
There was yellow silk in my case  
Passing the general store  
I knew I would never turn back

登陟寒山道，  
寒山路不穷。  
溪长石磊磊，  
涧阔草濛濛。  
苔滑非关雨，  
松鸣不假风。  
谁能超世界，  
共坐白云中。

Ascending Cold Mountain  
The road was broad  
The river long with stacked up stones  
The gully full of dewy grass  
The liverwort shining sleek with rain  
The birds in the pine trees stayed there  
Who can transcend this tired world  
To sit in the clouds?

天生白尺树，  
剪作长条木。  
可惜栋梁材，  
抛之在幽谷。  
年多心尚劲，  
日久皮渐秃。  
识者取将来，  
犹堪柱马屋。

One hundred living trees  
Cut into long boards  
What a pitiful man of society  
Wasting his life in the deep valley  
In old age he is still energetic  
Though day by day he balds  
The knowledgeable look to the future  
Like pillars holding up the stables



白鹤衔苦桃，  
千里作一息。  
欲望蓬莱山，  
将此充粮食。  
未达毛摧落，  
离群心惨恻。  
却归旧来巢，  
妻子不相识。

A peach in the crane's beak  
One thousand miles: a rest.  
Then off to seek Penglai Mountain  
With its forests of grain  
Where old feathers will drift  
Dismal, separate from the rest  
When at last he returns to his nest  
He is unrecognized by his wife.

鸚鵡宅西國，  
虞羅捕得歸。  
美人朝夕弄，  
出入在庭帟。  
賜以金籠貯，  
肩哉損羽衣。  
不如鴻于鶴，  
飄颻入云飞。

Parrots live in West Kingdom  
Fearing the hunter's net.  
Beautiful people play day and night  
Flitting past the bed curtains  
Put this golden cage aside  
One less fur coat  
Cannot match the goose and crane  
Rising into the clouds.

六级长婴困，  
九维徒自论。  
有才遗草泽，  
无艺闭蓬门。  
日上岩犹暗，  
烟消谷尚昏。  
其中长者子，  
个个总无禪。

Six elemental difficulties  
Nine bandits, bound, mutter to themselves  
I dedicate this dewy grass too late  
And have no power to shut the door  
The sun on the rock is dark  
Smoke disappears, revealing dusk  
All of these elderly men  
None of them wearing trousers

啼哭缘何事，  
泪如珠子颗。  
应当有别离，  
复是遭丧祸。  
所为在贫穷，  
未了因果。  
冢间瞻死尸，  
六道不干我。

Why do you cry?  
Your tears are pearls.  
It's I must go.  
You fear I will meet my death?  
All this blame on my poverty  
The reason for which I can't understand  
When I'm interred  
No one will reincarnate me

山中何太冷，  
自古非今年。  
沓嶂恒凝雪，  
幽林每吐烟。  
草生芒种后，  
叶落立秋前。  
此有沈达客，  
窺窺不见天。

How can the mountain be so cold?  
Eternity hasn't seen a colder year.  
Snow welded to the peaks  
Trails of smoke from the valley.  
After summer's bloom  
The senescent leaves march to Fall  
Wayfarers, travelers, lost, wander,  
Peering at charcoal sky.

益者益其精，  
可名为有益。  
易者易其形，  
是名之有易。  
能益复能易，  
当得上仙籍。  
无益复无易，  
终不免死厄。

Some profit  
Drawing their name from gains,  
Others do business  
And let their commerce grow a name  
To profit or do business  
Will join the immortal team;  
Losers and the bereft  
Won't escape death.

我今有一襦，  
非罗复非绮。  
借问作何色，  
不红亦不紫。  
夏天将作衫，  
冬天将作被。  
冬夏递互用，  
长年只这是。

I wear a short jacket  
Made of neither poplin nor silk  
What colors?  
Neither red nor purple.  
In summer it's a shirt.  
In winter a quilt  
From winter to summer useful  
All of these years, just this.

贤士不贪婪，  
痴人好炉冶。  
麦地占他家，  
竹园皆我者。  
努膊觅钱财，  
切齿驱奴马。  
须看郭门外，  
垒垒松柏下。

The virtuous do not count wealth  
Fools smelt themselves for gain.  
I stay at a house in a wheat field  
Alone in the bamboo garden  
Scrounging in the bushes for money  
And gnashing my teeth, gallop off  
Seeing the outer walls  
Sitting under the cypress tree.



