

Classical Chinese Poems  
CFS of NCCCR, 3/25-5/6/2011

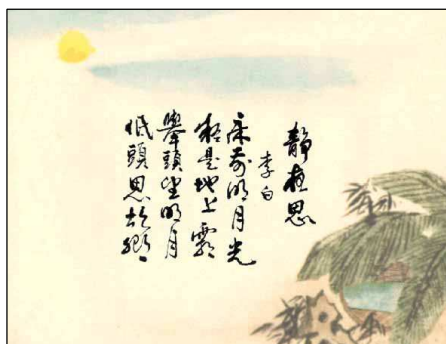
Lesson 2 Poems of **lǐ bái** (李白)

Dr. Huo-Jin (Alex) Huang (黃火金)  
ahuang@unca.edu



Department of Atmospheric Sciences  
The University of North Carolina at Asheville

<b>Jìng</b>	<b>yè</b>	<b>sī</b>	<b>lǐ bái</b>	
靜	夜	思	李 白	
silent	night	thought	(701-762)	
<b>chuángqián</b>	<b>míng</b>	<b>yuè</b>	<b>guāng</b>	
床	前	明	月	光
bed	before	bright	moon	light
<b>yí</b>	<b>shì</b>	<b>dì</b>	<b>shàng</b>	<b>shuāng</b>
疑	是	地	上	霜
suspect	be	ground	on	frost
<b>jǔ</b>	<b>tóu</b>	<b>wàng</b>	<b>míng</b>	<b>yuè</b>
舉	頭	望	明	月
raise	head	look	bright	moon
<b>dī</b>	<b>tóu</b>	<b>sī</b>	<b>gù</b>	<b>xiāng</b>
低	頭	思	故	鄉
lower	head	think	old	home



<http://www.iq365.com/shop/article.php?id=1611>

Jìng yè sī lǐ bái  
 靜 夜 思 李 白  
 silent night thought (701-762)

chuángqián míng yuè guāng  
 床 前 明 月 光  
 bed before bright moon light

yí shì dì shàng shuāng  
 疑 是 地 上 霜  
 suspect be ground on frost

jǔ tóu wàng míng yuè  
 舉 頭 望 明 月  
 raise head look bright moon

dī tóu sī gù xiāng  
 低 頭 思 故 鄉  
 lower head think old home

Thoughts on a Quiet Night

Before my bed the light is so bright  
 It looks like a layer of frost  
 lifting my head I gaze at the moon  
 lying back down I think of home

-- translated by Red Pine (2003)

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.

Translated by Witter Bynner (1881-1968),  
 American poet and scholar of Chinese literature

The bright moon shone before my bed,  
 I wondered - was it frost upon the ground?  
 I raised my head to gaze at the clear moon,  
 Bowed my head remembering my old home.

Tr. by Innes Herdan *300 Tang Poems* p. 580

Before my bed, the moonlight so bright,  
 Be frost on the ground, I suppose it might.  
 I raise my head and the moon I behold, then  
 I lower it, brooding: I'm homesick tonight.

Translated by Andrew W.F. Wong (Huang Hongfa)  
 27th November 2008 (revised 28.11.08)  
<http://chinese poems in english.blogspot.com/2008/12/li-bai-night-thoughts.html>

Bright moon light is shining next to my bed  
 So bright, could it be frost on the ground?  
 I raise my head to gaze at the bright moon  
 I lower my head and deeply dream up my hometown

Translated by Alex Huang, 3/27/2011

dú	zuò	jìng	tíng	shān	lǐ	bái
獨	坐	敬	亭	山	李	白
alone	sit	Jing	Ting	Mountain	(701-762)	

zhòng	niǎo	gāo	fēi	jìn
眾	鳥	高	飛	盡
many	birds	high	fly	utmost
gū	yún	dú	qù	xián
孤	雲	獨	去	閒
lonely	cloud	alone	go	idle
xiāng	kàn	liǎng	bù	yàn
相	看	兩	不	厭
mutual	look	both	not	tired
zhǐ	yǒu	jìng	tíng	shān
只	有	敬	亭	山
only	have	Jing	Ting	Mountain



