



CHINESE CLASSICS
& TRANSLATIONS

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The Book of Odes

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300 Tang Poems

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Thirty-Six Strategies

唐詩 TANG SHI 詩經 – 300 TANG POEMS

An anthology of 320 poems. Discover Chinese poetry in its golden age and some of the
greatest Chinese poets. Tr. by Bynner (en).

Tangshi I. 1. (26)

元結 YUAN JIE

TO THE TAX-COLLECTORS AFTER THE BANDITS RETREAT

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
不犯此州邊鄙而退
豈力能制敵歟

賊退示官吏并序
蓋蒙其傷憐而已
諸史何為忍苦徵歛
故作詩一篇以示官吏
昔歲逢太平
山林二十年
泉源在庭戶
洞壑當門前
井稅有常期
日晏猶得眠

賊退示官吏并序
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
是以陷鄰境
此州獨見全
使臣將王命
豈不如賊焉

賊退示官吏并序
令彼徵歛者
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
將家就魚麥
歸老江湖邊
又作宴
又作世

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.



Français / English

Chinese on / off

☒ Vertical
☐ Horizontal

Translations

☒ Bynner
☒ Hervey

No commercials

...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!

Bynner 26




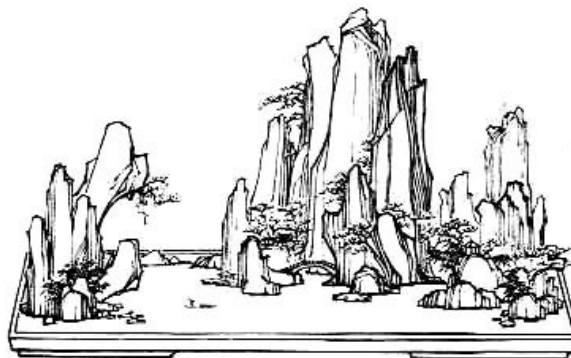
very interesting

Patricia - 1 - 2007/12/06

Wait... what, huh?!?!?
 Oh, this must be a comment board

Baobao - 8 - 2007/12/06

Tang Shi I. 1. (26) 
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斧劈石