驱马度荒城，  
荒城动客情。  
高低旧雉堞，  
大小古坟莹。  
自振孤蓬影，  
长凝拱木声。  
所嗟皆俗骨，  
仙史更无名。

Riding past the abandoned city  
The ghost city stirs one's heart  
With the towering crenelations  
And graveyards large and small.  
One's shadow trembles over the weeds  
Extends to cup the trees, sighing,  
Every sigh from vulgar bones  
That even immortals have no names for.

入夜哥明月，  
侵晨舞白云。  
焉能拱口手，  
端坐鬓纷纷。

Entering night I sing of the moon  
As dawn approaches dance under clouds  
How could I cup my hands to my mouth  
Sit up straight with hair curling on my temples?

东家一老婆，  
富来三十年。  
昔日贫于我，  
今笑我无钱。  
渠笑我在后，  
我笑渠在前。  
相笑饶不止，  
东边复西边。

An old woman in the East Village  
Rich for three to five years  
Who used to be poorer than I  
Laughs at me for being penniless.  
She laughs behind  
I laugh in front  
Our laughs incessant  
Fly east and west.

洛阳多女儿，  
春日逞华丽。  
共折路边花，  
各持插高髻。  
髻高华匝匝，  
人见皆睥睨。  
别求醜醜怜，  
将归见夫婿。

There are many beautiful women in Luoyang  
Who flaunt their beauty in spring  
Stooping to pluck flowers from the roadside  
And stick them in their hair  
The flowers high stick out of their buns  
All cast averted, rude glances  
Don't pray for their forgiveness  
You who soon become married couples.

琴书须自随，  
禄位用何为。  
投辇从贤妇，  
巾车有孝儿。  
风吹曝麦地，  
水溢沃鱼池。  
长念鷦鷯鸟，  
安身在一枝。

One must study melodic storytelling for oneself  
What good is an official post and salary?  
The litter drawing the respectable wife  
Her filial son wrapped in cloth  
Wind blasts the fields of wheat  
Water overflows the rich fish farms  
I frequently think of the wren  
Safe, high, in a tree.

大有饥寒客，  
生将兽鱼殊。  
长存磨石下，  
时哭路边遇。  
累日空思饭，  
经冬不识襦。  
味赍一束草，  
并带五升麸。

Starving travelers on Cold Mountain  
Life produces all different beasts, fish.  
Immortal under stones,  
Crying off the side of the road.  
On cold, tired hard days thinking of food  
Never pondering my short jacket in winter  
The only thing I have in mind a sheaf of grass  
And five bushels of wheat

白云高嵯峨，  
绿水荡潭波。  
此处闻渔父，  
时时鼓棹歌。  
声声不可听，  
令我愁思多。  
谁喂雀无角，  
其如穿屋何。

White tall rugged clouds  
Clear waves peeling across a deep lake  
Here I see men of the fishery  
Beating their oars on the boats, singing  
The song does not reach my ears  
Depressing.  
Useless, to name the sparrows,  
Whose twitter cuts through a home.

城中蛾眉女，  
珠珮珂珊珊。  
鹦鹉花前弄，  
琵琶月下弹。  
长歌三月响，  
短舞万人看。  
未必长如此，  
芙蓉不耐寒。

Moth-eyebrow beauties in the city  
With bridles of coral and pearl  
Parrots flap over the blossoms  
The pipa strums out a song.  
Chanting songs since March  
Everyone comes to watch the dances,  
This will not last long  
The hibiscus rusts in frost.



有鸟五色彰，  
栖桐食竹实。  
徐动合礼仪，  
和鸣中音律。  
昨来何以至，  
为吾暂时出。  
恍闻弦歌声，  
作舞欣今日。

Some birds have five colors  
And live in the tung tree, eating bamboo  
They move quietly, in ceremony  
Restraining their twitter.  
Yesterday when I arrived  
They flew off hearing me  
Or perhaps they hear the sound of strumming  
Went off to dance in joy for the day

低眼邹公妻，  
邯鄲杜生母。  
二人同老少，  
一种好面首。  
昨日会客场，  
恶衣排在后。  
只为著破裙，  
吃他残麦娄。

Zou Princess with lowered eyes,  
Whose birth mother lived in Handan  
Two people winnowing, like the old,  
A type of gigolo.  
Yesterday, I went to the opponent's court  
Those with foul clothes lined the bleachers  
Only one with a ratty skirt  
Sat eating her spoiled grain.