<http://blog.myspace.cn/e/405950012.htm>

dú 獨 alone	zuò 坐 sit	jìng 敬 Jing	tíng 亭 Ting	shān 山 Mountain	lǐ 李 (701-762)	bái 白
zhòng 眾 many	niǎo 鳥 birds	gāo 高 high	fēi 飛 fly	jìn 盡 utmost		
gū 孤 lonely	yún 雲 cloud	dú 獨 alone	qù 去 go	xián 閒 idle	Sitting Alone on Chingting Mountain	
xiāng 相 mutual	kàn 看 look	liǎng 兩 both	bù 不 not	yàn 厭 tired	Flocks of birds disappear in the distance Lone clouds wander away Who never tires of my company Only Chingting Mountain	
zhǐ 只 only	yǒu 有 have	jìng 敬 Jing	tíng 亭 Ting	shān 山 Mountain	-- translated by Red Pine (2003)	

zèng 贈 give	wāng 汪 Wang	lún 倫 Lun	lǐ 李 (701-762)	bái 白		
lǐ 李 Li	bái 白 Bai	chéng 乘 ride	zhōu 舟 boat	jiāng 將 will	yù 欲 want	xíng 行 leave
hū 忽 sudden	wén 聞 hear	àn 岸 bank	shàng 上 on	tà 踏 step	gē 歌 song	shēng 聲 voice/sound
táo 桃 peach	huā 花 flower	tán 潭 pond	shuǐ 水 water	shēn 深 deep	qiān 千 thousand	chǐ 尺 meter
bù 不 not	jí 及 reach	wāng 汪 Wang	lún 倫 Lun	sòng 送 see-off	wǒ 我 me	qíng 情 passion/love

<http://www.nipic.com/show/4/79/b76cfc7edcca1b02.html>



wàng tiān mén shān lǐ bái  
 望 天 門 山 李 白  
 Watch HeavenGate Mountain (701-762)

tiān mén zhōngduàn chǔ jiāng kāi  
 天 門 中 斷 楚 江 開  
 heaven gate center cut-off Chu River open

bì shuǐ dōng liú zhì cǐ huí  
 碧 水 東 流 至 此 回  
 green water east flow only this return

liǎng àn qīng shān xiāng duì chū  
 兩 岸 青 山 相 對 出  
 two banks green mountain mutual against out

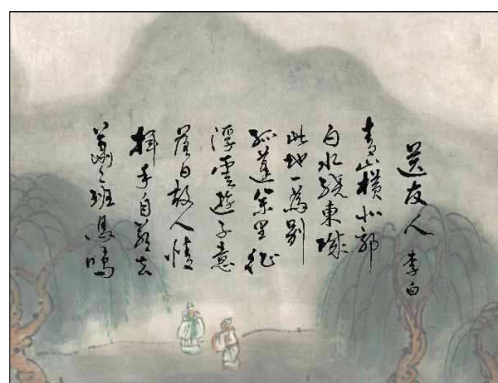
gū fán yī piàn rì biān lái  
 孤 帆 一 片 日 邊 來  
 single sail one piece sun side come



<http://books.sina.com/blog/sinablog/city/20100517/015519576.html>

sòng yǒu rén lǐ bái  
 送 友 人 李 白

qīng shān héng běi guō  
 青 山 橫 北 郭  
 bái shuǐ rào dōng chéng  
 白 水 繞 東 城  
 cǐ dì yī wéi bié  
 此 地 一 為 別  
 gū péng wàn lǐ zhēng  
 孤 蓬 萬 里 征  
 fú yún yóu zǐ yì  
 浮 雲 遊 子 意  
 luò rì gù rén qíng  
 落 日 故 人 情  
 huī shǒu zì zī qù  
 揮 手 自 茲 去  
 xiāo xiāo bān mǎ míng  
 蕭 蕭 班 馬 鳴



<http://www.iq365.com/shop/article.php?id=1611>

送友人                      李白

Seeing off a Friend

Dark hills stretch beyond the north rampart  
clear water circles the city's east wall  
from this place where farewell begins  
a tumbleweed leaves on a thousand-mile journey  
drifting clouds in a traveler's thoughts  
the setting sun in an old friend's heart  
as we wave and say goodbye  
our parting horses neigh

-- translated by Red Pine (2003)