智者君拋我，  
愚者我拋君。  
非愚亦非智，  
从此斷相聞。

All of the intellectuals have abandoned me  
And I've abandoned all of the fools  
No wise men, no fools  
From this moment on, neither.

我见一痴汉，  
仍居三两妇。  
养得八九儿，  
总是随宜手。  
丁防是新差，  
资财非旧有。  
黄蘗作驴鞦，  
始知苦在后。

I met a crazy gentleman  
Living with three or four wives  
He brought up eight to nine sons  
All indolent fools  
The new guard tower was destroyed  
All his wealth is new  
A yellow tiller as a donkey's saddle  
All his worries, he realizes, are behind him

玉堂挂珠帘，  
中有婵娟子。  
其貌胜神仙，  
容华若桃李。  
东家春雾合，  
西舍秋风起。  
更过三十年，  
还成昔蔗滓。

Pearl-hung screens in the Hall of Jade  
Embroidered with a scene of La Lune.  
The opposite end shows the gods in splendor  
With peerless beauty.  
The east hall wrapped by spring fog,  
The western rooms fall breezes stir over.  
Let thirty years pass  
Here will be a lot of wild liquorice, sugarcane, and weeds.

有一餐霞子，  
其居讳俗游。  
论时实肃爽，  
在夏亦如秋。  
幽涧常沥沥，  
高松风飕飕。  
其中半日坐，  
忘却百年愁。

On one morning the clouds glowed red  
That descended over the house like a dark secret  
As it passed over it quenched the light  
Making of summer a fall.  
Darkness trickled into the gullies  
A dry cold breeze crept through the pine trees  
The rest sat for half of the day  
Forgetting years of sorrow.

吾心似秋月，  
碧潭清皎洁。  
无物堪比伦，  
教我如何说。

My heart is like the autumn moon  
As clear and luminous as a green pool;  
Nothing material is its match  
It is the source of all my words.

我见百十狗，  
个个毛狰狞。  
卧者渠自卧，  
行者渠自行。  
投之一块骨，  
相与哞啾争。  
良由为骨少，  
狗多分不平。

I saw a hundred or so dogs  
Each thin and ravenous  
Some lay in the ditch  
Others stride in the ditch.  
I threw down a bone  
Their growls rolled over the bone to eat  
They resumed civility when consumed  
Dog's don't share evenly.



大有好笑事，  
略陈三五个。  
张公富奢华，  
孟子贫坎坷。  
只取侏儒饱，  
不怜方朔饿。  
巴歌唱者多，  
白雪无人和。

There is much to laugh for  
I'll state three to five  
The honorable Mr. Gong lives luxuriously  
Mencius lives in penury  
Existing on a dwarf's diet  
Hungry before the new moon.  
There are many who sing in earnest  
But none who write songs about the snow.

止宿鸳鸯鸟，  
一雄兼一雌。  
衔花相共食，  
刷羽每相随。  
戏入烟霄里，  
宿归沙岸湄。  
自怜生处乐，  
不夺凤凰池。

Ducks are prohibited from nesting here  
Male and female alike  
With flowers in their bills they eat together  
And ruffle their feathers in unison.  
They've flown off into the smoky clouds  
To return to a sandy river bank  
Where they will reproduce in joy,  
Never contending for Phoenix Pool.

父母续经多，  
田园不羨他。  
妇摇机轧轧，  
儿弄口嗝嗝。  
拍手催化舞，  
支颐听鸟歌。  
谁当来叹赏，  
樵客屡经过。

These mothers and fathers have lived through much  
The rough country does not envy them  
The wife pushes a creaking plow  
The son toils with his mouth awry.  
A clap could destroy the dance of flowers  
Cupping his cheek and listening to birdsong  
Whoever comes will admire  
The sight of travelers gathering firewood.

快榜三翼舟，  
善乘千里马。  
莫能遭我家，  
谓言最幽野。  
岩岫深嶂中，  
云雷竟日下。  
自非孔丘公，  
无能相救者。

Three wings of fastmoving boats approach  
Leading horses which have traveled a thousand miles  
None can destroy my home,  
Their voices call out deep in the valley.  
Even in the darkest caverns in the mountain  
Lightning will flash down from the clouds  
I am not as heroic as Confucius  
I will be powerless to save them.

一为书剑客，  
二遇圣明君。  
东守文不赏，  
西征武不勋。  
学文兼学武，  
学武兼学文。  
今日既老矣，  
馀生不足云。

One reads tales of chivalry  
Another greets the emperor with deference  
The east hates literature  
The west detests military valor.  
To study letters or to study battle  
To study battle or to study letters.  
Today I am older than ever  
I'll never walk the clouds.

茅动野人居，  
门前车马疏。  
林幽偏聚鸟，  
溪阔本藏鱼。  
山果携儿摘，  
皋田共妇锄。  
家中何所有，  
唯有一床书。

People live in the wilds of chestnut oak, their houses of poles  
Outside the front door a neglected horse idles  
The slanted forests are deep, slanted, and birds gather  
Fish collect in the broadstreams  
Sons pick fruit of the mountain  
Women work in the marshes, hoeing.  
The home contains all  
With its bed, its single book.

快哉混沌身，  
不饭复不尿。  
遭得谁钻凿，  
因滋立九窍。  
朝朝为衣食，  
岁岁愁租调。  
千个争一钱，  
聚头亡命叫。

What a fast chaotic body  
Fasting, not a drop of piss  
So disastrous none would bore into me  
This is why I have nine gates  
Every morning I rise to eat and dress  
Every year my worries shift  
A thousand struggles; one piece of money  
When we meet I think of exile.

家住绿岩下，  
庭芜更不芟。  
新藤垂缭绕，  
古石竖嶮岩。  
山果猕猴摘，  
池鱼白鹭衔。  
仙书一两卷，  
树下读喃喃。

Their home is under the green cliff  
Overgrown with unmown weeds  
Vines tangle the eaves  
And the ancient rock rises above.  
They pluck kiwis of the mountain  
The egret's beak closes on fish  
One or two chapters of a sacred book  
I read in the shade of a tree, to sound.



可笑寒山道，  
而无车马踪。  
联谿难记曲，  
叠嶂不知重。  
泣露千般草，  
吟风一样松。  
此时迷径处，  
形问影何从。

I laugh at Han Shan Mountain  
The path without a trace of cart print or horse hoof  
The twining streams cannot follow their twists and turns  
The crumpled mountain knows not her weight.  
Tears stain a thousand blades of grass  
The wind, chanting, passes through a pine tree  
I've lost myself on my road  
My form asks my shadow wherefrom.

弟兄同五郡，  
父子本三州。  
欲验非凫集，  
须征白兔游。  
灵瓜梦里受，  
神橘座中收。  
乡国何迢递，  
同鱼寄水流。

Brothers from five prefectures  
Their fathers from five states  
They wish to fly away like wild ducks  
And earnestly desire the white rabbit's freedom  
Their souls are lonely in dreams  
When the tangerine spirit takes the seat of honor  
The entire country is remote, passed down  
And flows like fish in a pool of water.

毛笔太纵横，  
身材极瑰玮。  
生威游限身，  
死作无名鬼。  
自古如此多，  
君今争奈何。  
可来白云里，  
教尔紫芝歌。

This pen flows too freely  
My body is made of jade  
To live is to put limits on the body  
Which, dying, becomes a nameless ghost  
It's been like this forever  
And still the emperor carries on  
Come into the heart of a cloud  
I'll teach you the purple ganoderma song.

妾在邯郸住，  
歌声亦抑扬。  
赖我安居处，  
此曲旧来长。  
既醉莫言归，  
留连日未央。  
几家寝宿处，  
绣被满银床。

A concubine lives in Handan  
Whose melody rises and falls  
She made me linger on with her  
To listen to her old songs.  
I left drunkenly without a word  
Reluctantly, and the day had not ended  
I sought shelter in a relative's home  
And pulled the iron sheets over my sleeve.

贪人好聚财，  
恰如梟爱子。  
子大而食母，  
财多还害己。  
散之即福生，  
聚之即祸起。  
天财亦无祸，  
鼓翼青云里。

Greedy people amass wealth  
Just like finches their offspring  
Grown, fed by their mothers,  
They squander their wealth.  
To spread one's wealth between heirs  
Is to spread discord.  
No wealth no discord,  
Drumbeat, and fly into a bluegreen cloud.

天下几种人，  
论时色数有。  
贾婆如许夫，  
黄老元无妇。  
卫氏儿可怜，  
钟家女极丑。  
渠若向西行，  
我便东边走。

There are many different people on earth  
People of all types.  
Jia's wife is like Mr. Fu  
Huang Laoyuan has no wife.  
Wei's son is pitiable,  
Zhong's daughter is ugly.  
The canal runs to the west  
Then I'll walk to the east.

俊杰马上朗，  
挥鞭指绿杨。  
谓言无死日，  
终不作梯航。  
四运花自好，  
一朝成萎黄。  
醍醐与石蜜，  
至死不能尝。

Junjie's horse ascended the pass  
And stood to face the willow tree  
Not a word to say to the sinking sun  
He would never reach the top.  
Four flowers grow up  
One blooms into a carnation  
The mountain streams and rockpiles  
I won't merge with until death.

满卷才子诗，  
溢壶圣人酒。  
行爱观牛犊，  
坐不离左右。  
霜露入茅檐，  
月华明瓮牖。  
此时吸两瓿，  
吟诗五百首。

Books full of virtuosic poems  
Overflow like a sage's bottle of wine  
I like to look at the calves as I walk  
Sitting askew.  
Frost clings to the grass of the cliffs  
Moonlight shines on the downbeat huts  
Now I'll drink two bowls  
And chant five hundred poems.



少小带经锄，  
本将兄共居。  
缘遭他辈责，  
乘被自妻疏。  
抛觉红尘境，  
常游好阅书。  
谁能借斗水，  
活取辙中鱼。

They carry ploughs along the trail  
Here two brothers live together  
He takes responsibility for tragedy  
For his wife who left him.  
To abandon this world  
Go to your books  
Who can be like the water  
And live like the clear-bodied fish?

变化计无穷，  
生死境不止。  
三途鸟雀身，  
五岳龙鱼已。  
世浊作羊羶，  
时清为駮耳。  
前回是富儿，  
今度成贫士。

Changes are endless  
Life and death roll over.  
Three sparrows in the tree  
Five dragonfish swim.  
Insects inhabit lamb's wool  
And burrow into their ears  
Before I was a rich son  
And now I am a beggar.

施家有两儿，  
以艺干齐楚。  
文武各自备，  
托身为得所。  
孟公问其术，  
我子亲教汝。  
秦卫两不成，  
夫时成齟齬。

The Shi family has two sons  
Who dress in fine clothes  
Who have studied literature and war  
And seek a way to make a living.  
The honorable Meng asks his skill  
Are my sons like me?  
The state cannot take care of them both  
And they will miss their prime, sowing discord

贫驴欠一尺，  
富狗剩三寸。  
若分贫不平，  
中半富与困。  
始取驴饱足，  
却令狗饥顿。  
为汝熟思量，  
令我也愁闷。

The pauper felled a tree  
Which the rich man's dog heard three miles away  
If poverty were distributed unevenly  
Most of the rich would face hardship  
We've set off on our way  
That would make even the dog starve  
I've pondered many times for you  
Which has caused me no end of sorrow.

层层山水秀，  
烟霞锁翠薇。  
岚拂纱巾湿，  
露沾蓑草衣。  
足蹶游万履，  
手执古藤枝。  
更观尘世处，  
梦境复何为。

Water flows down the overlapping mountains  
Thin wisps of smoke curl at dusk  
Humid breeze sticks to my rag  
And soaks through my grass-stained clothes  
My feet tread cautiously  
My hand grasps the vine-tangled tree trunk  
I look out over the world  
At a dreamscape.

或有街行人，  
才艺过周孔。  
见罢头兀兀，  
看时身侗侗。  
绳牵未肯行，  
锥刺犹不动。  
恰似羊公鹤，  
可怜生氍毹。

Perhaps some flagrant travelers  
Are too skilled to notice my cave  
Or when they see their heads are motionless  
And when they see they stand like children  
Leading cows by the hand on a string  
The rope boring and cutting.  
Is like a sheep herding a crane  
Giving birth to a pitiable Tong Meng.